



Central Durham Crematorium Joint Committee

1st September 2020

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: Donation from the ICCM Metal Recycling Scheme

I am writing on behalf of the Trustees of the Friends of Durham Woodland Cemetery (DWC) to express our sincere gratitude for the generous donation awarded to us from the ICCM Metals Recycling Scheme.

As you know, Durham Woodland Cemetery is a relatively new type of provision offered by Durham County Council to those bereaved families that prefer a natural setting for the burial of their loved ones or their ashes. Often, the choice of DWC is deeply personal, and reflects a commitment to nature and the environment, with many people having booked plots years in advance.

Our Friends group was set up with the aim of enhancing these personal connections, providing help and advice to those who are exploring a Woodland burial, and providing a route for volunteers to engage with the care and maintenance of the site. Our membership is open to anyone who wishes to maintain a link with this special place.

Recently we have been exploring ways to provide a more tangible way for members to get involved, with the idea of fundraising for a specific project. We are exploring ideas for a more permanent memorial bearing the names of loved ones, that could also provide a focal point for the Woodland, or a place for visitors to rest and shelter from the weather. This incredibly generous donation will enable us to make huge strides to making these ideas a reality.

We will never forget that this contribution is made possible by relatives who are mourning the loss of their loved ones, and who have to make difficult decisions about the conduct of a funeral at a very emotional and stressful time. We intend to ensure that their generosity, and that of your committee is commemorated in all that we do with this donation.

With sincere thanks, on behalf of all the Trustees

Matthew Jones