Chairman's Report
by Bob Flanagan

Publication of the Landscape and Ecology survey required under the Consistory Court judgment is awaited and looks set to provide a framework for restoration and nature conservation work in the cemetery for years to come.

Perhaps more importantly in the short term, the Council ban on the sale of new grave plots in the cemetery imposed in June seems likely to be continued indefinitely pending any change in the legislation affecting Norwood.

This is because the independent consultant contracted to produce the complete list of re-sold graves (some 1,000) in the cemetery has produced his report. In 19 cases less than 75 years had elapsed since the grave was last opened (in one case the most recent burial was 1945, the grave having been re-sold before 1991).

In addition, it has been confirmed that many of the cemetery records (some from the 1970s and 1980s as well as those dating from 1914 or before) are incomplete.

Moreover, since no proper plans of the position of the graves were kept when many of the the headstones were swept away, the consultant has confirmed that it is impossible to locate further existing graves in 'converted' areas of the cemetery with sufficient accuracy to be able to re-sell them.
Conservation Report
The repair to the Robson Road portion of the Cemetery wall has not progressed since September. Negotiations over this with English Heritage continue and we hope they are near to completion. More progress though in other areas. The repainting of the Robson Road railings is almost complete. Secondly, in addition to the continuing work to reinstate the de Normandy memorial, the Council has agreed to the repair/reinstatement of the Jerrold, Bravo, Maudslay, Beaufoy, and Brande tombs. We are to contribute some £1,000 to the Jerrold reinstatement project. Don Bianco is working hard to help these projects get underway. Brande is the subject of our March meeting. Another long-cherished project, the reinstatement of the tombstone of the opera impresario Frederick Gye (see Norwood Musicians), received a boost on Open House day in September when a relative appeared and asked about the whereabouts of the grave. Apparently the name is pronounced 'Jye', by the way. We will see what can be done next year.

Sale of Vale Street Depot
At Norwood a unique opportunity to extend the existing cemetery and thus to provide new burial space has been presented by the availability and intended commercial sale of the disused Council depot adjoining the Eastern wall of the cemetery. I think that the use of this site could provide:

(i) proper facilities for the Council's mechanical equipment and staff;
(ii) sufficient new burial space to meet the needs of the Borough for many years if properly managed, thereby providing a source of income to offset in part the cost of acquiring the site;
(iii) a heritage centre for the cemetery/FOWNC that could incorporate facilities for local residents such as a community centre, a long-term local need.

We would hope that such a scheme incorporating the above items and others would qualify for external grant funding. We are actively pursuing discussions with the Council on this topic. The Council also owns additional land adjacent to the cemetery and to the recently vacated depot and this might also become available in due course.

Annual General Meeting
This year's programme of events was discussed at the AGM. We plan to abandon the 'thematic' mid-month Summer tours. Instead we plan to hold a couple of area tours analogous to those organized by Don Bianco in the Greek Section. The areas we plan to study are the Ship path and associated areas and the Doulton path as members will see from the enclosed Programme of Events. Unfortunately the detail we can go into depends (i) on the amount of rain we get (parts of the Doulton path are virtually impassable at the moment), and (ii) the scale of vegetation clearance which can be achieved (2000 has seen the combined effects of cutbacks in grounds maintenance and massive growth of uncut vegetation). We will just have to see how we go...
Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Select Committee – Environment Sub-Committee Inquiry: Cemeteries

This inquiry was announced on 7 November last year, with submissions due by 13 December. Strangely the Council, English Heritage, and the Victorian Society don’t seem to have been told about the inquiry. Be this as it may I have prepared a joint response on behalf of the Council, the Scheme of Management Committee, the Management Advisory Group, and FOWNC. One option we have suggested is the idea used in Berlin to maintain historic monuments by selling/reselling not only unused/used grave space, but also any existing monument, a condition of the sale of the grave being the restoration and continued care of the monument. I thank Council officers (in particular Mike Dickens, Glenice Lake, and Angela Moon), Brent Elliott, and Nicholas Long for their input.

Data Protection Acts

We give formal notice that we intend to keep our membership records on a computer database. New members will be notified as and when they join, and existing members when the time comes to renew their subscription. The membership list is only used for internal housekeeping and to send out Newsletters. No membership details are ever divulged to third parties. If anyone objects to their membership details being stored in this way please let me know.

