

**Burlington Cemetery
Barley Street
Burlington, Kings Co., N.S.**

**7th Annual Newsletter
April, 2013**

It is hard to believe that another year has come and gone and it is time once again for our annual newsletter. As usual, we have been quite busy at the Burlington Cemetery.

On the evening of May 10, 2012 we had our annual spring clean-up, with a good number of people in attendance from the surrounding communities and from family members of those interred. A great deal was accomplished that evening as the old fence on the west end of the north side cemetery was taken down and moved over 50 feet and replaced with a new fence. The men worked until dark. This section of the newly acquired property will be our green burial section. Two large overgrown shrubs were removed on the south side and holes were dug outside of the fence on the roadside to make ready for the planting of four bridal wreath shrubs. They were planted shortly after our clean-up night. We also did our usual raking of leaves and cleaning up any fallen branches and sticks as well as removing any faded funeral arrangements. Refreshments were provided at the end of the evening.

This year our spring clean-up evening has been scheduled for Wednesday, May 8 at 6:30 pm. Anyone with any interest in this fine old cemetery, please join us as it really is a great evening to participate in. All are welcome.

We chose Susan Daniels to replace Lorne Swindell to do the mowing contract at a cost of \$3000 for the season and she did a fine job. We would like to say thank you to her. Susan also started mowing the new section but found it to be very rough going so we will try to level that off at the clean-up night. She has offered to do the job for another season at the same price, so we are happy to have her do it.

In the summer we had the community student worker do some work at the cemetery such as levelling off some topsoil where a large shrub was removed.

We still have many lots available for burial. The cost is \$250 and we plan to

hold that price for at least another year.

Our Annual General Meeting was held on Nov 14, 2012 at the Burlington Hall with nine in attendance. All of the executive were willing to stand for another year. At the AGM, we had a very interesting guest speaker in Bryce Johnstone, one of our local funeral directors. He spoke to us on the green burial concept. We have been tossing this idea around for last few years but were never able to come up with any consensus. Bryce clarified a lot for us. He felt that a green burial was certainly possible at the Burlington Cemetery, depending on how “green” we want it.

At the following executive meeting, held on Mar. 27, 2013, we came up with a list of guidelines and a possible plan for the design of the green burial site. Some of the guidelines are: no cremations, no embalming or only “green” embalming fluid, a simple pine casket, no varnish, or a biodegradable box, a common stone for all names and the site would be mowed or gravelled. So finally, we have a start.

Pat Kemp has made up a brochure that has been placed in all the local funeral homes to let people know about our cemetery and its mission statement.

We once again this year received the municipal grant for \$1000. which is much appreciated.

We had three burials and sold three lots.

As you can see, we have indeed been busy at the Burlington Cemetery. All this could not be done without your generous donations both monetarily and in kind. Thank-you all. If anyone feels able to make a donation this year, please use the enclosed envelope and you will receive a tax receipt along with our many thanks.

The Current Executive of the Cemetery Society are:

Brian Hirtle - President

Pat Kemp -

Treasurer

Drew Armstrong - Vice-President

Phil Vogler - Publishing/

Doreen Bennett - Secretary

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