

GRAVE OF THE MONTH

John Hussey – buried 4th September 1911 Schoolmaster & Choirmaster

John Hussey was born in Buckinghamshire in 1834. Following several years as headmaster of Lambourn International Schools he moved to Newbury, opening a piano shop in the Market Place with his wife and indulging his love of music. He became choirmaster at St John's Church where his "*powerful bass voice*" led the singing.*

John also loved ecclesiastical history and was just as much at home in the Roman Catholic church as in the Parish church, or in St John's, being welcomed and respected by all denominations.

Although he was a scholar of high regard in Latin and Greek, he also related well to the young boys of the town who benefited from his private tuition. He used to say that "*a boy with a shilling, a knife and a piece of string in his pocket was equipped for the ordinary emergencies of life*".*



On his death at the age of 77 he was described as a man of patience, kindness and humility. His tombstone, designed by himself, had already been erected in the cemetery during his life, leaving only the date of his death to be cut in the stone.

Although the cross is now lying beside the stone, rather than standing on top of it, it is still possible to read some of the Latin inscription which is symbolic of John's love for the classics:



***Alleluia, Gloria in excelsis, Sursum corda
Pater noster. Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus. Agnus Dei dona Nobis Pacem***

*(Glory to God in the highest, Lift up your hearts
Our Father. Holy, holy, holy. Lamb of God have mercy on us)*

Carol Brindley Sept 2024
Friends of Newtown Road Cemetery

*A full obituary appeared in the NWN (7.9.1911) from which these quotes were taken