Crace and Sons

Crace expert Dr Megan Aldrich featured on the BBC’s House Detectives programme in December. It seems that a hitherto unknown John Gregory Crace decorative scheme has been found in a large house in Brighton. John Gregory (1809-1889), his father Frederick (1779-1859), and his son John Diblee (d. 1919) are all buried at Norwood. Frederick’s tombstone (grave 6,642, square 34) was one of those destroyed by the Council’s clearances, but the headstone commemorating J.G. and J.D. still survives immediately adjacent to the Grade II listed tomb of Thomas Lets (1803-1873) (grave 249, square 33). The surviving Crace headstone (grave 10,657, square 33) is a bit of an enigma as it consists of a carved slate panel placed in front of a marble monument – I have always wondered if this was done to make way for additional inscriptions, the marble monument having been the original.

Cemetery Study Website

Dr Julie Rugg (University of York) and Ms Lisa Murray (University of Sydney) are setting up a website for those interested in the historical and cultural aspects of cemeteries. I think there is to be a discussion group facility as well. I’m told the website address is to be: http://www.egroups.com/groups/cemetery-culture.

Bob Flanagan
At the time of my first visit to Kensal Green Cemetery, no one was aware of the manufacturer of the newly-restored coffin lift in the Anglican mortuary chapel. Unusually, there are no manufacturer's labels present on the machinery. However, investigations revealed that the present mechanism is not that which was originally installed in the chapel.

A lift was installed soon after the Chapel was built in 1837. The mechanism was designed by Mr A Smith of Princes Street, Leicester Square. The principle of operation was that of a screw jack. This was an ingenious design with the advantage of stability, in that the catafalque remained stationary even if the winding handle was released. In certain applications, this principal is still used to the present day. Unfortunately, the relatively primitive manufacturing processes of the 1830s meant that this first apparatus was far from reliable, and there were complaints of noise and occasional complete malfunction. An entry in the minute book of The General Cemetery Company dated Wednesday 24 April 1839 mentions a strongly worded letter to Mr Smith with the injunction; to rectify a current malfunction within a fortnight, or else!

Mr Smith appears to have been oriented to horticultural engineering according to contemporary accounts. A recent development concerned the cider press which traditionally employed a single screw which, when operated against a platform, compressed a substantial bag containing apples in order to extract juice. An improvement was to employ two screws for greater pressure, but it was found that uneven application of force caused stresses and seizure of the mechanism until, ingeniously, the two screws were coupled together via gears to enable even transit of the compressing platform. Thus it is possible that the principles of the advanced cider press mechanism were borrowed and used for the first ill-fated efforts to raise and lower the Kensal Green catafalque.

Suffice to say that eventually the Company decided to replace this troublesome device. The inspiration to do

1. The Kensal Green catafalque.
so was the coffin lift installed in the Catacombs at Norwood Cemetery by Bramah & Robinson dated 1839. This device worked on the hydraulic principle, with its main advantage being silent operation in both raising and, in particular, lowering modes.

The General Cemetery Company was obviously very impressed with this design. The screw-operated machinery at Kensal Green was dismantled and the present day hydraulic apparatus was installed in its place. This latter installation was completed by Bramah & Robinson in December 1844. The new hydraulic system at Kensal Green cost £200 whilst the original machinery cost £400.

The Norwood coffin lift differed from that at Kensal Green in that only the top of the catafalque on which the coffin is placed was movable, i.e. could be raised and lowered through the body of the catafalque, whilst at Kensal Green the whole catafalque (Fig. 1) is raised and lowered. In both cases the top of the catafalque swivels to facilitate removal of the coffin at 'catacomb level'.

The Norwood lift system is obviously the most economic, to the extent that it uses only one single pump, whilst that at Kensal Green employs a dual pump (Fig. 3). However, it would seem that modification of the existing Kensal Green lift to incorporate the hydraulic machinery offered a more cost-effective solution than total re-design of the lift on the Norwood model.

