



Friends of Tunbridge Wells Cemetery

Newsletter No.16 Autumn 2022



Return of Our Christmas Carol Concert

We are pleased that the *Create Choir* will be presenting an evening of carols in the Cemetery Chapel on **Saturday 3rd December at 7pm** with seasonal refreshments and a raffle –all for £5. Tickets can be obtained from FTWC Secretary lynnemonkcton@gmail.com or via the website www.friends-tw-cemetery.org

Heritage Open Days 2022: Tunbridge Wells 'Worthies' in our Cemetery

This year's HODs on 10/11 September saw the launch of a new booklet researched by the Memorial Inscriptions Group with a talk by Carol Mellors. This concerned some of the prominent individuals buried in the cemetery who had been included by the famed Photographer Henry Peach Robinson for his 1887 collection of the town's 'Worthies'. The very entertaining presentation provided a glimpse into some unexpected corners of Victorian life!

[need photo of cover]

Battle of Britain Wreath Laying at RAF Memorial 15 September

This low-key but touching ceremony has become an annual event which provides a chance to pay tribute to those heroes with our wreath laid at the RAF memorial garden.

Gold Again for Our Gardening Team

Despite another summer of challenging weather, our determined small team of gardeners were once again awarded a Gold Award by *Tunbridge Wells in Bloom* judges. Despite their continuing success, they never take it for granted and to maintain their high standard.

Unveiling of 'Paupers' Memorial 6 November

In unrelenting rain, the Vicar of St Marks came to offer a blessing of the new memorial stone which we, together with TWBC, have funded to mark the place where were re-interred the remains of some humble Victorians whose unmarked graves had been disinterred and moved to a more auspicious spot with a monument designed by Burslems. We shall keep it well tended with seasonal plantings.

We than made our way back to the Chapel to dry off and have a cup of tea, where we were later joined by those who had attended **The Annual Blessing of Catholic Graves** in the Cemetery. There was a little inter-necine rivalry when it wan pointed out that the sun had shone on the latter event!

So the Chapel was buzzing with those who had been honouring the past – just the sort of occasion which brings the Chapel to life.