

## **Conrad Information Board at Canterbury Cemetery**

### **8<sup>th</sup> November 2024**

Hugh Epstein, Secretary of the Joseph Conrad Society (UK), visited Conrad's newly-renovated grave in Canterbury Cemetery to install an information board adjacent to the grave. This is the first of a number of such signs that the cemetery is intending to display, beginning with Conrad as the most famous of those who rest there. Hugh is pictured with Jonathon Kreffer, the Registrar of the cemetery, who requested the sign and whose design team greatly facilitated its production.



In Loving Memory of  
ARTHUR STANTON  
1857-1921

HARRY BLOOM  
1874-1944

**Joseph Conrad**  
(1857-1924)

1857-1924

1857-1924

1857-1924




**JOSEPH TEODOR KONRAD  
KORZENIOWSKI**  
BORN DECEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup> 1857  
DIED AUGUST 3<sup>RD</sup> 1924  
DIED AFTER FIGHTING PARTLY AFTER STORMING SEA  
DIED AFTER BEING SEEN AT THE URBANI BRIDGE PLAZA  
JERUSALEM

**JESSIE EMMELINE KONRAD  
KORZENIOWSKA**  
BORN FEBRUARY 23<sup>RD</sup> 1873  
DIED DECEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup> 1936

In Loving Memory of  
SERGEANT PHILLIPS  
1880-1902

IN MEMORY OF  
**ALFRED JAMES KONRAD**  
**JOSEPH KONRAD**  
BORN 1857 - DIED 1924

**Joseph Conrad (1857-1924)**



**Coming to Britain**

By the time of his death in 1924, he was recognised as one of the great Modernist writers of English literature.



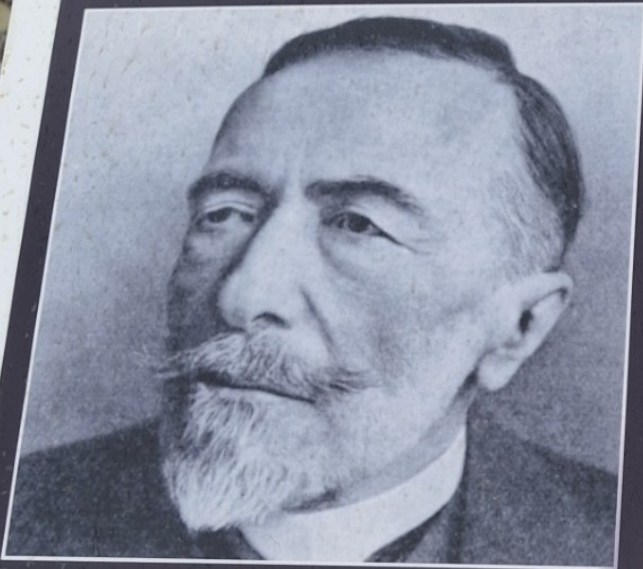
The famous Anglo-Polish novelist Joseph Conrad (Józef Teodor Konrad Korzeniowski) was born in Kraków to the Russian Empire's Polish noble landowning family, and known in his native Poland as a journalist, translator and linguist. His father, Apollo Korzeniowski, was a poet and translator who introduced Conrad, growing first in Polish, French and English literature.

The British Empire was at its peak, and the world was a global village. The British Empire was at its peak, and the world was a global village. The British Empire was at its peak, and the world was a global village.

ICM Canterbury city council



# Joseph Conrad (1857-1924)

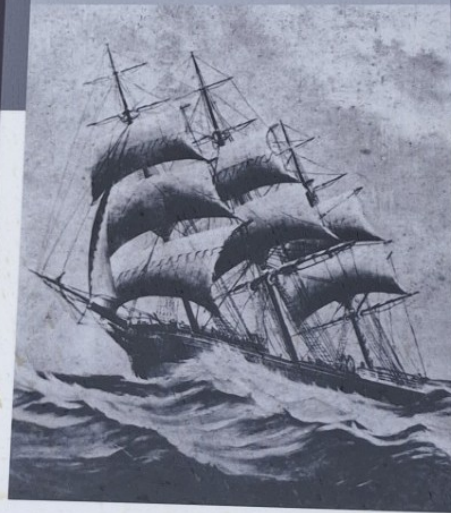


The famous Anglo-Polish novelist Joseph Conrad (Józef Teodor Konrad Nałęcz Korzeniowski) was born in Ukraine in the Russian Empire to a Polish *szlachta* landowning family, well-known in Polish revolutionary, anti-imperialist circles. His father, Apollo Korzeniowski, was a poet and translator who introduced Conrad, 'a reading boy', to Polish, French and English literature.

## Coming to Britain

At the age of four, Conrad was exiled with his parents to Russia, for their part in organising the failed 1861 insurrection. Conrad's mother, Ewa Bobrowska, died in exile when he was seven; his father's death, leaving Conrad an orphan at the age of eleven, was the occasion of a huge patriotic demonstration in Cracow. Now in the care of his uncle, at the age of sixteen Conrad took the momentous step of leaving Poland for Marseilles, avoiding service in the Russian army, and shortly shipped aboard the *Mont-Blanc*, sailing for Martinique. He did not return to Poland for sixteen years.

Conrad first stepped ashore in Britain at Lowestoft, on 10 June 1878, part of the unique journey that led to literary fame as 'Joseph Conrad', and to writing entirely in a language that he did not begin to speak with any fluency until he was twenty. In his nineteen years at sea Conrad served on eighteen ships, both sail and steam, and visited every part of the world other than North America. He worked his way up from steward to captain in this single command was the *Otago*, from Bangkok to Sydney and Mauritius in 1888), ending with two voyages to Australia as first mate on the beautiful, fast clipper ship, the *Torrens*.



The assassination of the Russian Minister of the Interior in 1904 (Le Patrice (Hulton))

By the time of his death in 1924, he was recognised as one of the great Modernist writers of English literature.

Becoming a British subject in 1886, Conrad eventually settled in Kent, at 'The Pent', near Postling, where he wrote several of his most famous works, including *Lord Jim* (set in Malaysia) and '*Heart of Darkness*' (set in what was then the Belgian Congo); and later at 'Oswalds' in Bishopsbourne. By this time he had written the political novels, *Nostramo* (set in South America),

*The Secret Agent* (set in London), and *Under Western Eyes* (set in St Petersburg and Geneva). Conrad brought a wider world into the English novel; as George Orwell said, he had 'a grown-upness and political understanding' beyond any British writer of his day. By the time of his death in 1924, he was recognised as one of the great Modernist writers of English literature.



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