

FODC News Bulletin

Edition No 1 - Autumn 2010



Section C - Almost completed!

Remembrance



Service



Adopt A War Grave

A Message from the Chairman

As the leaves begin to fall and the wind and cold starts to bite we can now reflect on the achievements so far as we take a well earned rest and hibernate for winter. Within this bulletin we can share the highlights of the work completed by the many Friends of Darwen Cemetery, in just under a year!

It's amazing how so many people from young to old have been inspired to make a difference to this part of Darwen's green space. We have had a lot of help and support from many agencies and I acknowledge the partnerships of the Blackburn with Darwen Council, Darwen Town Council, The Neighbourhood Board, local schools, Stone Masons and other advice and financial offerings by small and large donations.

We look forward to seeing you again both old and new friends in the spring. There are events to say thank you to the large number of volunteers at a public meeting at Bolton Road and the social gathering after the Sunday Remembrance Day.

News just in - that we have been awarded a Civic Pride Award by Darwen Civic Society.

Don't fret - some of us will be busy arranging, organising, transcribing burial records, researching, and tending our family and war graves over the winter months ready to celebrate in June 2011 the 150th anniversary of the opening of Darwen Cemetery. Finally to say a BIG thank you to everybody in bringing a community together and do hibernate well - ready for the burst into spring 2011.



Digitisation of Cemetery Burial Registers

The Friends are working with the Blackburn with Darwen Cemetery Office to digitise the burial registers for Darwen Cemetery. Over 20 volunteers, both locally and overseas, are helping with this important work. Once completed the Cemetery Office will be provided with a database of the burials in name order and also in plot order. This will enable the staff to quickly locate a burial. If you wish to help with this project then contact Tony Foster , <tonyfoster@darwencemetery.org.uk> for further information.



Young Darwen Volunteers

Asking young people to volunteer to help restore Darwen Cemetery may have been seen by some as a "DEAD LOSS".

However as usual we underestimate the talents, skills and willingness of young people to help a worthy cause. The FODC were asked to take part in an initiative to present the opportunity of becoming young volunteer at the cemetery to Years. 7, 8 and 9 at the newly opened Darwen Aldridge Community Academy.

In a programme organised by the DACA and Blackburn with Darwen CVS we pitched our project and around a dozen young people signed up.

Visit: www.darwencemetery.org.uk

