



St James' Heritage & Environment Group

Celebrate Christmas with St James' Heritage & Environment Group December Festive Event

Wednesday 5th December 1-5pm
St James' Church, Benwell

Join us for our Christmas Celebration Event

This year we are showing two Christmas films as well as the usual mulled wine, tea and mince pies - and a chance to catch up with friends old and new.

Join us for one or both films

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| 1pm | Doors open |
| 1.30 | Alistair Sim stars in the classic 1951 film <i>Scrooge</i> |
| 3.00 | Music, mulled wine, tea and mince pies |
| 3.30 | Michael Caine stars in this 1992 version of <i>Christmas Carol</i> |

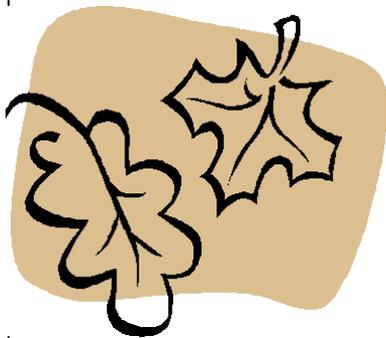
*Free of charge to members of the Heritage & Environment Group
(Membership costs £2 for the year or £10 for Life Membership)*

Thank you for your support

The Heritage & Environment Group is still wholly run by volunteers and all the money we raise goes towards improving the graveyard and running events, activities and projects to explore and celebrate our heritage and environment.

Contact us: St James' Heritage and Environment Group

Write c/o Good Neighbour Project, 12/14 Sunnybank Ave, Newcastle upon Tyne NE15 6SD
Tel 0191 2528675 Email: judith.green@unn.ac.uk
website: <http://stjameschurchnewcastle.wordpress.com>



Visit the graveyard

We meet every Tuesday afternoon to work in the graveyard at St James'.

Even at this time of year there is lots to do - clearing leaves, planting new hedge plants and bulbs, and much more. Come along and look around the graveyard any Tuesday afternoon between 2.00 – 3.30pm.

If you are interested in family or local history, we also have a data-base of the graves and a complete copy of the St James' burial records as well as publications and information. You can get a light lunch before at *Lunchbreak* in the church hall between 12-1.30pm or have a cup of tea during the afternoon.

Volunteers

Interested in helping? The Group welcomes any help with running the Tuesday drop-in or special events, researching local history, tidying and working in the graveyard, or anything else. Regular or occasional help welcome. If you would like to discuss this, visit us on a Tuesday afternoon, or tel 0191 2528675 or email judith.green@unn.ac.uk

Some highlights of 2012

Cultural Olympiad

During the run-up to the Olympic Games this summer, the Group became part of the national Cultural Olympiad when our drama and film project *Children in the Churchyard: Stories from the Past* featured in an official exhibition at the Holy Biscuit gallery.

From little acorns

Visitors to the graveyard can see how much it has been brightened up over the last couple of years by new planting. This summer we planted a lot of wild flower seeds, with the help of visiting groups including children from local schools. We also recently helped Bridgewater School plant an oak sapling in their new garden.

War and Peace in the West End

A brand new exhibition at St James' Church features *Wartime Memories*, local people's stories of living through the events of the last war. This is based on interviews carried out by the Group, which also contributed a display about the local armaments and shipbuilding industry. The exhibition is open to visitors every Tuesday 12-4pm, and can also be viewed during the Christmas Celebration Event on December 5th.

Meeting the Ancestors

The sun shone on the Group's May event as volunteers told visitors to the graveyard about some of the illustrious people buried there.

