



Friends of Spital Cemetery (FoSC)
e-Newsletter
May 2017
Number 6

Derbyshire Times article

The cemetery received brilliant coverage in the Derbyshire Times on Thursday 13th April thanks to Dan Hayes and their photographer, Anne Shelley. They both said how difficult it would be having to condense all the amazing stuff about the cemetery into a short article but they still did us proud.



Report from Dronfield Hall Barn visit by Helen Crampton

We had another successful trip as the Friends of Spital Cemetery. We visited Dronfield Barn. This is a coffee shop and community space. At the time of our visit it held an exhibition on the High Street. It is a really good example of how a lot of hard work paid off. The barn was in poor condition several years ago prior to it being handed over to the Dronfield Heritage Trust. Alan (Chair of the Trust) gave us advice on the importance of making partnerships with likeminded groups which they had already done years before the physical restoration work even started. They employed a professional fundraiser who knew who to approach for the large sums of money involved in such a project.

Maureen, one of the trustees and also a historian, did some research into the barn's history. This and other work by local academics has been published to raise funds. She has styled the garden to reflect the history of the barn. This lovely open space is being marketed as a place for wedding photographs. It is also somewhere to sit on a sunny day



and enjoy the offerings of the cafe. The trust has also published leaflets on walks from the barn, all ideas that they found successful at drawing in the public. We certainly came away with food for thought.

Obviously things have moved on since we first planned this visit. Ed Fordham has made an offer to the council to rejuvenate the chapels, which we fully support; but it is still helpful for us to see what makes a successful restoration project. We are thankful to Alan and fellow Trustee Maureen for their time, and the delicious coffee!

Having finished most of the work on the barn, they are busy developing a woodland wildflower garden with their gardening volunteers.

Haslam and Harvey

Most people familiar with Chesterfield will know the two imposing statues on plinths outside the former NUM offices on Saltergate to the twin pillars of the Derbyshire Miners' Association, James Haslam MP and William Harvey MP.



But few know that they were buried in Spital Cemetery, side by side in death as they had been in life. Amanda Brassington from the Chesterfield Museum Service uncovered this information about the paintings of them which are also always shown together.

Cabinet Minutes July 1914 page 262

Letter from the executor of Mr Harvey's will.

The late Mr W E Harvey M.P several times expressed a desire that, after his death, the portrait in oils, which was presented to him some years ago, should be given to the town council and hung in the council chamber . No mention is made of this in his will, but his son, into whose possession the portrait has come is desirous of giving effect to his father's wish and he asked me, as his father's executor, to communicate with you as to whether the Corporation would accept the gift. I may say that the portrait forms a companion picture in size, style and subject to that of the late Mr Haslam, M.P, which has already been placed on the walls of the council chamber and that it seems not inappropriate that the portraits should find a place together as those of two respected leaders of men whose life work was closely interwoven and who are the only two members of the town council who have achieved the distinction of membership of the imperial parliament.



Resolved – that the council do accept the portrait with thanks and that the same be hung in the council chamber.

Do look up the paintings on the Internet, which we cannot reproduce here.

Mr Haslam by Arthur James Haddon (1864 – 1941)

Mr Harvey by Arthur Trevor Haddon (1864 – 1941) member of the Royal Academy of Arts and Slade school of art.

How to find Haslam and Harvey's graves. If you walk directly east from the chapels (remember the majority of the stones face west) on the wide path with the big tomb to Carrington on your right very soon you come to a winding path to the left, going steeply downhill. Their graves are on the right down this path, about 20 metres. Shortly after, you will come to the grave of Frank Hall JP a later General Secretary of the DMA.

Cemetery Task team news.

The Cemetery Task Team will be changing their meeting date to the weekend when hopefully we will be able to accommodate 'working' people, not suggesting that our present members aren't hard working souls, just not tied down to Monday-Friday jobs! We have decided on the second Saturday in the month 10-12.30 meeting at the chapels. See below for May's details.

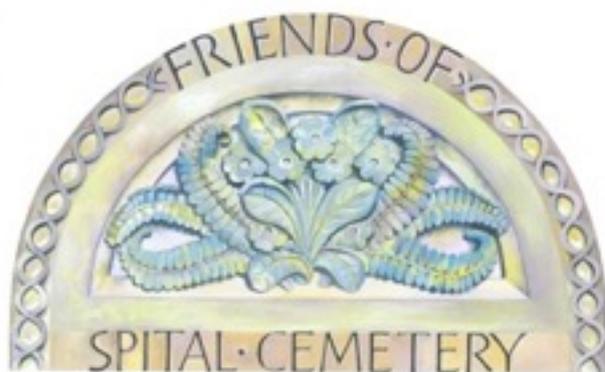
May dates for your diary

Tuesday 9th May 11am - 1pm as part of Chesterfield Walking Festival walk, a walk to the Victorian Garden Cemetery in Spital. Book through the festival website or at the Tourist Information Office

Saturday 13th May 10am - 12.30pm Cemetery Task Team. Meet at the chapels. Our task for May will be to cut back the large holly bush that has taken over Lady Louisa Lucas' grave. We seem to know little about her apart from that she lived at Hasland Hall and that her family donated money for almshouses in Hasland. It appears there were Lucases in Hasland since 1695 and there was a Bernard Lucas esq who succeeded his father Thomas Lucas who died in 1818. Perhaps under all that holly we will get some answers. Hasland Hall was also the home of Charles Markham, and in 1931 was sold to CBC and became part of the present Hasland Hall Community School. Please wear suitable footwear thick gloves to protect you from all those prickles. If you have secateurs, loppers, a pruning saw, please bring. Also, we will stop at 12 o'clock and discuss future possible jobs for the team, so bring a drink. All new members welcome.

Elizabeth Forrest's painting

Artist Elizabeth Forrest is Chesterfield based and member of Peak District Artisans and of our local Spital Arts. As a Lettering Artist she has been inspired by the text on many of the fabulous gravestone and monuments in the cemetery. Elizabeth has most generously allowed us to use this beautiful painting she has done to promote our work. We are hoping to use it on a postcard and on our new website and possibly on other publications in the future. Many thanks.
elizabethkforrest.co.uk



About us. Friends of Spital Cemetery celebrate Spital Cemetery which is the oldest public cemetery in Derbyshire outside Derby. It is a fine example of a Victorian Garden Cemetery. We work to ensure that Spital Cemetery remains for public benefit and enjoyment by encouraging biodiversity, recording and fostering its heritage of monuments and its use as an educational and community resource. For more details about our activities and how to get involved please contact the Secretary thefriendsofspitalcemetery@gmail.com or Acting Chair lizcook80@icloud.com