

Norwich Road Cemetery

The Mid-Norfolk Family History Society recorded the memorial inscriptions during the winter of 2010. The details of the transcriptions being checked against the Cemetery Burial Register (unreadable, 'best guess' or details taken from the burial register are shown in square brackets ([..]). The Cemetery Register records burials from 15 July 1856 until 15 Jun 1935. However, from 1922 the entries show that a newly created area in the Whitwell Road Cemetery began to be used for the burial of Reepham & Kerdiston parishioners.

The location of memorials around c352 is confusing, but generally the memorial inscriptions confirm that the allocation of burial plots is in accordance with the Cemetery Register records. The location of surviving memorials has been indicated on the plan. In the actual cemetery register there is a column to identify whether the plot numbers are in the consecrated or unconsecrated ground areas, but in the transcription they have been simply prefixed by either 'c' or 'u' to identify the area. In the Church Burial Register there is a note written by the vicar querying the need to keep both Church and Cemetery registers. It concludes that there was a legal requirement but he (the vicar) would not record 'non-Christian' burials in the Church register. However, as many of the entries appear to be in the same hand, maybe he missed a few from the Cemetery register as well. The register suggests that there were few 'non conformists' in Reepham & Kerdiston for the unconsecrated ground was under-used (or badly recorded). As an example there are two headstone inscriptions to the DEW family (in the vicinity of plots u48 & u49) which do not appear in the Church or Cemetery Burial Register.

The only 'out of the ordinary' monument in the cemetery is an altar tomb to the LEEDS family and the register entries suggests that it covers a vault beneath plots c119 - c220. There are a few graves described as 'Infant Space', which probably refer to a narrower central row (23-52) in the unconsecrated area. Generally speaking footstones, which usually match the headstone in design and only carry the initials of the deceased and year of death, have not been included in this transcription.

This work is completed by the inclusion of an index to names appearing on the memorials. This also gives the year of death and age of the deceased, a hash sign (#) indicating that the information is not recorded, or not applicable to that inscription.

© MNFHS Feb 2011 (Issue 2 Oct 2011)

Further copies of this publication and others in the series (see society website) may be obtained from:

The Mid Norfolk Family History Society,
Mrs Kate Easdown, 47 Greengate, Swanton Morley, Dereham, NR20 4LX

For acknowledgements see page 19