

PROJECTS : Update

HUGH GORDON, Projects Co-ordinator

COWGATE CEMETERY

This is the Society's current major project.

Progress so far - The Dover Society, having taken on responsibility for the clearance of two of the eight plots that constitute the cemetery, has now cleared much of the self seeded underbrush and 'Spindles' which had overgrown large areas.

Most of the work achieved is a credit to 'The Thursday Team' under the very enthusiastic leadership of Jeremy Cope (who bribes them with tea and biscuits) but, unfortunately, for various reasons, (possibly no tea and biscuits!) 'The Saturday Team', after a good start, has faded somewhat and it now looks as if we may be asking for more helpers for Saturdays. (Ring Hugh Gordon on 205115)

The plan is to allow the grass to grow to hay (hay meadow treatment) after initial autumn and spring cuts. Although the former clearance was done by hand, we will be allowed to use strimmers in future, if we can lay our hands on some petrol driven ones. All offers of loans will be gratefully received!

There is now a large quantity of brushwood etc. to be burnt. This will have to be carefully controlled in order that neither the adjacent hillsides, nor local residents are set alight. Discussion is on the agenda, with Paul Hadaway of the WCCP as to how and when this might be done. The Fire Brigade also need advance warning of any proposed bonfires and the wind will have to be taken into consideration, again, keeping the local residents in mind.

The Project looks as if it will continue for a long time to come.

RECORDING GRAVESTONES

The team recording gravestones has done a lot of preliminary work, finding out what records are available for the cemetery. The District Council has a full register of burials but no plan, so graves cannot be easily located, if at all. Now, after some sterling work by Joe Harman and Ian Murton, the pattern behind the numbering of grave spaces is beginning to emerge, despite a number of anomalies such as two top rows in one plot both numbered from 1 to 21! The team has got down to recording inscriptions in plot 2, where these are still legible. Some work was done on another plot in the 1980's, but this is incomplete and it will clearly be a long hard task to get a complete record of all the legible stones left in the cemetery. To this end, more volunteers were sought at the October meeting of the Society and renewed efforts will continue over the winter months. Other volunteers should telephone Lesley Gordon on Dover 205115, to hear how they may be able to help.

Dea Editor

I av a leter from pruf reder, May Jones

Dea Jak

I injoid yor artikel on ze Euro. It woz veri interesting.

It mit be difikult for pruf reding tho.
I hop ziz speling konformz to ze roolz
Yorz sinserli (trooli)

Ow shud I anser to this kerspndt?

Yorz ferfuli, Jak