



FRIENDS of BOLTON STREET CEMETERY INCORPORATED

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<http://www.boltoncemetery.org.nz>

NEWSLETTER No 84 NOVEMBER 2017

Editor: Kate Fortune

‘BLUSHING LUCY’ ROSE: A WARTIME SURVIVOR

Growing over the side of the Thorndon Lookout in the cemetery is a vigorous rambling rose with a pale pink semi-double flower that blooms profusely in late spring. Nearby the same rose growing in the grave of Charles Howe is labelled ‘Blushing Lucy, Rambler, Williams 1938’. This rose has NZ connections and an interesting history.



The account that follows is drawn from notes written by J L H Williams, son of the breeder, known to me as ‘India Jim’ because he was a tea planter in India.

The rose breeder was my great-uncle, Dr Alfred Henry Williams, the son of Bishop Leonard Williams of Waiapu (a Maori linguist and a keen amateur botanist: *Carmichaelia williamsii* is named after him).

Alfred Williams, the seventh of Leonard’s 10 children, was born near Gisborne in 1864, schooled at Christ’s College and went to Edinburgh University to study medicine. He spent the rest of his life in the United Kingdom, marrying Lucy Harvey, daughter of a naval captain, in 1899. Despite a busy medical career and playing rugby and tennis at a senior level, he found time to develop his interest in plants and particularly in breeding roses. He became an authority on New Zealand flora, with a fine collection at his home near Horsham.

(Story continues on page 2)

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'BLUSHING LUCY' ROSE: A WARTIME SURVIVOR

(continued)

Alfred Williams wrote a number of articles on New Zealand plants that were later brought together in a publication in 1935. On the Council of the National Rose Society (NRS) for many years, he was its President in 1933/34.

Alfred's most successful rose, named after his eldest sister, was 'Emily Gray, 1916', a fragrant yellow climber – still commercially available – for which he won the NRS Cory Gilt Cup. By the 1930s Alfred was retired but still breeding roses which were marketed through the firm F Cant & Co. When Jim visited his father while on leave from India in 1937, Alfred talked at length about his latest rose which he was sure would be a winner; he had named it Blushing Lucy after his wife 'who blushed a lot'. It was registered and shown in 1938, apparently doing well in competition, and was to have been marketed the following year. But events in September 1939 changed all that.

Alfred died on 15 September 1939, just after the outbreak of World War II. Lucy died four months later and their house and garden were sold. All the family were living overseas by then: Sam was in the Indian army, serving on the Afghanistan border and in Burma; Jim was still managing tea estates in India; Richard was in New Zealand, farming in the Waikato; and Nancy had married an Englishman working in Brazil.

Sam was the first of the four back to England after the war, probably in 1947 as his regiment had been detailed to control the Hindu/Muslim riots during the partition of India and Pakistan and he retired shortly after that with the rank of Lt-Colonel. He visited the old family home but all traces of Alfred's roses, including his breeding stock, had been lost during the war. Sam therefore went to Frank Cant to ask if by chance any of Alfred's roses were left in his commercial nursery, where the plant stock had also been badly depleted by wartime difficulties. A search finally found just one plant which had managed to survive – and this was Blushing Lucy.

Frank very generously gave the sole surviving plant to Sam who grew it and subsequently spread plants from cuttings amongst friends in England. Fortunately it strikes very easily from cuttings as it was much in demand. Williams family members visiting from New Zealand were keen to have plants and brought a few cuttings here privately in the 1970s. My father grew one of these cuttings at Waikanae and again it was spread around friends and family, so can be seen at various Kapiti gardens today. It has a vigorous growth so is best left to scramble up a high fence or tree where it makes a spectacular showing with large trusses of pale pink roses against glossy foliage. Unusual among heritage roses, it flowers late, unlike most heritage roses. The photograph on page 1, taken in a Kapiti garden, shows a plant in full bloom, demonstrating the amazing vigour of this determined wartime survivor.

Right: Alfred's great-grandson, Simon Harvey Williams, visited this year from England and admired the end-of-season blooms of Blushing Lucy here on the Thorndon Lookout.

