



# Friends of Newport & Carisbrooke Cemeteries

[www.foncc.org.uk](http://www.foncc.org.uk)



*Volunteers helping to care for the cemeteries and record the lives of those resting there*

## Newsletter No.5 August 2018

Welcome to the fifth e-newsletter of the Friends of Newport & Carisbrooke Cemeteries. This is being circulated to all those who have expressed an interest in the Friends or others who I think may be interested. Feel free to circulate this to others who you feel may be interested in the Cemeteries, or to unsubscribe (see at the bottom of this newsletter) if you don't wish to receive future newsletters.- we won't take offence.

Receiving this newsletter does not cost you anything nor commit you to anything.

Past newsletters can be found in the archive on the website

([https://www.foncc.org.uk/the\\_group/newsletters.php](https://www.foncc.org.uk/the_group/newsletters.php)) .



Carisbrooke Cemetery - graves and Chapel

### Where are we?

This being the fifth newsletter means we are into our second year.

Having suffered with the cold weather in the previous quarter, this quarter we were affected by the high temperatures for parts of it but we did manage a number of clearing sessions.

A number of contributions for the website have been received from unconnected people who had details regarding those buried - a 'thank you' to them and any further contributions would be gratefully received.

Transcription of newspaper reports of deaths etc continue to be added to the website - **additional volunteers to transcribe these would be welcome** - email us (newsletter@foncc.org.uk) for more details if you are interested - there's no need to be located on the Island as cuttings can be emailed.

There is a poster and handout available from the website - if you can find a place to display a poster or would like to give a handout to someone, feel free to print off either - they are available here ([https://www.foncc.org.uk/the\\_group/documents/foncc\\_documents.php](https://www.foncc.org.uk/the_group/documents/foncc_documents.php) ).

### **Cemetery clearing sessions:**

#### **Newport (Fairlee Road) Cemetery (Rob Cain)**

What a wonderful summer we have had. Despite the hot temperatures, our small, but dedicated and enthusiastic group of volunteers continued to meet at Newport Fairlee Road Cemetery to carry on working on the graves and memorials. Because of the hot weather, and also to take into account nesting birds and other wildlife in the cemetery, there has tended to be less clearing of foliage and vegetation and more emphasis placed on transcribing from headstones, taking photographs of memorials and putting the information on our website - in recent weeks, over 35 new Newport Cemetery memorials have been added. Some clearance did take place however and a lot of work was done on the grave of George Wiggins Esq. This proved quite a challenge as it was heavily covered in ivy and brambles, with some very thick branches and is still a 'work-in-progress' to remove the last of the ivy clinging to the tomb. There is a photograph of the grave on the website (<https://www.foncc.org.uk/burials/grave-search/record.php?rec=1336> ) which is well worth a look.

Better still, why not pay a visit to the cemetery and see this and the other headstones which have been revealed, some after many years of being hidden.

Or come and join us on one of our clearing sessions, 3rd Saturday of the month, see the website for more details.



*Headstones of Henry Loosemore & wife at Newport Cemetery  
revealed by removing ivy overgrowing them*

### **Carisbrooke (Mountjoy) Cemetery (Tony Barton)**

We have been holding our first Saturday of the month sessions at Carisbrooke Cemetery as well as a couple of ad-hoc sessions. We've suffered with the hot weather with some people being deterred and some sessions being cut short.

We've moved our main efforts to the original Roman Catholic section in the southwest corner where a number of fine tombs were completely hidden by vegetation. The Council's contractors have cut down the grass at the western end of the cemetery which makes working in the area easier.



Anyone walking around the oldest (western) part of the Cemetery should notice a number of headstones and memorials which have been recently exposed.

Anyone is welcome to join us on one of our clearing sessions, 1st Saturday of the month, see the website for more details.

The pictures below show the memorial cross at Carisbrooke Cemetery for Florence Shepard, wife of William Shepard, who died aged 25 in 1896 - William lived until 1926 and is buried in Newport cemetery, surrounded by other members of the Shepard family.



Memorial Inscriptions have been transcribed and added to the website, it's a slow process and new volunteers are needed - if you could 'pair-up' with someone, this could be carried out at your own convenience - you wouldn't need to be restricted to the clearing sessions.

As mentioned by Rob above, he has started transcribing inscriptions at Newport Cemetery and adding them to the website.

## Characters buried here (Brian Greening)

### James Lawrence - Cabinet Maker of Orchard Street, Newport, died 7 September 1892

The death of James Lawrence of Orchard Street shocked the local community. It was said at his inquest that the house he lived in with his wife was indescribably filthy as were both the occupants. Upon his death it was found that he only had one foot and upon enquiring of his wife she said it had come off three days before his death and she had put it in a drawer downstairs. A doctor who had visited him four months previous said that he was sleeping in an attic type room on a bundle of rags and the stench was such that the doctor refused to visit him any more. When the doctor left he had to change his clothes. The old man's foot was gangrenous and there was nothing he could do for him. Had Mr



Lawrence been penniless he could have got him into the Workhouse but that was not the case. The foreman of the jury said they would return a verdict of death by natural causes as any other verdict might hurt the feelings of any relatives.

*Extract from Brian Greening's book 'Read all about it.'*

## The Website:

More pictures, grave plot maps, transcriptions, inscriptions etc. have been added to the website - it's going to be an ongoing task 'for ever'.

Two new options have been added to the website under the 'BURIALS' option on the main menu bar:

'WW memorials' ([https://www.foncc.org.uk/burials/grave-search/wd\\_list\\_result.php](https://www.foncc.org.uk/burials/grave-search/wd_list_result.php) ) which provides a list of those burials and memorials associated with the two World Wars - as well as recording those buried in the cemeteries and recorded by the Commonwealth War Grave Commission, it includes inscriptions on family grave-markers where the individual didn't return home.

'Research notes' ([https://www.foncc.org.uk/burials/grave-search/research\\_list.php](https://www.foncc.org.uk/burials/grave-search/research_list.php) ) which indexes the transcriptions and research carried out by volunteers and contributed by others. There are currently over 250 research notes currently available.

**Can you step forward ?:**

If you would like to help in any way, please contact us ([newsletter@foncc.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@foncc.org.uk)); as well as clearing vegetation in the cemeteries, transcribing inscriptions, and newspaper reports; we are open to any suggestion of other help.



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(or I think you would be interested.)

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