

P.O. Box 50004, RPO Fairfield Plaza, Victoria, B.C. V8S 5L8

Telephone: (250) 598-8870

E-mail oldcem@pacificcoast.net

Web Site: <http://www.oldcem.bc.ca>

November – December 2015

Ghost Bus Tours- Oct. 17 –29

Our 22th annual bus excursion past some of Victoria's most haunted sites. New route and many new stories. Reserve your seat early. Reservations required for all Ghost Bus Tours. Tickets are \$37 and available exclusively through TicketRocket. General inquiries call 250.384.6698 or email discoverthepast@telus.net Details are available at discoverthepast.com This is one of our main fundraisers for the year and I would strongly encourage our members to support the ghost bus tours.

Help Wanted!

Sunday October 25 Ghost Walk Tours at Ross Bay Cemetery

Our annual Ghost Walk Sunday Tour on October 25 is in need of volunteers. We need ticket sellers, refreshment volunteers and pilots. If you are able to help out with this events please leave your name with Gerry Buydens at gbuydens@shaw.ca or 250 383- 4873

Hallowe'en Patrols on Friday, October 30 and Saturday, October 31

The patrols are a unique opportunity to experience Ross Bay Cemetery at night and at the same time they help to deter vandalism. The patrol dates have been finalized and an email will be sent out to all members as soon as permission to be in the cemetery at night is granted by the Parks Department.

We do our patrols in two shifts, 8pm to 10pm and 10pm to 12 midnight.

If you are able to help out with this events please phone Sharon Welsh at 250-995-1322 or e-mail afterprior@telus.net

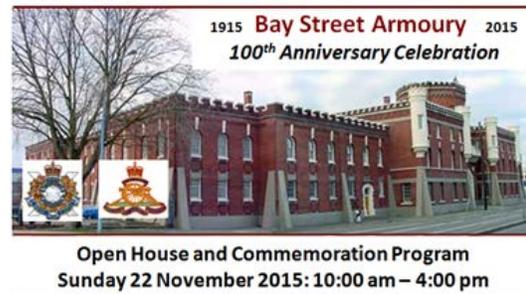
Sale of Shirts and Caps

The Society has a limited number of t-shirts and sweatshirts, limited sizes and colors which we want to clear out. Cost is \$15 for a sweatshirt and \$8 for a t-shirt. There also are baseball-type caps at \$5 each. If interested, let Gudrun Leys know at gMLEYS@gmail.com or 250 590-5850 and she will send you a copy of our inventory.

Old Cemetery Society 22 November Tour at Bay Street Armoury

Same Date — Different Format

The scheduled **November 22, Bay Street Armoury Tour** will take place, but with a different format. November 2015 marks the 100th anniversary of the opening of the Bay Street Armoury (BSA) and November 22 is the only date both resident militia units are available to commemorate the centenary of this national historic site. The OCS will now participate in a day long (10:00 am – 4:00 pm) open house and commemoration program.



The principle components of this free public event are:

Open House: 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

OCS members and the general public will be able to tour the facilities and displays of the resident militia regiments: The 5th (BC) Field Artillery Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery and the Canadian Scottish Regiment (Princess Mary's). The public will have access to operations rooms, band rooms and messes. Resident cadet units will explain their programs. The Canadian Scottish Women's auxiliary will operate a canteen and the Canadian Scottish Kit Shop will be open.

The Regimental Museums will be open. Displays will also be mounted by the Ashton Garrison Museum showcasing the 11 (Victoria) Service Battalion and the 11 (Victoria) Field Ambulance as these units were resident in the BSA until 1992 when they moved to the Lt.-General E. C. Ashton Armoury on Vanalman Avenue. The CFB Esquimalt Naval and Military Museum will also have a display.

The **Old Cemeteries Society**, other historical and heritage groups and several municipal archives will have display tables illustrating the community's relationship to the BSA.

Arrival of the Lieutenant-Governor: 1:30 pm – 2:00 pm

The Honourable Judith Guichon, Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia will be greeted by the Commanding Officers and Honorary-Colonels of the resident regiments. Her Honour will inspect the Quarter Guard followed by a tour of the facilities and displays.

Commemoration Program: 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm

A commemoration program will feature stories, Regimental bands, songs and slides that take us on an historic tour of the building's use by the militia and its relationship to the Greater Victoria Region from the early 1900's to the present. The program will end with the unveiling of a commemoration plaque by the Lieutenant-Governor.

