

Bereavement Newsletter

Issue: 23 | November 2007

Lottery grant boosts Weaste Cemetery

In January 2007, the Friends of Salford Cemeteries Trust were awarded a Heritage Lottery Grant of £24,000 to develop the Heritage and Ecology Trail at Weaste Cemetery.

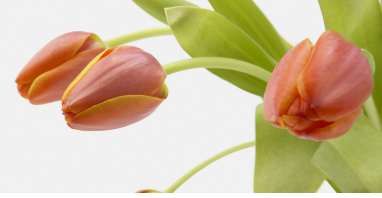
Over the last year, this lottery grant has been used to develop a number of new and exciting Initiatives at the cemetery. This include:

- The production of 15,000, full colour Weaste Heritage Trail booklets which will be available around Christmas 2007. If you would like to order a **FREE** copy, please e-mail: pete.kilvert@ntlworld.com
- The development of a fully interactive website which will be launched by the end of the year. A temporary website in the meantime can be visited at: www.weasteheritagetrail.co.uk
- Two conservation days are being planned for spring 2008 and Autumn 2008.
- A very successful mock Victorian Funeral was held in July which was attended by 120 school children. This involved a horse-drawn hearse, a funeral oration, a guided tour of the Cemetery and a Victorian classroom.
- Tours of Weaste have been arranged with a number of schools.
- After extensive consultation with Salford historians, school teacher resource packs will be produced which will align with the National Curriculum.

Another project at Weaste Cemetery currently being planned is the restoration of the Brotherton Memorial. The Friends Trust has been awarded a grant from the Booth Charities for the initial phase of a structural and quantity survey. This will be undertaken in December, weather permitting.

If you would like to join the Friends of Salford Cemeteries group or have a family history connected with Weaste Cemetery, please e-mail: pete.kilvert@ntlworld.com





Memento Mori

From the 20th October 2007 to the 13th January 2008 there will be an exhibition of photography by David Dunnico at Salford Museum and Art Gallery entitled “**Memento Mori**” [Latin for “remember you must die”].

The exhibition considers how people remember those they have lost and the Victorian romantic vision of grief and mourning.

David Dunnico was commissioned by Salford Museum and Art Gallery to photograph Salford’s four municipal cemeteries to mark the 150th anniversary of the opening of Weaste Cemetery, the oldest and largest of these.

He is also showing work taken in the famous Pere Lachaise Cemetery in Paris during its 200th anniversary and other work featuring memorials from Barcelona, Prague, Kiev and Washington.

The exhibition also features a display on the history and significance of Weaste Cemetery by The Friends of Salford Cemeteries and will be complimented by a display of mourning costume and funerary artefacts from the Salford Museum collection.

Performance

In the 1st quarter of 2007-2008 both the cemetery and crematorium services survey recorded 100% of customers were satisfied with the services.

All cremation and burials took place within the performance target.

New cremation memorial

A new form of memorial for those who have been cremated has been introduced at Peel Green and Agecroft crematoria. The memorial is a polished black granite plaque which is inscribed with the commemoration in gold paint.

The plaques are fitted on a hexagonal tower with a base containing vases for floral tributes and situated in the remembrance gardens. The new memorial will increase choice, provide a succession to those memorials which are running out of available space and make better use of the space within the cemeteries. If the towers prove popular, there is ample space at both sites for further installations.

If you would like to dedicate a tower plaque or require further information please contact Agecroft Cemetery on 0161 736 2512 or Peel Green Cemetery on 0161 789 1901



Complaints

Since the last newsletter, there have been two areas of complaint. One was the wording of the letter sent to headstone owners whose memorial had failed the safety testing process. In response, the letters were changed to make it more clear to owners that they could choose to use a private memorial mason, and to give a more friendly tone to the letter.

Secondly, two trees were removed in Agecroft Cemetery following complaints from grave owners that their roots were affecting headstones.

