Chairman's Report
by- Bob Flanagan

The major event of the last four months has been the rededication of the restored Alcock memorial as detailed below. Other news is that the Scheme of Management Committee and the Management Advisory Group have accepted an English Heritage recommendation that the iron gates and railings be restored to their original dark tan colour. I think this is for the best, even if it stimulates comment locally.

Further news is that the Council have accepted that reinstatement of the de Normandy monument should be included in their planned programme of works for this year. English Heritage (Don Bianco) are to provide a drawing of the lost monument and assistance in getting quotes for its replacement.

The Council has also set aside the sum of £50,000 for the ecology and landscape study required under the Consistory Court judgement. In the meantime the Scheme of Management Committee and Management Advisory Group meet regularly and progress is being made on issues such as the conservation/repair of the gates, railing and walls.

Members will be interested to hear that the Guildhall Art Gallery at last re-opened on the 23 August - see article on Sir Alfred Temple and Charles Gassiot in the January 1998 Newsletter. Admission is £2.50. Secondly, FOWNC member Rob Cartwright has persuaded English Heritage to place a Blue Plaque on
the Barnes home of the tunnelling pioneer James Greathead. This is scheduled for later this year, but unfortunately the date of the ceremony has not yet been fixed. In addition, a Greathead relative has formally adopted the grave/monument at Norwood. Rob’s article on Greathead was published in the September 1997 Newsletter.

Some sad personal news is that Mr John Dawson CVO, Consultant Surgeon at King’s 1965-94 and latterly Dean of the Medical School, but better known to many of us as husband of Rosemary, died in May after a protracted illness. We were pleased to welcome John to some of our events after his retirement, and we offer our sincere condolences to Rosemary and her family on their sad loss.

FOWNC Membership and Newsletter

I am grateful to all of you who have renewed your FOWNC membership. Many of you have taken advantage of the 5 year subscription offer, and our paid-up membership remains at around the 250 mark. Partly as a response to the great increase in articles submitted for publication, in discussions with the committee I have suggested that we try going back to 4 Newsletter issues per year from 2000 onwards. This will cost an extra £250 or so p.a. at current prices, but there will be less delay in publishing submitted articles and members will get a better news service.

FOWNC AGM

The AGM looms yet again. Not only is this the last of the millennium, but also the 10th anniversary of the founding of FOWNC! I think we have achieved great things - the cemetery may look much as it did 10 years ago, but this is our major achievement. Without our efforts and subsequent support from many sources (not least English Heritage and the Victorian Society, and more recently the Diocese of Southwark), much of the surviving tombscape would have been bulldozed and only the Greek Section and a few odd monuments would remain. Remember this when next you visit the cemetery...

But to return to practicalities. Any nominations for FOWNC Officer posts must be submitted to me in writing before the AGM together with written agreement of the nominee to serve if elected. The present committee are all willing to serve again. Secondly, in view of the fact that our annual subscription has remained at £2 for 10 years, I propose to table a resolution that this be increased to £3 (£15 for 5 years). This will help offset the costs of the increased Newsletter publication schedule as detailed above. Clearly those who have elected for 5-year or life membership at current rates will thus get an even better deal, although remember that donations are always welcome!

Bob Flanagan
Rededication of the Memorial
to Charles Alcock

by Bob Flanagan

On Wednesday 28 July we were pleased to welcome some 30 members and guests to a brief graveside ceremony organised by Paul Graham. The edited transcripts of the speeches are given below. The ceremony was a happy occasion in a very hot and dry cemetery - little did we suspect that the next few weeks would bring the wettest August on record!

I am grateful to all those who helped this restoration project come to fruition, not least Paul himself. It is unfortunate that we do not know of any surviving Alcock relative who might wish to help maintain the grave. However, Mr Mackay, Cemetery Superintendent, has nevertheless kindly offered to put the grave on his maintenance schedule.
Paul Graham (Conservation Coordinator, FOWNC)

There have been times during recent years when it seemed as though this day would never dawn. One delay was a happy one, the discovery of portions of the original monument lying nearby and still bearing a legible inscription. This find enabled us to recreate the original monument, incorporating stone from it, rather than simply producing a new memorial appropriate to the period as we initially intended. The most frustrating delay, however, was occasioned by the wait for a faculty to be issued by the Diocese of Southwark, allowing us proceed with the restoration work in consecrated ground.

