

The Havant Cemeteries
at
New Lane and Eastern Road



Dissenters' – St Faith's – Council

Holocaust Memorial Service
January 27, 2012

Ralph Cousins

Havant
BOROUGH COUNCIL

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The Havant Cemeteries at New Lane and Eastern Road Dissenters – St Faith's – Council

The original St Faith's church was built about 1150 on what may be the site of an earlier Saxon church and its adjoining graveyard provided Havant's only burial ground. The parish records covering the period of 1653 to 1851 record that some 6000 departed souls were buried there and from this figure it has been estimated that the graveyard could contain the remains of over 20,000 people. Most of these would not have been in individual coffins but would have been placed side by side or on top of each other. At one time bodies were just wrapped in a shroud. As befits a town with connections with the wool trade the records of 'burial in woollens' are unusually complete continuing as late as 1748/49. By Acts of 1666 and 1678, whose intention was to stimulate the woollen trade:

"no corpse, except those who shall die of the plague, shall be buried in any shirt, shift, sheet or shroud made or mingled with flax, hemp, silk, hair, gold or silver ... or in any stuff other than sheep wool ... or put in a coffin lined or faced ... other than sheep wool."

An affidavit was required from a relative at burial. The penalty for breaking this law was £5: half to the poor, half to the informer. So frequently was the law broken that the penalty was effectively a tax of £2 10s 0d, (£2.50p), the informer often being a member of the family of the deceased. The Acts were repealed in 1814.

As the graveyard became full it became necessary to bring in further earth that resulted in its original level being raised to what we see today. (The 1853 drawing of the crossroads shows the church wall to be much higher).

Diligent research by Robert West of the Vestry Records (the Vestry was the administrative committee of the Parish of Havant until the Havant Urban District Council was set up in 1894 and usually met in St Faith's Church vestry) has revealed that as early as 1843 the Vestry had started to consider what to do about the churchyard becoming overcrowded but it was not until August 1849, when a letter on the subject was received from the Archdeacon of Winchester, that any action was taken. The idea of extending the churchyard by purchasing an adjoining garden in South Street was immediately rejected. It was instead proposed that a committee be formed in order to locate a suitable piece of land outside of the town centre for a new cemetery. The committee reported back on September 11, 1849 that such a site had been found: a portion of the field known as

Long Close (Plot 382 on the Tithe Map) situated just to the north of the modern Elmleigh Road, which was owned by Sir George Staunton.

According to an article that appeared in the *Hampshire Telegraph* on September 8, 1849, which was probably written by one of the committee members, Sir George Staunton had:

kindly assented to dispose of two acres of ground and liberally offered a donation of £50 towards carrying out the desired object.

However subsequent consideration led the committee to come to the conclusion that two statute acres would be more than they required and upon this being represented to Sir George Staunton he informed the committee that instead of the plan named above he would present to the parish one acre. If the Vestry accepted this offer they would have had to agree a payment in compensation to William Softly who rented Long Close from Sir George. (It is recorded that on March 20, 1851 a sum of £125 was paid to Sir George which was presumably this compensation that was required.)

Some six months later in April 1850, the Vestry book states that:

It was reported that the site formerly selected for the cemetery was unfit for that purpose and that Mr Hoskins, Sir George Staunton's solicitor, informed the Vestry that Sir George was ready to give away another suitable plot on his property.

Why Long Close should suddenly be deemed unsuitable is not known but at any rate a second committee was formed to find a new site and within a week they had resolved upon an acre of land at the southern end of New Lane. By July 1850 plans for a mortuary chapel had been drawn up and approved and by August the thorny problem of finance had been resolved.

The cemetery was the largest and most expensive project that the Vestry had ever undertaken. Although they were relieved of the cost of purchasing the land they still had to find an estimated £150 to build the chapel, £200 to erect the boundary wall and entrance gate and a further £50 for the consecration fee. The plan was to obtain the money by way of a loan arranged with Mrs Mary Hewett of Havant to be repaid in seven annual instalments at 5% interest from a special Cemetery Rate levied at 3 pence (1p) in the £. However the following passage in Charles Longcroft's *Topographical Account of The Hundred of Bosmere* published in 1856, records that the money required was raised by subscription:

The site was presented to the parish [of Havant] by Sir George Staunton, and the subsoil is flint gravel. The mortuary chapel and necessary walling have been erected by subscription. One statute acre has been inclosed for the members of the Church of England, and one quarter of a statute acre for the Dissenters. The inclosure walls are of flint and brick. The entrance gateway and the chapel are built of flint, with Caen stone dressings. The style of the work is Gothic, and the chapel will accommodate about fifty persons. The windows are of stained glass, the floor of red and black tiles six inches square, and there is an outer iron gate, which is closed during the day, the inner door being left open to secure proper ventilation. A small turret and bell complete the whole, and the total sum expended did not exceed £416, of which the chapel cost £200. It was built by Messrs. Assiter and Thompson of Maidstone.

The Sentence of Consecration dated July 23, 1851 states that this piece of land, half a mile from the parish church, had been obtained and a mortuary chapel erected by subscription thereon because the existing burial ground belonging to the parish church was from its crowded state:

inadequate for the decent interment of the bodies of the parishioners and inhabitants.

The following notice appeared the *Hampshire Telegraph*:

CONSECRATION OF THE NEW BURIAL GROUND, HAVANT

On Wednesday July 23rd, the Lord Bishop of Winchester will consecrate the additional burial ground and mortuary chapel in New Lane. Before the ceremony there will be divine service in the parish church at half-past two, pm, when the Bishop has kindly undertaken to preach.

Although this burial ground is often referred to as the St Faith's cemetery it is technically a *detached churchyard extension of St Faith's*.

