

Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park Memorial

**Believe in
children**
 **Barnardo's**



Foreword

Welcome to Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park, a designated Nature Reserve.

I believe that three surprises await you.

Firstly, you may well be surprised to discover that this overgrown cemetery (known as Bow Cemetery to the locals) was one of seven huge suburban cemeteries created in Victorian times to provide an alternative to crowded urban churchyards. The well-known Highgate cemetery was another. Many famous names are to be found here, with masonry to testify to their importance in life. But some 80%, the poor, or those without families, were buried in 'public graves', many bodies in one unmarked grave! Before the cemetery closed in 1966, more than two hundred thousand had been buried in these 'public graves'.

Secondly, it was a surprise to today's Barnardo's to find that over 500 children in the care of 'Doctor Barnardo' were buried here in unmarked 'public graves' between 1876 and, after his death, up to 1924. We have to thank the trustees and volunteers of The Friends of Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park for undertaking this research. One wonders whether Dr Barnardo, who lived in Bow for some years, visited this cemetery to contemplate the dreadful consequences of neglect, illness and accident in the lives of these 'waifs and strays', as he called them.

For me, an even greater surprise was to find that Dr Barnardo and his wife Syrie chose this cemetery to bury three of their own children between the years 1882 and 1890, long after their family home had moved from Bow to Surbiton! Baby Tom, who died of congenital heart disease in his first year of life, Herbert, who died of diphtheria aged 9 years and Kenward, aged 12 years, who died too of diphtheria; 'putrid throat', that dreadful scourge of childhood in Victorian times.

It is recorded that Dr Barnardo expressly wished that his three children should be buried in an unmarked grave, in keeping with the numerous little bodies of the children that had been in his care. This says much about the man. Moreover, his Christian faith led him to believe that death and burial was not the final destination for these many souls, but he recognised the need for a physical place where their brief lives could be celebrated and their deaths mourned. It is most fitting therefore that the National Council of Old Boys and Girls have taken this opportunity to recognise the many little lives prematurely brought to an end, old Boys and Girls of Dr Barnardo like them, and to raise a permanent Memorial. We thank them for taking this initiative

David Barnardo

The Project

In December 2012, The Friends of Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park (FoTHCP) known locally as Bow Cemetery were kindly allowed to host their 'History Away Day' at Barnardo's Church, Barkingside. We ended the day with a tour of the site and one of the early Barnardo registers was shown to us. It gave a moving account of the death of John Mills, who died on May 14th 1876 aged 9 years and was buried at Bow Cemetery. Interestingly, Dr Barnardo was present and all the boys with the band followed to the grave. The seed was sown to try and we began to try to identify how many children that died whilst in Dr Barnardo's care are buried in Bow Cemetery.

Three years and many hundreds of hours later the project is now drawing to a close for the five FoTHCP volunteers Diane Kendall, Doreen Kendall, Anne Quade, Sylvia Law and Penelope Williams. To begin with, the Barnardo Registers were checked for all children who died in care. Over 2,000 names were extracted and then searched for within the Cemetery Registers. The process was then reversed and the Cemetery Burial Registers between 1867 and 1939 were checked. This was a massive undertaking, as approximately 350,000 people were buried at Tower Hamlets Cemetery between its opening in 1841 and its closure in 1966. The process was further complicated by low

literacy levels and misspelling of names in the records, as well as records documenting children who were extremely ill and given care by Barnardo's, but who had not been technically admitted to the charity. Therefore, all queries had to be cross checked back to the Barnardo's registers. Regrettably, it is for this reason that 513 is not the definitive number of children who died whilst in Dr Barnardo's care and buried in Bow Cemetery, the number will almost certainly increase as further discoveries are made.

It has always been reported that two of Dr Barnardo's own children are buried in Bow Cemetery. Tom died aged 5 months and was buried on April 29th 1882, whilst Kenward passed away of diphtheria at the age of 12 years and was buried on January 16th 1890. However, during our project we were able to confirm that another son Herbert who also died of diphtheria in Felixstowe, Suffolk aged 9 years was brought home to be buried with his brother on August 5th 1885.

