Shrewsbury General Cemetery Records, 1856-1997

By using the various series of records it is possible to establish date of burial of an individual and the location of their grave. By searching the *register of graves* it is possible to find references to others buried in the plot who were usually relatives. The following notes describe the information given in the various kinds of record. It is advisable to read these notes before looking at the microfiche as the five different records contain different but related pieces of information.

1) Burial Register.

Entries are in chronological order. Each entry is numbered sequentially. Information given varies for different periods. Before 1910 an entry gives *Name, Description (occupation, child, pauper etc), Age, Place where death occurred, Date of Burial, Ceremony performed by, From what parish removed*. From 1910 the *Grave number reference* is also given. From 1911 *Residence where other than the place of death* is given and from 1942 the *Date of death* is given. Registers are closed for 30 years. If you require information from closed registers, the Centre's Research Service will search for particular names. Please ask a member of staff for details of the Research Service.

2) Index to Register of Burials.

The index is divided into three periods - 1856-1886 (fiches 1-4), 1887-1924 (fiches 5-9), 1925-1953 (fiches 10-13).
All surnames beginning with the same letter are listed for each year **but not in alphabetical order**. To find an individual it is necessary to look at **all** entries within the relevant span of years. The entry consists of *Surname, Christian name and Burial Register Number.*

3) Purchase of Graves.

From 1856-1911 information given *is Burial Register Number, Name, Grave identification*. As the Burial Registers before 1910 contain no references to specific grave plot numbers, it is necessary to look up the Burial Register Number in the Purchase of Graves Register to locate the grave.

After 1911, these registers contain *Grant Number, Burial Number, Name of Purchaser, Description and Address of Purchaser, and Grave identification*. Registers less than 30 years old are closed to the public, but searches for specific entries can be made by the Centre's Research Service. Please ask a member of staff for Research Service information.

4) Register of Graves.

This is arranged by Section (212 sections), subdivided by divisions, then individual graves (A-H). There may be up to four burials in each grave. In each plot are recorded the relevant Burial Register numbers.
As relatives are likely to be buried together it is worth consulting the Register of Graves to see if the grave contains additional burials. By looking up any additional burials in the Burial Register fiches you will find details of the other persons buried there.

5) Register of Graves Extension.

The Cemetery Extension is divided into 19 Plots. Any entry in the Burial Register beginning Ext is also registered in this series of microfiches. Each entry gives *Owner of Burial Rights, Particulars of Persons Interred, Burial Register Number, Description of Memorial, Grave Grant Number and Remarks.*

The accompanying plan will show you how to locate the grave in the General Cemetery.