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September – October 2015

Policy on Borrowing Items from OCS Office

It has come to the executive's attention that items are being borrowed from the OCS Office. We do not have a problem with people using or borrowing our files, but we would ask that you leave your name, a telephone number and the removed file name. There is a clipboard on the counter. Most people already do this but a few have not. It can be frustrating if you are looking for a file that you know exists and it is not there.

Also if you wish to borrow a piece of equipment, such as a Chattervox, you should get permission to do so. It may have been promised to someone & not yet picked up. We are setting a fee of \$10 per day for the use of a Chattervox for non OCS functions. This charge would not apply to OCS sponsored tours.

Cleaning & Restoration



Sharon Welsh & Wilf Bruch

Join us for the next cleaning bee at Ross Bay Cemetery – on Saturday, September 19th from 10am to 2pm (**notice the new time – 4 hours starting at 10am**). Meet near the MacKenzie mausoleum at 10am. We will hook all the water hoses together so we can have **WATER** in the section to wash the gravestones!



Proudly wearing our new smocks!



A cleaned gravestone -photo from our Facebook page



A peahen inspects our work

This anchor reposes on the Shultz Family plot, 7W9 in block F. The anchor was cast in 1898 in Copenhagen and for many years was on a clipper ship that eventually sank off St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands. It was salvaged by the Shultz Family and graced their front yards as they moved from place to place. This summer OCS volunteers gave the anchor a good cleaning and a new paint job. Family patriarch David Shultz now rests at the foot of the anchor and we're sure he's pleased.



This stone was found broken in block G. In spite of our best efforts it will never be the same; it will always look damaged.

Summer 2015 has not been very productive for our restoration volunteers. It's not for lack of projects, but lack of time. However we have re-erected three broken monuments, raised about a dozen sunken markers, and done a few smaller repairs to monuments around the cemetery.

St. Luke's Tour

The August 9th tour of St. Luke's Church and churchyard attracted an enthusiastic audience. The tour was conducted jointly by John Azar, Yvonne Van Ruskenveld, Sylvia Van Kirk, Pam Gaudio and Claudia Berry. Here are some photos taken by Sharon Brown:



BC Heritage Fair **Photos by Drew Wavryn and Wilf Bruch**

On July 4, 2015, the Old Cemeteries Society hosted a workshop for about ninety-five students and twelve adults attending this year's BC Heritage Fair. The students originated from across the province and were the winners of the Heritage Contest.



They were given a chance to learn firsthand how our society endeavours to preserve our historic cemeteries. We set up three stations:



Cleaning.....



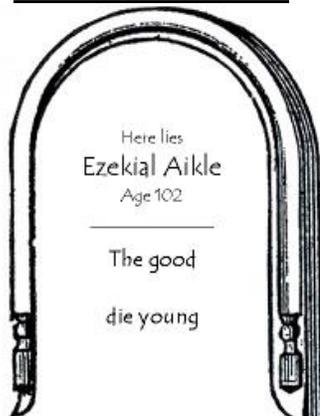
.....Recording.....



.....and Story Telling

Every student spent half an hour at each station, drawing, listening to stories, and cleaning. We hope they went away with a better understanding of cemeteries. Thanks to Gerry, Sharon, Patrick, Drew, Michael, Wilf and Jane for putting this workshop together.

Tombstone Oddities



Epitaph on a tombstone in First Church of England Cemetery, East Dalhousie, King's County, NS

Last Words



Comedian Bob Hope died at age 100. On his deathbed his wife asked where he wanted to be buried. His last words were "Surprise me."