**The Kensal Green Lift**

Joseph Bramah, the founder of the firm of Bramah & Robinson, patented the hydraulic press in the late eighteenth century and built a substantial monopoly of this branch of engineering. At Kensal Green the box on which the pumps are mounted contains the hydraulic fluid (water). The rams are of 2 in diameter and 5.5 in stroke. The cylinder in which the ram fits extends into the reservoir and is terminated by a non-return ball valve. The upward stroke sucks water into the pump cylinder, then the downward stroke of the ram forces water through a second one-way valve and thence to the main lifting ram. The wheel shown (Fig. 2) controls the descent by operating a valve which by-passes both pump and valves, feeding water directly from the ram cylinder to the reservoir. One stroke of the pump will raise the catafalque by one inch, therefore 180 strokes are required to raise it to the fully elevated position, a distance of approximately 15 feet. Of course, the effort is halved by virtue of the two pumps.
These pumps at Kensal Green are now difficult to operate. Undoubtedly this is because of the long period of disuse, and the absence of extension handles. With extension handles in situ, two-man operation per pump is permissible, and this would considerably reduce the effort required from a single operative. Although the hydraulic lowering machinery was custom designed and built, this is not so with the pump. This is a standard design used mainly for operating a press. On the outer edge of the pump frame is a bulge that accommodates a second pivot. This would be used for the initial stage of compressing materials. The present pivot as illustrated is the second part of the process that enables a greater pressure to be applied. Here the second pump would normally be used which, with a smaller diameter ram and the two stages of operation described, could apply even greater pressures. Thus the process was a four stage one designed for the maximum rapidity of compression. Since in the present application the pressure is constant via the weight of the ram, catafalque and coffin, the pumps are fitted with rams of equal diameter.

Fig. 2 shows the general arrangement at Kensal Green. The cylinder, approximately 18ft in length extends beneath the floor of the catacomb, and the ram of 4.25 in diameter extends into the catafalque body. The assembly is stabilized by the arched cross-beam, in the ends of which fit grooved wheels, which in turn engage the V sectioned columns fixed to the floor and ceiling of the catacomb. The ram itself is the load-bearing feature on which the brass slab pivots. The catafalque body is of wooden construction and is supported by the arched crossbeam, and in fact has no load bearing function.

Acknowledgements

I thank David Burkitt AlnstBCA (General Cemetery Company) for the many facilities placed at my disposal, Julien Litten and Bob Flanagan for invaluable guidance, Sam Bull and associates for their contagious enthusiasm, the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England (National Monuments Record), for permission to use their photographs of the catafalque and pump whilst preparing the figures, and the Model Engineer magazine for permission to publish this edited version of an article which appeared in vol. 182 (5-18 May 2000), pp. 513-5.
The NFCF AGM was held on Saturday 10 June. The hosts were the Friends of Highgate Cemetery. Representative attendance was, as always, good with far-flung member groups making their own very special effort and encouraging the rather cliquey London groups not to be so dismissive and mindful of other sometimes very different problems that need to be considered for the benefit of the NFCF as a whole. The NFCF Chairman, Jean Pateman, in alluding to the fact that the NFCF was founded some 15 years ago, expressed herself ever hopeful of making further progress in areas of general interest over the coming year. Jean herself, Gwyneth Stokes, and Richard Smith were in due course re-elected Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer, respectively. Important points discussed included:

- Fine tuning of the Constitution incorporating abolition of the Chairman's casting vote.
- Copyright laws relating to microfilming of Cemetery records.
- The continuing problem of thefts from cemeteries, highlighted by a recent experience at Birkenhead Cemetery, and possible ways of combatting the situation.
- The offer from Jean Pateman, on behalf of the Highgate Cemetery Trust, to extend grant aid from their resources to other cemeteries in respect of some aspects of their work.
- The offer of the Sheffield delegates to set up a Federation website. There would be no cost implication to member groups, but any costs arising would be borne out of Federation funds. The nature of the information carried on the site would be both generic and specific (though some cemetery Friends, FOWNC included, already have their own sites) and subject to consultation with member groups, review, and agreement on content being reached by consensus.
- The format and distribution of the Federation brochure, British Cemeteries, to remain the same for the forthcoming year.

After lunch, which afforded ample opportunity for networking, there were tours of the East and West cemeteries. Some better and lesser known monuments were visited, better and lesser known anecdotes were relayed, and the results of the landscape management regime particular to Highgate were viewed – controversial perhaps, but undoubtedly beautiful, rare and effective.

Thanks to the Friends of Highgate for their hospitality and for providing such an interesting day. The next NFCF meeting will be held at York on 9 June 2001.
Thomas Cubitt (1788-1855) by S.E.D. Fortescue

Thomas Cubitt was a remarkable man, a human dynamo, indefatigable, restless, but never losing sight of the human factor. He lived for his work and with his work. It was his hobby, his recreation, and the whole of his life. In 1850 he bought the Denbies estate [originally established by Jonathan Tyers (1702-67) of Vauxhall Gardens fame] near Dorking and built a large new house there. The house was sadly demolished in 1953, but the estate lives on and is described in the book The House on the Hill: The Story of Ranmore and Denbies by S.E.D. Fortescue (Dorking: Denbies Wine Estate, 1993) from which this article has been abstracted with permission of the publishers.

