

Ambitions for 'beautiful' restoration of graveyard

The headlines used in this leaflet are all from **The Star** newspaper and relate to the long-running campaign for the restoration of Loxley Cemetery. We are grateful to our local paper for its continued support.

Now we have permission from the owners, Ali Property Development, to work on the site, a formally constituted group has been formed to undertake the task.



The Aims & Objectives of the group are to:

- a) Maintain the physical upkeep of Loxley Cemetery so as to ensure, where reasonably practicable, safe access for visitors to all areas
- b) Maintain the aesthetics and environmental integrity of the Cemetery in keeping with the Loxley Valley
- c) Create and maintain records of social and historical interest connected to Loxley Cemetery thus providing a unique research resource
- d) Work with the owner of the site to restore Loxley Church and to preserve the memorials within the building

(From Friends of Loxley Cemetery Constitution)

Join the Friends of Loxley Cemetery

Friends group aiming to tidy up historic graveyard

Membership of the Friends of Loxley Cemetery is open to any person aged 18 and over, or any organisation who is interested in helping the Group to achieve its aims and objectives and willing to abide by the rules of the Group.

Annual subscription is £5.

Please join us to:

Help us to put things right!

For general enquiries please email

Secretary Verity Brack

loxley.secretary@yahoo.com

Chairman Mike Ford:

mike.ford53@hotmail.com Tel: 07879 07561

For membership enquiries please contact Treasurer

Jane Pratt loxleytreasurer1@gmail.com

Friends of Loxley Cemetery

*Saving and preserving
our heritage*

**Friends of
Loxley
Cemetery**



*"History is not the past.
It is the present.
We carry our history with us.
We are our history."
James Baldwin*



*Photos courtesy
of Friends of Loxley
Cemetery members*

Friends of Loxley Cemetery introduction from our Chair, Mike Ford

Over the last twenty years many people complained about the state of what was once a most beautiful and picturesque part of the Loxley Valley and the final resting place of a good number of Sheffield people. Loxley Chapel and Cemetery date back to the late 18th Century and is still open for burials in existing plots. The voluntary group, 'Friends of Loxley Cemetery' was formed to save and regenerate the abandoned, overgrown, and sadly inaccessible cemetery.

LOCAL NEWS The Star **Neglected cemetery heartache for visitors**

Following our formation in the autumn of 2019, the Friends (FoLC), like the rest of the country (and world), had a difficult period. Our hopes and plans to launch a series of Action Days from Spring 2020 had to be abandoned due to the Covid 19 pandemic & the restrictions that were introduced over the year. Another impact of the pandemic was that the Committee were unable to meet and things looked bleak. However, matters were 'kick-started' by one of our members who asked if he could make a start in the Spring of 2021 as part of his desire to keep fit. Soon, other volunteers joined him, working on site on a weekly basis. Finally, when the Management Committee were allowed to meet we agreed to support and manage official Action Days from the 3 August 2021. The rest is as they say history - we are making great strides. You can see the difference FoLC is making, on our website. (evoice.org.uk/friendsofloxleycemetery/).

Please contact us if you would like to join us as a member or volunteer. Mike Ford (Chair).

Plea to be allowed to tidy up overgrown cemetery

Volunteer Action Days



Photograph taken in February 2021 before clearance work.

**Volunteer Action Days continue on
Thursdays (10-12) & Saturdays (1-4)
- weather permitting.**



Photograph taken in November 2021 after the clearance.

**Did you notice the red gravestone? It is the same one!
Before & after!**

For volunteer info please email
Secretary Verity Brack Loxley.secretary@yahoo.com
Or Chairman Mike Ford:
mike.ford53@hotmail.com Tel: 07879 07561

Historical Interest

One of the aims of the Friends of Loxley Cemetery Group is to collate and record information of historical interest because old cemeteries can be used as a research resource for future generations as well as sources of genealogy data and for peaceful family reflection.

Dismay over 'blocked' graves

Sheffield Great Flood of 1864

For instance, at least 22 victims of the Sheffield Great Flood of 1864 are buried at Loxley, including several families:

From Malin Bridge,

- 7 members of the Armitage family
- 3 members of the Hudson family
- 4 members of the Bates family
- 4 members of the Chapman family of Little Matlock
- and 2 Dentons of Old Wheel



War Commission Graves

Loxley Cemetery also holds a number of War Graves Commission graves:

3 from WWI and 12 from WWII, including an Air Raid Warden killed in the Blitz.

