



Spring 2010

Welcome... to this Friends of Hyde Park Cemetery newsletter. You will find below reports of progress on several initiatives, and also information on the Friends' 2010 Action Plan, showing what else is in store for the year.

In particular, please note that shortly we shall be starting monthly 'Working Mornings' in the cemetery, where anyone who wishes to make a real, practical contribution to the appearance of the cemetery can do so.

Working Mornings Your Chance to Help

When and What?

Starting from **Saturday 10 April, 2010**, the Friends will meet at Hyde Park Cemetery on the **2nd Saturday of every month**, to carry out practical site management activities. We shall meet **between 9:30 am and 12 noon** and undertake tasks such as litter-picking, gardening duties and other general good-housekeeping activities.

What Do You Need To Bring With You?

Please wear clothes that you might wear for gardening, including stout footwear (definitely no sandals, please!). Whilst the Friends can supply disposable gloves, it would help if you could bring your own gardening gloves, if you have some.

Tools & Equipment

As this is a new venture for the Friends, we have only a limited amount of equipment available at present. Nevertheless, this should be sufficient to begin with and we'll review our requirements as time goes on.

Toilets & Washing Facilities

We are extremely grateful to Adrian Welch, of Adrian Welch Glass and Glazing Ltd, who is making the toilet facilities in his premises available for our use during our Working Mornings. There are well-equipped and maintained facilities for both ladies and gents and these are just a few metres from the cemetery's Carr Lane gateway.

For More Information... contact Richard Bell (see overleaf for details).

See you on the 2nd Saturday!

Recent Achievements

Information Signs

In January, the Friends had three new information signs erected in the cemetery, one adjacent to each gateway.



New sign near the Carr Lane entrance

The subjects of the signs are 'Cemetery History', 'Notable Doncastrians', and 'Natural History'. The signs have already attracted interest.

Section 'O' Refurbishment

Section 'O' is the prominent 'island' section of the cemetery, between the main gateway and chapels. Since the grass was replaced by gravel some years ago, it has gradually become more and more untidy. Recently, workers from Carr House Allotments Social Enterprise (CHASE), funded by the Friends, removed the old gravel and the torn weed-control fabric, straightened up the fallen headstones and began laying new fabric and washed shingle, greatly improving the appearance of this section of the Cemetery.

CHASE will be carrying out horticultural work in Hyde Park Cemetery later in the spring-time.

2010 Action Plan

In addition to introducing the 'Working Mornings' (see overleaf), the initiatives planned by the Friends' executive committee for 2010 include the following:

Cutting Back Shrubs

Many of the shrubs in the cemetery have become overgrown and CHASE will be pruning them back, where appropriate, to improve sight-lines, encourage new growth at lower levels and generally tidy the beds.

Wildflower Area

The children from Hexthorpe Primary School's Allotment Club have been growing wildflowers from seed over the winter. In a few weeks' time they will plant out the seedlings in a specially-designated area of Hyde Park Cemetery, creating a new splash of colour at the site. The Friends aim to provide some signs to mark the wildflower area and the children's involvement.

Self-Guided Walk Leaflets

We intend to add new self-guided walks to the two that already exist, producing leaflets that can be downloaded from our website or obtained from Doncaster's Tourist Information Centre in The Blue Building, High Street, Doncaster.

One of the new leaflets will feature some of the war graves within Hyde Park Cemetery.

Guided Walks

The Friends will lead at least four guided walks around the cemetery during the coming summer. Two of the walks will take place to coincide with Heritage Open Days 2010, from 9th to 12th September.

'Living Streets' Project

We are working with the charity 'Living Streets', with the aim of implementing a joint project within the cemetery. This may well take the form of a 'heritage circuit', to encourage people to walk around the site for the benefit of their health, whilst gaining knowledge in the process.

Other Items

We have other projects in reserve, too!

Commonwealth War Graves Commission

Did you know that there are 108 identified casualties from the First and Second World Wars buried in Hyde Park Cemetery? The CWGC maintains these graves and the Cross of Sacrifice near to the main entrance. The CWGC's staff were in the cemetery very recently working on the memorials.

Website (www.fohpc.org.uk)

We are proud of our website, which contains lots of interesting information about Hyde Park Cemetery and about the Friends' activities. We update the site regularly, especially the News and Events pages, so why not make it one of your Favourites?

Keeping In Touch

Are We Addressing You Correctly?

To keep our administration costs down, we would like to send out newsletters by email to as many of our members as possible. If you received this newsletter by post but would be happy for us to use email in future, please send your email address to:

richardbell.fohpc@btinternet.com

If you wish to continue to receive newsletters by post, but we haven't got your address quite right, please let us know.

For any matter related to the Friends of Hyde Park Cemetery, you can contact Richard Bell by the following means:

Telephone: **07777-688438**

Email: **richardbell.fohpc@btinternet.com**

or write to:

**Friends of Hyde Park Cemetery
C/o Rose Hill Crematorium
Cantley Lane
Doncaster
DN4 6NE**

Thank you.

And remember...

See you on the 2nd Saturday!