



Welcome... to the latest newsletter of the FRIENDS OF HYDE PARK CEMETERY. Here you will find information on progress that we have made over the past few months and on events involving the Friends, along with news items that, we hope, will interest you. Please let us know if you would like information on any other topics.

You can keep up-to-date with all FoHPC activities by visiting www.fohpc.org.uk.



A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL THE FRIENDS OF HYDE PARK CEMETERY



Annual General Meeting

The Friends of Hyde Park Cemetery held their AGM on Tuesday 18 November at Club 39 from 7pm

As well as formal business, the Friends were treated to a talk by Symeon Waller entitled WHAT LIES BENEATH - THE OPENING OF THE COOKE FAMILY VAULT.

This told the fascinating story about finding and opening of the long lost vault belonging to the baronetcy of Wheatley and Arksey whose surname is Cooke.

Originally, the belief was that a very grand tomb bearing the name Cooke, in Hyde Park Cemetery, was linked to the same family. However, research found that there was no connection as this family hailed from Fishlake.

The vault was actually found to be in the north transept of Arksey Parish Church. After much excavation, steps were discovered leading down to a vault that contained the remains of 10 members of the Cooke family dating back hundreds of years and last opened when the 8th Baronet - Sir William Bryan-Cooke was interred in 1851.

Symeon has written a short book about this subject called: AN EXTRAORDINARY DAY – THE OPENING OF THE COOKE FAMILY VAULT. For details contact Symeon Waller on symeon.waller@talktalk.net or by telephone - 07813 315741.

The Committee

At the Annual General Meeting the following were elected to serve for the next 12 months:-

Richard Bell - Chair
Margaret Herbert - Vice Chair
Robert Wise - Secretary
Margaret Bark - Treasurer
Sheila North - Committee Member
Helen Slade - Committee Member
Andria Johns - Committee Member

Vacancies remain on the Committee. Please contact Richard Bell should you wish to join and help achieve the objectives of the Friends.

Commitment is as much or as little as you wish. The minimum would be attending the monthly Committee Meetings held at Club 39 from 7pm to 9pm on Monday evenings. However, we would really like help from those who could spare a few hours each month in addition to the meetings.

Halloween Walk

The Halloween walk held on the evening of Friday 31st October was very successful. No fewer than 120 people heard the stories of seven people buried at Hyde Park who had HORRIBLE ENDINGS.

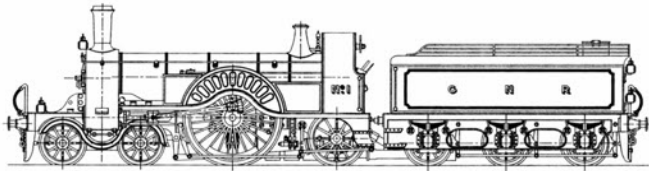
Thanks to Doncaster Little Theatre for providing the actors and to Scratch Music who supplied the public address systems.

The Friends intend to make this an annual event so see you in 2015.



"Committed to Community Healthcare"

This edition of the FoHPC Newsletter has been sponsored by Weldricks Pharmacy.



Patrick Stirling
Locomotive Superintendent
Great Northern Railway

For 2015 FoHPC are launching an appeal to restore the graves of Patrick Stirling and two of his sons who lie adjacent. He was Locomotive Superintendent for the Great Northern Railway from 1866 to 1895 and well respected throughout the railway world. He designed the famous "**Stirling single**" built at Doncaster works that hauled the **Flying Scotsman** express in the Victorian era.

Please donate by cheque made payable to *Friends of Hyde Park Cemetery* and post to Margaret Bark, 19 Riverside Drive, Sprotbrough, Doncaster DN5 7LH marked "**Stirling Appeal**".

Cross of Sacrifice

Thanks to the Victoria Cross Trust for cleaning the Cross of Sacrifice that was erected at the entrance to Hyde Park Cemetery after the First World War and had become dirty and discoloured.

BEFORE



AFTER



Cutting Costs

The Friends are anxious to minimise unnecessary postal costs by emailing the quarterly Newsletter. However, we are happy to continue posting hard copies if you don't have email.

If you currently receive your Newsletter by post and there is a separate flyer enclosed with this edition then please note its contents and respond accordingly.

If you have already advised us that you'd like to keep receiving the Newsletter by post then you need not reply.

How to Contact Us

There are many ways that you can contact the Friends and keep in touch with what is happening:

Tel: **07777-688438** (Richard Bell, Chairman)

Email: **info@fohpc.co.uk**

Web: **www.fohpc.org.uk**

Twitter: **@HydeParkCem**

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