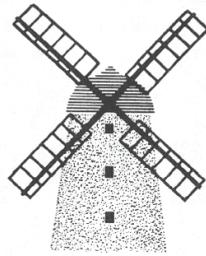


Tel: 01253 733563
e-mail:marion.coupe@gmail.com
Web site: www.lscivic.org



Church Farm House
23 Commonside
Lytham St Annes
FY8 4EX

4th November 2009

Lytham St Annes Civic Society

Service of commemoration at St Annes Parish Church 6th December

The restoration of the graveside memorial to some of the 27 lifeboatmen who died in the wreck of the Mexico in 1886 is now complete. This has been a partnership between ourselves, the RNLI, St Annes Parish Church, and the Local Strategic Partnership. Over £11,000 has been raised so far and we are grateful to all those who have contributed. The total cost is £15,000. The work has been done by the Conservation Technologies Department of the Liverpool Museums Service and necessitated the erection of scaffolding and a shelter over the tall Celtic cross for over six months to enable it to dry out and then be treated. If we had not acted now the cross is likely to have been lost as it was in a very bad state of deterioration.

A service of thanks and commemoration will be held at the church on 6th December at 10.30am. It will be attended by some of the crew of the present day lifeboat "Her Majesty the Queen", the mayors of Fylde and St Annes, relatives of the dead, and donors to the appeal. All are welcome. There will be refreshments after the service in the Parish Rooms where there will be an exhibition of various artefacts and photographs relating to the tragedy. We do hope you will be able to attend.

The Mexico disaster is still the worst tragedy in the history of the RNLI, and is particularly poignant as the town which supported the "Laura Janet" was little more than ten years old in 1886.

If you would like to know more please phone or email the above contact details.

Yours sincerely

Marion Coupe