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January-February 2019



.....**A Merry Christmas to all.**.....

Annual General Meeting

Date: [Wednesday, February 13](#), 2019, at 7:30 p.m.

Location: Old Craighflower School.

There is lots of free parking.

Topic: A Cemetery Travelogue.

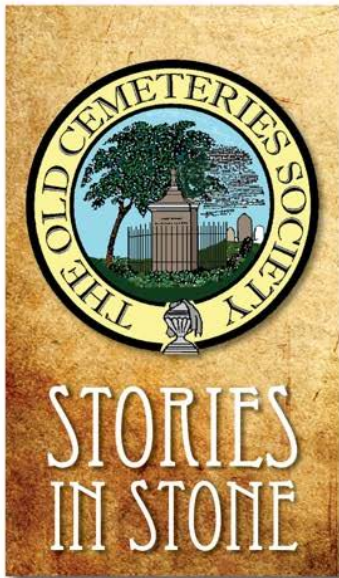
Speakers: Yvonne van Ruskenveld and John Azar will give an illustrated talk about three very different cemeteries that they visited in November in Spain, Belgium and England.

Election of Officers for 2019

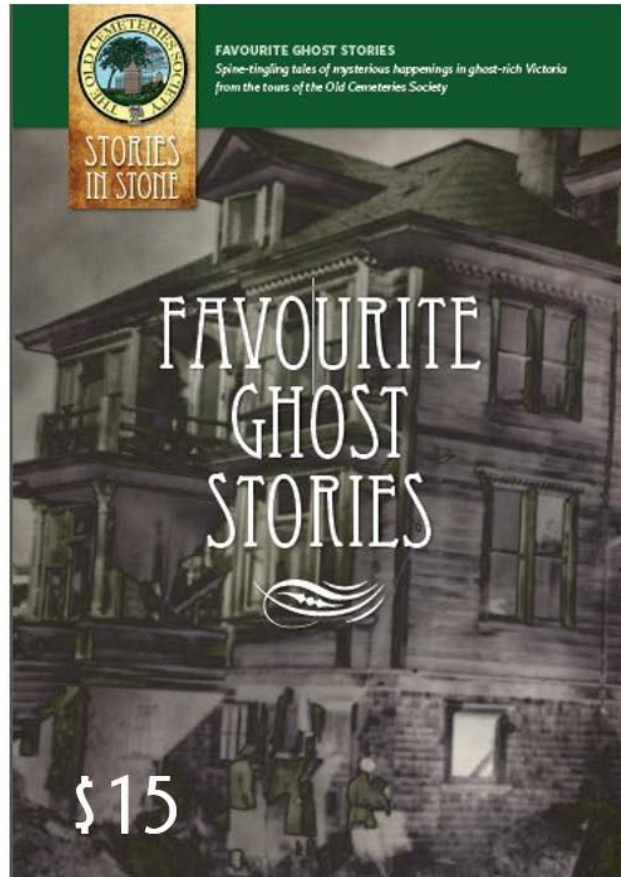
Elections to the Old Cemeteries Society Board for 2019 will be held and are usually very brief. The Board consists of Past President, President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and at least five Members at Large. We would like a couple of new people for the board. Board members are expected to attend monthly meetings ([third Wednesday](#) of the month) to guide the Society's activities and discuss issues. Potential Board members please contact Gerry Buydens, Nomination Committee Chair, at gbuydens@shaw.ca or 250-383-4873 as soon as possible.

NOW AVAILABLE!

The updated and expanded



The second in the series of books under the new Old Cemeteries Society publishing imprint is now available.



**To obtain copies of this ideal seasonal gift,
please contact either:**

❖ the OCS office: oldcem@pacificcoast.net or 250.598.8870

or

❖ Gudrun Leys at: gmleys@gmail.com

Ross Bay Christmas Tour

Photos by Perry Lydon

On December 9 John Adams conducted the Ross Bay Christmas tour, featuring humorous and warm-hearted stories about our city's early residents.



| 3

.....at the Dunsmuir monument.....and the Carr graves

Sherri Robinson honoured



Sherri Robinson is a long-time member of the Old Cemeteries Society. In 2016, Esquimalt recognized her with a Spirit Award for “being a tireless steward and advocate for the Township’s history.” She has also received well deserved recognition from the BC Museum Association as reported in the Victoria News and the Oak Bay News.

The mother and grandmother has deep ties to the community – her great-great-grandparents established the first halfway house, known since 1860 as the Esquimalt Inn. They were also one of the first establishments to be granted a brewing licence in B.C.

Do You Receive a Printed Copy of Stone Cuttings?

If you have access to a computer, consider receiving Stone Cuttings on line and printing it yourself. This will save the Society a useful amount of money. All you have to do is let the office know your e-mail address.

Do you have a story to tell?

The demise of the OCS journal Stories in Stone left us with no place to publish longer articles that our members might want to share. In an effort to partly fill the gap, Stone Cuttings has been publishing longer items submitted by our members. While there is no strict limit on length, articles should be reasonably brief and of general interest to our members. Book reviews and photos relevant to your article are welcome. Submit articles to rste00@shaw.ca The editor reserves the right to edit or reject any item.

Tombstone Oddities



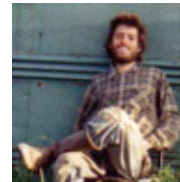
Two whimsies spotted in Beth El Cemetery in New Jersey. Thanks to Ann Lee Switzer.

Last Words

Chris McCandless 1968-1992

American wanderer and subject of the book *Into the Wild*. He wrote a final note before dying of starvation in Alaska.

"I have had a happy life and thank the Lord. Goodbye and may God bless all!"



.... and a Happy New Year!!



Membership Renewal Form It is now time to renew your OCS membership and for the board to thank you for your past support of our activities. Please circle type of membership: Individual \$30 Family \$45 Student \$20 Donations are greatly appreciated.
\$ _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE #: _____

E-MAIL: _____ Please

make cheques payable to The Old Cemeteries Society and mail to P.O. Box 50004, RPO
Fairfield Plaza, Victoria BC, V8S 5L8

NB: Membership cards are issued only if requested.