

## ARTISTS AT RYDE CEMETERY

### Ideas for a Morning Workshop

On arrival pupils need a Health and Safety briefing for working in the Cemetery. Also point out the need for respect within a Cemetery and that it is a public space where other people might be visiting the graves of family and friends or may have come for peace and solitude.

Give a brief explanation of the layout of the Cemetery using the large picture map with general information on the Main Display Panel beside the Cemetery Lodge.

There is a Map in this leaflet to guide the children as they follow the instructions.

### First Impressions

From the West Street entrance turn right just past the Cemetery Lodge and walk north along to the end of the path noticing as many things as possible.

- \* Headstones, monuments and grave surrounds
- \* Carving, engraving and writing
- \* Sculpture
- \* Flower holders
- \* Buildings, walls and fencing
- \* Damage, erosion and weathering
- \* Flora (flowers, trees, grass)
- \* Fauna (insects, minibeasts, birds)

Choose a position along this path and make two sketches, one a close up and one more distant.

### Gravescape

Return to the Main Carriageway, cross over and take the first path from the entrance along to the Old Mortuary Chapel. Turn right at the door and follow the path until you reach the headstone of Henry Wattson with a Cross, turn left and walk carefully along towards the hedge. Stop and look across at the wider view towards the twin Chapels. Look at the horizon, the levels of gravestones, monuments, bushes and trees. Sketch the gravescape. Try to include as wide an expanse as you can, more impressionistic with vague outlines and levels rather than details.

## Sculpture, Angels and Crosses

Retrace your steps to the grave of Henry Wattson and look beyond it to the relief Angels on the grave of Harry Paul. Also further along the path is the statue of a young girl on the grave of Kate Javal. Sketch either the relief or the statue. Follow the path towards the Main Carriageway and turn left. Walk through the archway joining the twin Chapels and continue on until you reach the wide path on your right, just before the small building known as the Bothey. You are now in the Roman Catholic section of the Cemetery and you will see the large Commemorative Cross which identifies this. If you continue walking you will find a large Angel statue on the grave of Sir Thomas Martin. Go to the end of the path, turn right and there is a fine statue of an Angel on a Cross on your left. Sketch the Angel statue or the Cross. Retrace your steps to the Main Carriageway and return to the twin Chapels for a

### Break



Young Girl



Roman Catholic Cross

### Buildings

View the twin Chapels from the front and rear. Note their symmetry and distinctive brickwork. Sketch either the Chapels or do a more detailed sketch of part of them, e.g. a window or a door.

Return to the Bothey (Soil and Tool Shed). It has distinctive brickwork and an unusual shaped roof. You might like to sketch it.

Walk back to the West Street entrance where you might like to sketch the Cemetery Lodge or the Old Mortuary Chapel.

## Monuments and Memorials

If you stand in front of the two Chapels, on the left there is a wide path (known locally as Millionaires' Row) which you should walk along noticing the many impressive plots and memorials. Find a place to sit down and sketch an interesting one.

If there is time walk through the archway and you will find the broken column with regimental regalia which marks the grave of George Harris. You might want to sketch this.



### FOLLOW UP SESSION

When you are back at School you could use a variety of media to work up some sketches you have made. You could do the same picture in two types of media. e.g. Gravescape done in charcoal and as a watercolour. You should sign and title your work.

### Information and Communication Technology

The children should explore the Galleries on the Ryde Social Heritage Website [www.rshg.org.uk](http://www.rshg.org.uk) and import graphics, perhaps similar to something they have seen or sketched, and add fiction or non-fiction text. Sound bites and animation may also be added. Photographs taken at the Cemetery during the workshop could also be used.

### HERITAGE LEARNING CENTRE

Ryde Cemetery is owned and maintained by the Isle of Wight Council, Bereavement Services Department 01983 883010

### BOOKING

Sexton: Don Trafford on 01983 568546  
Weekdays 10.00 hrs to 16.00 hrs