The FoTHCP are pleased that the project has culminated with a new memorial in the now Cemetery Park and in the near future the names of those buried will be remembered on the FoTHCP website.

Diane Kendall

Children Remembered

Listed below
are the children
remembered and
their date of burial
at Tower Hamlets
Cemetery Park:

Sidney Abraham

Mar 1920

Thirza Adams

Jul 1889

Benjamin Adcock

Apr 1895

William Frederick

Alexander
Nov 1906

Edith Kenmuir Pascoe

Allan

Jan 1907

William Edward Allum

Jun 1899

Charles Frederick

Anderson
Mar 1919

Elvira Ada Andrews

Apr 1890

Percy Andrews

Jul 1889

Albert John Anthony

Dec 1887

Thomas Arthur Askew

Sept 1907

Richard Atkinson

Oct 1913

Albert Edward Austin

Sept 1921

Albert Edward Axten

Jul 1889

Alice Elizabeth Ayles

Nov 1889

Charles Henry Babbs

Jul 1890

John

Bailey

Oct 1906



Alfred George Baker

Mar 1916

Edward Charles Baker

May 1889

Frederick Baker

Jul 1902

James Henry Baker

Sept 1891

Frederick Balfour

Nov 1908

Herbert Charles Bangs

Feb 1901

Constance Lily Barber

Sept 1893

William Barnes

Sept 1890

Winifred Barnfield

Sept 1903

Lavinia Barton

Jun 1904

Sidney Walter Batley

Mar 1921

Albert Edward Elliott

Batten

Jul 1917

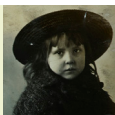
Jack Beck

Apr 1917

Violet Alice

Beckett

Aug 1909



William James Belcher

Oct 1897

Archibald James Bennett

Nov 1887

Herbert Stanley Berry

Jun 1915

Robert Betteley

Dec 1894

Henry Bird

Jan 1883

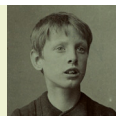
John Bird

Apr 1909

Thomas

Bird

Sept 1889



Pedro

Francisco

Bismark

Jan 1888



Mabel Blackett

May 1889

Ernest Arthur Blake

Jan 1886

George Henry Bolt

Jun 1917

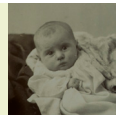
William John Bolt

Jun 1917

Edith Lillian

Maud Bonner

May 1915



Paul Vincent

Bonner

Jul 1918

Albert Bowden

Jan 1897

Robert Bowes

Jan 1901

George Cecil Boyall

Dec 1902

Arthur Boyd

Feb 1889

Stanley Hugh Boyd

Sept 1911

Raymond Bradford

Feb 1890

Elizabeth Bradley

Oct 1904

Cyril Brayshaw

May 1922

John Le Templier Brée

Dec 1901

William Edward Breen

Feb 1887

Thomas Brient

Oct 1889

Edwin Bromley

Apr 1894

Arthur George Brown

Apr 1892

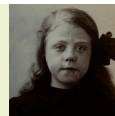
John Brown

Feb 1912

Lilian Ellen

Brown

Jan 1915



Michael Brown

Nov 1889

Richard William Brown

Apr 1894

Thomas Gilbert

Browning

Jan 1886

Richard Brunning

Dec 1904

Albert Henry Burgess

Mar 1889

Joseph Burrows
Sept 1897

Albert Edward Burton
May 1916

Ellen Burton
Aug 1880

Annie Butler
Aug 1888

Walter Butler
Jan 1911

William Butler
Jan 1887

**Foster
Cunningham
Byus**
Dec 1890



George James Camp
Mar 1890

Albert Campbell
Aug 1904

Cecil Campbell
Mar 1919

George Campbell
May 1918

William Canty
Mar 1895

Ernest Card
Oct 1890

**Margaret
Care**
Oct 1901