Article and photos: Priscilla Williams



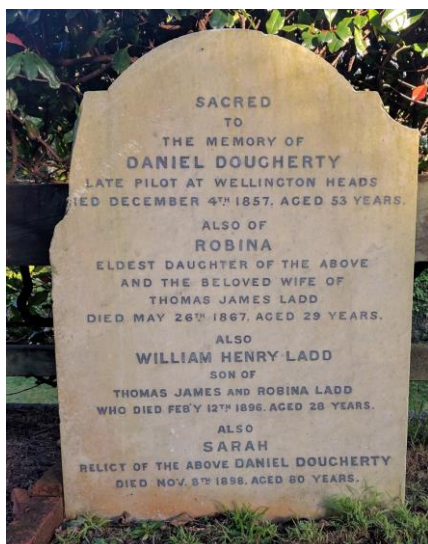
SARAH AND DANIEL DOUGHERTY

The story of Daniel (1804-1857) and Sarah (1818-1898) Dougherty is well known from the books of their descendant, Celia Manson, and they feature in our guided tour notes. Daniel was born in New Orleans as a Roman Catholic, and eloped with Sarah (Sally) McAuley, a Presbyterian from New Brunswick, Canada, in 1837. Dan was a whaler and ship's captain, and Sally accompanied him on whaling expeditions immediately after their marriage. He was the Wellington Harbour Pilot from 1849 until his death.

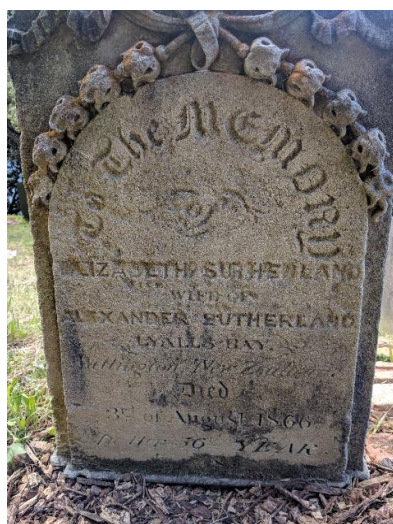
Daniel had been to New Zealand before, and decided to set up a whaling station in Cloudy Bay (Port Underwood) in 1842. In 1848 they moved to the Wairau Bar, where Daniel charted the changes caused by the great 1848 earthquake. At the end of 1848 he was appointed Harbour Pilot for Wellington and, with the help of five Maori oarsmen, he and his family moved to Wellington by rowboat.

The previous Pilot, R Calder, had been dismissed after piloting the *Subraon* onto Barretts Reef as colonists tried to flee to Australia after the 1848 earthquake, and James Ames, also a former whaler, was the Acting Pilot until Daniel arrived. James Ames is buried in Bolton Street Cemetery (grid D15 09). The Pilot Station was said to be at Tarakena Bay, and during Dan's tenure, the cottage was destroyed in the January 1855 earthquake. It was rebuilt and occupied by the Doughertys until Daniel's death in 1857.

On arrival at Lyall Bay from Wairau Bar, the Doughertys met their new nearest neighbours, Alexander and Elizabeth Sutherland, who farmed at what is now Melrose (where Sutherland Road is named after them). The Sutherlands were very supportive of the Doughertys and they became friends. Sadly, Elizabeth Sutherland died in 1866, aged 55 years, and is buried at Bolton Street Cemetery (grid P10 03).



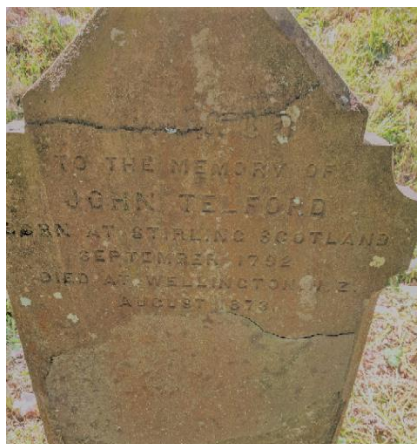
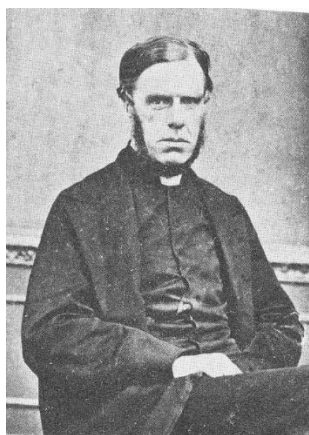
Far left: The Dougherty family tombstone at M13 07



Left: The Sutherland memorial at P10 03

When Daniel died in 1857 as a lapsed Catholic, neither the Presbyterian nor Catholic churches would bury him. Archdeacon Arthur Stock of St Peter's Anglican Church, however, took on the task and officiated at his burial in Bolton Street Cemetery. The reinstated headstone is now at grid M13 07. Archdeacon Stock, who became a good friend to Sarah, is buried at grid G11 01. Stock was an astronomer as well as an Anglican priest, and operated the Time Service Observatory which once stood where the Seddon Memorial is now.

