

Friends Of Nunhead Cemetery (FONC)

NUNHEAD CEMETERY GUIDED TOURS

The dates for our regular programme of general and themed tours and walks, usually on Sunday afternoons, can be found on our website www.fonc.org. No booking is required for these scheduled tours. In addition to these free guided tours, we offer a range of tours for private special interest groups, ranging from national Societies, schools/colleges, and to informal walking groups, at other times which do need to be booked in advance. FONC has full public liability insurance cover. Details of all tours can be found below.

GENERAL TOURS

Experienced volunteer FONC guides lead a walk around the more significant parts of this 52-acre cemetery in south-east London. It is one of the 'Magnificent Seven' cemeteries laid out in a ring around London between 1831 and 1842 to address the appalling burial conditions in London's overcrowded church-yards. It is perhaps the least known but most attractive of the Seven.

The walk takes between one-and-a-half to two hours (depending on weather, questions and requests from attendees!). Shorter tours can be arranged on request. At various stops on the walk, guides will give a brief overview of the Victorian garden cemetery movement and the history of Nunhead Cemetery and the private company that owned it. We visit the principal architectural features and monuments, relate the stories of some of its 'Notables', and discuss its original planting and its current environmental importance. The role of the Friends and the future of the cemetery is also highlighted.

THEMED TOURS

In addition to general tours we can offer a range of themed tours. Presently available are: *Nunhead and the Music Hall*; *Woodland tree and shrub walks*; *Women of Nunhead Cemetery*; *Nunhead and the battle of Waterloo*; *Military Connections from 1789 to World War Two*; *Nunhead's World War One casualties*; *Nunhead's World War Two casualties*; *Visits to the Anglican chapel and its crypt*; *Cemetery Symbols*; *Black History walk* .

Tours can be arranged for any day of the week except Sundays and can be morning or afternoon between 10:00 and 16:00 (a little later in summer months). We do not usually take evening walks.

We do not charge for our tours but we are always grateful to receive donations. When asked, we suggest a minimum donation of £3 per person, all proceeds going to our general funds for the maintenance of the cemetery. Schools/colleges will not be expected to make a donation. At the end of the tour, FONC's publications and enquiries desk has a wide range of publications about various aspects of the cemetery for sale and you can join the Friends for just £2 per annum.

Toilet and secure bag storage facilities are available on site and free parking is available by the Main Gates on Linden Grove, SE15 3LP. The nearest station is Nunhead which is a less than 10-minute walk away. Bus routes P12 and 78 run nearby. Please assemble inside the cemetery entrance at Linden Grove (not Limesford Road except by arrangement) by walking past the West Lodge, turning immediately right to in front of the FONC cabin.

Visitors should wear suitable clothing and stout footwear, especially if it has been wet beforehand, as some paths are a little uneven or can become very muddy. There is a fairly easy climb up to the West Hill. This can be challenging for wheelchairs/scooters when descending but we have managed this in the past. Unfortunately, the chapel and crypt are not currently wheelchair accessible. There are four steps up to the chapel and one large step down to the crypt entrance. Once inside, the floors are flat.

Bookings can be made by e-mailing fonc@btconnect.com or phoning 07862 098058