Lillian Carney
Feb 1903

Charles Carter
Mar 1889

Frederick Richard Carter
Nov 1921

Frederick William Castle
Dec 1918

Lily Chaffey
Mar 1902

Alfred Chapman
Jul 1881

**William Alexander
Charlwood**
Sept 1900

Thomas Chessman
Nov 1909

**Allister Claude
Chesterfield**
Nov 1892

Charles Chilman
Oct 1882

Vera Clark
Aug 1909

Ernest Clark
Aug 1911

Arthur Edward Clifton
Aug 1905

Harry Coaker
May 1917

**Agnes
Coburn**
Jul 1917



**Kenneth Arthur
Cockett**
Mar 1908

Bertie Colbear
May 1917

Francis William Cole
Dec 1893

Arthur Coleman
Oct 1902

James Benjaminc Coles
Apr 1886

William Robert Collarbon
Dec 1908

Lewis Conroy
Nov 1886

Arthur Cook
Mar 1896

Ernest Walter Cook
May 1908

Ernest Richard Cooke
Nov 1890

Jack Coombs
Apr 1889

Edith Annie Cooper
Sept 1902

John Cornish
Feb 1907

William Corr
Jun 1880

Frederick Coughlin
Mar 1922

John Cowen
Jun 1899

Frank Cox
Dec 1908

George Cox
Aug 1892

Emma Crook
Sept 1890

James Crook
Dec 1917

Samuel Augustus Crowe
Sept 1921

Thomas Crowther
Sept 1906

Walter John Cruddock
Mar 1893

Frederick Curtis
Jun 1917

George Curtis
Apr 1880

Alfred Curtis
Aug 1889

Ethel May Daft
Jan 1913

Sidney Albert Dagger
Sept 1887

Alice Daly
Jul 1886

Emily Daniels
Apr 1895

Charles Davenport
Jul 1896

Eliza Jane Davies
Mar 1904

Leslie Arthur Davies
Jan 1920

William Davies
Jan 1881

Harry Davis
Mar 1892

**Ishmael Henry James
Davis**
Jun 1892

John William Davis
Sept 1890

Ernest Lawrence Day
Sept 1895

**Lilian
Demeza**
Dec 1891



Alfred William Denne
Sept 1901

James Devin
Dec 1887

Walter Henry Dickinson
Jun 1914

John McCabe Dixon
Jun 1911

William Dodds
May 1904

Mary Donoghue
Oct 1899

Albery Henry Drew
Aug 1892

Robert Dunham
Jul 1920

Alice Mary Dwyer
Dec 1896

William Dwyer
June 1912

Alice Maude Edgegeller
Jan 1900

John Edlin
Nov 1885

**Phoebe Priscilla
Edwards**
Mar 1905

Walter James Edwards
Mar 1880

Alfred Robert Efford
Oct 1905

John Elliott
Mar 1911

Frederick Ellis
Mar 1889



George Eustace
Jul 1889

Mary Eustace
Apr 1889

Edith Jessie Evans
Oct 1903

Frank Evans
May 1914

Henry Eynott
Jun 1896

William Frederick Fagg
May 1910

Robert Fairhurst
Apr 1896



Albert Edward Faulkner
Nov 1905

Thomas John Fenn
Mar 1910

George Alfred Fernside
Aug 1895

John Figgins
Feb 1908

John Ernest Fitzgerald
May 1913

Arthur Foggo
Sept 1886

Harold Edward Folkard
Jul 1890



Fred Forty
May 1895

Charles William Fosh
Feb 1902

Sidney Foster
Jun 1907

Bertram Foy
Jun 1886

George Williamson Francis
Aug 1891

Henry George Francis
Jul 1893

Dorothy Mary Frankin
Jun 1923

Albert Frazer
Nov 1883

Harriet Freeman
Nov 1909

George Weaver Freer
Dec 1901

Helena Rose Froggatt
Sept 1902

Julia Morris Fullbrook
Aug 1896

Eric Stanley Fuller
Mar 1920

Frederick Thomas Furby
May 1894

Edward Cecil Gallant
Sept 1889

Alfred Lewis Gardiner
