

## Restoration Process

Work was undertaken in October 2011 by Hirst Conservation and included:

- Condition survey and full photographic record
- Cleaning of bronze using the Doff steam pressure system
- Cleaning of stonework using steam and Jos/Torc as required
- Localised re-pointing to the plinth in lime mortar
- Cleaning and re-patination of the bronze statue
- Application of a protective wax coating
- Detailed documentation of all intervention with photographic records

As shown in the pictures all work was carried out by hand by fully trained conservators. A great deal of care was taken to ensure all the areas of the statues were protected whilst work was undertaken on each section using chemicals etc.



During restoration

## Funders

The funding for the work was secured by the Friends of Spa Gardens working in partnership with Harrogate Borough Council Parks Service.

Funders included:

- Heritage Lottery Fund
- The War Memorials Trust
- Ripon City Council
- Econ Engineering
- Ripon and District Branch of the Royal Engineers Association
- Ripon Spa Hotel

Friends of  
Spa Gardens  
& Spa Park



LOTTERY FUNDED



A small rededication of the War Memorial and Marquess of Ripon statue took place in Ripon Spa Gardens on Monday 21 November 2011, with representatives from the funders as well as other dignitaries present.

# Ripon Spa Gardens & Spa Park Celebration of our Heritage



After restoration

George Frederick Robinson - Marquess of Ripon

Harrogate  
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Working for you

# George Frederick Robinson - Marquess of Ripon

George Frederick was born in No 10 Downing Street when his father, Viscount Goderich, was briefly and unsuccessfully Prime Minister. For most of his adult life he was known as Earl de Grey.

Earl de Grey was by nature a Christian socialist. He pioneered and championed the co-operative movement. He believed that every man in the country should be given the vote (cast by secret ballot) to promote good and stable government.

Unsurprisingly, he was viewed as a dangerous radical – a title in which he gloried even in old age.

He became an MP in 1852 and led a group of radicals in the Commons. He succeeded his father in the Lords in 1859 and two years later became a minister in the War Office under Palmerston. He worked closely with Florence Nightingale to improve the conditions of the common soldier. He was Secretary of State for India in 1866 and in 1868 he became Lord President of the Council.



Before restoration

In 1871 he averted a war with the United States over the Alabama affair, personally persuading the American negotiator of Britain's good standing.

As a result of his work, his lordship became the 1st Marquess of Ripon.

In 1873 he converted to Roman Catholicism – a national scandal at a time when 'popery' was still feared. Despite the outcry, he was highly-respected, and in 1880 Gladstone made him Viceroy of India.

There he had to deal with problems caused by his predecessor, especially those of Afghanistan. He reformed the local government structure of almost all the Indian provinces, and is still respected as one of the men who laid the foundations of Indian independence.

His later career saw him working (often at Studley Royal) on the Irish problem, and serving as First Lord of the Admiralty. In 1905, when he was 75, he became Lord Privy Seal and leader of the Liberals in the Lords. He finally retired in 1908, and died on 9 July 1909.



During restoration

## War Memorial

This Grade II listed statue in the Spa Gardens was installed following World War One. In 1919 the War Memorial Committee proposed a column in stone with a bronze figure of a soldier on top.

The plinth lists the names of the Ripon people who gave their lives for their country in the Great War 1914-1918 and World War 1939-1945.



During restoration



After restoration



During restoration