Prior to this time all of Havant's deceased persons, irrespective of religion, were buried in St Faith's churchyard. St Joseph's Roman Catholic Church and churchyard were not opened until 1875 and is still used today. A few burials took place at the former Primitive Methodist Church in West Street. Some may have been buried in Warblington churchyard but this is unlikely as it was within the Parish of Warblington that included Emsworth. The attached sketch shows the St Faith's cemetery with its chapel although it is doubtful if it was as large as it appears. The paving stone that was at

the entrance to the chapel is still there and Laurie Booth has been able to trace the outline of its foundations by dowsing.

The Dissenters (Nonconformists) were those who did not follow an Established Church. In 1728 they built a church in the Pallant and later became known as Congregationalists. Their new church was built in North Street in 1891 and their name was changed to the United Reformed Church when they merged with the Presbyterian Church in 1972.

Presumably the Dissenters wished to have their own burial ground. It was used until the early 1900's when it would seem to have become full. Certainly it was allowed to become neglected as in 1929 the council resolved that they would maintain it for a fee of £5 per annum although for the first year only £3 was paid. Quite what happened after this is not clear but when, in 2007, the council realised that no payments were being made they ceased to maintain it. This area has recently been cleared and has the potential to be made into a managed wildlife area. There is still space available for further interments.

The first St Faith's burial was that of Melinda Fearn, aged 28, on August 29, 1851. However, as from then on everyone had a separate grave space, the cemetery filled up much quicker than the old churchyard and by 1895 it had become full so more land was required. Fortunately alongside the cemetery was the Stone's allotment site. This was an area of land had been given by Sir George Staunton's successor at Leigh Park, William Stone, to be held in trust for the establishment of allotments: *for the labouring classes of the Parish of Havant*.

On 25 March 1895 the Urban District Council of Havant entered in to an agreement with the trustees to exchange 1 acre 3 roods 8 poles (0.73 hectare) of the allotment site for a similar area of land to the north to enable the cemetery to be extended. An enclosing wall that matched the original was constructed which was topped with iron railings. These railings were removed to help the 1939–1945 war effort. Whether they did or not is debateable, as it has been recorded that much of the metal that was collected was not suitable for further use and was dumped. Fortunately the fine entrance gates survived.

Before it was opened there was a considerable debate in the council as to whether or not the cemetery should be dedicated or consecrated. Eventually it was resolved that the cemetery would be dedicated. The first burial took place on July 31, 1896 and was that of Edward Till. Edward was a council road foreman who had died of cancer at the early age of 44. Like so many council workmen he was also a volunteer fireman so he was

accorded the honour of having his body conveyed to the cemetery on the fire engine, which was drawn by two black horses.

One of the reasons given for not consecrating the new cemetery was that if it were: *a chapel must be built for the exclusive use of Episcopalians (members of the Church of England)*. Whether or not this was true at the time the Rector said that any service could be conducted in the church.

However it can be seen from the 1897 Ordnance Survey map that a Nonconformist Mortuary Chapel had been built in the new cemetery on the central island while the Church of England Mortuary Chapel was still there. Furthermore Laurie Booth has found, again by dowsing, evidence of a small chapel, no doubt a temporary one, to the south of the new chapel. This chapel appears to have had an altar and an aisle with three pews on either side. Two footpaths led off from the west door, the one towards Leigh Park and the other towards Havant. It is not clear how these chapels were used in practice but the 1940 Ordnance Survey map shows that the Church of England chapel has gone and the new one as being for general use. The new chapel was still being used in the 1950s but was later demolished following a fire.

When a Church of England burial ground becomes full in can be declared as being 'closed' and the responsibility for its maintenance passed to the Local Authority. This was done in respect of the St Faith's burial ground by an Order in Council, which was made on October 26, 1960. Under the order no further burials are allowed to take place although it may be possible to obtain a relaxation for the burial of cremated remains. If major work is required to be carried out, for example to trees or tombstones, the permission (a faculty) must be obtained from the Chancellor of the Diocese. This legislation does apply to the burial grounds of other religions and therefore the dissenters' cemetery cannot be 'closed'.

This new cemetery provided sufficient new grave spaces for about 6,000 burials until it became full 1976. However burials are still taking place in those grave spaces that have been purchased and where there is an adequate depth and is with the permission of the grave owner. Also contract burials, these being burials carried out at the expense of the local authority because the person died without sufficient funds to pay for their funeral, (formerly called pauper or workhouse burials). For these burials common/unpurchased graves are used of which there are about 600.

Before the Havant and Waterloo Urban District Council was created in 1932 the Parish of Bedhampton came under the Havant Rural District

Council and the Havant Cemetery was within the Havant Urban District Council area. This situation gave rise to the following request that was made on February 24, 1930:

Read letter from the Clerk to the Havant Rural District Council enquiring whether in view of the re-arrangement of County Districts under the Local Government Act when the Parish of Bedhampton would form part of the new Havant District, and to the fact that the churchyard at Bedhampton was practically full, the Council would be prepared to allow interments from that Parish to take place in the Havant Cemetery on payment of the ordinary fees for interment from the Urban District. The Clerk pointed out that under the cemetery Bye-laws the fees from Parishes outside the District for interments were double those within the District and that in his view, the Council had no power to go outside the Bye-laws. After fully discussing the matter it was resolved that whilst wishing to accede to his request, the constitution of the Bye-laws prevented the Council from doing so.

In 2007 Havant Borough Council provided for the Holocaust Memorial, which is located on the central island of the 'new' cemetery. The memorial is made from a block of Welsh Slate and has a stainless steel 'flame' mounted in a hollowed out section. The 'flame', which is the symbol of the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust, is to represent warmth, hope and remembrance emerging from the cold of the slate. A service is held here each year on January 27, International Holocaust Remembrance Day.

These cemeteries should be regarded, not only as the last resting place of our former citizens, but also as valuable environmental resources for the living. They are an educational and recreational asset that should rank in importance as any other open space. They are rich in flora and fauna, much of which has been identified by Ralph Hollins. Lichen and mosses thrive on the old gravestones and they possess a large number of fine trees.

