

Friends Of Hyde Park Cemetery Newsletter

Winter/Spring 2018/19



Welcome to our latest newsletter!

You can keep up-to-date with all FoHPC activities by visiting:
www.fohpc.org.uk or at our Facebook page www.facebook.com/HPC

Remembrance

As many of you will know 2018 was a very special year in relation to the 100 anniversary of the end of the first world war and also of the formation of the Royal Air Force.

At Hyde Park Cemetery we have many Commonwealth war graves but we also have many individuals that are mentioned on family graves who are buried in other cemeteries throughout the world.

Over the last 4 years the friends have led many guided walks relating to the two wars, and as a mark of respect, in 2018, we took on the task of placing a cross on every registered CWGC grave with in the cemetery. We hope that this was a fitting tribute to those individuals that are buried there.

Alongside this, our Secretary attended the Remembrance Service in London on 11th Nov and took part in the People's Procession.

As a mark of respect and remembrance, a wreath was taken which was laid at the cenotaph. On this wreath was written: 'In memory of those who served and gave their lives in all wars and who are named within Hyde Park Cemetery, Doncaster'.



Anthony Steel Caldwell Family Visit



We are delighted to update you to say that the family of Anthony's will be visiting the Cemetery in the Summer to pay their respects at Anthony's grave.

It will be the first time in nearly 100 years since a family member has visited so this will be a very special moment for all concerned.

We shall of course follow up this story in our next Newsletter in the Autumn.

Sir Charles Norris Nicholson Restoration Appeal Up-Date



In 2018 we launched an appeal to have the grave of Sir Charles Norris Nicholson restored. Nicholson was a Liberal MP and a supporter of votes for women and also a tireless supporter for the rights of disabled soldiers both during and after the First World War.

We are hoping through public donations to have this grave restored this year and are pleased to say that we are well on our way to having this achieved. Alongside this a relative of Sir Charles visited his grave this year and is keen on getting involved with the restoration.

If you would like to contribute to this project please visit our website or contact us via the information at the end of this newsletter.



Guided Walks Success



Once again the friends held 6 very successful guided walks in 2018 including our annual Bat Walk with the South Yorkshire Bat Group.

In 2019 we are running a few new themes and also running a WW2 walk to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the start of the war.

All walks are on Sundays at 3pm except for the Bat Walk which will be on a Saturday at 9pm. The themes and dates are shown opposite though further details can be found on our website.

2019 Guided Walks

May 19th - Open All Hours

**June 23rd - Hidden Meanings -
The Stone-Masons Art**

July 21st - Untimely Ends

August 10th - Bat Walk

Sept 22nd - In Name Only

Sept 15th - WW2 Remembered

AGM News



In November the FoHPC held their annual AGM. Andy, our vice chair, gave a fascinating talk on the 'Farm Boy and Sewing Maid' which was a family story that he had discovered.

At the meeting the committee were elected and a new position was created for Lynsey, who is now our Marketing Officer.

We still could do with having more members on the committee so if you feel you can spare a couple of hours a month, and are interested in local history, then please feel free to get in touch with us.

You will be very welcome!!

XP School Success

Last year we achieved many things, and one of our main successes was the link we made with the local XP and XP East Schools. Due to the success of the railway project we supported them with, the schools requested another cemetery walk, this time on the subject of WW1 & WW2. In September our Chair led the children to the graves of servicemen in the cemetery.

Once again, the experience was a positive one with the children and staff learning about Doncaster's vital role during these time periods.

Developing the cemetery as an educational space, is an area that the Friends would like to focus on in the near future. As shown with the NCS and XP School's, the potential to educate and inspire is an exciting prospect and the hope is to be able to develop the cemetery into a user friendly space for all.



Wildlife Corner Created



At the beginning of 2018 we were delighted to secure an environment grant from the Greggs Foundation.

The funding we received was used to create a 'Wildlife Corner' in the south-western section of the cemetery.

Low value vegetation was removed and existing wildlife-friendly plants were retained.



Volunteers from The Conservation Volunteers along with members of the committee, helped to complete cultivating the area and then planted hundreds of young plants on the slope, which in 2019 should be covered in wildlife friendly vegetation.

At our January work morning we installed a permanent sign marking our Wildlife Corner project.



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