There are several individuals and organisations to thank. One is Bob Rowlands of Rowlands Brothers, the masons who recreated the monument and who were patient enough to store it until it could be installed on site. Another is Mr Bob Mackay, the cemetery superintendent, who enabled us to discover the precise location of the grave.

I would particularly like to thank the two main sponsoring organisations, the Football Association and Surrey County Cricket Club, without whose financial backing this project could never have been undertaken. At the FA Peter Henderson has been particularly helpful, as were Patricia Smith and Graham Kelly before him. Unfortunately, the delay in completing the project meant that Pat and Graham retired before the restoration was achieved. Jeff Hancock, the Honorary Librarian at Surrey has supported the project throughout. This is, in fact, the second monument to Alcock in London as there is a room in the pavilion at the Oval named after him. I understand that this latter tribute was made almost entirely at Jeff’s insistence.

Geoff Thompson (Chairman of the Football Association Council)

Although few people know it, Charles Alcock is one of the most significant figures in British sporting history. It is no exaggeration to say that some of his innovations have shaped the modern game of association football. As the first ever full-time secretary of the FA, he would already be an important figure, albeit one who would largely feature as a name on a plaque or as a portrait in a gallery. However, his contribution to English and to World football is great indeed and he merits every distinction which can be placed on him.

He is remembered primarily as the driving force behind the creation of the FA Cup, the most famous domestic sporting competition in the World. What is less well known about him is that he can also be credited with starting international football. At his instigation, the first ever match took place between England and Scotland in London in 1870. That is quite a CV for anyone to boast about! To be responsible for the FA Cup is one thing. To be the forerunner of the World Cup Finals is quite another!
We are thankful for him and for his vision and imagination. We share that gratitude with the many thousands of players who have participated in the FA Cup down the years and with the hundreds of millions of spectators who are able, thanks to television, to watch the spectacle all round the world. It is a sobering and humbling experience for us, in the midst of another era of great change in football, to recall and cherish the game’s founding fathers.

Gathered here remembering Charles Alcock and the origins and traditions of the game, we realise a number of things. The first is how little the basic game of football has altered since its codification by Alcock and his contemporaries. It is still a game of 22 men or women. The aim is still to put the ball into the goal. The fundamentals of the game are just the same, however different the environment - matches can be played on a dirt strip in Africa or in a magnificent futuristic stadium in a Western European city.

The second thing to consider is how much we need today men and women like Charles Alcock in the leadership of football, nationally and internationally. We need individuals who have the imagination to think forward 50 or 100 years to see their ideas about the future of the game come to life and flourish. Visionaries like Charles Alcock.
Finally, we cannot fail to note that it was Englishmen who laid the foundations of the world’s most popular game. That gives us a unique place in the game’s history. It does not, however, give us any place by right in the game’s present and future. That right has to be earned and we can only do so by following the energetic example of Charles Alcock.

I do not imagine that even a visionary such as Charles Alcock could ever have foreseen what football would become at the end of the 20th century. Perhaps he would be a bit bemused by the game nowadays. I am sure that he would have been extremely proud of what he initiated. We, his successors, are proud of what he has given to us and we are proud to be here today to commemorate and pay tribute to him.

The memories of significant FA Cup matches litter the history of English football, but have also become a part of our nation’s history: the white horse at Wembley and the Matthews final in 1953 are but two of these. We recall the cup shocks and the tense, nail-biting occasions, just like those which we saw last year between Manchester United and Arsenal. That is, in itself, a great tribute to Charles Alcock.

However, I believe he leaves a greater legacy. It is frequently said that football matches between international teams are today’s peaceful re-enactments of the battles which used to be fought between armies. If Charles Alcock’s ideas have led to nations contesting football matches instead of going to war, then the World’s debt to him is great indeed.