Every effort must be made to maintain our cemeteries to a high standard and to actively promote their enhancement as:

Places of Peace and Tranquillity.

Some Funerals that were Reported in the *Hampshire Telegraph*.

DEATH OF COLOUR-SERGEANT HOWSE

We regret to have to announce the death of Mr. James Howse, which took place at his residence in North-street about noon on Saturday September 5, 1885. Mr. Howse was well known and respected. After a period of over 25 years in the Royal Marine Light Infantry, in which corps he reached the rank of colour-sergeant, Mr Howes joined the Volunteer Battalion in 1861 and served there ever since then. He was Sergeant Instructor until obliged to relinquish that post, and until now was colour-sergeant. He was also for many years the Hon. Secretary of the Working Men's Club, and his loss will be regretted by members of that institution with whom he was exceedingly popular. Mr. Howes, who was 65 years of age last month, leaves a widow and large family. On Wednesday afternoon the remains were conveyed to their last resting place at the Havant Cemetery followed by a large number of relatives and friends. Within a few days of 48 years of honourable service in both the R.M.L.I. and the Volunteers, Colour-Sergeant Howse leaves a good and respected name. The coffin, which was covered with some of the many handsome wreaths sent by various friends, was carried on the shoulders of eight of the H Company, the deceased sergeant's helmet, belts and sword being conspicuous. Those of the company that could attend paraded in full dress with side arms and followed, whilst Sergeant Thorne, R.M.L.I., and other detachments from the outlying companies came to take part in the procession. The service was performed by the Rev. R. P. Thompson, and the arrangements were satisfactorily carried out by Mr. Carrell of the Pallant.

September 12, 1885.

A PARCHMENT MAKERS FUNERAL

On Saturday last, December 6, 1890, the remains of Mr John St. Aubyn Mason were buried at Havant Cemetery, the Rev. Canon Renaud officiating. Mr. Mason who died on the 1st inst. aged 49, leaves a wife and large family, he had been employed for many years by Mr. A. Stent, fellmonger, Havant, and was much respected. Nine parchment makers, of the firm G and A Stallard, carried the deceased from his late residence to the grave, and about twenty parchment makers and skinnners from Mr. A. Stent's yard followed immediately behind the chief mourners.

December 13, 1890.

THE HAVANT MURDER

The funeral of the little boy, Percy Knight Searle, aged 8, the victim of the recent tragedy at Havant, took place at Havant Cemetery on Saturday December 1, 1888, a sympathising crowd of over five hundred persons, being present. The route from the cemetery gates to the church path was lined with deceased's schoolfellows, each carrying flowers. An enormous quantity of wreaths was sent by visitors and residents. The lad's mother was utterly prostrated, and was too weak to walk without assistance. The whole proceedings were most impressive. With regard to the prisoner Husband it has transpired that he made an artful attempt to escape from his cell by breaking down the trapdoor through which his food was supplied, and when the wife of Sergeant Knaption appeared the boy asked if she would leave the door at the end of the corridor open, so that he could hear the people moving in the house. The prisoner was afterwards moved to another cell, where he gave way to a fit of rage. Additional evidence has, it is officially stated, been obtained, strengthening the case against Husband. Hundreds of persons visited the cemetery and the scene of the murder on Sunday afternoon.

December 8, 1888.

HAVANT BELL RINGER

The remains of Mr. George Little, who died on Wednesday October 22, 1890, at the age of 69, were buried on Saturday in the Havant Cemetery. Deceased had been a bell ringer for nearly 40 years and his fellow bell ringers rang muffled peals for over an hour on Saturday evening.

November 1, 1890.

FUNERAL OF Mr. FAWCETT

The funeral of the late Mr. Walter John Fawcett took place on Monday April 13, 1891, at the Havant Cemetery. Mr Fawcett, who died on the 10th inst, had been ill for only a few days. He was the second son of the Chief Engineer (at the works at Brockhampton) of the Borough of Portsmouth Water Works Company, and had been engaged at the works for many years. The funeral service was impressively read by the Rev. Canon Renaud, Rector. The whole of the family of the deceased attended as chief mourners and there were many of the public present as a mark of respect. There was also a large attendance of the officials of the Company at the cemetery, amongst them being Mr. H. R. Smith (Resident Engineer), Mr. J. L. Wilkinson (Chief Clerk), Mr. S. W. Winter (Cashier),

Mr. W. L. Sparrow (Clerk), Messrs. R. A. Mitchell, G. Banning, E. Nott, T. D. Sheppard, and E. Simmons (Collectors), and Mr. W. C. Willcox (Meter Inspector); also the staff of employées from the fitting shop at Portsmouth and the works at Havant. There was quite a profusion of floral emblems, one especially handsome was the cross from the officials and clerks of the office at Portsmouth. The funeral arrangements were ably carried out by Mr. J. Staples of Havant.

April 18, 1891.

AN ODDFELLOW'S FUNERAL

The remains of the late Mr. James Couzens, who died on Friday last, December 9, 1892, at the age of 61 years, were interred on Wednesday at the Havant Cemetery. Deceased, who, was one of the founders of the "Loyal Pride of Havant" Lodge of Oddfellows, Manchester Unity, established 25 years ago, and a trustee of the juvenile branch, was followed to the grave by many members of the Order, the Noble Grand of the lodge (Mr. G. C. Stokes) reading the Oddfellow's burial service.

December 13, 1892.

MILITARY FUNERAL

The first military funeral that has ever taken place in the Roman Catholic Cemetery in Havant was that of John Mellace of the South Wales Borderers, whose remains were interred there on Thursday afternoon February 1, 1894. The company to which deceased belonged attended the service and composed the firing party, and the burial service was conducted by Rev. Father Horrigan. The mourners included the widow, son, and other relatives and friends and comrades of the deceased.

February 3, 1894.

