

Ramsey Mortuary Chapels Heritage and Archive Centre

By Jane Yardley – Chair, Friends
of Ramsey Mortuary Chapels

At last we have a name for our mystery man, whose photograph appeared in the July edition of the Informer.

Gillian Rayment has told us that apparently, he is a Mr. Proud, but unfortunately, she has no first name for him. No luck so far with the lady in August's edition, but we haven't given up yet.

This month we have a photograph of another lovely lady for you to ponder over. Her face seems quite familiar to several of us, so hopefully some of you may know who she is.

If you can help with any information



● **Mystery Photograph - August 19**

regarding this photo, you can contact myself either by email: - janem.yardley@gmail.com or phone: - 01487 814304.

We are now members of the National Federation of Cemetery Friends (NFCF) which was formed by volunteers in 1986, who were, like us, interested in heritage and conservation and were concerned about the decline and neglect of their Victorian cemeteries and the buildings sited within them. The NFCF now has

National Federation of
CEMETERY FRIENDS



● **Mystery Photograph - September 19**

over 80 friends groups which are affiliated to them, who actively care for cemeteries around the country. They also work closely with National Conservation agencies, such as English Heritage.

One of our volunteers, Rod Sambrook, has kindly taken on the

task of liaison officer and we hope to work closely with them and pick their brains of course!

Don't forget, if you want to plant anything in the cemetery, in memory of your loved one or ancestors, it's best to plant spring bulbs. Once Huntingdonshire District Council start to mow for the year, they aren't able to go around individual small plants which unfortunately get mown down, but the spring flowering bulbs are over by then, so they are safe from harm.

Talking of plants, some of you will remember buying delphiniums and other plants from us earlier in the year and, judging by the comments they were fantastic plants, Charles and Mary Christian, who gave them to us, have very generously offered us some more to sell when we are open for Heritage Weekend on Saturday and Sunday 14th and 15th September, 11am to 5pm both days, so be sure to come and get them while you can.

This year's National theme is "Power to the People" and at the chapels our exhibition is called "Toilers of the Field" about local agriculture labourers and the farming community through the ages.

We will of course be selling second-hand books, along with CD's and DVD's and also have a tombola and a jewellery stall.

August 17th and 18th saw us at Ramsey's wonderful 1940's event. We had a great time despite the wind and heavy rain at times. It's such a fantastic atmosphere and you get to meet such nice people, it always amazes me how far away some people come from.

My personal thanks to Mick Napier, Maurice Margetts and

Bill Barcas, it took us 3 hours to put up the marquee, kindly lent to us by Jane and Barrie Roberts, plus the tables etc. By which time we were like a

bunch of drowned rats!

A big thank you also to Linda Lavender, Gillian Knox, Martyn Smith, Mary and Simon Ison and Mick Napier for manning the stall over the event. They all worked so hard and I can't thank them enough.

Then of course we had to repeat the exercise and take the marquee down! We were very lucky that one of the lads from Community Payback, who works so hard helping to clear the cemetery, came to assist us (unfortunately I'm not allowed to give you his name) and we were packed up and away in no time.

We are very lucky to have such hard working and lovely volunteers at the Mortuary Chapels and what stars they all are!