**Jeff Hancock (Hon Librarian, Surrey County Cricket Club)**

I am so pleased that, after some 5 years of effort by members of FOWNC, that we can stand here today and admire the monument to an extraordinary man of sport and of cricket.

We could be here for a very long time listing the achievements of Charles Alcock, but this is not appropriate. Let me say, however, that he was simply the most influential secretary Surrey CCC has ever had. He was also, as we would recognise today, the first Sports Centre Manager and the first Marketing Manager, the latter a species so beloved of the modern county cricket club!

Alcock did not attain this elevated status because he was just an efficient technician working at the pumps. His day-to-day activities were informed by, and were the means of realising, his clear perception of the directions in which sports and games were going at that time. He recognised the spectator increase in serious professional competition and the related process of codification of sports and games. More specifically he was also aware of commercial opportunities at a financially precarious Oval.

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So these broad notions were realised in many ways. He helped to make the county championship into a viable, coherent competition so that by 1890 a legitimate claim to be the best team could be made - it happened to be Surrey! He pursued a positive policy towards professional cricketers by establishing an effective birth and residential qualification which also gave the competition a stable basis. He tried and failed to have a knock-out cricket cup competition in 1873 - we eventually had one 90 years later! He brought international cricket to the Oval and England in 1880 (we beat the Aussies!) and over the next 20 years ensured that touring sides had a proper, extensive fixture list.

Not content with this enormous workload Alcock was also a prolific writer/editor. For 29 years he edited James Lillywhite’s Cricket Annual. He founded Cricket - probably the finest of all cricket periodicals - in 1882 and remained editor until his death in 1907. He was co-editor of Surrey Cricket, a book which has become known at the Oval as the “Old Testament”. Of course, his literary efforts were not only lucrative, but also a means of projecting and spreading his vision of the game.

So Surrey had a secretary for 35 years who by his quiet intelligence, immense energy, and gentlemanly but jovial approach to issues and to people essentially invented modern sport. He was the man who “made all seasons” in Basil Easterbrook’s words.

A photograph of Alcock with W.G. Grace at the Oval shows Alcock with a handsome, impressive bearing. This complemented his tact, charm and diplomacy as he realised his vision of what cricket, and indeed sport in general, should become and were to become. He was a man of monumental achievements. This is a happy, memorable day when we can see him appropriately commemorated in his last resting place.

Rev Dr Robert Titley (representing the Diocese of Southwark)

It is my privilege to be part of this ceremony as vicar of one of the neighbouring parishes as we gather on ground consecrated by one of the forerunners of the Bishop of Southwark.

I don’t know how many other memorials there are to great sporting figures, but I do know of one on the Church of St Francis, Dudley - the Duncan Edwards window which commemorates a great player killed in the Munich air crash. It bears an inscription which speaks well of the game of cricket as well as of the game of football, as it speaks of the need to harness individual gifts for the good of the whole team. It comes from this passage in St Paul's first letter to the Corinthians:

Just as the body is one, and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.

Indeed the body does not consist of one member, but of many.

If the foot would say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body” that would not make it any less a part of the body.

If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be?

But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose.

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Maria Tepsithia Kassavetti
(b. London 29 April 1843, d. Paris 14 July 1914)
By Andrew Christos

Maria was ‘rude and unapproachable but of great talent and a really wonderful beauty’ according to the artist George DuMaurier (1860). The pre-Raphaelite artist Edward Burne-Jones (‘Ned’) met Maria (‘Mary’) in 1866. Her mother commissioned a painting from him for Maria. Burne-Jones chose *Cupid finding Psyche* from Morris’s *Earthly Paradise* as the subject. Dante Gabriel Rossetti made a very fine drawing of Maria. She looks like a typical Pre-Raphaelite stunner. ‘Stunner’ is the word they used for a gorgeous model.