FUNERAL OF MR. TAPLIN

The funeral of Mr. J. Taplin, who died at his residence, East End, Havant, on Thursday March 14, 1895, took place at Havant on Monday. The remains were enclosed in a polished oak coffin, with brass mountings and a breastplate, on which was inscribed the name, age (81 years), and date of decease. The *cortege* left the residence at noon, the funeral car being followed by the carriages containing private mourners. In the first carriage were the Vicar of Portsmouth (Rev. E. P. Grant) and Dr. Norman: second Messrs. B. Bramble, G. Taplin, A. Taplin, and A. Burbidge and F. Penney (executors); third, The Mayor of Portsmouth (Mr. T. King, J.P.); the Rev. Canon Jacob, Sir W. D. King, and Mr. J. Griffin. J. P., fourth, Mr.

A. Addison, and Mr. W. Payne, J.P.; fifth, Messrs. E. Rawson, J.P., G. Stallard and S. R. Ellis.; sixth, Messrs. J. Dunning, D. Greenwood, Among the gathering at the Havant Congregational Church, where the first part of the funeral service was conducted, there were also present General Sir F. FitzWygram, Bart. M. P., J.P., Messrs. A. Gearing, G Selby Hall, Rutland, G. Scarrott, Roffey, Dr. Norman etc. The service was taken by the pastor (the Rev. R. J. Wells.) was of a simple character, consisting of the reading of a portion of the Holy Scriptures, and one or two prayers. At the close the coffin was again placed in the funeral car, and conveyed to the Havant Dissenters Cemetery, where the coffin was deposited in the vault where the body of the late Mr. Taplin's wife was laid in January 1867. The Vicar of Portsmouth read the concluding portion of the Church of England service at the graveside. Among those who sent flowers were Lady FitzWygram, Mrs. L. Stevens, of Southsea, Mrs. Stevenson, Landport, Mr. R. Rawson, Havant, Mr. and Mrs. Markwell, Brighton, and the Havant Chrysanthemum Society. Messrs. E. Hyde and Co., King's-road Southsea, had charge of the funeral arrangements.

March 23 1895.

DEATH OF MR. G. BANNISTER

The funeral of the late Mr. George Bannister took place on Monday September 9, 1895, at the Havant Cemetery, the remains, enclosed in a polished oak coffin, being laid in the family vault. The mourners were Dr. William Bannister (brother), Dr. Hooper Bannister (Nephew), Mr. Augustus Bannister and Mr. W. Curtiss Thompson. Many of the principal traders in the town closed their shutters. Deceased who was 80 years of age, died on the previous Thursday, after only a few days' illness. His residence at Havant had extended over 20 years.

September 14, 1895.

FUNERAL OF A RAILWAYMAN

The funeral of a young man Stillwell, who met his death at Barnham railway-station early last week while engaged in shunting trucks, took place on Saturday February 18, 1899, at the Roman Catholic Cemetery. Deceased who was 21 years of age was carried to the grave by his fellow-porters at the station, and the chief mourners were members of his family who reside at Hermitage, Sussex. A large number of friends attended the ceremony at St. Joseph's Church, where the Rev. Father Hayes officiated.

February 25, 1899.

A FIREMAN'S FUNERAL UNIQUE SIGHT AT HAVANT

The funeral of the late Mr. Edward Till took place at Havant on Friday, July 31, 1896, amid every sign of respect. Many shops were partially closed, and most of the private houses on the line of the route had their blinds drawn. Deceased, who had been ill for some time, died on Wednesday week, at the age of 44, from cancer. He joined the Havant Volunteer Fire Brigade in January, 1889, was a medallion holder in the St. John Ambulance Association and was a member of the St. John Ambulance Brigade in connection with the National Fire Brigades' Union.

The funeral *cortege* left deceased's residence at three o'clock. The polished oak coffin, with brass mountings, was placed on the top of the fire engine, covered with the Union Jack, on which were placed the helmet, belt and axe worn by deceased. The engine was drawn by two black horses, with members of the Fire Brigade in full uniform marching in front, and other members acting as bearers walking by the side of the engine. Two mourning coaches followed containing the deceased's widow, sons, and other near relatives; a number of relatives and friends marched in the procession immediately behind, and included members of the St. Faith's Bible Class, of which the deceased was a member. There was a large congregation at the new burying-ground where the internment took place at the request of the deceased (this being the first internment in the ground), so that he should be laid near his children who had been buried in the old cemetery. A large number of floral tributes were placed on the sides of the fire engine, one from his old comrades being placed on the coffin; another handsome wreath was sent by Mrs. C. P. Boyd, of Emsworth House. The funeral service and address was impressively rendered by the Rev. William Cuthbert, of Somers-road Primitive Methodist Chapel

August 8, 1896.

FUNERAL OF THE LATE MR. SAMUEL CLARKE

The remains of the late Mr. Samuel Clarke, one of the oldest inhabitants of Havant and a large owner of property in the town and in the surrounding parishes, were laid to rest on Saturday May 5, 1906, in the Havant Cemetery, amidst many manifestations of great respect. The first part of the funeral service took place in the Parish Church, the Rev. Canon Scott, the Rector, officiating, assisted by the Rev. R. W. P. Teale.

Born in Havant on September 30th, 1824, the deceased lived there all his life. He was in his 82nd year. On the 6th day of May 1852 he married Miss Anne Foster, daughter of Mr. Thomas Land Foster, late of Brockhampton, Havant (who survives him), and they celebrated their golden wedding on the same date in 1902. He succeeded his father, John Bridger Clarke, as a miller, maltster, corn and coal merchant, and he also made and carried out the business of a brewer until the year 1903.

The late Mr Clarke was a large property owner, and in the course of his life built over 60 cottages and houses in Havant and neighbourhood greatly improving the houses of the poor, and particularly at Homewell at Havant.