After Daniel's death, another friend, John Telford, recommended that Sarah should open a boarding house, which she did in Ghuznee St, a few doors from the Willis St corner, opposite St Peter's Church. John Telford's son later married Sarah and Daniel's daughter, also named Sarah. John Telford was buried in Bolton Street Cemetery and his headstone and that of his grand-daughter Agnes Cecilia Mary Drummond and her husband Robert are at grid I08 07 and I08 08.



From left: Archdeacon Arthur Stock; Telford headstone; Drummond & Telford memorials

After 12 years in Ghuznee St, Sarah moved to 2 Thorndon Quay and opened a boarding house, close to the Thistle Inn (which still exists). She died at that address in 1898, and was buried with Daniel and their daughter Robina Ladd, in Bolton Street Cemetery.

A reunion of the Dougherty and McAuley descendants is being held in Wellington on 5-7 January 2018; they will be visiting Bolton Street Cemetery and Tarakena Bay as part of their programme. (Further information: <https://www.thedescendants.co.nz/>). I consequently tried to research the exact location of the Pilot Station, which was said to be at Tarakena Bay, operating between 1840 and 1866, after which it was closed when piloting operations were moved to Worsley Bay.

The exact location of the Pilot Station had been lost, but I found that what is now known as Tarakena Bay was impossible – the Mt Albert Signal Station could not be seen from there! Maps are imprecise even today, but it appears 'Tarakena Bay' (also called Taraki Bay) was loosely applied to the whole stretch of coast between what is now Moa Point and Palmer Head ('Moa Point' is a misnomer, as the real Moa Point was about 800m further north on the east shore of Lyall Bay, and was obliterated when the Wellington Airport runway was extended over it in 1970).

The Mt Albert Signal Station was established in 1844, initially manned by Robert Houghton, who died in 1846. His successor was Frederick John France, who died in 1853. Both were buried in Bolton Street Cemetery, but plots unknown.

The only location that seemed to suit the requirements for communications with Mt Albert Signal Station, and that also best matched the descriptions of the cottage and gardens in Celia Manson's books was next to so-called 'Moa Point' (actually the base of Hue Te Taka Peninsula) where the Dog Pound is today.

Proof of my conclusion regarding the location of the Pilot Station came from a photo in the Alexander Turnbull Library (*below*), originally indexed as ‘*The outer Pilot Station, Bornthorn & others*’, taken in 1889 by Frederick James Halse. It shows three rough huts, eight people, a horse, a sort of drying rack, and the rocks of Hue Te Taka Peninsula and nearer rocks east of the small beach.



Left: Today the same rocks can still be seen exactly as in the photo. I tried to duplicate the view, but the back walls and fence of the Dog Pound obscure it from the spot where F J Halse took his photograph, a position which can easily be inferred from the relationship of the rocks in his photo.

I believe it is certain that this spot is indeed the original site of the ‘Tarakena Bay Pilot Station’, and that at least one of the buildings in the photo is the replacement cottage (built after the 1855 earthquake) in which Dan, Sally and their children once lived. This is a reasonable assumption because Halse’s photo was taken only 23 years after the station closed, and the buildings are likely to have survived at least that long.

Also, we can be confident that Halse knew that what he photographed was the former Pilot Station, because he was an expert in maritime matters. His obituary in 1936 states that he was a skilled amateur photographer, and amongst his other interests were shipwrecks, a topic closely connected to pilot stations.

Right: The relocated Halse family headstone (grid reference H04 04)



Incidentally, F J Halse died in 1936 and is buried at Karori Cemetery, but his parents, Henry and Mary Ann Halse, and some of his siblings, were buried in Bolton Street Cemetery, and their reinstated headstone is shown above. Henry Halse was a Judge of the Native Land Court.

Article and Cemetery photos: Nick Perrin

FJ Halse photograph (ATL Ref ½-004079-G) courtesy of Alexander Turnbull Library

WORKING BEES, AUGUST & NOVEMBER 2017

Unreliable weather and people's busy schedules mean that it has been quality rather than quantity for working bees in the second half of 2017. Only two events but both were very successful!

