



# **FRIENDS OF HIGH ROYDS MEMORIAL GARDEN**

**NEWSLETTER 12 – April 2018**



**OPEN MEETING & AGM  
Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> April  
7-30pm – Kirklands  
Community Centre,  
Main Street, Menston**

After a short AGM to approve the accounts and elect the committee we have been fortunate in that Helen Kemp, the Chief Executive Officer of Leeds Mind will give a talk on public attitudes and how the modern community services are dealing with the problem of mental ill-health.

Tea and biscuits will be served and there will be ample opportunity for discussion and questions. We look forward to seeing you.

**ROYAL &  
GOVERNMENTAL  
RECOGNITION !**



As we advised you in our last Newsletter we were honoured to receive a Community Award from the Duke of York last year. The volunteers were highly commended by the Duke for the work in restoring the Memorial Garden & Wood.

We are therefore doubly pleased to announce that together with the main site of the former High Royds Hospital the Memorial Garden & Wood is officially recognised by Historic England as being of Special Historic Interest.

**The official notification is as follows;**

*Landscape associated with the former High Royds Hospital, Bradford Road, Menston, West Yorkshire. List Entry Number 1001469.*

***“After receiving representations from the developers we considered removing the above site from the Register We have completed our assessment and Historic England has decided not to remove the site from the Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic in England.”***



*N.B Historic England is an executive non-departmental public body of the British Government sponsored by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport. It is tasked with protecting the historical environment of England by preserving and listing historic buildings, ancient monuments and advising central and local Government.*

## **LOOKING TO THE FUTURE**

**Since we became the owners of the site in 2010 work has been carried out in three stages: Restoration of the graveyard; the Chapel and then in 2017 – the Wood. This has created what is now called**

## ***An Oasis of Peace***



**An Oasis which is becoming increasingly important as the area becomes more and more developed. In order to maintain and develop this peaceful site, further initiatives are under consideration. We are pleased to be able to support the Bat & Bird Boxes initiative organised by the Menston Community Association and funded by the Co-op Community Development fund.**

**As you may have read in the press, or heard at the meeting on March 27th, these boxes will be placed throughout the village including the**

## Memorial Garden & Wood.



*Organisers and children pictured at the recent well-attended Open Meeting to discuss and learn more about the initiative.*



**A further project which has been suggested is the creation of a Sensory Garden in a section of the three acre Memorial Garden & Wood.**

**Sensory Gardens have been successfully introduced in other parts of the country and have proved to be a blessing to many people who are blind or partially sighted. They appeal to all five senses and are also beneficial for people suffering from other forms of sensory deprivation or Dementia.**

**This project would require funding, which we are actively looking into. Professional advice is also being**

**obtained. We have, for example contacted Alan Titchmarsh, who was born in Ilkley, for his advice. We are fortunate that all the paths in the garden already conform to official disabled standards. It is early days and comments or suggestions are always welcome.**

## **OPEN DAY – SATURDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> JULY - 10AM TO 4PM.**

**As in previous years we will be holding an Open Day to which all are invited. Further details will be published nearer the time but in addition to refreshments there will be flowers and plants for sale at reduced prices.**



*Parking and toilet facilities will be available at the Hare & Hounds by courtesy of the management.*





## DIARY NOTES

**April 25<sup>th</sup>** – Kirklands - 7-30pm - Open Meeting & AGM – Guest Speaker – Helen Kemp – CEO – Leeds Mind

**June 22<sup>nd</sup>** – *Ladies Please Concert* - Methodist Church Hall – 7-30am. Proceeds to the Memorial Garden.

**July 14<sup>th</sup>** – Memorial Garden Open Day and Flower/Plant Sale. 10am to 4pm

**September 15-16** – Heritage Open Days with Thanksgiving Service at 4pm on the Sunday. Further details will be published nearer the time

## LAST BUT BY NO MEANS LEAST!

To maintain the garden and keep up the high standard which has attracted national as well as local attention requires many different gifts so thank you to all concerned. The contributions by standing order are very helpful and appreciated as are offers to help with the cleaning of the chapel or occasional weeding. These are not too time consuming and an hour or so a month would be

e-mail

a great help.

	Please tick
I WOULD LIKE TO SUPPORT THE MEMORIAL GARDEN BY:	
a. Giving a regular amount of £-- ----- by standing order every month (we will provide the necessary bank details)	
b. Arrange a coffee morning or similar fund raising event	
c. Helping with weeding and planting etc	
d Helping to clean the chapel – polishing brass work etc. (Please contact Ron ).	

Name			
Address			

Telephone

***Any suggestions and offers of help will be gratefully received.***



Thanks to John Naylor, a Management Committee member, there is a Computer Time-line giving a detailed history of how the Memorial Garden has been restored and developed over the years Full details can be found on the website:

<https://menstonmemorialgarden.wordpress.com>

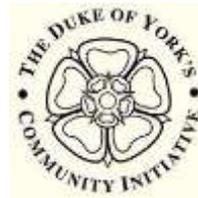
For details regarding the former High Royds Hospital, details of the general Asylum System and books such as *Voices from the Asylum*, *Asylum (Inside the Pauper Lunatic Asylums)*, *West Riding Pauper Asylum Through Time* please see the website:

[www.highroydshospital.com](http://www.highroydshospital.com)

This website and books have been researched, written and published by author and historian Mark Davis. Mark has been a member of the Management Committee since its inception and the books/website contain a wealth of information.



**HIGH ROYDS MEMORIAL GARDEN**  
*Highly commended by  
Yorkshire in Bloom*



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