

**Final Centennial
Commemoration Event at
Willow Grove Cemetery,
10th November 2018**

At our final commemoration event, in November last year, we told the stories of Ellis Adshead from Portwood and William Wright from Heaton Norris.

Royal Artillery gunner Ellis had completed two and half years' service when he went home on leave on 5th December 1918 and became ill shortly afterwards. The twenty four year old soldier died on the 14th December, just 4 days after being admitted to the Second Western Military Hospital at Alexandra Park in Manchester

Twenty three year old William known as "Willie", a private in the Second Battalion Grenadier Guards, lost his life in a battle on 4th November 1918; a calamitous day when the Company lost a total of twenty men and saw a further eighty nine wounded. Young Willie is buried at Wargnies Le Petit Communal Cemetery in France and is commemorated on his family's headstone at Willow Grove.

Our service at Willow Grove opened at 10am to a medley of tunes played by Stockport Silver

Band, pending the arrival of the Mayor of Stockport Councillor Walter Brett, the Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Greater Manchester Janet Cuff, the Belgium Consulate John Meesus. Stephen Liversage from the Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWCG) and relatives of the soldiers whose stories we have told during the past five years.



Piper Stephen Plumber then led the parade, which included representatives of serving forces personnel together with local cadets to the screen wall. There at 11am, Geoff Baines of the Royal Regiment of the Lancashire Fusiliers Band played "The Last Post" in honour of those two local soldiers and all those who gave their lives in the Great War.

[Type text]

Following the laying of wreaths at the screen wall, the service moved on to the grave of the first soldier to be buried in the cemetery J.F Vermeulem, where a CWGC memorial was unveiled. Stockport Silver Band played throughout, and also accompanied songs from the Vari Vocals Choir.



Remembrance Sunday

Following a service at St Mary's Church by the Dean of the Heaton's, the Reverend Helen Scanlon, the Belle Vue Brass Band led a parade to lay wreaths and hold further services by the Reverend Helen Scanlon and Angie Stanton at the Reddish Road Cenotaph and Willow Groves Cross of Sacrifice.

In attendance were the Mayor of Stockport Cllr Walter Brett, local councillors, members of the police force and fire service, SS Hawkins Sea & Marine Cadets, officer from RAF air cadets and members of the Royal British

Legion, representatives of FOSC, and members of St. Mary's Parish Church.

Our sincere thanks go to all those who participated in and helped with this event.

FUNDING FOR FOSC.

2018 Vernon Community Awards.

The Vernon Building Society Community Awards Scheme was established in 2012, since which time over £70, 000 has been distributed among local charities and community groups. In 2018, FOSC were beneficiaries of this scheme and the photo below shows some of our members, along with other finalists, at the presentation ceremony. This award money will help to fund the ongoing renovation of the site of the Brunswick Chapel cemetery at Great Portwood Street and we should like to take this opportunity to thank the Vernon Building Society and all those who voted for us.

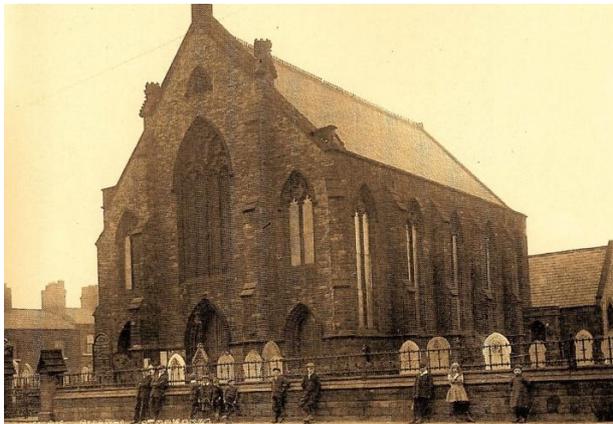


[Type text]

Tesco's community grant scheme.

Since 2015, Tesco, in partnership with local charity "Groundwork", has distributed over £71 million among more than 23,000 local community projects. FOSC have recently been awarded £2000 via this scheme, which will also go towards the Brunswick renovation work, a lot of which has already been undertaken by FOSC and Reddish Army Cadets. Anyone wishing to help with the ongoing restoration and maintenance work at Brunswick should contact Sheila Robins at sheilarobins@outlook.com

More details will feature in our next newsletter and are available at www.friendsofstockportcemeteries.co.uk



Brunswick Cemetery, Great Portwood Street, Stockport, built in 1848.

Newsletter by S Robins edited by Mo Fahey

STOCKPORT ENGINEERING TRAINING ASSOCIATION (SETA) OPEN DAY

Three members of FOSC took part in SETA's open day on 6th March this year, presenting display boards and liaising with other members of the community. The model aeroplane made by SETA apprentices for our centennial commemorative event formed a major focal point at the open day and generated a lot of interest among all attendees.



Future meetings FOSC



Dates of future meetings are
Wednesday 12th June 2019
Monday 12th August 2019
Wednesday 9th October 2019
Wednesday 4th December 2019
Start time 7pm
Please note change of venue to
Community room, Whitehall Fire
Station, Whitehill Street West,
Stockport.

[Type text]

Forthcoming Events, Meetings and Task Days.

Task Day.

Our next task day will be on Saturday 11th May at **Brunswick Cemetery** between 10.00am and 12.00noon.

Event

National Cemeteries Week – MAY.

FOSC are holding an open day at Park Road Cemetery during National Cemeteries Week 11th – 19th May 2019.

Our event will take place on Sunday 12th May between 12.00noon and 2pm... There will be an accompanied walk at 1pm, an opportunity to for children to do some stone rubbing. More information can be found on the web site.

www.friendsofstockportcemeteries.co.uk

DATA PROTECTION

As a group we hold data from newsletters, mailings, events etc. If you no longer wish to receive information for the group please send an email to sheilaarobins@outlook.com

Bits and Bobs

Brunswick Cemetery

More task days have been arranged for FOSC and Reddish Army cadets to continue to keep the cemetery well maintained and work on the project.

Anyone wishing to come along and help please contact.

sheilaarobins@outlook.com

Highfield Cemetery

Light at the end of the tunnel, re-surfacing on the main carriage way to remove the pot holes and enhance appearance of the cemetery to be carried out.

Highfield Cemetery & Park Road

The notice boards in Highfield and Park Cemetery will be renovated soon.

Park Road Cemetery

More bulbs have been planted along the main pathway by FOSC and SMBC

Newsletter by S Robins edited by Mo Fahey