



Friends of Loxley Cemetery Christmas Newsletter 2020

How are your admin skills?

**We still require a
volunteer to take over
the Secretary role.**

If you have some time
and the inclination
to help...
...please get in touch.

Loxley.secretary@yahoo.com

ANNOUNCING A NEW SERVICE

Find A Grave / Genealogy Service

From the New Year our
Committee members are
offering a new service whereby
Members will be able to check
whether family members have
graves in Loxley Cemetery &
where these are situated.

A further service in respect of the
Family History/Genealogy of the
persons(s) interred is also
available.

**All enquiries to the Treasurer
Mike Ford 07879075619**



Our new sign!

Members who have visited
the Cemetery recently will have
seen the sign by the gate at the
Long Lane entrance advertising our
existence and our contact details.
It seems that this has already
resulted in enquiries and
potential new members.



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Whilst the deadly pandemic
continues to blight our lives, and
the government's restrictions in
combating the invisible killer
continue to frustrate our
endeavours to improve the physical
condition of Loxley Cemetery, I am
pleased to report that much work
that can be done from behind a
computer screen or a smart phone
continues in the background, some
of which has provided some visible
contributions and publicity to raise
the profile of the group and its aims
and objectives.

People of historical interest buried
in Loxley Cemetery will be a
continuing feature of the Friends
work and the prospect of a
genealogy service for members is
exciting news – using the extensive
knowledge and skills of our
Committee members in research
and archiving family histories.

Loxley Primary School also includes
the Great Sheffield Flood in its
history curriculum, which will no
doubt involve future visits to



Lest we forget



On a personal note

Sunday 8th November would have been my mother's 94th birthday. In memory of Millie Humpage, I took flowers for the family plot in Loxley Cemetery. With her birthday falling on Remembrance Sunday and the fact she was both a Land girl and Wren in WW2 along with my grandfather, Harry Humpage who served in WW1, it seemed a meaningful moment to visit the cemetery.

Lockdown restrictions meant we could not go as a family, nor could the Friends of Loxley carry out their memorial event this year. However, Malcom Nunn visited the cemetery on behalf of the Friends and used the British Legion's innovative printed poppy service to mark the memory of those lost to war. He met other people there, most notably a family whose young lad was researching one of the servicemen for his school's Remembrance project. Luckily, Malcolm's extensive knowledge of the cemetery meant he could help the boy locate the War grave they were searching for.

A lovely community moment.

Unfortunately, my own visit was not so successful.

Like so many, our family grave is lost to the untamed nature which has reclaimed the cemetery and even though we know its location – our plot is no longer accessible.

As the photos show, like Malcolm, I shared my flowers amongst the war graves instead. These are maintained by the War Commission and remain accessible. Just!

From this recent experience, I hope I can show you how much the work of the Friends of Loxley Cemetery is desperately needed – and we need your continued support to help us fulfil the aim of preserving access to so many families' graves, memories and memorials.

To be able to visit and pay respect to loved ones in the beautiful place that Loxley cemetery once was – and could be again - is central to 'The Friends' efforts in the New Year and coming months.

Trisha Childs

the Cemetery to find the graves of Flood victims. To aid the school in this regard and to promote FoLC I have donated a number of my Flood books to the school to raise the profile of this significant local historical event and the Loxley Cemetery connection, not just for now but also for future generations.

It is fair to say that the Management Committee have achieved more than its expectations during this *annus horribilis* and I wish to thank each and every one of them for their assiduous contributions.

As we approach 2021 I am mindful of the approaching anniversary date for subscriptions (1 January) and how important they and your donations are to the future existence of the group.

I appreciate that paying your subs may not be your number one priority as we approach Xmas in these uncertain times but please make sure that you have it somewhere on your 'to do' list; there is a form included in this newsletter for this purpose. May I also stress that your postal address is important to us for funding application purposes as some funding criteria relate to locality.

In conclusion I sincerely hope that you are all able to enjoy a wonderful Christmas with your families and loved ones and that the New Year welcomes the dawn of *annus mirabilis* for us all.

Mick Drewry
Chair, Friends of Loxley Cemetery



Membership of Friends of Loxley Cemetery

Our membership runs annually from 1st January and costs £5.