Oct 1886

Matthew Garna
Aug 1905

James Gates
July 1889

Mabel Geer
Apr 1902

William George Gibbird
Feb 1895

Arthur Gibbs
May 1889



John Wilfred Gillespie
Sept 1920

Jessie Gilling
Nov 1918

George Harris Gittings
Sept 1890

John Alfred Glazebrook
Oct 1896

Louisa Eliza Godding
Mar 1897

Emma Harriet Gosling
Mar 1909

Walter Graham
Apr 1906

Wilfred Donald Grant
Sept 1894

William Gratricks
Jun 1915

Henry Thompson Greaves
Mar 1909

Emily Green
Apr 1876

Ethel Maud Green
Apr 1905

Willie Gregory
May 1912

Robert Grieves
Nov 1896

Thomas Griffin
May 1887

George Joseph Griffiths
Sept 1904

James Griffiths
Feb 1912

Alfred Gross
Jun 1889

Margaret Grosvenor
Mar 1901

Grace Margaret Guy
Dec 1900

Alfred Robert Halfpenny
Mar 1888

Thomas Harding
Mar 1890

Albert Frederick Hargreaves
Feb 1907

Joseph Harley
Jan 1904



Frank Harmer
Mar 1918

Herbert Horace Harris
Aug 1896

Thomas Hart
Jun 1904

Edith Maud May Hartles
Apr 1905

George Hartley
Sept 1890

Albert Harvey
Aug 1893

Ellen Harvey
Apr 1904

Emma Jane Harvey
Aug 1904

George Harvey
Apr 1901

Muriel Hatcher
Jan 1924

Arthur Hawkes
Jun 1903

Arthur George Haycock
Dec 1889

William Hayes
Sept 1896

Edward Hedley
Mar 1899

Walter Hembrow
Dec 1921

Christian Hendrick
Jul 1890



Edward Frank Hendry
Mar 1910

James Herbert
Mar 1883

William Thomas George Herridge
May 1894

Ellen Hickey
Mar 1891

George John Hickson
Aug 1908

Harry Higgins
Jul 1918

Albert Edward Hildersley
May 1890

Alice Rose Hill
Aug 1889

Alfred Hills
Mar 1892

William Thomas Hills
Jun 1918

Frederick Hollings
Aug 1893

Mary Ann Hopkins
Jun 1884

Albert Edward Hopper
Dec 1918

James Scott Horrocks
Jan 1897

Leslie Edmund Horrocks
Aug 1906

Reginald Hoskins
Jan 1880

William Robert Howard
Feb 1897



Thomas Hoy
Feb 1897

Walter Humphrey
Jun 1910

Alfred John Hutchinson
Aug 1901

Thomas Abraham Hyatt
Sept 1905

Edward Ibbetson
Sept 1890

Walter Iredale
Jan 1904

Charles Stacey Jackson
Nov 1902

Walter Jacob
Dec 1892

Arthur James
Dec 1919

Edith May James
Sept 1899

Robert James
Feb 1920

Neil Jamieson
Oct 1888

Victor Jebb
Mar 1910

Charles Francis Jefferies
Nov 1908

Alfred James Jeffs
Apr 1890

Percy William Jessup
Feb 1904

Kate Ethel May Johnson
Dec 1893

Percy Johnson
Jul 1896

Violet Johnson
Feb 1911



Cyril Jones
Mar 1903

Ellen Jones
Oct 1907

Alfred Edward Judge
Apr 1893

Frederick William Kennedy
Mar 1918

Florence May Knight
Nov 1895

Benjamin Knott
Dec 1908

Robert Laidler
Jun 1905

William Archibald Lakeman
Oct 1886

Ernest Lane
Nov 1918



Arthur Horatio Larner
Sept 1900

Percy Laurie
Sept 1897

Edward Charles Law
Sept 1917

James Robert Lawson
May 1892

Arthur Layton
Apr 1911

James Layton
Apr 1901

Arthur Leason
Dec 1888

Edward Lelliott
Feb 1885

Archibald Jesse Lennox
Jan 1901

Edwin Lewis
May 1890

Emile George Lewis
Oct 1887