Edward Burne-Jones seems to have gone through a difficult patch in his marriage with his wife, Georgina. In 1868 he began an affair with Maria, whose married name was Mrs Zambaco. She left her husband in Paris and came with her two children to live in England. Maria came from the wealthy Greek Ionnides family which had escaped the Turks and settled in London. She was a great beauty and she was also an artist of note. Burne-Jones was enchanted by her. Indeed she appears in his painting *Circe the Enchantress*.

The affair caused something of a scandal. He may even have left home in 1869 to live with her for several months. Rumour has it that they made a suicide pact. They went to the Serpentine to drown themselves. They went in, but the water was too cold and, luckily for the world of art, they thought better of it.

Rossetti wrote about their affair to Madox Brown: ‘Poor old Ned’s affairs have come to a smash altogether, and he and Topy (William Morris), after the most dreadful to-do, started for Rome suddenly leaving the Greek damsel beating up the quarters of all his friends for him and howling like Cassandra. I hear today however that Top and Ned got no further than Dover. Ned being now so dreadfully ill that they will probably have to return to London. Of course the dodge will be not to let a single hint of their movements become known to anybody, or the Greek (whom I believe he is really bent on cutting) will catch him again. She provided herself with laudanum for two at least, and insisted on their winding up matters in Lord Holland’s Lane... she tried to drown herself in the water in front of Browning’s house &c. - bobbies collaring Ned who was rolling with her on the stones to prevent it and God knows what else.’

An unconfirmed report says that Howel, a family friend, decided on some mischief. He decided to bring Maria to visit Georgina. Georgina did not know of the affair. When Burne-Jones came home he fainted and hit his head on the mantle piece. This was at the Grange, Fulham, North End Road. Presumably Georgina guessed the truth after
Life of Burne-Jones' Georgina writes of Howell as 'one who had come amongst us in friend's clothing, but inwardly he was a stranger to all that our life meant.' Burne-Jones stopped seeing Howell. He asked Ruskin and Rossetti to do the same. After this Maria was no longer a part of Burne-Jones' life. The affair ended in 1871 or 1872.

In 1998 I went to see the Burne-Jones exhibition in Birmingham. The same exhibition also went to New York and Paris. I was very impressed by his wonderful paintings of myths and legends. Maria's face can be seen in a number of Burne-Jones' paintings. She is in Phyllis and Demophoon and in the Beguiling of Merlin. He sent Phyllis and Demophoon to the Royal Water Colour Society in 1870. He sent an Ovid quotation as well: 'Tell me what I have done, except to love unwisely.' Two weeks after the exhibition began the RWCS asked him to remove the painting. It is said an important lady was offended by the painting. This information came from the Dalziel brothers, famous engravers of the time. Burne-Jones resigned from the society because of this. He rarely exhibited after this until 1877 when the Grosvenor Gallery opened. Burne-Jones made a fine portrait of Maria with a cupid drawing back a curtain. She is holding a book opened at a painting by Burne-Jones. It is his Le Chant d'Amour. Another painting shows her as Summer painted for Frederick Leyland (1869-70). It is one of his four seasons.
In four famous paintings in the Birmingham Art Gallery Maria is shown as Galatea. A sculptor of Cyprus called Pygmalion fashioned a statue, which was brought to life by the goddess Aphrodite. In the first picture Pygmalion contemplates the image he is going to make. In the second picture Pygmalion has finished the naked state of a beautiful woman. In the third picture the goddess brings the statue to life. In the fourth picture Pygmalion kneels before the living Galatea holding her arms. The titles of the paintings are Pygmalion and the Image. 1. The heart desires. 2. The hand refrains. 3. The Godhead fires. 4. The soul attains. These pictures were painted for Maria's mother. Burne-Jones made four identical copies which are those in Birmingham.

Maria's tomb is in the Greek Cemetery (grave 1,971, square 28). A sorrowful female leans over the tomb. On the tomb she is referred to as Maria Tepsithia Kassavetti, not as Mrs Zambaco. There are other relatives in the tomb.
Sutherland was an important figure in the development of public health medicine in this country. He was consulted by the army on sanitary matters and numbered Florence Nightingale amongst his friends. The recent discovery of his grave at Norwood (grave 24,102, square 86) brings the count of those buried in the cemetery and featured in the original Dictionary of National Biography to 216.

