



Friends of  
West Norwood  
CEMETERY

## Events 2017

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Introductory tours will be held on the first Sunday of each month, 11.00 January to March, 14.30 April to October, 11.00 November to December, starting at the cemetery main gate off Norwood Road and lasting for 1½-2 hours. There is no formal charge, but we welcome donations towards conservation projects.

Lectures will be held in the lounge of Chatsworth Baptist Church (access by the Family Centre entrance), Idmiston Road, SE27, as detailed below, starting at 14.30. There is no formal charge, but we welcome donations to cover refreshments and room hire.

### **Saturday 18 February – The Cemeteries of South London – Dr Brian Parsons**

There are over 130 cemeteries in the London area, approximately half of them south of the Thames. Norwood and Nunhead were amongst the first privately-owned garden cemeteries, but from the 1850s they were joined by a raft of burial board cemeteries making local authorities the largest provider of burial space. Between the wars a third wave of cemetery provision occurred before the demand for space was challenged by the shifting preference for cremation. Brian Parsons is the author of *Committed to the Cleansing Flame: The Development of Cremation in Nineteenth Century England* (see FoWNC Newsletter 55, January 2006) and co-author (with Hugh Meller) of Edition 4 of *London Cemeteries: An Illustrated Guide and Gazetteer* (see FoWNC Newsletter 63, September 2008).

### **Saturday 18 March - The Talfourds - Prof Michael Slater**

Dickens biographer Michael Slater will speak about one of Dickens's dearest friends, the MP and playwright Sir Thomas Noon Talfourd (1795–1854; grave 1,452, square 34), who later became a judge (see FoWNC Newsletter 87, September 2016). He will talk especially about Talfourd's son Frank (1828–1862), a true Bohemian, who wrote some of the best Shakespeare burlesques of the mid-Victorian period, notably *Hamlet Travestie* and *Shylock, or the Merchant of Venice Preserved*.

### **Saturday 21 October – AGM and Lecture: Sir Horace Jones - Dr Jennifer Freeman FSA**

As architect to the City of London, Horace Jones (1819–1887; grave 12,335, square 89) designed the Guildhall Library, Smithfield market and reconstructed Billingsgate and Leadenhall markets. He also designed Tower Bridge in collaboration with the engineer Sir John Wolfe Barry. He was President of the Royal Institute of British Architects, 1882–3. Dr Freeman is President of The Friends of Kensal Green Cemetery.

### **Saturday 18 November - The Music Hall Guild of Great Britain and America - Matthew Neil**

Matthew Neil is Chairman of the Trustees of The Music Hall Guild of Great Britain and America and the Theatre and Film Guild of Great Britain and America, a registered theatre charity and non-profit making theatre organisation based in London. At Norwood they have recently restored the monument to the comedian R.H. Kitchen and his son, the music hall entertainer Fred Kitchen (grave 32,791, square 68/80 – see FoWNC Newsletter 86, May 2016). Fred Kitchen was the inspiration for Charlie Chaplin's famous 'tramp' walk. Other restorations at Norwood are planned.

Friends of West Norwood Cemetery, [www.fownc.org](http://www.fownc.org). For details of additional events please register an email address at [secretary@fownc.org](mailto:secretary@fownc.org).