Cleaning & Restoration

Sharon Welsh & Wilf Bruch

We have made a change to the schedule and will be having our last cleaning bee for the year on **October 24th from 10am until 2pm** (weather permitting). We will be in Section A, come and join us! These photos show a monument before, during, and after cleaning:



Margaret Jenkins School celebrated its centennial in 2014. As part of the celebration the students were asked to remember the person after whom their school was named and to visit her grave in Ross Bay Cemetery. The grave was in poor shape and the Old Cemeteries Society was asked to fix it up. The challenge was accepted and this summer volunteers re-painted the lettering on the monument and re-surfaced the grave top. We hope the students will come again to remember a public spirited citizen.

Margaret Jenkins came to Victoria in 1882 with her husband and a blended family of sixteen children. This alone would have made her life memorable; however she used what little spare time she had to help the citizens of her adopted city. Some of the organizations she was involved in are as follows; Women's

Christian Temperance Union, Ladies Aid of the Metropolitan Methodist Church, YMCA, Victoria Local Council of Women, Welsh Cymrodian Society, Women's Conservative Club and the Women's Canadian Club, but her real love and passion was our school system.

She was first elected as a school trustee in 1897 and served continuously from 1902 to 1919. During this time she promoted many new educational programs. In 1909 she helped establish the first domestic science program in the province, which we remember as home economics.

Margaret Jenkins died of a heart attack on June 7, 1923, at the age of 79 and is buried in Ross Bay Cemetery (G47b48E14), just a few blocks from the school that bears her name.

The small headstone, pictured below, plot U069W53, commemorates a short life that brought happiness, sadness and remembrance. After 102 years of weather and abuse, the stone stands as a reminder of how fragile life was at the turn of the century. Last winter it was again broken off its base. The cross that once comprised the upper portion of the monument has long ago vanished and the one and one-quarter inch thick marble headstone has been broken from its base at least twice. This summer we were able to re-attach it with metal support and re-finish the face. We hope it will stand for many more years.



Marguerita died of Tubercular Meningitis. Her obituary was published in the March 25th, 1913 edition of the Daily Colonist:

SULLIVAN- The death occurred in the city on Easter Sunday of Marguerita Agnes Sullivan, the fourteen-months-old daughter of Mr and Mrs John Sullivan - 819 Penwill Street.

Did you know that there is a fifteen foot square cemetery at Albert Head in Metchosin? It must be one of the world's smallest. From about 1882 until 1894 Albert Head was the main quarantine station for British Columbia. In 1884, a building 150 feet long by 50 feet wide was erected to house suspected cases of infectious diseases. The site and building were not used very much until 1892 when Victoria and Vancouver experienced an epidemic of smallpox.

The full story will be posted on our web page shortly under "Cemeteries".

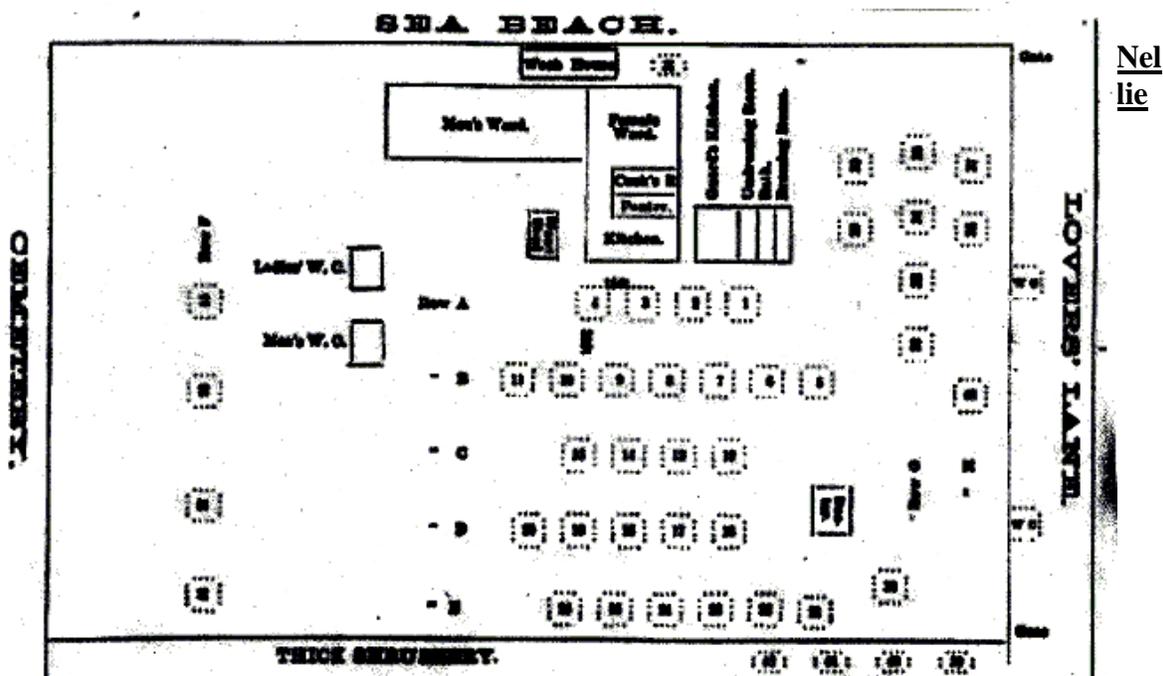
This small cemetery which is on DND land and not accessible to the public has three known burials from 1892. There is only one stone monument and two wooden crosses, and to our knowledge it was last cleaned and visited in 1984. I wonder how the past 31 years have effected this place of remembrance? Let's try to make this a project for next summer.



