



*Preserving the past for the future*

# **Friends of Loxley Cemetery**

## **Annual General Meeting**

**Wednesday 16 October 2024**

**Chair's Report  
(October 2023 – September 2024)**

# Brief History

Friends of Loxley Cemetery Group (FoLC) was formed following a public meeting at the Wisewood Inn on Loxley Road on the 18 September 2019.

The FoLC Constitution (C) was agreed & endorsed by the founding members of the Management Committee (MC) on the 9 October 2019. The C allows for 3 Officers & up to 8 members.

The onset of the Covid pandemic in the spring of 2020 thwarted plans to commence operations on the cemetery. This only started in earnest in the summer of 2021 & continue to this day.



# Membership

Membership applications were invited from the 1 January 2020. There follows a review of the membership numbers over the succeeding years:

2020 – 57 subscribing members.

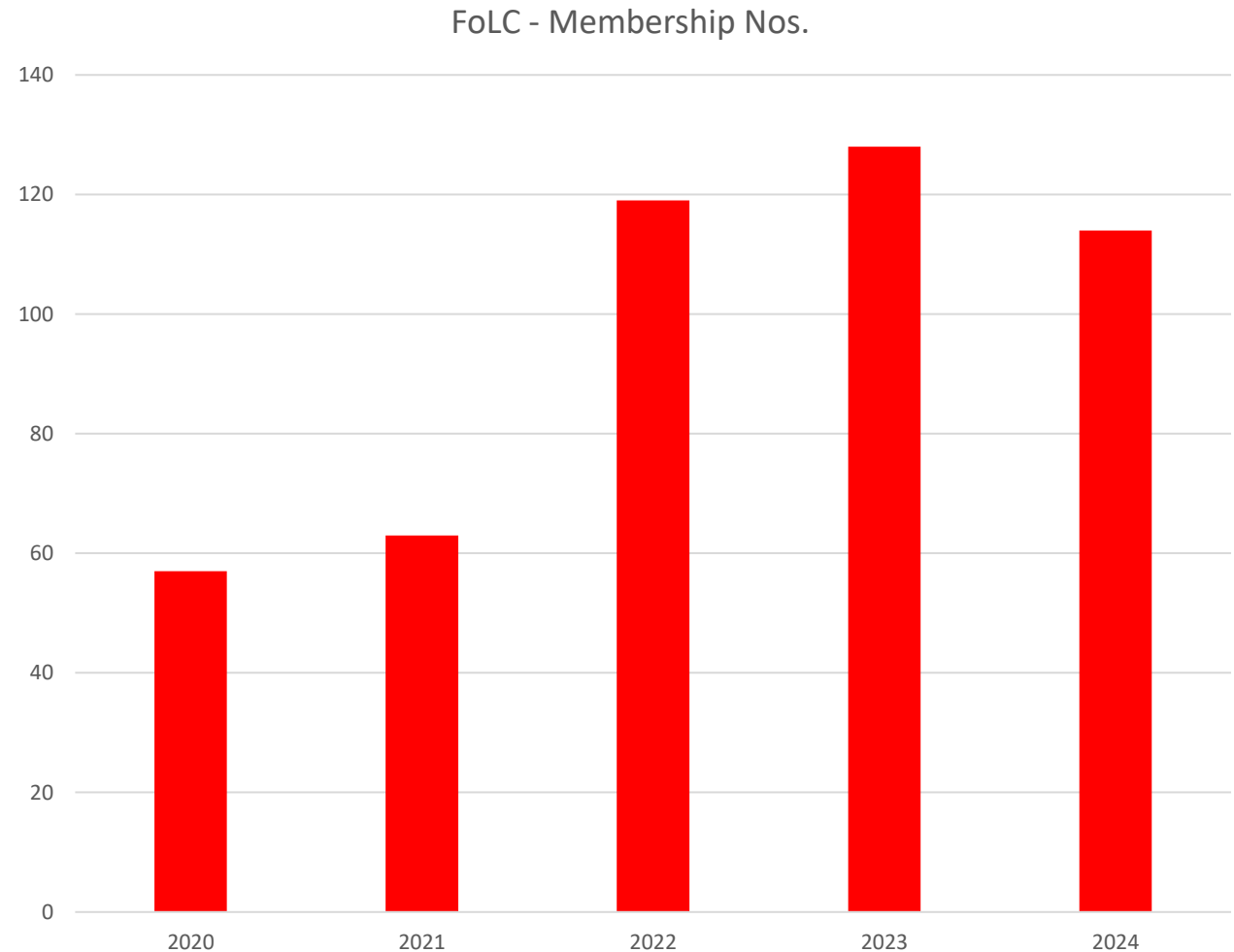
2021 – 63 subscribing members.

2022 – 119 subscribing members.

2023 - 128 subscribing members.

2024 - 114 Subscribing members.

Membership fees remain at £5.00 pa, payable on the 1 January. There are no plans to increase this amount in the foreseeable future.



# Activities

- Clearance & Maintenance of the Cemetery.
- Producing database of interments in the Long Lane section of the cemetery (4000 entries). Now being extended to include photos & details of inscriptions.
- Open Days (6 May & 15 September 2024), including tours of War Graves, Monumental Inscriptions & Our Titanic Connection.
- Sheffield Flood Tour (10 March 2024).
- Tour of Britain Cycle Race (5 September 2024).
- Tree Planting & Remembering Vickie Priestley (6 May 2024).
- Remembrance Day event with Loxley Primary School.
- Hosting grave clearance sessions with Year 5 pupils from Loxley Primary School (15 May & 12 September 2024).
- Stall at Sheffield Heritage Fair (20 & 21 January 2024).
- Production of a Guidance Note for Interments (March 2024).
- Funding Group meetings.
- Book Stall.