The Denbies Wine Estate has facilities for visitors and a website (http://www.denbies.com). Leaflets will be available at the February FOWNC meeting. The standard work on Cubitt and his work is Thomas Cubitt: Master Builder by Hermione Hobhouse (London: Macmillan, 1971; revised 1998).

The Cubitt Family

Jonathan Cubitt and his wife Agnas (née Scarlett) settled in Buxton, a little village in Norfolk. Although he was descended from yeoman farmer stock, Jonathan was a carpenter and penurious. Their first child was Mary Agnas who was born in 1786. Thomas himself was born on 25 February 1788. Two of his brothers were subsequently involved in the building business, William (born 1791), and Lewis (born 1801). Sir Stephen Tallents described his grandfather, Thomas Cubitt, as 'the penniless son of a Coltishall farmer'. Coltishall was a Parish adjoining Buxton.

Thomas was trained as a carpenter perhaps working with his father and when his father died in 1806 he had to make his own way. Thomas took a job in London as a journeyman carpenter. This work did not satisfy his restlessness. He felt he had to expand his mind and in those days that meant going to sea. In 1806/7, perhaps influenced by the fact that his brother William was serving in the Navy, he signed on as a ship's carpenter on board a frigate that set sail for the Indies.

On his return to England two and a half years later without mishap, now an experienced young man and with the savings he had accumulated during his journeys abroad, he had sufficient to start up a business as a master carpenter on the south side of Eagle Street, Holborn, which premises he rented in 1810. The premises had an extensive yard at the rear and access for a horse and cart. William left the Navy in 1806 and later joined Thomas as a pupil. About 1814 he entered into partnership with his brother.
The Russell Institution

Thomas carried out the usual work of a jobbing carpenter. He then received the contract for the placing of a new roof on the Russell Institution in Great Coram Street. It was essentially a carpenter's job but it was the largest he had undertaken to date. He carried out this work so expeditiously, so efficiently and at such a reasonable charge that his name became well known and from that time success followed success.

In those days all the various building trades contracted separately for the construction of a building. As a master carpenter, Thomas Cubitt could accept contracts, could tender for work and employ other men to do the work under his supervision. Thomas realised that the system of building by separate contracts for every trade was inefficient and slow. He had conceived the idea of amalgamating all the trades into one firm, so that he would then be able to tender for the complete construction of a building.

Now was the time to put his ideas into practice and when he was commissioned to build the London Institution in Finsbury Circus (1815) he accepted the contract with enthusiasm.

It was necessary to find a way of keeping his men of all trades employed all the time and Thomas decided to start speculative building so that he could employ a permanent staff and have work for them to do when there was no contract work in hand. He began buying plots of land for development mostly for private dwellings. Orders poured in from all sides.
Thomas' elder sister Mary had married Andrew Cuthell on 17 December 1807. She died and was buried on 18 May 1812 leaving two sons surviving, Andrew and John. Thomas took a large part in their upbringing and they both entered the business. John launched out on his own, but Andrew became Thomas' right hand man.

Apart from working under contract, Thomas developed Bloomsbury, Belgravia, Clapham Park, and many other areas. He was commissioned by Queen Victoria and Prince Albert to design and build Osborne House on the Isle of Wight. He was also commissioned to build the old East front of Buckingham Palace. He became a friend of Queen Victoria and the Prince Consort.

The Royal Society of Arts organised annual exhibitions of industrial art and proposed an ambitious plan to hold a Great Exhibition in 1851. Thomas Cubitt aroused Prince Albert's enthusiasm for this idea. Cubitt's own contribution was made in the field of building costs and also in guaranteeing a loan of £5,000 by the Bank of England to finance the exhibition when in its initial stages it was not receiving the support necessary.

He continued his business exercising consideration for the welfare of his men and with a public spirit. He built three thousand feet of the Thames Embankment at his own expense. He provided for many squares and open spaces in his developments in which he always laid out proper drainage systems. Thomas Cubitt was at the zenith of his career and had amassed an enormous fortune.

