

War Graves from both conflicts in Willow Grove Cemetery

There are graves from both World Wars in this cemetery. A War Cross is erected and there is also a Screen Wall bearing the names of those whose graves that are not marked by headstones.

All burials in Brunswick Methodist Church Burial Ground are now named on the Screen Wall. The number of identified casualties is 145. The Screen Wall, the Cross of Sacrifice and many graves of casualties of the World Wars across the cemetery are still maintained regularly by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.



The Screen Wall



The Cross of Sacrifice

1804 (Four Heaton's) Squadron Air Cadets and Friends of Stockport Cemeteries have worked closely together collating information to produce the military trail and leaflet.

Willow Grove Cemetery Central Drive (off Reddish Road) South Reddish, Stockport SK5 7JQ

How to get to Willow Grove Cemetery

By Car

There is limited street parking available but please park thoughtfully and consider our neighbours. A small car park, Woodhall Road car park, is a 5 minute walk away from cemetery.

By Bus

Bus Routes numbers, 7, 203, 374, pass along Reddish Road, alight at Birkdale Road. For public transport information call 0161 228 7811

Access

The cemetery is fully accessible for all, along the laid paths. Please enjoy your visit but remember that the cemetery has many trip hazards. We recommend that you remain on the footpaths.

Facilities

There are no facilities at this cemetery.



Willow Grove Cemetery

Military Trail

Discover a fascinating insight into the remarkable stories of those who gave their lives in the World Wars

Joseph Lister V.C.
Old Boy of Houldsworth School
and Hero of World War 1
who is buried in
Willow Grove Cemetery



1
Soldat Jean Francois Vermeulen
Died 28th October 1914
Age 23

Private Soldat Jean Francois Vermeulen 59694 served with infantry 1 Linie Regiment 2nd Battalion 1st Company of the Belgian Army. Died in Stockport Infirmary of tetanus from wounds received on 21st October 1914 at Kaaskerke, near Diksmuide during the battle of Yzer.



2
Rifleman
John Horrocks, D.C.M.
7th Bn., King's Royal Rifle Corps.
Died 2nd March 1916. Age 20

Died of wounds received at Ypres Dec 1915. He was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal for gallantry.



3
Seaman Laurence Hoyle
Leading Air Fitter
Died 27th March 1943
Age 20

On 27 March 1943, HMS Dasher was in the Firth of Clyde when one of her Swordfish planes was practicing take-offs and landings. Suddenly a violent internal explosion occurred sending Dasher to the bottom in only 5 minutes. 379 men drowned and 149 men were picked up by rescue vessels.



4
Private Harry Greaves
Non Combatant Corps
Died 11th January 1942
Age 26

Over 400 NCC soldiers died defusing bombs. Generally joined on religious grounds, not to fight. They became stretcher carriers, bomb disposal or ambulance drivers.



D.C.M. - Distinguished Conduct Medal
M.C. - Military Cross
V.C. - Victoria Cross



5
Sgt. William Tait Croall
Wire Operator/Air Gunner
Royal Air Force Voluntary Reserve
Died 19 August 1942. Age 25



6
Sgt. William Beeley
Wire Operator/Air Gunner
Royal Air Force Voluntary Res.
Died 19 August 1942. Age 21

Both of the above airmen were killed in an air crash in Northumberland during a navigational exercise. It was possible their Whitley Mk V had been mistaken for a German bomber.



7
Second Lieutenant
Tom Casson, M.C.
Cheshire Regiment
Died 17th May 1917. Age 21

He saw action at Gallipoli and was wounded in the shoulder on 9 June 1915. He recovered but was then killed in a training accident when a faulty grenade prematurely exploded. He was buried with full military honours.



8
Sgt. Joseph Lister, V.C.
Sgt. 1st Bn. Lancashire Fusiliers

At the 3rd Battle of Ypres Belgium, October 9 1917 Sgt. Lister dashed ahead of his men and found a machine gun firing from a shell hole in front of a pill-box. He shot two of the enemy gunners, and the remainder surrendered to him. He then went on to the pill-box and shouted to the occupants to surrender. They did so with the exception of one man, whom Sgt. Lister shot dead; whereupon about 100 of the enemy emerged from shell holes further to the rear and surrendered. For this action he was awarded the Victoria Cross.

More information about war graves can be found on www.findagrave.com and www.willowgrove.org.uk

Willow Grove also has a Tree Trail and History Trail, with accompanying leaflets from the website or obtained from Stockport Tourist Information Office.