Once again we welcomed a BNZ team on their annual '*Closed for Good*' day in late August, on a rare sunny day with only a light breeze. Special thanks to team leader Travis Smith with more than 20 enthusiastic volunteers; and to Stuart Allen with other Botanic Garden staff. Stuart did a wonderful job organising a range of tasks, and he and his team were on hand to supervise a very successful day. The volunteers were split into groups who did various tasks including digging a trench across Europe Lane so that irrigation could be extended into the lower cemetery, clearing overgrown areas near Friends Path, weeding out tradescantia and clearing generally along Observatory Path, and wiring into position sections of iron railings for use in the new Memorial Garden.



There was good weather again at the end of October when we had a Friends working bee, with a great turnout of 11 people. A very productive session at the bottom of Observatory Path included clearing the bank next to the motorway wall and deadheading the many hydrangeas in that area – now looking splendid. Many thanks to all those who have joined in and helped. I am hoping that we will be able to fit in two sessions after the Christmas/New Year break so if you are not already on the working bee email list and would like to join us please email me (see page 9).

Article and photos: Jennifer Robinson

SYMBOLS IN THE CEMETERY – URNS AND DRAPERY

Urns as a symbol of death or mourning date back at least to Classical Greece. There are numerous examples of urns in the cemetery; some are partly covered with drapery and there are many interpretations of the symbolism behind both urns and drapery.

Cremation rather than burial was common in some ancient civilisations and the ashes were put in an urn. In Classical Greece the urn symbolised death and mourning, representing the body as the vessel for the soul. An urn can also symbolise the death of the body and contains the dust or ashes to which it will return.

Sometimes there is a flame on the top of the urn, for which interpretations include light, life, eternity, creation – and also destruction.



Urns are often partially covered with drapery indicating sorrow and mourning, and can also mark the death of an older person. The plinth on which the urn stands may also be covered. In Victorian times when the body lay in state in the home before burial, it was the custom to cover everything in black. Ornate funeral draperies, sometimes with frills and tassels, were more elaborate than a simple shroud and were often kept and stored away (like a family Christening gown) and were brought out when there was a death in the family. Drapery on a memorial means that this expression of mourning remains long after the body has been buried.

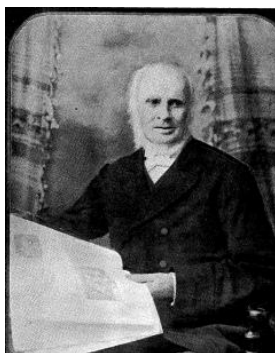
Elaborate drapery is now seldom seen but the cloth or pall draped over a coffin is reminder of the tradition. The use of a pall has led to the expression ‘casting a pall over’ something meaning sadness, and has also led to the term ‘pall bearers’ for the people who carry a coffin at a funeral.



Drapery or curtains can also symbolise the veil between the living and the dead and the protection of God over the dead and their remains; a cloth on an open book can represent death's interruption of life's work. The expression ‘Clothed with Christ’ represents mourning but with the hope and promise of resurrection.

Article: Jennifer Robinson; photos: Jennifer Robinson & Kate Fortune

REV MOIR, I PRESUME



Rev John Moir, pioneer minister of the Free Church of Scotland in Wellington, first minister of St John's in the City Presbyterian Church, Willis Street and first Moderator of the Presbytery of Wellington, in earlier times was a guide, mentor and lender of books to a young David Livingstone – later to become one of the most famous explorers of the 19th century.

John Moir was born on 15 February 1808 at Upper Craigie, Perthshire, Scotland, son of David Moir, weaver, and Jean Lennox.

Despite his modest background, John attended university and then Theological Hall before becoming ordained as a minister of the Congregational Church. His first parish was in Hamilton, Lanarkshire, where his congregation included the parents, brothers and one of the sisters of David Livingstone. While David did not formally join the congregation he was in frequent contact with Rev Moir who advised him on his studies and lent him an occasional book, the reverend noting in his diary 'which he most carefully returned'. Rev Moir later recommended David as a missionary candidate to the London Missionary Society (LMS).

