

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>

January – February 2013

Annual General Meeting

Date: Wednesday, February 13, 2013, at 7:30 p.m.

Location: James Bay New Horizons at 234 Menzies Street

Speaker: Drew Waveryn

Election of Officers

Elections to the Old Cemeteries Society Board for 2013 will be held and are usually very brief. The Board consists of Past President, President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and five Members at Large. 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.

Refreshments & Speaker: Drew will speak about the “Graves of the Dunsmuir family from Scotland to Singapore”.

Spring Tours

John Adams

Feb. 17 Heritage Week honouring Heritage Homes and Neighbourhoods. Several OCS members will recount stories about their own heritage houses and neighbourhoods that relate to people buried at RBC.

Feb. 24 Black History Valin Marshall of the BC Black History Awareness Society and John Adams of OCS will conduct their annual tour for Black History Month at RBC.

March 3 St. Luke's Church and Churchyard Pam Gaudio and Sylvia Van Kirk have collaborated on this tour to one of the city's most intriguing churchyards, tucked beside the church at the corner of Cedar Hill Road and Cedar Hill Cross Road.

March 10 History of Ross Bay Cemetery, conducted by John Adams. 2013 is the 140th anniversary of the establishment of the cemetery.

Bob Daly 1921-2012

Gerry Buydens

This Christmas Day was a sad one for Sheila Daly, for on it Bob passed away after a long decline in his health. That made it a sad day for the Old Cemeteries Society too. Long-time members will recall his many behind the scenes contributions to the Society in its earlier days. From executive meetings at his house in James Bay and Hallowe'en patrols in Ross Bay Cemetery, to handyman

enhancements of the Society's office equipment, he helped it to function well in its formative years. From carpentry and brick laying to sagging curtains and gates, Bob loved a challenge. His competence will be missed.

50+ Active Living Celebration

OCS will have a booth at the Senior Expo Fair on Tuesday, March 12. The fair is held at Pearkes Arena and members of OCS are welcome to come & enjoy the fun filled event. The doors open at 7:30 AM for exhibitors and for a pancake breakfast.

I am asking for volunteers to sit at our booth. Please contact Gerry Buydens at 383-4873 or gbuydens@shaw.ca, if you are interested in volunteering for this Expo.

For more information on the expo you can check out the Senior Living magazine website: <http://www.seniorlivingmag.com/festival>

Thrifty Foods Smile Card Fundraising Program

Gerry Buydens

We have just been advised by Thrifty Foods that based on the merits of our proposal that our maximum has been raised from \$1,500 to \$2,000. The current program ends on May 4, 2013. I would like to encourage members to participate in this program. Smile Cards are available from the office. If you have any questions as to how this program functions or how to receive a card, please call the Office at (250) 598-8870 or E-mail at oldcem@pacificcoast.net and some one will get back to you.

To date OCS has earned \$900 toward the Row Marker program which has been receiving some very positive reviews from the public and city staff. This is an easy way to raise funds, so please give it your earnest consideration.

A Year in the Life of OCS



A visit to the historic Chinese Cemetery....



Victorian gentlemen share a word....



Spring in Ross Bay Cemetery



....followed inevitably by fall



Opening the Houston mausoleum....



....preparatory to repairing it.



The annual ghost walk....



Lest we forget....

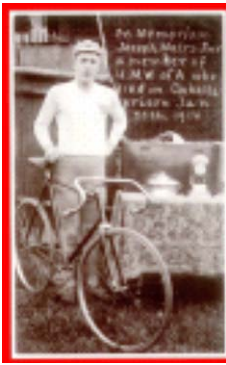
Emily Gets a New Skirt!

Wilf Bruch

Emily Carr received a new skirt for Christmas! A new cement skirt around her grave that is. She also has her very own row marker!

There are also lots of other improvements around Ross Bay Cemetery this winter thanks to an active Parks crew.



Joseph Mairs Memorial**Mike Bieling**

The Joseph Mairs Memorial Committee welcomes everyone to the 11th Annual Joseph Mairs Memorial at St. Mary's Catholic Church Hall, 1135 4th Ave Ladysmith at 1:00 pm, Sunday, January 20th, 2013.. scene of the largest funeral ever put on in that town and marked by a substantial obelisk erected by Mairs' Mine Workers Union workmates that is by far the most impressive monument in the place. Organized by some of our leading lefties, it's a very nice event with a few speeches and songs at the church, a march down the street behind a piper, and a few more words and a wreath placement in the cemetery.

White Tanks Cemetery**Wilf Bruch**

While wintering in Surprise Arizona, I came across an excellent article in the Arizona Republic. The article "Measures of Dignity" by Scott Craven deals with a unique "Potter's Cemetery" on the outskirts of Phoenix Arizona. It is run in part by Sherriff Joe Arpaio's chain gang and volunteers. There are also pictures of the cemetery (similar to the one here) on the web site. You'll find the link to the left of the start of the article.



<http://www.azcentral.com/community/glendale/articles/20121130measures-dignity.html>

Membership Renewal

When renewing your membership for 2013, please complete the form below and return it with your payment. You can also renew at the Annual General Meeting on Feb. 13, 2013.
Dues are: Individual - \$30.00; Household - \$45.00 and Student - \$20.00

Check applicable category

OCS membership

Donation (any amount is appreciated; income tax receipts are given for donations of \$10 or more.)

Name(s) _____

Mailing Address _____

E-mail _____

Telephone _____ Amount enclosed _____

Make cheques payable to OCS and mail to OCS, Box 50004, RPO Fairfield Plaza, Victoria, B.C. V8S 5L8