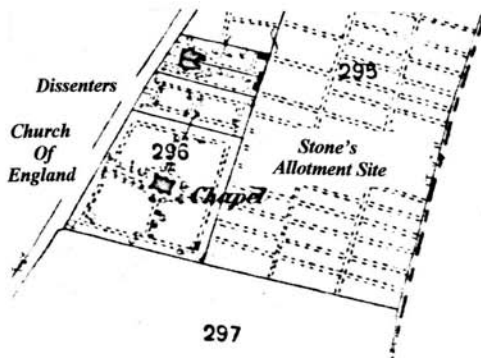
His public life has been a long and varied one. He was for many years Chairman of the Havant Local Board, and for 50 years consecutively a member of that and the Havant Urban District Council which followed it. He was a member of the late Havant School Board from the formation until a year ago. A Director of the Havant Gas Company; Chairman of the Directors for several years, and chairman of the Directors of the Havant Town hall company for many years. He was a member of the late Havant school Board from the formation until a year ago. He was a Churchman in religion and a Liberal in politics.

This is his record, and shows that during life he was not by any means idle, but rather the reverse. He was a gentleman of strong personality and an excellent businessman, and the town has on more than one occasion have had the benefit of his experience.

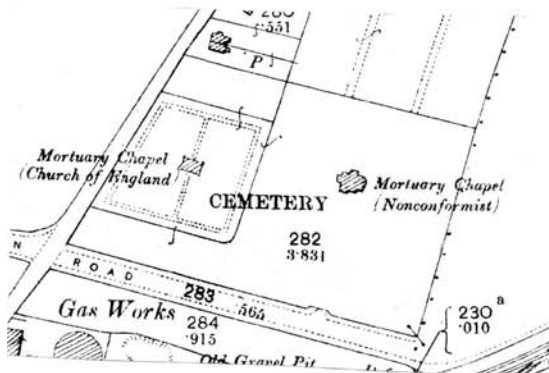
The funeral arrangements were carried out by Messrs. Geo. & R. Carrell of Havant.

May 10, 1906.

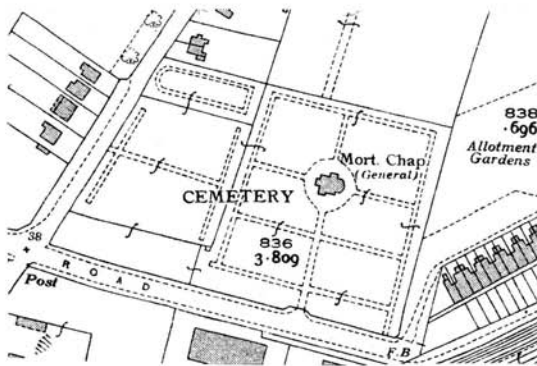
Ordnance Survey Maps of the Havant Cemeteries



1877



1897



1940

HAVANT CEMETERY.

A PERSON IS REQUIRED TO TAKE CHARGE OF THE HAVANT CEMETERY YARD for the current Year, ending the 25th of March, 1867.

His duties will be as follow,

To put the Cemetery Yard into decent order and to maintain it during the year.

To take up and sift the gravel in the several paths, to deposit the larger gravel and stones outside the Cemetery for sale, to lay down shingle to be provided by the Committee, and to roll, make, and maintain all the paths finer and more even than at present.

To edge all the paths evenly, and to lay down flint or other edging to be provided by the Committee.

To wheel outside the Cemetery for sale the gravel and stones thrown out of the graves and vaults. In the event of a new vault being opened during the current year the Committee will allow some special remuneration for the work.

To roll and mow the grass where even, and to cut the grass where uneven, and upon and around the graves, and to make up the graves with mould and turf over the whole of the cemetery yard once in every month, from the date of appointment up to the 31st of October, and to cut the grass and make up the graves during the winter as may be necessary.

To sow grass seeds and to plant flowers and creepers when furnished and ordered by the Committee.

The Contractor will be at liberty to dispose of the grass cuttings for manure or otherwise, but he must account to the Committee for all gravel or stones sold.

A Barrow and all necessary tools will be found by the Committee.

The Contractor will be under the control of the Committee and must obey and carry out all orders made by the Committee whether comprised in the duties before stated or not.

The Remuneration to be paid for the year will be FIFTEEN POUNDS, one half payable on the 1st of November 1866, and the other half on the 25th of March 1867.

Persons willing to undertake the performance of the duties, are to apply in writing to Mr. LONGCROFT, at his Office, on or before the first of May next.

By order of the

Churchwardens and the Cemetery Committee.

Havant, 25th April 1866.

WHITE, PRINTER, HAVANT.

The New Havant Cemetery
Reports of the Council Debates, *Hampshire Telegraph*,
January 4 and 11, 1896

HAVANT CEMETERY.

CONSECRATION V. DEDICATION.

At Monday evening's meeting of the Havant Urban District Council, Mr. Thomas Hilton presiding, a division of opinion was expressed with regard to the appropriation of the new town cemetery.

The Rector of Havant (the Rev. S. G. Scott) attended with two members of the Church Council with a view to obtain the consent of the Council to an Episcopal consecration of a portion of the cemetery.—The rev. gentleman urged that the matter was one dear to every Churchman. He explained that it would in no way interfere with the Council's supervision of the ground. They had no desire to make a monetary gain, and in asking for the privilege they were only prompted by a pious sentiment on the part of church folk. He would become the Council's chaplain, but without fee, though a reasonable amount would accrue to him from fees for the erection of monuments.

Replying to the Chairman, the Rector further said that a separate chapel would not be insisted upon, as church funerals might be conducted either in the Parish Church or in the church at the old cemetery.