Sutherland was born in Edinburgh and educated at the High School. He became LRCS(E) (1827) and graduated MD Edinburgh (1831). After spending time in Europe and at Liverpool, he was appointed an inspector under the first Board of Health (1848). He conducted inquiries into the 1848/9 UK cholera epidemic, and published a report on the “Sanitary Condition of the Epidemic Districts in London, with special reference to the threatened Visitation of Cholera” (1852).
Sutherland headed a commission of inquiry into the law and practice of burial abroad, and at a conference on quarantine law in Paris in 1851-2 he was presented by Louis Napoleon with a gold medal which he bequeathed to the British Museum. In 1855 he was at the Home Office and helped implement the Act (1856) whereby intramural burials were abolished.

Later in 1855 Sutherland was asked by Lords Palmerston and Panmure to head the commission being sent to the Crimea to inquire into the sanitary condition of the British soldiers. In August he was summoned to Balmoral and reported directly to Queen Victoria and Prince Albert. He was also on a Royal Commission of 1858 reporting on the health of the army (1858), and subsequently on the state of the army in India (1863).

Sutherland and his committee received a good deal of information about the conditions the soldiers experienced in the Crimea, both on the battlefield and in hospital, from Florence Nightingale. Her knowledge and experience were extensive, as indeed was her knowledge of hospitals in the UK which at the time were in need of improvements in hygiene, medical supplies and general design. Following her suggestions, Sutherland’s reports made many recommendations for improving conditions of hospitals and barracks in both the UK and the Crimea, under a committee including Sidney Herbert and Douglas Galton. Not without difficulties and delays, he managed to gain support and finance to carry out these plans. Fortunately, Florence Nightingale’s letters to Sutherland have survived.

Aged 79, Sutherland retired from this committee to become a medical superintending inspector-general of the Board of Health and Home Office (1888). He and his wife Elizabeth lived in later years at Oakleigh, Alleyn Park, Dulwich - his hobby was gardening. (According to a contemporary street directory, this was the third house from the junction with Croxted Road - it appears to have been demolished.) He died on 14 July 1891 aged 82. His tombstone has survived and is in reasonably good condition. We are indebted to Rosemary Comber who noticed it by chance during a tour and recognised the name from her studies of Florence Nightingale.
Recent FOWNC Events

Jill Dudman

Ecology and Nature Conservation

On a pleasant spring afternoon on 16 May, we strolled around the cemetery with Dr Meg Game, the London Ecology Unit representative on the Management Advisory Group, looking at various interesting species of plant and listening for bird songs. It was a time of year when many areas of the cemetery were covered with a recent growth of tall grass which had not yet been cut, containing a profusion of wild flowers and resembling a very attractive meadow. This stimulated some discussion on how and when grass and other vegetation should be cleared, given the conflicting demands of nature conservation, access to tombs, and cemetery workforce management.

Listed Structures at West Norwood

Don Bianco of English Heritage led a very instructive tour on 20 June, explaining the criteria for statutory listing, and relating these to a selection of the cemetery’s listed structures (there being of course too many, 64 monuments as well as the catacombs, entrance arch, gates, walls and railings, to include in one tour). The newly-reconstructed replicas of the demolished listed monuments to Sir William Cubitt and John Garrett were visited, and so too were a few monuments that had been considered for listing but rejected. The main criteria are the importance of the person commemorated and the architectural merit of the monument, and Don appealed for further suggestions to be sent in.

The European Communities

Bob Flanagan’s intended tour on the theme of foreign names to be seen on monuments, on 18 July, seemed to be slightly overwhelmed by competition from the Lambeth Country Show, other local society tours, and perhaps the too hot weather. In the event, I and the few attenders walked around informally looking at monuments detailed by Bob on a print-out of names selected from his gazetteer - I still have a few copies if any member would like one.