Ernest Lewis
May 1901

Thomas Lewis
Jun 1887

Elizabeth Lincoln
Jun 1891

Harry Lincoln
Mar 1886

Hector Francis Douglas Lippiatt
Jun 1912

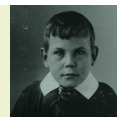
Martha Ann Little
May 1905

Ernest Littledyke
Feb 1906

Edward Ernest Long
May 1905

Harvey Arthur Long
Jun 1889

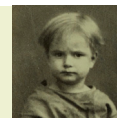
William Frank Long
Jul 1920



William Charles Lovelock
Jun 1902

Henry Lund
Apr 1889

Henry Lyford
Feb 1880



Francis Joseph Machin
Jan 1889

Louisa Elizabeth Maddocks
Aug 1905

Silvester Mahoney
Dec 1913

William Herbert Maley
Oct 1906

Anthony Stephen Maringo
Dec 1904

Albert Marshall
Jul 1909

Charles Marshall
Jun 1900

Ada Emma Marshman
Aug 1896

Dorothy Martin
Jan 1903

Victor Martin
Jun 1884

*James
Mascot*
Dec 1889



Charles Mazo
Apr 1887

George John McDonald
Oct 1902

Arthur McGoveney
Oct 1906

*Thomas James
McNaughton*
Oct 1905

Arthur Mead
Mar 1890

Ivy Megson
Oct 1908

Robert Melford
Dec 1908

*John
Mills*
May 1876



*Alfred Ferdinand
Mitchell*
Jul 1903

John Moffitt
Oct 1896

Henry Moore
Nov 1890

Henry Moore
Feb 1892

John Moore
Jul 1887

Maggie Moore
Jan 1886

George Morley
Jan 1904

James Vigurs Morris
Apr 1912

Jeremiah Morrisey
Sept 1896

George James Muirhead
Jan 1890

John Alfred Murrell
Apr 1918

Edgar Nabbs
Dec 1886

Arthur John Neal
Sept 1883

Richard Needham
Nov 1907

Bertie Newman
Aug 1909

Stephen Newman
Feb 1911

William Henry Nicholls
Feb 1912

David Nichols
Jun 1887

Hannah Nichols
Nov 1878

Cyril Norris
Mar 1919

Edith Beatrice Nye
Sept 1890

Arthur Oakley
Oct 1897

Walter Wilding Park
Feb 1902

Frederick Gordon Parker
Sept 1941

Richard Daniel Parker
Dec 1911

Walter Parker
Jan 1904

Robert Parmenter
Dec 1914

*Charles William
Beresford Patterson*
Aug 1906

William Albert Payne
Jun 1905

Albert Peach
Apr 1916

*Mary Jane
Peacock*
Mar 1906



Walter Robert Pearce
Mar 1890

Rebecca Pedley
Oct 1891

Alfred Perry
Sept 1892

Alice Pesterfield
Nov 1900

Alfred Pettifor
Apr 1886

William Lewis Pettigrew
May 1900

Blanche Eliza Pettit
May 1889

Charles Phillips
Nov 1897

*Augustus Sumner
Phillipson*
Oct 1896

*Charles
Pilford*
Feb 1891



John Poingdestre
Feb 1918

Frank Potter
Feb 1913

Evelina May Potter
Sept 1890

George Henry Price
Jul 1891

Alfred Arthur Prince
Jun 1887

Charles Edward Prior
May 1887

Alfred John Provis
Apr 1905

Mary Elizabeth Provis
Apr 1905

William Purcell
Jun 1886

Olive Constance Purvey
Jun 1901

Charles Quillet
Nov 1892

Charles Henry Rackley
Jul 1886

Reynold Rawlins
May 1912

John William Raynes
Nov 1892

Harry Read
Apr 1900

Walter Read
Sept 1890

Jessie Reeve
Mar 1890

Frederick Rehbann
Apr 1902

Laura Rentell
Feb 1890

George Richards
Mar 1890

*Alfred Ernest
Richardson*
Aug 1890

Ernest Seaman Rickarby
Apr 1899

Harold Rigby
Jul 1892

Richard Rigby
Apr 1892

Robert John Riley