The deputation having withdrawn, the Cemetery Committee reported that they had carefully considered the question in all its bearings, and they strongly advised that the whole of the new Cemetery should be dedicated. Their reasons were set forth as follows:—(1). As a matter of common justice to the ratepayers, all of whom, irrespective of any distinction, have been called on to assist in the purchase. Any other course would result in the creation of privilege on the one part and the imposition of disability on the other. (2) If consecration of a part of the ground took place, a chaplain must be appointed at a salary, and that salary must be approved and practically fixed by the Bishop. (3) If consecration took place a chapel must be built for the exclusive use of Episcopalians. (4) The cost of consecration was considerable, involving legal and ecclesiastical charges. (5) Consecration introduced an element of embarrassment to the Council by giving part control to the Bishop, and under him to the Chaplain. In view, therefore, of the common civil and religious liberties of all ratepayers, the Committee advised the Board to request the Bishop to dedicate the whole of the cemetery, as had been done at St. Alban's by the Bishop of that diocese, and also at Chelmsford and many other towns. If the Bishop declined to accede to that request the Committee suggested that the local clergymen and ministers should be asked to dedicate the cemetery, at which service the Council should be present, and through its officers declare the ground open. The whole ground, if these suggestions were adopted, would be under the direct control of the Council. The Committee also submitted a code of rules and a table of fees.

The Council resolved that the whole question should be discussed and settled at a special meeting next Monday evening.

HAVANT CEMETERY TO BE DEDICATED

A special meeting of the Havant Urban Council, on Monday evening, was attended by Messrs. T. Hilton (Chairman), A. Chignell (Vice-Chairman), J. Softly, S. Clarke, W. Long, F. G. Foster, W. Fletcher, J. Smith, F. Stubington, A. Stens, G. Stallard, and G. R. Sanding.

The CHAIRMAN of the Roads and Cemetery Committee (Mr. Stent), again presented the report read at the Council meeting last week, recommending that the new cemetery should be dedicated and not consecrated, inasmuch as in the latter case it would be imperative to build a special chapel and to appoint a chaplain. The Committee suggested that the Bishop should be asked to dedicate the ground, and that in the event of refusal on his part the local clergy and ministers should be asked to do so.—Mr. STENT moved the adoption of the report, together with certain regulations for the management of the ground.—Mr. FOSTER seconded the resolution.—

Mr. STUBINGTON elicited the fact that the old cemetery was presented by the late Sir George Staunton, the Rector and churchwardens being trustees. The ground had been divided, one portion being devoted to Nonconformists.

The CHAIRMAN: Then this is really the first cemetery which Havant, as a town, has provided?

Mr. CLARKE: Yes.

The CHAIRMAN said that they must not forget that the Church party had to bear equally the cost of the Cemetery with other ratepayers. (Mr. CHIGNELL: More.) They ought to bear that in mind as a respectful answer to the deputation who came there in the previous week, and acknowledge fairly that both for the beams and the maintenance the amounts would come out of the pockets of Churchmen as well as Nonconformists. As to the allegation that if consecration took place it would be necessary to appoint a Chaplain, he said that in a case with which he had to do elsewhere the Chaplain was appointed at the nominal sum of £10. The erection of a chapel for Episcopalians would not be necessary, the Rector having told them that the service might be conducted in the church. He had sincerely hoped that the Committee would have taken a broader view of the matter. At Barrow-in-Furness the cemetery had been divided, the incumbent, clerk, and sexton foregoing all their ancient fees. He desired to show clearly that there was a way in which a harmonious settlement might have been made in the matter, and the feelings considered of those who, rightly or wrongly, believed in consecrated ground.—Mr. CHIGNELL observed that he did not agree with the mode at which the Committee had arrived at their decision.—Mr. STUBINGTON thought the report bore very hardly upon the Church community, who hitherto had provided the burial ground for the whole of the town. He thought the Committee should have found a way out of the difficulty without taking such drastic measures as the report contained, inasmuch as the granting of the privilege which the Church deputation had asked for, would have entailed no expense on the parish. He should neither move an amendment nor vote for the resolution.

The resolution was carried by eight votes, Messrs. Chignell, Softly, and Stubington remaining neutral.

A scale of fees was subsequently passed, the charges being similar to those already paid in the Havant parish.

Wild Flowers and Wildlife in the Havant and Warblington Cemeteries

Ralph Hollins, January 2011

The plant species listed below are not the result of an exhaustive or methodical study of these two sites but are a by product of more than 20 years of recording wildlife in a much wider area around Havant (originally just the area I was able to visit in person but more recently extended to all the coastal counties from Kent to Cornwall thanks to the internet) for two purposes - one is for my personal interest in becoming familiar with the species that occur in the area and the second is to attempt to make as wide a public as possible aware of both the pleasure to be derived from observing the whole range of wildlife and the importance of understanding and 'conserving' the natural world as a single 'life support system' without which we humans would become extinct (as we would if we were magically moved from Earth to Mars).

The lists of plant species have been compiled by extracting from my database of observations all my botanic records for the years 2008, 2009, 2010 for the two 1 km map squares (SU 7205 for Warblington and SU 7206 for Havant) and adding to those specifically noted as being in the two cemeteries any others which I believe to occur in the cemeteries but which are noted under some other site name (e.g. 'Warblington CBC plot' which covers the whole extent of Warblington Farm for which I participated in a Common Bird Census for about 20 years, or 'Havant Town Unspecified'). I have then merged these year lists to produce a single list for each site and I have indicated for each species whether I believe it to be 'Wild' (occurring without human intervention), 'Planted' (originally planted on a grave or as an ornamental tree though maybe subsequently spreading naturally), or 'Sown' (the product of wild flower seed sowing in recent years). The list is in alphabetic sequence of the English Names which I use for the species (some people will know the species by alternative names but use of English names leads to less confusion than the use of Scientific (Latin) names which are currently subject to rapid change as Botanists reclassify plant families based on their DNA rather than features visible to the naked eye or low power microscope)

After the plant lists I have added some general comments on other groups such as Birds, Insects, Fungi and 'Others'.