The 'Friends' rely on these contributions to enable us to fulfil our aims. We thank every member for their support last year and look forward to working with you again in 2021.

This special time of year often has us thinking of loved ones and family – those present and those who have passed.

Bring friends and family together to support a shared purpose

Consider giving a Personalised Gift Membership!

Ambitions for 'beautiful' restoration of graveyard

Friends group aiming to tidy up historic graveyard

Here is an example of the **PERSONALISED** Gift Membership Certificate we can offer you.



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 Chapel and to preserve memorials within the building

Please complete the Membership Form for your own membership – and to order personalised gift membership for friends or extended family (see last page)

The subscription form is either an online or print out version –

any queries please contact Mike Ford Treasurer 07879075619 or email Loxley.secretary@yahoo.com



A special Christmas Carol for you

Malcolm Nunn's love of history and music have turned up a wonderful little gem!

Please see the words and music for "Fern Bank" which is a popular local carol.

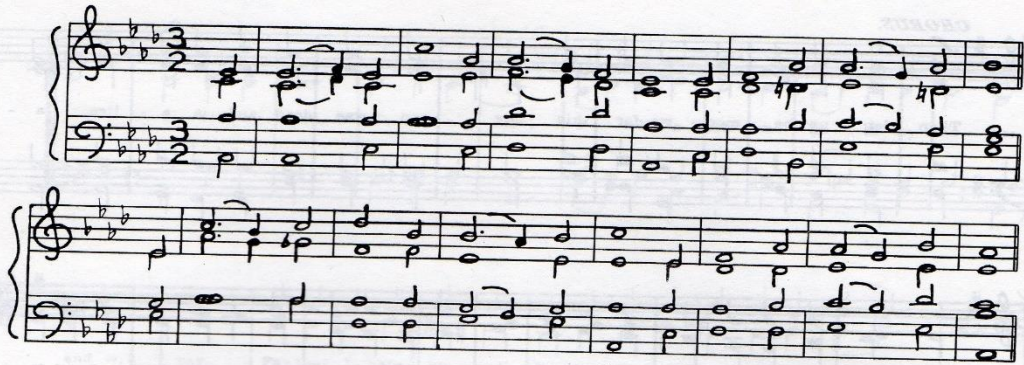
The words of "while shepherds watched their flocks by night" can also be sung to the same tune.

(as shown in this video clip from 2016) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QjRZ-hCxLbI>

Fern Bank was a large house in the Loxley Valley between Loxley and Malin Bridge and in its later days was used as a guest house before being demolished in the 1960s/70s.

It is generally regarded that the carol has been attributed to this property.

FERN BANK



1. Jesus, the very thought of Thee
With sweetness fills my breast:
But sweeter far Thy face to see,
And in Thy presence rest.
2. Nor voice can sing, nor heart can frame,
Nor can the memory find
A sweeter sound than that blest Name,
O Saviour of mankind!
3. O hope of every contrite heart!
O joy of all the meek!
To those who fall, how kind Thou art!
How good to those who seek!
4. But what to those who find? Ah this -
Nor tongue nor pen can show!
The love of Jesus - what it is
None but His loved ones know.
5. Jesus, our only joy be Thou,
As Thou our crown wilt be;
Jesus, be Thou our glory now,
And through eternity.

with 'Merry Christmas wishes' from all of us to all of you !



MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION FORM 2021

Friends of Loxley Cemetery



First name: _____

Surname: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Tel No: _____

Is your membership a renewal? Y / N or new? Y / N

Yearlong Membership subscription costs £5.

Valid from 1st January. Receipts will be sent by email.

Pls pay by cheque / PO (made payable to Friends of Loxley Cemetery) or in cash to MJ Ford
80a Ringinglow Road
Sheffield S11 7PQ

Please return this form with your payment. [Any queries regarding payments](#) please call Mike Ford Treasurer 0787 9075619 or email loxley.secretary@yahoo.com. **THANK YOU**

For additional Christmas Personalised Gift Membership Please complete the details below

| TO (name of recipient) | Their email | FROM (sender) | Membership cost |
|---------------------------|-------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| | | | £5 |
| | | | £5 |
| | | | £5 |
| | | | £5 |
| | | Your email (for receipt) | Total payable: |

Would you like the gift certificate emailed to you Y / N ? or directly to the recipient Y / N ?