



Authors Jean Weston, left, and Marlene Price prepare for the talks

Cemetery future brighter

THE FUTURE of a Stourbridge cemetery looks more secure with volunteers planning to take ownership.

Lye & Wollescote Cemetery Chapels is being taken over by West Midlands Historic Buildings Trust in an attempt to breathe new life into the decaying Grade II listed site.

It is currently owned by Dudley Council but was at risk due to lack of use when volunteers stepped in.

Now the trust is working towards taking full ownership of the buildings.

Volunteers have been securing funds to complete the restoration project which involves pledging to return the site to community use.

Stourbridge Estate Agents Lex Allen has been appointed to help find new tenants which the group hope will

include a mix of local businesses, charities and community groups.

David Trevis-Smith, project organiser said: "It is not only a place of great historical importance; it is also a lovely quiet place where the local community can escape the daily hustle and bustle."

A series of events has been organised for people to find out more.

Local authors Jean Weston and Marlene Price will be conducting two free guided walks around the cemetery this Saturday (May 7) at 11am and 2pm.

Lye and Wollescote Chapels will be open to the public during the day and signed copies of Jean and Marlene's book, A Victorian Cemetery and its Notable Burials, will also be on sale.