Thomas was commissioned by Joseph Bonsor, a successful city stationer and bookseller, to build a new house on the site of the former house at Polesden Lacey which had been occupied by Richard Brinsley Sheridan and which had been demolished by his son Charles in 1818. Thomas Cubitt designed and built the house. The first stone was laid on 31 July 1821 and it was finished in August 1823. There could be no doubt that the time Thomas spent at Polesden Lacey, with its splendid views from the North Downs over the Weald to the South Downs and to the sea beyond, gave him a liking for the Surrey countryside.


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Thomas became so absorbed in his ideas for rebuilding London that he had little time for the general business. On 23rd June 1827 he dissolved the partnership with his brother William who carried on the general business whilst Thomas devoted all his energies to public contracts. Incidentally, William was Lord Mayor of London in 1860/61 and 1861/62. Lewis, his younger brother, trained as an architect and although he initially did some work for Thomas he later ventured into business as an architect in his own right.

Thomas purchased the Church Living of the Parish of Bodiam, Sussex in 1849 with a view to presenting the living to the Rev. Charles Parker, who had married his daughter Mary in 1846. Charles was the incumbent from 1851 to 1855, the year Thomas died. Denbies was then in the ownership of Lord Londesborough, the grandson of William Joseph Denison. He sold the property to Thomas Cubitt in the autumn of 1850. It was then the same modest Georgian house built by Jonathan Tyers and although improvements had been planned to the sanitary system and for access to Dorking Railway Station these works had not been carried out. Thomas decided to demolish the old house and build a new one to his own designs. Thomas at the time was living at Cavendish House, a large and grand house on the south side of Clapham Common. He also had a third house at 13 Lewes Crescent, Brighton. Cubitt, now 62 years of age, showed tremendous enthusiasm for his new estate.
Ingeniously, Thomas built his new house in the south west side of Tyers' house so that the old house could continue to be used while the new house was under construction. Cubitt set about improving the estate by planting thousands of trees and shrubs and modernising the farm and estate buildings. Thomas seemed determined to leave to his eldest son George an imposing residence - or rather palace - in the style of Belgravia. To quote Sir Stephen Tallents it 'wore the air of a town mansion on holiday'. Or perhaps it was to be the memorial of an entrepreneur who had risen from the penniless carpenter to a man to whom present day London owes so much.

Shortly after Thomas completed the building of the house he died on 20 December 1855 unable to enjoy the culmination of a lifetime of enterprise, hard work, philanthropy and integrity. Thomas made a Will that was the longest on record to that date comprising three hundred and eighty six folios of ninety words each. He left his property as though it was a landed estate and not a building business. Denbies was left to his widow Mary Anne for life and then in tail-male; Mary Anne, George Cubitt, and Andrew Cuthell were the trustees with precise instructions as to the method to be used to realise his building assets.

Thomas Cubitt is buried at Norwood (grave 649, square 48); his tomb is listed Grade II and consists of a ten ton slab of granite covering a brick vault which is surrounded by a holly hedge.

Through life Thomas found it difficult to distinguish the men he employed from his friends. He established in London a workmen's library, a schoolroom for his men's children, and supplied soup and cocoa to his men to break them of the habit of dram drinking. Not everyone approved of his social, intellectual and moral attributes but he asserted 'If you wait till people thank you for doing anything for them, you will never do anything. It is right for me to do it, whether they are thankful for it or not'.

Thomas was a liberal benefactor to churches, schools and charities in which he was interested. He bore his great prosperity with a becoming modesty. For example, when his premises were burnt down by fire, his first thought on entering the premises were 'Tell the men they shall be at work within a week and I will subscribe £600 towards buying them new tools'.

*The Builder* journal referred to him as a 'great builder and a good man'. Perhaps it is fitting to end by quoting from the entry made by Queen Victoria in her diary on Christmas Eve 1855:

"In his sphere of life, with the immense business he had in hand, he is a real National loss. A better, kindhearted or more simple, unassuming man never breathed. We feel we owe much to him for the way in which he carried out everything".
Recent FOWNC Events
Jill Dudman

London Open House Weekend

As members will know, FOWNC's contribution to the London Open House Weekend on 23/24 September was thrown into disarray by Lambeth's last-minute closure of the catacombs. This resulted from a Health and Safety report on their condition, which indeed one could not argue against - we have really been getting away with a rather risky activity for years in taking tours down there. Better safe than sorry.

Of course, with the Open House brochures having been circulated all over London, there was no way of stopping visitors from coming, so we laid on ordinary tours of the notable monuments, together with access to the Greek Chapel. Most people took the disappointment with good grace, and whilst some went away, at least 130 or so came on the tours (in pouring rain on the Sunday).