Plant Species found in the Havant Cemeteries
(All wild unless otherwise stated)

Annual pearlwort	Common orache
Autumn hawkbit	Common ragwort
Bilbao fleabane	Common sorrel
(possible confusion / misidentification with Guernsey fleabane)	Common toadflax (and sown)
Birdsfoot trefoil	Common vetch
Bittersweet	Corn chamomile (sown) (a look alike species Anthemis austriaca supplied in seed mixtures?)
Black knapweed	Corn cockle (sown)
Black medick	Corn marigold (sown)
Black nightshade	Cornflower (sown)
Blackberry	Cow parsley
(no attempt to distinguish between different species)	Creeping Buttercup
Blue anemone	Creeping cinquefoil
(Planted on some graves but also occurring as 'self sown')	Cuckoo flower
Broad leaved willowherb	Cultivated daffodil (planted)
Bugle	Cut leaved cranesbill
(originally planted ?)	Daisy
Bulbous Buttercup	Dandelion
Burnet rose	Dove's foot cranesbill
(planted in northern 'unmanaged' area)	Duke of Argyll's tealplant (planted long ago!)
Burnet saxifrage	Early dog violet (originally planted ?)
Californian Poppy (planted)	English stonecrop (planted)
Caucasian stonecrop (planted)	Feverfew (sown)
Charlock	Field bindweed
Cleavers	Field forget-me-not (maybe originally planted)
Common catsear	Field scabious
Common chickweed	Field Woodrush
Common dog violet (originally planted?)	Garden Forget-me-not (originally planted ?)
Common field speedwell	Garden
Common fumitory (and sown)	Garlic mustard
Common mouse ear	Germander speedwell
Common nettle	

Grape-hyacinth	Pendulous sedge (planted)
Greater periwinkle	Perennial sowthistle
Greater birdsfoot-trefoil	Perforate St. John's wort
Green alkanet	Petty spurge
Green amaranth	Prickly lettuce
also known as Pigweed	Prickly sowthistle
(sown) (one plant - probably a	Primrose
contaminate in seed mixture?)	(originally planted ?)
Green field speedwell	Procumbent pearlwort
Grey sedge	Red campion
Ground ivy	(sown) (could occur wild)
Groundsel	Red clover
Guernsey fleabane	Ribwort plantain
(see Bilbao fleabane)	Rough hawkbit
Hairy bitter cress	Scarlet pimpernel
Hairy tare	Scented mayweed
Hedge bedstraw	Scentless mayweed
Hedge bindweed	Self-heal
Hedge mustard	Shepherd's purse
Hedge woundwort	Slender speedwell
Hoary ragwort	Smooth hawkbeard
Hoary willowherb	Smooth sowthistle
Hogweed	Snowdrop (planted)
Ivy leaved speedwell	Southern wood rush
Knotgrass	Spanish bluebell
Lady's bedstraw	(some planted?)
(some sown and planted?)	Spear leaved orache
Large bindweed	Spear thistle
Large flowered evening	Spotted medick
primrose (wild?)	Spring Sedge
Lesser celandine	(Exterminated after 2008
Lesser stitchwort	in favour of wildflower sowing)
Lesser swine cress	Square stalked willowherb
Lords and ladies	Sticky groundsel
Meadow buttercup	Sticky mouse ear
Meadow vetchling	Sweet vernal grass
Mouse ear hawkweed	Sweet violet
Nipplewort	(originally planted ?)
Ox eye daisy	Thyme leaved speedwell
Oxford ragwort	Wall speedwell

White bryony
White clover
White comfrey
(probably originally planted)
White stonecrop (planted)

Wild carrot
Wood avens (also known
as Herb-bennet)
Yarrow
Yellow oxalis

Trees in the St Faith's and Council Cemeteries

Cherry (2)
Cockspur thorn (1)
Corsican pine (1)
Euonymus (shrub) (1)
Flowering apple (4)
Hawthorn (2)
Holly (2)
Holm oak (2)
Hornbeam (1)
Horse chestnut (6)
Laurel (1 plus 4 groups)

Lawson cypress (2)
Lime (28)
Norway maple (5)
Plum (5)
Poplar (3)
Robinia (1)
Rowan (3)
Sycamore (7)
Walnut (1)
Western red cedar (9)
Yew (18)

Plant species in the Warblington Cemetery

Annual pearlwort
Autumn hawkbit
Birdsfoot-trefoil
Bittersweet
Blackberry
Black bryony
Black knapweed
Black medick
Black nightshade
Blackthorn (Sloe)
(planted as farm hedge?)
Blue anemone
(planted)
Bristly oxtongue
Common orache
Common poppy (sown)

Broad leaved dock
Buck's horn plantain
Californian Poppy (planted / sown)
Charlock
Chicory (sown)
Cleavers
Common catsear
Common chickweed
Common flax (sown)
Common field speedwell
Common fleabane
Common mallow
Common mouse ear
Common ragwort
Corn cockle (sown)
Corn marigold (sown)

Corn Chamomile (sown)	Phacelia (planted)
(alien species, probably <i>Anthemis austriaca</i>)	(Borage-like - planted en masse on some farms to attract bees)
Cornflower (sown)	Pineappleweed
Creeping buttercup	Prickly lettuce
Creeping cinquefoil	Prickly sowthistle
Creeping thistle	Purple toadflax
Cut leaved cranesbill	Red clover
Daisy	Red dead nettle
Dandelion	Ribwort plantain
Field bindweed	Round leaved fluellen
Garden forget-me-not	Scarlet pimpernel
Great willowherb	Scentless mayweed
Greater knapweed	Self heal
Grey field speedwell	Shepherd's purse
Groundsel	Silver Birch (planted)
Hairy bitter cress	Slender speedwell
Hawthorn (planted as farm hedge?)	Smooth sowthistle
Hedge bedstraw	Spear leaved orache
Hedge bindweed	Spear thistle
Hedge mustard	Spotted medick
Hedge woundwort	Sticky mouse ear
Hoary willowherb	Stone parsley
Hogweed	Swine cress
Honeysuckle	Teasel
Ivy	Thale cress
Knotgrass	Travellers joy
Lady's bedstraw (planted?)	(also known as Old man's beard)
Large bindweed	Wavy bitter cress
Large flowered evening primrose	Weld (sown?)
Lesser burdock	Welsh poppy (planted)
Lesser swine cress	White clover
Musk mallow	White dead nettle
Nipplewort	White stonecrop (planted)
Ox eye daisy	White melilot (sown ?)
Oxford ragwort	Wild carrot
Pale persicaria	Wood avens
Perennial sowthistle	

