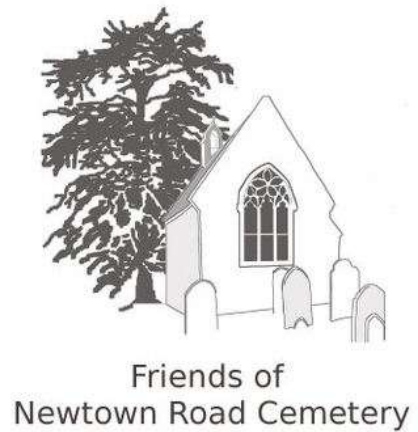


GRAVE OF THE MONTH

Ada Elizabeth Bright was born in Barnstaple, Devon in 1874. She married William Woollacott in 1900.

Ada came to Newbury in 1908 when William was employed as Master of Newbury Union Workhouse. They had five children, Geoffrey died before his first birthday in 1912 and is buried in NRC.



In her role as Matron, she *"combined strict disciplinary management with a kind and solicitous care of the inmates"* During the Woollacotts' time the 'House on The Hill' was run *"smoothly and happily"*. They grew fresh vegetables for the inmates and entertainments were provided: magic lantern show; outings for tea and garden fetes and treats such as oranges, tea, tobacco, sugar, bound volumes of magazines.

William died in 1927, Ada retired to a new semi-detached house in Falkland Road, Wash Common. William was buried with Geoffrey, as was Ada in 1934.



Sandleford Hospital in 1996, originally Newbury Workhouse
Photo of Sandleford hospital courtesy of Val Pollitt