In the late 1840s Moir became a minister of the Free Church of Scotland taking charge of the parish of Menmuir. It was from this parish he accepted an invitation to the Free Church for ministerial supply for a group of Presbyterians in far-off Wellington, New Zealand, who did not care to attend St Andrew's on the Terrace as it represented the Established Church of Scotland. Rev Moir and family set sail from Gravesend on the *John Taylor* arriving in Wellington on 30 November 1853 after 17 weeks at sea.

On arrival Rev Moir quickly set about building up his Free Church congregation. Services were held in the Athenaeum in Lambton Quay (a plaque marks the site near Plimmer Steps). Later a Church was built and opened on 31 August 1856, on the site of the present St John's on the corner of Willis and Dixon streets.

Despite being at the opposite end of the earth, Rev Moir still retained a strong interest in the activities of his former protégé, David Livingstone. In 1857 after news of the explorer's return from his first travels to Africa, Rev Moir noted with satisfaction that the LMS Committee had not seen Livingstone's potential as clearly as he (Moir) did.

Around 1866 a disagreement with a significant portion of the congregation led to Rev Moir announcing his resignation. Rifts were healed, however, and it was agreed to give the retiring minister a pension of £100 per annum plus the use of the Manse.

In retirement he provided pulpit supply to congregations in Porirua, Pauatahanui and the Hutt. Rev John Moir died at his residence in Brougham Street South on 7 October 1895. His funeral was held (interestingly enough) at St Andrew's on The Terrace on 9 October followed by burial in the family plot in the Public Cemetery alongside his first wife and three of his children who had predeceased him – and later joined by his second wife and another daughter. Alas peace was not to be eternal for the Moir family; they were disinterred for the motorway, and now rest under the memorial lawn with a number of other early members of St John's.

Ian Jolly



This photo shows the original grave of the Rev John Moir and his family, before it was demolished for the construction of the urban motorway

REPORT FROM THE BOTANIC GARDEN MANAGER

David Sole's report to the Friends' AGM on 3 July 2017 referred to 'an interesting year juggling earthquakes, endless wet weather, new tree plantings, capital work plans, settling in new staff and me being based in town for 6 months'. Highlights:

- Memorial Garden finally in place with some fences/railings to shift still. David acknowledged the layout design by curator Stuart Allen whose 'technical wizardry' shortened a long decision-making process.
- Earthquake repairs to Tabor, Whitehouse, St John and Hall graves completed.
- Maintenance: bulbs planted within cottage outline on Robertson Way; *Rosa rugosa* planted between graves; brick circles set around new planting. Some memorial walls (brought from Karori Cemetery) used in the Cemetery as seats.

Thanks once again to Jenny and the committee for tireless work with the repairs, information, guided walks, working bees and general support. [Summary: Kate Fortune]

COMMITTEE CONTACTS 2017 – 18 (NOTE SEVERAL EMAIL CHANGES)

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CEMETERY REPAIRS COMPLETED DURING 2016/17

In the past two newsletters we have commented on the damage in the Cemetery caused by the November 2016 earthquake. The breakage of at least six tombstones can be traced directly to this event and some of the repairs done have been quite expensive. Our last newsletter reported on the completion of repairs to **Tabor**, **St John** and **Whitehouse**. Photographs of these damaged stones are also in the past two issues.

After a delay over a very rainy period, our repairer, Kim Stops, was able to return to work on ones on the less urgent list. The large and ornate marble tombstone for **Isaac Phillips** (K05-01) was repaired in Kim's workshop before being returned to the Jewish cemetery, as Isaac was one of the small group of early Jewish settlers. His wife, Hannah, occupies a separate grave nearby, also with a carved marble tombstone. He died in 1889 aged 62, and she died not long afterwards in 1894 aged 67.

Jane Turnbull's tombstone (J09-06) was another heavy one which fell off its base and was badly damaged. This has now been pieced together and reinstated above Strang Path. Her memorial also commemorates her husband, Frederick, and baby daughter Grace who died at the age of 5 months. Jane died at the age of 24, just three months after Grace, in December 1882 while Frederick died in 1906.

Two smaller tasks were in the gully. The name plaque for **Henry Hall** (E11-02) fell off for the second time (our records show this happened also in 1982) and was more securely fastened into position. This is a quite elaborate memorial with a marble urn and ornate iron railings, contrasting with the simple wording of his name only on the plaque. Nearby the marble cross fell off the grave of **Colonel William Leckie** and his wife **Henrietta** (D12-10) and has now been pinned back onto its base. Colonel Leckie had a distinguished career with the 39th (Dorsetshire) Regiment before retiring in 1875; he arrived in New Zealand in 1876 with his wife and three of their family. William died in 1884 and Henrietta in 1919.

