

St James' Heritage & Environment Group

Drop in and see us

Every Tuesday we run a drop-in session at St James' from 12-4pm for anyone who would like to look around the church or graveyard, see our exhibitions and publications, watch archive film from the local area, search our records of the burials at St James' or look for other information about local or family history, or just have a cup of tea and a chat.

There is also a full programme of activities happening on Tuesday afternoons - including guided tours, family history advice sessions, slide shows and archive film showings - for details see our programme or look at our website (<http://stjameschurchnewcastle.wordpress.com>).

Volunteer with us

The Group is wholly run by volunteers. It is independent of the church, and you don't have to be a church-goer to get involved. We welcome any help with tidying and working in the graveyard, running the Tuesday drop-in or special events, researching local history, or anything else. Regular or occasional help welcome.

Contact us

C/o Search, 74 Adelaide Terrace, Newcastle upon Tyne NE4 9JN
Drop in to St James' Church any Tuesday afternoon 12-4pm
Tel 0191 2528675 Email: stjamesbenwell@gmail.com
Website: <http://stjameschurchnewcastle.wordpress.com>

Newsletter 10 April/May 2015



St James' Heritage & Environment Group

Summer Celebration Event **NEVER FELT SO GOOD!**

Tuesday 12th May 2 - 4pm
St James' Church, Benwell

Annual General Meeting (starts at 2pm)

Premiere of our new film about St James' graveyard

Local launch of new book: "Never felt so good"

Try the graveyard treasure trail

Strawberry cream tea (please book for this)

Contact us: Tel 0191 2528675 Email: stjamesbenwell@gmail.com

Interested in family or local history?

Do you have any queries about burials at St James'?

We now have a complete database of all burials in the graveyard. Although the original burial plan was lost years ago, our research has enabled us to identify the locations for about two thirds of all burials. Visit or email and we will do our best to answer your queries.

Are you looking for tips on how to research your family history?

We run monthly drop-in family history advice sessions on the first Tuesday of the month – 5th May, 2nd June, 7th July, 4th August, 1st September, 6th October, 3rd November and 1st December - between 2-4pm.

Are you looking for information about the history of this area?

Our volunteers are very knowledgeable about the history of the area and can usually give you the information you want or signpost you to somewhere you can find it. We also have a stock of free local history books and heritage guides, local history books for sale, and a small reference library of publications about the area.

Do you have any information or photos to share?

If you have any information about the history of the area or about people buried at St James' we would love to hear it. We are also interested in seeing old photos of your family or the local area.

Remembering the First World War

Our local project looking at the impact of the First World War on the people of Benwell and Scotswood is well underway. We are finding it difficult to get information about those commemorated on the local war memorials at St James' and St Margaret's Churches. Please tell us if you know of anyone in your family who died in the War.

A hundred years ago

62 men listed on these two local war memorials are known to have died during 1915. These are some of the important events of that year:

19 January	First German Zeppelin raid on the east coast of England
19 February	British naval forces bombard forts in the Dardanelles
22 April	Second battle of Ypres begins
25 April	Allied forces land at Gallipoli
7 May	Sinking of the Lusitania
21 May	Italy joins the Allies
5 August	German troops capture Warsaw
25 Sept	Battle of Loos begins
18 Dec	Allies start evacuation from Gallipoli

Wor Life in the West End

In the autumn St James' is hosting an exhibition from the Discovery Museum about the impact of the First World War on the west end of Newcastle. Join us for the launch event – with coffee, scones and a talk – on Friday 11 September at 10.30am.