Apr 1904

Leslie William Rimmer
Oct 1925

Charles Roberts
Nov 1916

James Robert
Apr 1883

May Hilda Robinson
Jul 1903

Thomas James Robinson
Nov 1879

**William Thomas
Frederick Rodgers**
Oct 1908

Arthur William Rose
Sept 1897

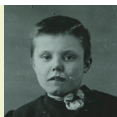
Gerald Round
Oct 1911

Hannah Salter
Dec 1885

Alfred Salwey
Mar 1893

Ethel Eliza Saly
May 1892

**Eva
Sangster**
Jun 1918



Minnie Saunders
May 1896

William James Saunders
May 1901

William Saunders
May 1886

Henry William Savidge
May 1894

**Jacob Shillick
Schelsinger**
Jan 1887

Frederick George Searle
May 1905

Alfred William Sharpe
Jan 1901

Fred Sheldon
Apr 1908

John William Shemming
Jul 1922

Arthur Shenton
Mar 1901

Charles Shepherd
Sept 1900

William Shepherd
Jun 1901

Spencer R. Sheppard
Jul 1900

Stanley Sheppard
Jun 1889

Sidney George Sherring
Mar 1906

**Emma Elizabeth
Shortland**
Dec 1886

John Henry Simmons
Nov 1908

Annie Skinner
May 1890

John Skull
Sept 1920

**Leslie
Slater**
May 1904



Ellen Smallman
Nov 1888

Alfred Frank Smith
Jun 1915

Eva Smith
Sept 1890

Harold Smith
Mar 1899

Hilda Smith
Sept 1906

Irene Smith
Feb 1905

James Smith
Oct 1892

William Smith
Nov 1893

William Smith
Nov 1903

William Smith
Sept 1918

Robert Snare
Jul 1906

Dorothy Southernwood
Apr 1917

Ethel Stagg
May 1888

Sidney Edward Standley
Aug 1890

**Frederick Alfred
Stearman**
Dec 1921

Harry Stewart
Feb 1889

Harry Stiff
Jul 1899

**Sarah Ann
Stilwell**
May 1904



Alfred Stone
Apr 1882

John Storton
Feb 1898

Samuel Bertie Suggett
Jan 1890

Ernest Summers
Aug 1894

Walter Summersly
Jul 1890

Henry Sutton
Aug 1911

Evelyn Rose Swaby
Jun 1917

Leo Edward Tansley
Aug 1921

Lilian Tate
Dec 1915

Harry Randall Tatham
Apr 1908

George Taylor
Mar 1917

Herbert Taylor
Jan 1887

Henry Arthur Taylor
Nov 1908

Thomas Thetford
Sept 1896

**Arthur Hugh
Thomas**
Jun 1899



James Henry Thomas
Feb 1913

William Thomas
May 1887

John McDonald Thomson
May 1909

Bertram Thwaites
Jan 1894

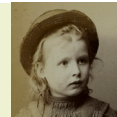
Henry Tollett
Feb 1889

George Topham
Oct 1908

Horace Topham
Oct 1908

Horace Percy Topping
Nov 1906

**Harriett
Trembath**
Jul 1901



Christopher Trowse
Mar 1891

William John Tucker
Mar 1904

**Florence
Elizabeth
Tugnot**
Oct 1900



Lily May Turner
Feb 1902

James Benjamin Turpin
Aug 1900

**Florence Augusta
Twaites**
Apr 1890

Arthur Tyson
Mar 1911

Alexander Underling
Sept 1901

Alfred Vaughan
Jul 1902

Frederick Vaughan
Mar 1906

Sidney Vickers
Jun 1916

Albert Edward Wakely
Oct 1910

George Walker
Aug 1907

William Walker
Jun 1908

Agnes Ward
Apr 1919

**Annie Dorothy
Waterman**
May 1910



**Joseph William
Waters**
Mar 1903

George Donald Weaver
Oct 1919

Henry William Webb
Oct 1885

Beatrice Louisa Webber
Sept 1889

John Henry Welsh
Jul 1890

Ernest West
Nov 1908

John West