These repairs, many of which were expensive, consumed most of the WCC's allocation for the financial year. There was sufficient money to pay for one wooden fence repair which was a simple fence surrounding the grave of a young child, **Sarah Faraday Sinclair** (I10-01) on Hart Path. There is no memorial on this grave but newspaper records show she was the daughter of Barbara and Robert Sinclair of Taitville, Polhill Gully (Aro Valley). Sarah was born on 5 October 1883 and died on 16 August 1884. The fence was in poor shape but is now fully restored with missing pickets replaced.

Looking towards the coming year, we hope to finish the earthquake repairs, do more work on the Memorial Garden, continue with restoration of some bases and ensure all our World War I memorials are in adequate condition by ANZAC Day 2018.

Priscilla Williams

GENEROUS DONATIONS FROM MEMBERS HELP WITH REPAIRS

We are grateful and immensely heartened by the terrific response to our appeal last year for assistance with earthquake repairs. So far we have received \$2,200 (tax-refundable donations) from our membership. Many thanks to you all!

LADS WHO NEVER CAME HOME

Gunner Andrew Mark LAVIN, 32nd Reinforcements, NZ Field Artillery.

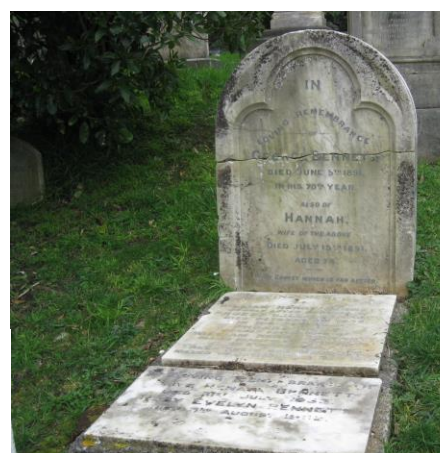
Mark Lavin was born at Wellington on 4 April 1897, the son of Thomas & Susan Lavin. Thomas was a cook and when he died in 1928 he was noted as being late of the *ss Invercargill*. It is likely he was the cook on the vessel. The Lavin family cottage, built in 1897 at 205 Aro Street, still stands and is a category 2 registered place.



Mark Lavin (*pictured right*) was a warehouseman for R Jamieson & Co in Wellington, and he enlisted on 4 April 1917, his 20th birthday.

He departed Wellington for Liverpool on 21 November 1917, arriving on 8 January 1918. A month later, while still in England he was admitted to Aldershot Military Hospital with the measles. After a further period in camp in England Gunner Lavin was sent to France and entered into the field there on 22 March 1918.

He was killed in action on the Somme just nine days later, on 31 March 1918, and was buried in the Englebelmer Communal Cemetery. Although his father is buried in Karori Cemetery, Mark is commemorated on the Meredith/Andrews family headstone. His mother's maiden name was Andrews. (Powles Path, grid reference B12 20).



Left: Meredith/Andrews headstone
Above and right: Bennett family memorials

Private William Bradford BENNETT, 3rd Battalion, Wellington Regiment.

William was born on 8 July 1882 at Wellington. His parents were William Henry & Phoebe Emily Bennett of 350 The Terrace, Wellington. William Bennett senior seems to have been a prominent Wellington personality, being on numerous charitable boards and committees and later becoming a city councillor.

Prior to enlisting on 22 February 1917 William was a Foreman Joiner. After military training he embarked for England on 14 July 1917, entering into active service in the field on 8 November 1917. In just under seven weeks he was dead, killed in action at Ypres, Belgium on 20 December 1917.

Private Bennett was buried at Buttes New British Cemetery, Polygon Wood, Zonnebeke, Belgium. He is commemorated on his parents' tombstone, which now lies flat (at grid reference J08 12) on Robertson Way.

Ian Jolly

SPRING FESTIVAL TOUR: OBELISKS, URNS & ANGELS

The new guided tour focussing on symbolism in the Cemetery (researched by Judy Bale and Jennifer Robinson) has proved extremely popular, attracting about 40 people on 29 September (when it was offered for Heritage Month and the WCC's Spring Festival) and about 15 on 27 October (for Wellington City's Heritage Week).



*Photo credits:
Above: Nick Perrin
Below: Kate Fortune*