A Little More History.....

Wilf Bruch

Over the years the land we know as Ross Bay Cemetery has been used for different things, but did you know it was a quarantine center? In 1892 the City of Victoria, in the midst of a smallpox epidemic, decided to use the land next to the cemetery for a quarantine hospital. After much discussion, the quarantine hospital was built at the Royal Jubilee Hospital, and the southwest portion of the cemetery land, called Ross Bay Station, was used to house suspected cases of smallpox. Today, we know the area as Block Q and N. An L-shaped building was erected which included a kitchen, pantry and a number of wards. In the area to the north there were outhouses and four rows of tents to house the people suspected of carrying the disease. Each row was 30 feet apart and the tents were placed 15 feet apart to prevent any contact with each other. Ross Bay Station only lasted a year or so but does form an interesting part of Ross Bay History.



Nel
lie

Cashman Re-enactment in Tombstone, Arizona Perry Lydon



I attended the Frontier Days Festival in Tombstone, Arizona, in an effort to get more information on Nellie Cashman, "The Miner's Angel", our special resident at Ross Bay Cemetery. I met some notable individuals, including the Arizona historian Mr. Ben Traywick, who was very knowledgeable about Nellie's activities in Tombstone. I discovered that one of her hotels, The Delmonico Lodging House, occupied the very site where my motel was. I visited the church that she built; the baptismal font that she donated is still in use today. I had most of my meals at the Café Margarita, which was the "Russ

House Hotel", and this was one of Nellie's most famous establishments. Wyatt Earp and Doc Holliday were regular customers here and Wyatt allowed Nellie to hold religious services in his Oriental Saloon on Sunday's, at least until Nellie had her church built. I visited the well maintained courthouse, with the hanging scaffold in the courtyard. On the 28th of March, 1884, five men were hung at the same time, and Nellie took great steps to ensure that their execution was handled properly.

The festival activities were very colorful, with mounted cavalry, Apaches and numerous ladies dressed in period costumes. Mrs. Jay Rodriguez, pictured right with me, was dressed as Nellie Cashman and gave an excellent and well attended account of Nellie's years in Tombstone City. She also talked about the new monument that was unveiled in Nellie's home town of Midleton, County Cork, Ireland, and we discussed plans to celebrate the centennial anniversary of Nellie's death on the 4th of January, 2025.



General Guidelines to be followed when Producing Documents for OCS

The executive has concerns regarding the actions of Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) who has been revoking the charitable status of societies if the society indulges in any political activity, regardless of how minor in nature the activities. There are cases where the political activity was minor in nature but the society's charitable status was revoked. The executive wishes to protect our charitable status and has developed some guidelines which should be followed to protect our status. Our charitable earnings range from \$3,000 to \$4,000 per year. These guidelines should be followed when producing our Newsletter and Stories in Stone. These guidelines pertain mainly to Stories in Stone as it uses a variety of authors.

The guidelines are:

1. A disclaimer must be placed in a strategic location in every edition of Stories in Stone. The following disclaimer has been selected by the executive and shall be used in all publications henceforth.
Disclaimer: The views expressed in any article contained herein are solely those of the author and do not necessarily represent the views or opinions of the executive or membership of the Old Cemeteries Society of Victoria.
2. When writing stories for Stories in stone, the stories must adhere to the mandate of Old Cemeteries Society of Victoria. The Old Cemeteries Society of Victoria is dedicated to researching, preserving and encouraging the appreciation of Victoria's heritage cemeteries.
3. There is to be no comments made in the document that could be interpreted as being political in nature.
4. The executive shall review and approve the content of the document before it goes to print.
5. The print run shall not exceed 125 copies unless approved by the executive.
6. The executive reserves the right to remove articles if they determine that they are political in nature.