Jul 1896

Mabel Grace West
Jul 1908

Montague Edwin West
Nov 1898

Richard Whelan
Jun 1920

Frederick White
Aug 1890

**George Andrew
Whitehead**
Mar 1902

Patricia Anne Wicks
May 1918

George Frederick Wildon
Jun 1887

James Edwin Wilks
Apr 1900

William Isaac Willbourne
Mar 1889

**Thomas Edmund
Williams**
May 1919

Thomas Williams
Jun 1913

James Williamson
Jun 1910

Millie Denyer Williamson
Mar 1912

John William Wilmshurst
Jul 1910

Catherine Wilson
Aug 1902

Evelyn Myrtle Wilson
May 1904

Robert Wilson
Mar 1903

James Winter
Mar 1886

Kate Lucy Winter
Sept 1890

George Withan
Sept 1899

Harriet Withycomb
Jun 1918

Walter Wood
Jun 1888

Ernest Woodcock
Jun 1885

John Woodgate
Dec 1886

Henry Wooding
Aug 1886

Charles Woods
Jun 1906

**Samuel
Woods**
Oct 1890



**Herbert Hamilton
Woolley**
Jun 1905

Edgar Maurice Wright
Apr 1921

Herbert Wright
May 1913

Jesse Thomas Wright
Mar 1909

William Wucherpfennig
Oct 1897

The Barnardo Sons

'He had five sons and two daughters, of whom three sons are dead. Thomas was the first to go hence.'

'Dear Baby Tom,' the only child called after his father, did not live long.



Herbert the second was a gentle, dear lad, dreamy and fond of music. Diphtheria claimed him as a victim, and the same disease claimed the fourth child a little later.



Kennie was a noble and fearless boy; daring, clever, and fond of all outdoor games. He seemed to have inherited his father's disposition more than any of the others, and had he lived

he would most likely have reflected his father's life and character. Dr. Barnardo saw this more than anyone, and he reeled under the loss.'

Extract taken from 'Memoirs of the late Dr Barnardo', by Mrs Barnardo and James Marchant.

About the Sculptor

Tom Nicholls is a London based Sculptor and Architectural Carver who has been producing sculptural work to the highest standard for over a decade. He has won the prestigious “Carver of the Year” awards from both the Master Carvers’ Association and the Worshipful Company of Masons. As well as being a highly respected craftsman Tom is also known for his ability to design and create sculptures that are uniquely his own whilst remaining true to his clients’ vision. Creating work to suit any site or context, Tom has completed various high profile architectural and ornamental sculpture commissions.

Tom first trained at Weymouth College in the traditional techniques of Stonemasonry, Carving and Lettering. This provided him with a solid foundation in the craft. While developing his skills as a freelance sculptor, Tom went on to win a QEST (Queen Elizabeth Scholarship Trust) Scholarship which allowed him the opportunity to embark on a Post Graduate Diploma in Historic Stone Carving at the City and Guilds of London Art School in Kennington where he obtained a 1st.

