



**Welcome...** to the latest newsletter from the **FRIENDS OF HYDE PARK CEMETERY**. Here you will find reports on progress over the past few months, events involving the Friends and other items of interest.

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](http://www.fohpc.org.uk) or at our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/FoHPC](https://www.facebook.com/FoHPC)

## 2015 AGM

At our latest AGM we had a very interesting talk given by Pat McLaughlin on South Yorkshires Great Houses.

### Changes to the committee for 2015/16

The following people were elected, with immediate effect, to serve on the FoHPC committee for the coming year:

Chair - Vacancy

Vice-Chair - Vacancy

Secretary - Helen Slade

Treasurer - Margaret Bark

Committee Member - Richard Bell

Committee Member - Phil Dilks

Committee Member - Sheila Dilks

Committee Member - Andria Johns

Committee Member - Vacancy

Committee Member - Vacancy

You will note that there are now four vacancies, including both Chair and Vice-Chair, following Richard Bell and Margaret Herbert standing down from their roles due to other commitments.

## War memorial bid update

The friends are sad to report that our recent Heritage Lottery bid has been unsuccessful. The HLF have advised us on why this is the case and have encouraged us to reapply. We will keep you posted on any future developments.



## Guided walks for 2016

The first guided walk of 2016 will be a railway walk on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> Feb at 3pm, coinciding with Doncaster Railway Week. Future walks are planned throughout 2016 and details of these will be posted on our website.

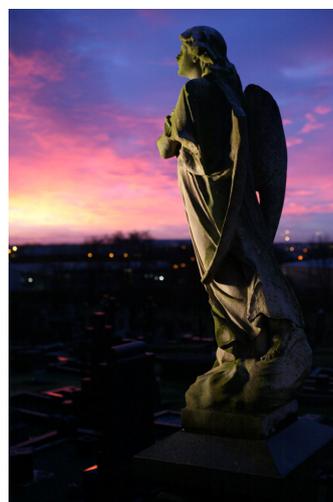
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## Original gates back in place!

The latest stage of the restoration of the former lodge and entrance arch saw the refitting of the original gates (see below). These gates had been removed a few weeks ago and taken away for grit-blasting and galvanising. They were then powder-coated to give them a black finish. All this work is being carried out thanks to the investment being made by Adrian Welch of Adrian Welch Glass & Glazing, owner of the lodge and archway.



The beautiful photograph (below) was taken by a gentleman while walking through the cemetery early one morning. The monument captured was erected in 1940 to commemorate Martha Adams, wife of Robert Adams. She died on 25th January 1940 and her widower lived another 10 years.



*This FoHPC newsletter has been sponsored by Weldricks Pharmacy. P.T.O.*

## New Street boundary improvements

The stone and brick wall at the western end of the cemetery is in need of repair, mainly as a result of damage caused by the roots of the Black Poplar trees that were removed in 2014. Doncaster Council is intending to rebuild parts of the wall and repair the rest, where necessary, later in 2016. In parallel with that scheme, the Friends of Hyde Park Cemetery are intending to install some new sections of railings. The original railings were removed from the New Street wall longer ago than anyone can remember. Funding for these railings will come from generous private donations.

We are in discussion with the local Conservation Officer about a suitable design, due to the railings needing Listed Building consent. As part of that process, we recently made a timber mock-up of part of the proposed railings, to view on site. You will see a picture below. We shall keep you informed of developments.



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## Footpath resurfacing & changes

Doncaster Council have recently carried out resurfacing of many of the footpaths in Hyde Park Cemetery, for which we and the cemetery's many other users are very grateful. Some of the other paths were not only in very poor condition, but were also very little used. After a period of consultation with FoHPC, Doncaster Council decided to remove some of those little-used paths and to soil and seed them instead, so that they will become grassed areas. This will help to reduce future maintenance costs and, in the large majority of cases, the Friends agree with and approve of the decision. However, there is one section of perimeter footpath (about 50 metres long) which has been removed, against our recommendation. It lies in the south-western corner of the cemetery, between Sections Ux/Vx and X. The gap created by removing this portion of path leaves a gap in the perimeter footpath, which we believe is very detrimental to users. We are making representation to Doncaster Council on this matter.

## David Bowie connection

We were deeply saddened to learn of the passing of the legendary David Bowie, but did you know that he has a connection with Hyde Park Cemetery? David's father, Haywood Stenton Jones (known as John) was born and lived in Doncaster, before moving to London, where David was born in 1947. John's mother, Zillah Hannah Jones, nee Blackburn (the star's grandmother) and at least three other family members are all buried in Hyde Park Cemetery

Below is a picture of the grave of David Bowie's paternal grandmother, Zillah Hannah Jones.



## 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.org.uk](mailto:info@fohpc.org.uk)

Web: [www.fohpc.org.uk](http://www.fohpc.org.uk)

Twitter: [@HydeParkCem](https://twitter.com/HydeParkCem)

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