

## Restoration of the Rose Garden Cafe

The Friends are working in Partnership with Sheffield City Council and the Save the Rose Garden Café Campaign group, to fully restore and renovate the café. We are very busy, helping with fundraising as well as continuing to monitor fundraising successes. This year a fundraising quiz, Easter Fayre and David's walks, plus donations online and in person have taken the total to £24,445. Café hot drink 10p donations, combined with the cash boxes, have so far raised well over £3,000.

**We are receiving offers in kind;** if you are able to offer materials or labour from a business, or if you know of a business that would like to sponsor the restoration, please get in touch.

Email: [rosegardencafeappeal@hmail.com](mailto:rosegardencafeappeal@hmail.com)

**The Partnership has split the project** into phases, to maximise the impacts of the public funds raised. These include:

- ❖ Repairs to the front wall
- ❖ New roof covering
- ❖ New windows
- ❖ Renovation of the Clock Tower
- ❖ Improved toilets and access
- ❖ New kitchen
- ❖ New exterior seating



Easter Fayre 2025



David's Walk May 2025

**The Friends are still planning to have all the work complete with a grand opening by July 2027, when the café first opened to the public as a tea pavilion.**

For regular updates on progress, visit the SCC website:

<https://haveyoursay.sheffield.gov.uk/rose-garden-cafe>

**Anyone wishing to join in with fundraising or donate** can find further details on our website, or visit our Just Giving fundraising page.

<https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/RoseGardenCafeGravesPark>

**Join us! Become a member of Friends of Graves Park and help us to protect and improve J. G. Graves's generous gift.** By becoming a member, **for only £3 a year**, you help us to have a louder voice.

FRIENDS OF GRAVES PARK

c/o

141 Mount View Road  
Sheffield  
S8 8PJ

Tel: 0114 2589562

[www.gravespark.org](http://www.gravespark.org)

<https://friendsofgravespark.org/>

[friends@gravespark.org](mailto:friends@gravespark.org)

©Friends of Graves Park 2025



Charity no: 1080407

# Friends of Graves Park

Newsletter

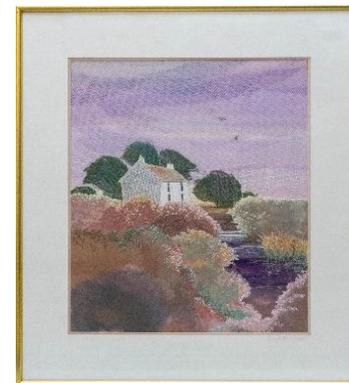
Summer 2025

## Introduction from the Chairman

Welcome to the Friends of Graves Park's summer newsletter. I am pleased to invite all members to our AGM for this year, which will be held at the Rose Garden Café on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 6.30-8.30 p.m.

## Painting Auction

The well-known Sheffield artist, Isabel Blicow, has very kindly donated an original painting of the Rose Garden Café, to raise funds for the Rose Garden Café Renovation Project. The painting will be auctioned on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September, at Sheffield Auction Gallery, together with 2 textile works of art, also by Isabel.

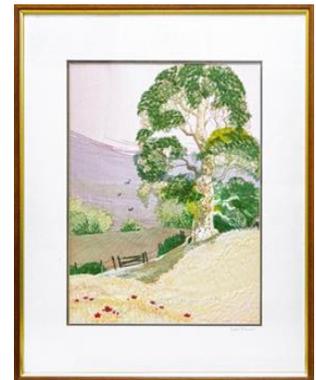


Textile Artwork 2



Rose Garden Cafe Painting

Sheffield Auction Gallery are waiving all fees for these sales, so all proceeds will go to the Project. The Friends are extremely grateful and appreciative of this very kind gift from Isabel. We are also very grateful and delighted at the very generous support of Sheffield Auction Gallery, for offering their expertise in the auctioning of these pictures. The auction catalogue will be available to view online and bids can be submitted prior to the auction as well as on the day. We do hope that some of you will be interested in putting in a bid for this worthy cause.



Textile Artwork 1

## Finding Lost Norton Park: Digging Deeper for All Update

The results of our recent project, made possible by a grant of £142,770 from the National Lottery Heritage Fund, are still helping visitors to Graves Park truly appreciate its heritage and ecology. The FOGP and South Yorkshire Biodiversity Research Group will keep sharing the information collected via websites and events.



The pocket maps, covering the Heritage, Trees and Wildlife themes within the park, are still available to collect in the Rose Garden Café and the Animal Farm, although they are now in short supply! They will continue to be available online on our websites. The replacement noticeboards for the park are now in place at the main entrances, with project information and a guide to new visitors to



Tree Trail

the park. The information boards, which give information about the ponds, Bole Hill and the Old London Road, the Rose Garden and Café and the Summerhouse, all give extra information about these key features.

For more information and to explore the results of our project, go here:

<https://friendsofgravespark.org/home-page/digging-deeper-for-all/>

[https://www.ukeconet.org/lostonortonpark\\_2.html](https://www.ukeconet.org/lostonortonpark_2.html)

## Charity Commission Correspondence Update

The Friends attended the Charity Subcommittee meeting in March, to comment on SCC's report about the Norton Nurseries part of the park and their continued use of it as a depot and waste collection site. The Friends think this report was misleading. The Council is still requesting a 12 month temporary licence. It is over 12 months since the Charity Commission advised that SCC were in breach of trust, yet nothing has changed. **We are still asking for the 3<sup>rd</sup> section of the site for restoration.** If this could be

released to the FOGP, as it is not being used for depot activities, **we could start restoration to parkland almost immediately.** We have written to the Charity Commission to express our concerns about the delays and the unsuitability of the Charity Subcommittee as trustees. The Council has been told that trusteeships should be more democratic, as the current situation leads to a conflict of interest. We hope that the Charity Commission will instruct SCC to comply with their advice promptly. The Friends continue to promise to resource the restoration at no cost to the Council; when we finally get the go ahead, we will be asking you for your support!



Noticeboard Derbyshire Lane

## Chantreyland Meadow and Arboretum

In January 2025 the Meadow had completed its productive period. All seed heads had been eaten by birds. The whole area looked overgrown and was totally waterlogged, looking impossible to mow; the SCC mowers had gone for servicing. Tom from the Animal Farm offered to flail the area, by using a tractor. Given that the

area was flooded, Tom said he might rut the ground and create a mess. However, with some skill and a dry day, he removed the overgrown foliage to ground level, enabling the cowslips to grow successfully, flower and give a resultant good show later in the spring.

**Whilst everywhere has suffered** because of the drought, the meadow is still wet; the wild flowers are growing successfully. **Recently youths vandalised trees**, cutting down the pink berried rowan, however, this tree will grow again. Some holly bushes were also damaged; we will lose this autumn's berries, but they will regrow. All the bee friendly newly planted perennials were untouched by the vandals. **A new noticeboard supplied by the FOGP** project had not been installed thus missing the spate of vandalism!

**Due to wet weather, FOGP** were unable to improve the frog pond at NPV entrance. It was also a poor year for the daffodils. These have now been dead headed and fed to encourage an improved flowering period for next spring. **Volunteers resurfaced and repaired** the waterlogged and muddy paths with aggregate, making a vast improvement.



Chantreyland Meadow Noticeboard