# MC Activities

Following discussions at the bi-monthly Management Committee Meetings (MCM) the following Working Sub Groups, which were formed last year, have continued their work through the current year:

Burial Research Team – recording monuments & inscriptions in more detail to uncover some of the stories that lay behind the occupants of the graves & their families.

Future Burials – examining the case for opening-up the cemetery for future interments.

Funding Opportunities – looking to source independent funding through grants etc.

In addition, we have made tentative enquiries to the National Lottery Heritage Fund & The South Yorkshire Community Foundation re applications for capital funding of proposed works in the cemetery.





# Other Activities

- Exhibiting at Fair held by Bolsterstone Archaeology & Heritage Group.
- Attendance at various events to mark the 160<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Sheffield Flood.
- Attending bi-monthly meetings of 'Joined-Up Heritage Sheffield' (JUHS).
- Attending bi-monthly meetings of 'Sheffield Green Spaces Forum' (SGSF).
- Exhibiting at the annual Heritage Fair, Millennium Galleries, Sheffield.
- Restructuring FoLC website incl new Subscription Payment pro forma & 'Visit Us' section.
- Investigating sale/licensing of burial records.
- Responding to Burial Enquiries.
- Production of 3 Newsletters.

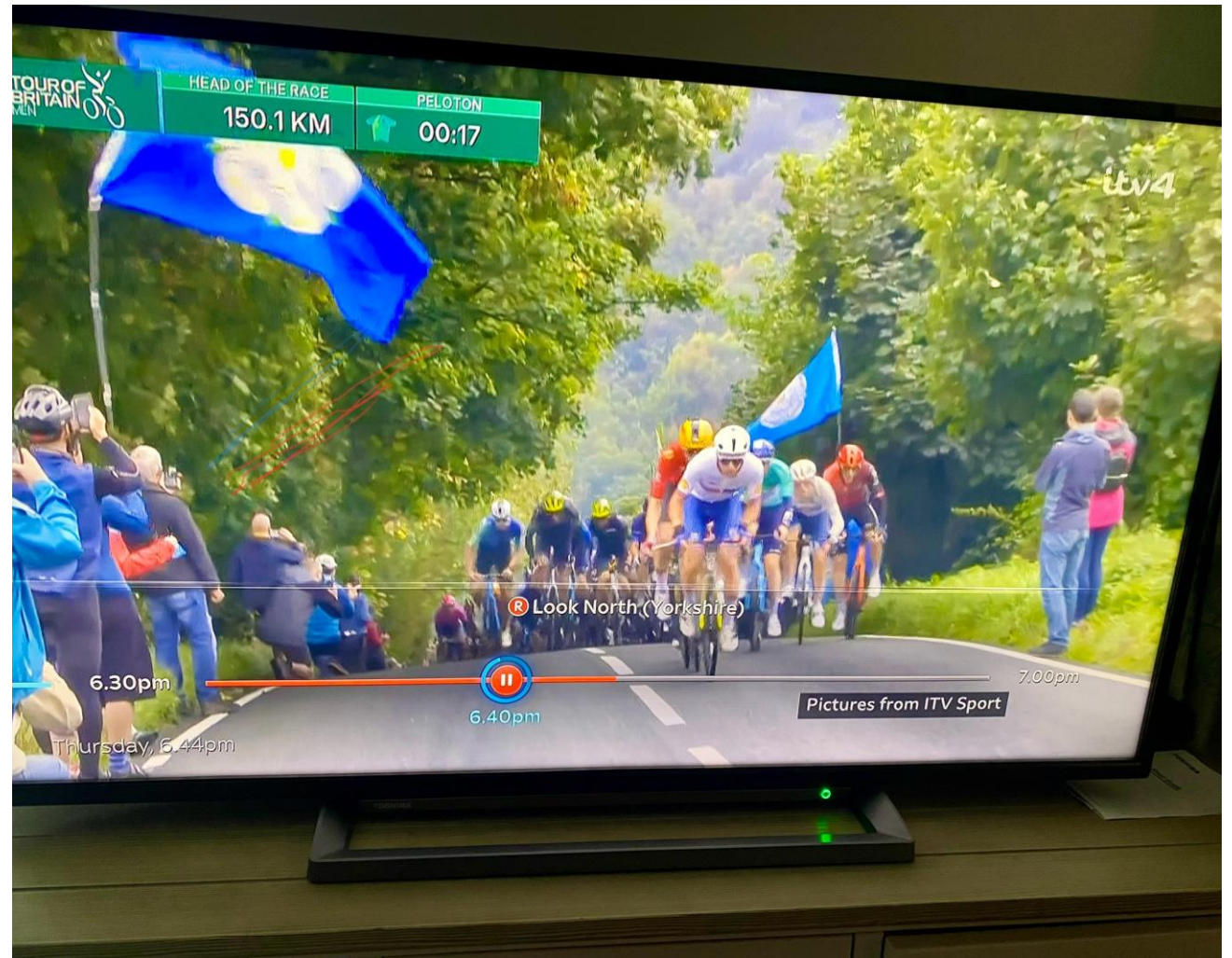




# Internal Matters

Other matters which the membership should be made aware of include:

- Investigation into revenue possibilities for sale of burial records to one of the institutions.
- Donations of equipment (lawnmowers, 'strimmers' & hand tools).
- List of reading materials on the website.
- Donations of books, magazines, cd's, maps etc.
- Arranging talks/visits/presentations to local groups.
- Provision of a 'fresh flower' service.





# What we've done in 2024...

**Tackled the sycamore**



**Saplings removed by the chapel**





# What we've done in 2024...

Removed the undergrowth



Peeled back mats of ivy





# What we've done in 2024...

It looked lovely in March



But it keeps growing back

