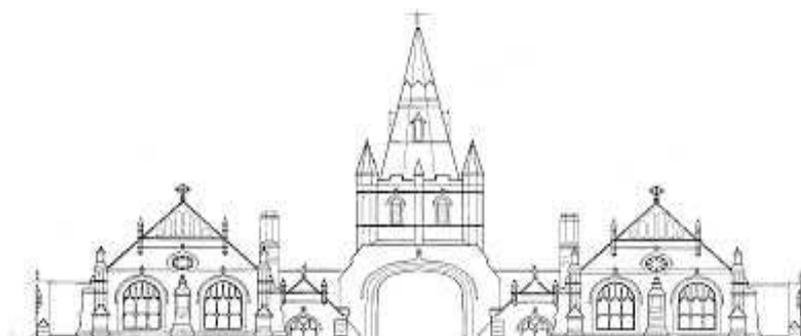


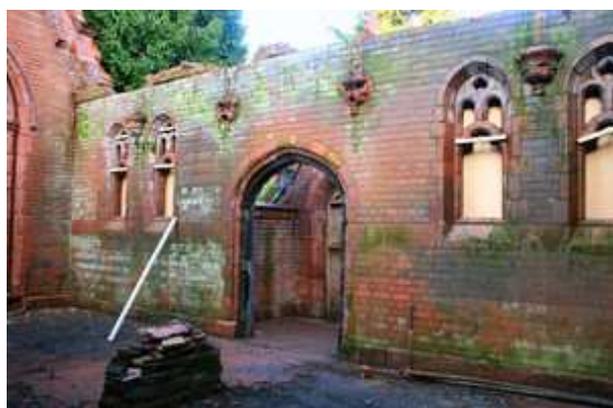
FRIENDS OF BRANDWOOD END CEMETERY



Newsletter Issue No 8

Spring 2009

THE CHAPELS - LATEST NEWS



An Options Appraisal has now been undertaken by Architectural consultants to review the structure and environment of the twin terracotta Chapels and potential ways of raising funds for restoration, future maintenance and improvements to the Cemetery in general.

Their proposals were received by the Friends' Committee and then offered for consideration to Councillor Len Gregory, Cabinet Member for Transportation. Councillor Gregory rejected all the suggested proposals. Consequently, there was no reason for a public consultation, scheduled for Wednesday, 8th April, to take place.

We now have to go back to the drawing board and consider alternative options with the knowledge

that we now have additional expert information. The support of our 154 members is enormously appreciated and a great incentive to continue with our efforts. We will keep you informed of developments.



CIVILIAN GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE

During the last few weeks a small group of ladies have been working hard in the garden, the appearance of which is considerably improved. If you would be willing to help with the ongoing work required to keep the garden in its original state please contact our Membership Secretary on 0121 628 1186.

WEBSITE

A reminder that our website can be found at www.fbec.org.uk and is regularly updated with the latest information.

Registered Charity No. 1114333

POPPY CROSSES



This year over 300 Poppy Crosses were placed on war graves in Brandwood End Cemetery prior to Remembrance Sunday. We are deeply indebted to the Midlands Co-operative Funeral Service for kindly agreeing to sponsor the purchase of a number of these crosses and to the employees of Wates Construction who placed them. In addition, a Poppy

Cross "Cemetery" was constructed close to the Cross of Sacrifice. This task was carried out by members of the Committee.



On Sunday 9th November at 1.00 p.m. a short Service of Remembrance took place at the Cross of Sacrifice. The Service was conducted by the Rev. Andy Delmege and wreaths were laid on behalf of the Royal British Legion, Birmingham City Council and Friends of Brandwood End Cemetery. The attendance at this brief but moving ceremony increases each year.



BOULDERS

With the assistance of a very generous donation from Alexander Patrick and the Trustees of the Patrick Trust, the Friends have arranged for the installation of boulders to mark two of the Public Grave areas.



SPRING BULBS

Following the planting of Spring bulbs in the autumn there has been an excellent display of snowdrops, winter aconites and anemones (pictured below) on the grass verges at each side of the main drive. Unfortunately squirrels feasted on most of the crocuses so they were not in evidence. There was probably a severe outbreak of tummy-ache among the squirrel population at Brandwood End. Some daffodils were planted on Oak Tree Island.



LITTER PICKS

The dates of the next three Litter Picks are:
Sunday 24th May 2009
Saturday 25th July 2009
Sunday 27th September 2009

Please come and join us; many hands make light work. Litter pickers and black bags are provided. All you need is suitable footwear and gloves.