AGM & Lecture on Alfred Temple, Charles Gassiot and the Guildhall Art Gallery

After our AGM on 21 October, we were treated to an excellent talk by Vivien Knight, Curator of the Guildhall Art Gallery, in which she imparted a wealth of information about the history of the Gallery and its collections.

We learned much about its first director, Sir Alfred Temple, and the ways in which he managed to acquire works of art despite a limited budget - for example, by persuading wealthy wine merchant Charles Gassiot to bequeath his large collection of paintings to the Guildhall Gallery instead of the Tate.

Vivien Knight, the present curator of the Guildhall Art Gallery, standing by the grave of Sir Alfred Temple, the Gallery's first Curator, 21 October 2000.
After an account of the later years involving wartime destruction and modern rebuilding, Ms Knight went on to talk about individual works of art, and certainly filled us with enthusiasm for making a visit. Drawings of the Temple and Gassiot monuments appeared in FOWNC Newsletter 31 (January 1998).

Funerary Symbolism

In November Don Bianco of English Heritage gave an excellent, very detailed talk on funerary symbolism (members may recall his tour on this theme a couple of years ago), Bob Flanagan having had no time to prepare his proposed talk on Millennium Connections. Don has made a detailed study of the meanings in Christian tradition of numerous features found carved on monuments, from anchors and draped urns, through various kinds of flowers and leaves, to Faith, Hope and Charity figures. He hopes to write up this work for formal publication.

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Book Review

by Paul Graham


For the first time since 1974, Douglas Jerrold’s great comic masterpiece is back in print. All 36 Lectures are again available, together with a brief introduction by Peter Ackroyd. Margaret Caudle is the archetypal nagging wife who carries around with her the aggrieved air of the domestic martyr. In the words of her creator, ‘she was not a woman to wear chains without shaking them’.

Each lecture is effectively a monologue, delivered to her usually silent husband after the bed curtains have been drawn upon them for the night. In them Mrs Caudle complains of some slight or injury, real or imagined, inflicted by Job Caudle upon her and their large brood of children during the course of the day. She complains when he has lent money (or the family umbrella) to a friend; spent the evening socialising over beer and tobacco; or objected to her mother coming to stay with them.

The Lectures are effectively a single joke, delivered by the same character in the same place, with only the subject of complaint changing. Despite this, they remain very funny. The Lectures originally appeared weekly in *Punch* in 1845 and increased the circulation massively. When the series was published in volume form it went through seventeen editions in the year. They should be read now as they were by their first audience, singly rather than successively at one sitting.

Continued on back page
Forthcoming FOWNC Events
January - April 2001

General tours will be held on the first Sunday of each month (7 January, 4 February, 4 March and 1 April). January to March tours start at 11.00, and the April tour starts at 14.30, at the Cemetery main gate off Norwood Road, and they last for 1-2 hours. 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 17 February
Lecture - Cemetery Extravaganza - Bob Flanagan
The FOWNC Chairman always makes a point, whenever abroad (work or holiday), of photographing local cemeteries. This time we will be treated to some views of cemeteries in Berlin, Helsinki, and New Delhi, amongst others.

Saturday 17 March
Lecture - William Thomas Brande FRS, Chemist - Frank James
Dr James, Reader in the History of Science at the Royal Institution, will be relating the life and work of this major figure of 19th century science. Professor of Chemistry at the RI for over 40 years, successor to Sir Humphry Davy, teacher and colleague of Michael Faraday, and author of dictionaries, text-books, and many journal articles. His monument at Norwood survives although badly weathered. We hope to include it in the conservation programme in the near future. This may be the first lecture ever devoted to Brande!

Other Events
The one disappointing aspect of this republication is the poor quality reproduction of what is claimed to be the 'original illustrations by Charles Keene'. The original Punch illustrations were by John Leech. Some are included in this edition without attribution, together with later ones executed by Keene. They are much darker and less distinct than the originals by either artist.

Even before his death in 1857, Jerrold was aware that his fame was likely to rest upon the Curtain Lectures and his nautical drama Black Eyed Susan rather than on his more serious work of social criticism. When a friend congratulated him on the success of the first number of the Lectures he replied 'It just shows what stuff the people will swallow. I could write such rubbish as that by the yard'. Whilst some of his more polemical works may now smell rather musty, Mrs Caudle seems as fresh today as when she first appeared in the mid-nineteenth century.