In 2012 Tom was chosen to be a key part of the core team of seven sculptors who worked on producing the Heraldic Ornamentation for the Queens Diamond Jubilee barge project. Other notable projects have included carving 6 large brick architectural relief sculptures on a mansion block near Sloane Square in London, carving a bespoke grotesque sculpture to his own design for St Georges Chapel, Windsor and also winning the Ripon Cathedral Gargoyle competition in 2015.

As well as working to commission Tom also shows his design and sculptural work at major galleries and exhibitions in London including Thompson’s Gallery of Marylebone, The Mall Galleries in Westminster, Christies Auction House and the Coronation Festival in Buckingham Palace.

A keen artist, Tom aims to expand upon his traditional skill-base to create highly expressionistic and energetic work for both speculative and commissioned pieces. His main concern as an artist is to convey a sense of life and movement.

The Concept

I wanted to create a design for the memorial which captures the overall ethos behind the Barnardo's Charity and its roots in the East End of London. I also felt the idea should be sensitive to Tower Hamlets Cemetery, where the memorial will be based.

In my design, the hands releasing a bird into flight are there to symbolise Dr Barnardo himself and Barnardo's in general, as well as the work that has been achieved to care for and support vulnerable children.

After the face, I think the hands are the most expressive of human emotion, and I wanted them to reflect the support and care given by Dr Barnardo and the Charity to vulnerable children. The hands gently encourage the bird to free itself and take to the sky. By providing the children with care and support, Barnardo's has enabled them to fly free out into the World.

The hands also represent Dr Barnardo's amazing strength and kindness in the face of opposition. They reach to the sky, symbolising his inexhaustible enterprise, forward thinking nature and pioneering spirit.

I felt that a bird would be a nice way to represent the children as they can be thought to represent freedom and an opening to the future. They have been used to represent ideas and imagination,

transcendence and divinity, freedom from materialism and physical constraints.

Many stories and folklore suggest that birds were taken as signs of renewed life, often as a transition between life and death. This idea is particularly relevant given that the sculpture is a memorial to the deceased. I also think the use of a bird sits nicely within the setting of Tower Hamlet's cemetery, which is a vibrant nature reserve full of bird song.

I have loosely based the bird on a Sparrow. The Sparrow has for a long time been linked to the poorest of society in the East End of London. Hence "Cock Sparrow", or "Sparra". The small size, sprightly energy and way they get together and chatter makes them seem a fitting metaphor for the children of the East End.

I chose to design the sculpture with a slight twist or spiral up towards the sky. This type of design is often taken to symbolise progress, evolution, growth, expansion and energy radiating outward, which are all appropriate to the ethos of Barnardo's.

I hope the monument stands as a pillar of strength reminding us of the immense achievements of Barnardo's during its history, whilst also providing a symbol of hope for the future.

Tom Nicholls

Acknowledgements

This project has been several years in the planning and we are grateful to many people who, along the way have provided us with their time, commitment and passion.

This Sculpture along with three other memorials has been the vision of National Council member Jean Clark. Jean has spent the last 10 years tirelessly raising funds to remember the children in Barnardo's care who sadly passed before their time. Her efforts have raised in excess of £30,000 so far. Barnardo's would like to thank Jean for her continued support to us and the whole Barnardo family.

Finding the records of Barnardo children buried in this cemetery has taken years and we would like to thank The Friends of Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park: Diane Kendall, Doreen Kendall, Anne Quaid, Sylvia Law and Penelope Williams. Their perseverance in identifying the children has left no stone unturned. We would particularly like to thank Diane who has researched, collated, typed, re-typed, collated again and managed all the volunteers and our expectations on this project from start to end.

We are grateful to Ken Greenaway and the team at the cemetery who have welcomed us, advised us and supported us through this project. Their enthusiasm and warm reception on every visit has been much appreciated.

Finally, to Tom Nicholls, whose interpretation of our commission is so in keeping with the spirit of Dr Barnardo and the continuing values and beliefs of Barnardo's today. This memorial is as much a celebration of life as it is a remembrance of death and Tom has encapsulated this perfectly.

**Believe in
children**
 **Barnardo's**

