

Friends of Darwen Cemetery



Schools Newsletter

Friends of Darwen Cemetery are a small group of volunteers who came together four years ago and formed a charity to help restore the cemetery to its former glory. We are passionate about the heritage of our town's forefathers who shaped our community.

Schools Poetry Competition

Friends of Darwen Cemetery are launching a short poetry writing competition. The theme of the poems will be 'Remembrance' the competition is split into two groups, 11 years & under and 11 — 16 years, the prizes will be a £25 WH Smith Voucher for each group.

One of the winning poems will be included in the Schools Remembrance Day Service Hymn Sheet in November. Look out for emails and information.

Competition closing date is 12 noon, Friday 11th July 2014.

Heritage Bid

You may have seen from the local press that the FODC are planning to construct a Heritage Structure in Darwen Cemetery to mark the sacrifice made by the young men from our town. Darwen suffered like most towns in losing our young men.

The facility will be a place for peaceful personal contemplation and will help to bring collective recognition to the individual soldiers buried within sight of it.

The main reason for the structure is to act as the start for the Heritage Walks around all the war graves and learn the history of the soldiers. We are trying to make them as interactive an experience as possible for school pupils.

Schools pupils and children are very much at the heart of everything we seek to do, with their thoughts and research very much guiding us at every stage of the journey. Students from both Darwen Aldridge Community Academy and Darwen Vale High School have been helping us with the design of the structure and over the summer will be helping with articles for the structure.

Date for your Diary

Friday 7th Nov 2014 — 10.30 am DARWEN WESTERN CEMETERY
Friends of Darwen Cemetery Schools Remembrance Day Service



We have a number of volunteers who know the history of the cemetery and are happy to accompany groups of school children around the cemetery.

So if you are interested please contact us at

dianedavies@darwencemetery.org.uk

Themes

History

- * World War 1 & 2 and the effects on Darwen population.
 - * What can the cemetery reveal about the Victorians?

RE/Art

- * Memorials – What do they tell us about attitude to death now and in the past.
 - *
- * How has gravestone design changed over the years?

Science

- * Explore mini-beasts and their environment.
 - *
- * What other animals use the cemetery as their habitat?
 - *
- * Basic gardening skills and knowledge of how plants grow, including how to use tools
 - * effectively and safely.

Please note these volunteers are NOT CRB cleared so you will need to make sure there are enough school staff to supervise your party.



Our Cemetery gets lots of visitors now.

www.darwencemetery.org.uk
Friends of Darwen Cemetery
C/O Unit 2A, Hall Moss Business Park
Bolton Road, Bull Hill,
Darwen BB3 2TT