

# FODC News Bulletin



Edition No 5 – Summer 2012

## STORIES

**Wildlife Garden Opening,  
Our Second Bat Walk,  
Strawberry Tea Invite  
Darwen's Link to Anne Frank**

## Can you HELP?

**Can you spare some time on a Saturday Morning every couple of weekends?**

**We need help to bring back the Cemetery to its former glory.**

**To keep up to date, log on to our website for new dates, recent news, new stories and many other features.**

## A Message from the Chairman

**Hi All,**

Just a big thank you for all the FODC team who made the opening of the Wildlife Garden such a success. Weather was good and our turn out brilliant. Once the grass is cut the Western Cemetery is revealed in all its glory - with both Section C and the Ashes and Nature Gardens looking magnificent We now are looking at ongoing maintenance and developing projects, for children and the unmarked grave section. We do seem to be making a name for ourselves and we are dealing with requests from schools to visit the Cemetery and a number of teenage groups wishing to offer volunteering opportunities.

Helen Thomas has volunteered to coordinate School and education visits after November.

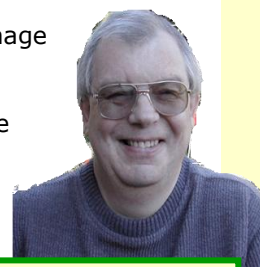
We look forward to the publication of a number of new walks in the Autumn and placing a large Heritage Lottery bid for the 100 years anniversary of the start of World War One in 2014.

During May we had a visit by Steve Lomas from the CWGC, he was amazed at our War Graves scheme.

Also during May one of our Trustees Diane Davies was given a commendation at the Pat on the Back awards. Our working party volunteering groups are active every fortnight on Saturdays and most

Thursday's 10am-1pm.

JOHN EAST CHAIRMAN FODC



## Dates for your diary

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2012  
Strawberry Tea and Scavenger Hunt 1pm at the Whitehall Park Community Hut, Whitehall Road.

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2012  
Working Party 10am in the Western Cemetery.

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2012 Open Meeting 7pm at the Whitehall Park Community Hut, Whitehall Road.

Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2012  
Working Party 10am in the Western Cemetery.

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2012  
Working Party 10am in the Western Cemetery.

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2012  
Working Party 10am in the Western Cemetery.

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> August 2012  
Working Party 10am in the Western Cemetery.

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> August 2012  
FODC at Darwen Gala

8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> September 2012  
Heritage Open Day Weekend.  
Details to follow...



## WILDLIFE GARDEN OPENING



Over 60 people attended the official opening of the FODC Award for All Wildlife Garden on Saturday 28th April 2012. The BwD Mayor Cllr. Karimeh Foster unveiled the boulder plaque and commented on the exhaustive work of the FODC volunteers. The sun shone and everyone enjoyed the occasion. Several guests attended including the new head teacher of Darwen Vale High School, Mrs. Fiona Jack who was amazed at the progress and commitment of the group. Later in the afternoon, FODC Secretary Rosemary Jackson and Chairman John East escorted Rossendale and Darwen MP Jake Berry around the cemetery to show off the work of the volunteers. John East said, "The opening went very well and we congratulate all the FODC for making such a difference to the cemetery. We have reached another milestone of development and look forward to further challenges and partnerships."

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