JOHANNESBURG

28 January 2024

To all supporters of the Friends of Johannesburg Cemeteries

As many of you know, the Friends of Johannesburg Cemeteries (FOJC) is an important subcommittee of the Johannesburg Heritage Foundation (JHF).

The FOJC and its group of volunteers is dedicated to cleaning up our city's burial grounds (including the restoration of headstones, de-weeding, landscape maintenance, etc.). One of the FOJC's major projects over the past year has been to restore the Memorial Ash Walls at Braamfontein Cemetery, which were callously vandalised in April 2023.

Thanks to the generosity of donors and the public, FOJC has made great progress in restoring the Ash Walls – the final resting place for many of Joburg's early citizens. Thus far, about 50% of the granite plaques have been replaced, 4 beehives have been removed, and the builders are making sure that the open niches are kept dry. Check out the photos below to see how far we've come...

However, restoration of the ash walls is proving to be an expensive and lengthy process, and we are running short of funds to keep paying the builders (who have done such an amazing job). Although City Parks have been supportive of our restoration, they are not in a position to offer any monetary support. As such, we need to cover the builders' fee of R7500 per week as well as expenses such as building supplies, granite plaques, removal of bee hives, etc.

So, FOJC is appealing to all Joburgers and supporters from around the world to contribute whatever they can so that we may continue with this important work.

If you would like to donate, please contact <u>cemeteries@joburgheritage.org.za</u> or <u>mail@joburgheritage.org.za</u>.

Please note: all contributions will be processed through the JHF's Finance Committee and 100% of funds received for the FOJC will be allocated accordingly.

Many thanks Sarah Welham – FOJC Founder



Before:





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