Species of Insects

Among a myriad species likely to be found in these relatively un-polluted, flower rich, grassy areas some of the more obvious species likely to be encountered are:-

Butterflies

Peacock, Comma, Small Tortoiseshell, Gatekeeper, Speckled Wood, Meadow Brown, Small Heath, Small Copper, Orange Tip, Brimstone, Green Veined White, Red Admiral, Common Blue, Holly Blue, Large Skipper, Small Skipper and in some years several migrant species may stop off to feed at the flowers (Clouded Yellow, Painted Lady, Large and Small Whites). Wind-blown vagrants from downland (Portsmouth and the Isle of Wight) which might be seen include Marbled White, Chalk-hill and Adonis Blue, Brown Argus and maybe a Green Hairstreak.

Moths

Should an entomologist set up a light to attract moths to these areas they could easily find up to 100 species on a night with favourable weather but the daytime visitor to the cemeteries may also see some day flying species such as Cinnabar, Burnet, Hummingbird Hawkmoth, Speckled Yellow, and Silver Y (also known as Gamma moth).

Dragonflies

While these congregate around water when breeding nearly all species will roam widely in a period after they have emerged from underwater larvae and before they are ready to seek a mate and during this period they will be attracted to areas such as the cemeteries where they can find insect food. Three of the larger species which can be seen hunting in these areas are the Southern Hawker, Migrant Hawker and Broad-bodied Chaser

Other Insects

Among other insect groups represented in the cemeteries are grasshoppers, bush crickets, flies, bees, wasps plus beetles. Among the spiders I have found in the unmanaged northern (Dissenters) section of the Havant cemetery are the large and colourful Wasp spider (*Argiope bruennichi*) with its gold, black and white banded body and its distinctive orb web in long grass to catch grasshoppers.

Birds, Mammals and Reptiles

At all times of year a visitor to the cemeteries can expect to see ten or twenty bird species and during the course of a year well over a hundred bird species will probably visit or fly over these areas but, unlike the plant species which take root there, there are no species permanently attached to these sites. Similarly few mammals are dependent on the cemeteries but Foxes, Rabbits and Squirrels all visit them regularly and Hedgehogs probably visit them, as may Frogs, Toads, Lizards and Slow-worms, Grass Snakes and Adders.

Fungi, Mosses and Lichens

The Havant cemeteries are moderately rich in fungi and I have recorded 15 species there in the past three years including a prominent ring of large Wood Blewits and enough Field Mushrooms to make a meal (beware of the look alike Yellow Stainer). In 2010 a couple of Giant Puffballs came up. I have only recorded six species at Warblington but they include Field Mushrooms and a good show of the large Tawny Funnelcaps. I have not attempted to identify mosses and lichens (the best place to look for lichens is on the old tombstones in Warblington churchyard rather than in the cemeteries),

War Graves in the Council Cemetery



First World War, 1914 to 1918.

George Bertram **Fisher**. 29. Sapper, Royal Engineers.

William **Haynes**. 37. Gunner, Royal Marine Artillery. HMS *Malaya*.

Archibald J. **McNeill**. Private, Cheshire Regiment.

Winter **Parham**. Lance Corporal, Royal Berkshire Regiment.

James Alan **Stallard**. 19. Private, Gloucestershire Regiment.

Second World War, 1939 to 1945.

Service Personnel

Marguerite Beatrice **Burge**. 22. Aircraftwoman, Women's Auxiliary Air Force.

Edward James **Giddings**. Aircraftman, Royal Air Force.

Franciszek **Jankowski**. 32. Serjeant, Polish Resettlement Corps.

William Henry George **Marchment**. 56. Chief Joiner, HMS *Victory*.

David Charles **Peters**. Gunner, Royal Artillery.

Karl **Poldmaa**. European Volunteer Worker.

Eric **Robson**. Leading Motor Mechanic, HMS *Midge*.

Herbert John **Rogers**. 50. Petty Officer, HMS *Iron Duke*.

Civilians

Mary Anne **Guy**. 65. and Linda Perry **Coggell**. 72. Killed when their bungalow at 26 Fourth Avenue was bombed on October 8, 1940.

Florence May **Luff**. Killed by enemy aircraft machine gun fire at 77 Hulbert Road.

Ethel **Ripley**. 53. and Violet Gertrude **Todd**. 52. Killed when their house, Petit Cottage, Glenleigh was bombed on December 5, 1940.

Herbert John **Wills**. 47, and Elizabeth Ann **Wills**. 44. Killed when their cottage at Helmsley House, Bartons Road was bombed on April 17, 1941.

Not every burial has a War Grave headstone.



Drawing of the Havant Crossroads, January 20, 1853.



Early drawing of the St Faith's Cemetery.



The Funeral of Fireman Edward Till
The first burial in the new Council cemetery on July 31, 1896.



1930s Photograph showing the railings.

The Holocaust Memorial



This memorial has been placed by Havant Borough Council to remember all victims of the Holocaust and reflect upon those affected by more recent atrocities.

Holocaust Memorial Day is 27th January each year, the anniversary date of the liberation of Auschwitz – Birkenau concentration camp.



The entrance to the cemetery would be more attractive if the Yew trees were removed and the areas laid out for the burial of cremated remains. The removal of the tool shed would enhance the setting of the holocaust memorial.



Eastern Road entrance to the Council Cemetery.



New Lane entrance to the St Faith's Cemetery.



A Latter-day Funeral.

One of a series of booklets on local history in the Borough of Havant
See the full set of local history publications at www.havant.gov.uk/havant-10979