The Dickens connections

In contrast, Paul Graham’s tour on 21 August, another run of his popular Charles Dickens connections at the request of a party from the Dickens Fellowship, was attended by well over 30 visitors - and luckily blessed by a beautiful day in the middle of a month of dreadful weather. For those who missed it, Paul’s book of the tour is still available at a reduced price of £2.75 to members.
General tours will be held on the first Sunday of each month (5 September, 3 October, 7 November and 5 December). September and October tours start at 14.30, and November and December tours start at 11.00, at the Cemetery main gate off Norwood Road, and they last for 2 hours or so. There is no formal charge but we welcome donations of £1 per person (£0.50 concessions) towards conservation projects.

Talks will be held at Chatsworth Baptist Church, Chatsworth Way (off Norwood Road), SE27 (enter by second door on right in Idmiston Road) as detailed below, starting at 14.30. There is no formal charge but we welcome donations of £1 per person to help cover the hall hire.

Saturday/Sunday 18/19 September
London Open House Weekend

For this London-wide event in which buildings normally closed to the public open their doors, several tours will be run on both afternoons (starting at the main gate at 14.00, 14.30 and 15.00) each allowing a lengthy visit to the Catacombs and the Greek Chapel.

Saturday 16 October: AGM & Lecture
Churchyards, corpses, crypts and commerce - Ruth Richardson

Dr Richardson, from London University’s Institute of Historical Research, will be exploring the subject of the removal of human remains from city churchyards and burial grounds because of redevelopment, and their subsequent treatment.

Saturday 20 November
Lecture - John Belcher, architect - Tony Wilson

The life and work of one of the most notable architects buried at Norwood will be discussed by a leading member of the Victorian Society. Some of his major office blocks in the City still survive, although sadly not the Mappin & Webb building.
Other Forthcoming Events

Saturday 25 September, 10.00-17.00
Lambeth Archives Open Day
Mlnet Library, 52 Knatchbull Road,
London, SE5.

This year’s theme is ‘For richer, for poorer: wealth and poverty in historic Lambeth’. FOWNC Secretary Jill Dudman will be giving a talk on ‘Rich and poor in West Norwood Cemetery’, and other members speaking include Nicholas Long, Tony Fletcher, Brian Bloice and John Brown. The FOWNC bookstall will be there.

Sunday 3 October, 14.30
Tour of Crystal Palace (Beckenham) Cemetery - Nicholas Reed

Crystal Palace District Cemetery, Elmers End Road, Beckenham - meet at the notice-board near the main entrance. Personalities with monuments here include cricketer W G Grace, Mr Wolseley of motor car fame, Alderman Stanley (the Stanley Halls) and diver William Walker who saved Winchester Cathedral.

FRIENDS OF KENSAL GREEN CEMETERY LECTURES

All lectures start at 19.30, at the Dissenters’ Chapel, Kensal Green Cemetery, Ladbroke Grove, W10. Admission £3.

Wednesday 15 September
The landscape of Kensal Green Cemetery - Brent Elliott

Wednesday 20 October
Victoria to Dlana, the changing rituals of death - Tony Walter

Wednesday 17 November
How we die: natural & unnatural biological ends - David Pescod
Four soldiers from the Second World War who are buried at Norwood and whose graves in square 44 were unmarked have been honoured by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

The graves were identified by a member of the Cemetery Management Committee last year and standard war grave headstones are now in place.

Those so commemorated are:

Private Herbert George Brown, RASC.
Died 1 July 1942 (grave 20,527)

Gunner Frederick Ernest Dobbs, RA.
Died 15 June 1941 (grave 20,721)

Private Peter Charles King, RASC.
Died 11 April 1941 (grave 20,715)

Driver Harry Sams, RASC.
Died 26 July 1941 (grave 20,713)

[RA = Royal Artillery, RASC = Royal Army Service Corps]

Members will have noted that a number of war grave headstones have appeared in various parts of the cemetery in recent years. These either mark war graves where removal of the family monument in clearance operations created space for a new headstone, or are replacements where the original had been damaged by weathering or other cause.

Friends of West Norwood Cemetery

The annual subscription to the Friends of West Norwood Cemetery is £2. For further information please contact the Membership Secretary.

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