



St Albans Woodland
Burial Trust

Registered Charity No. 1118216

Woodland Burial *The natural choice*



Trust Creates Six New Glades and Avenue of Trees

This new avenue of trees leads to some of the six beautiful new glades which have been created over the past few months, They will enable us to continue to provide for the increasing demand for woodland burial and interment of ashes.

Our glades are all called after birds, what do you think we should call these new glades - please let our Administrator Linda know your thoughts.



News from Linda Parry - Administrator

This last twelve months has probably been the most interesting since we started. After a lengthy procedure we have now been able to open a further 9.4 acres of Woodland which means that we now have almost 12 acres.

Will Saunders, our groundsman, has worked very hard to prepare the new glades against the odds. We started preparation early in the year, all was ready for final dressing and seeding..... and then the rain came!!

The whole of Britain was under water and everything became somewhat soggy. Other burial grounds had to cease work but our land was well drained beneath the surface and we were able to continue to make plots available for those who wanted a natural burial. The surface of the woodland was wet and Wellingtons became the order of the day.

The final work on the glades was only completed at the beginning of July. Will Saunders put in long hours for us. He and his men have done a fantastic job.

As many of you will know we have discovered some Common Spotted Orchid and Adder's Tongue Fern in the Woodland. We hope that, with care, they will increase in number. The number and variety of wild flowers has certainly increased over the years which adds to the beauty and simplicity of the area.

The Trust has decided that only one bio-pot per plot is allowed per grave. Mr Neil Kinselley makes these for us and the bamboo has to be imported. He is finding it difficult to acquire and the price is increasing each time. Thank you for your understanding and keeping the Woodland as simple and as natural as possible.

I never cease to be amazed at the variety of containers which our clients use for the cremated remains of their loved ones. We have had port wine boxes, whisky containers, boxes which husbands or family have made at school and even strong paper bags. Anything which is natural and biodegradable is suitable, some examples are shown opposite. We have had some really special services which are very personal and dignified.

The highlight of the year came in June with the consecration of the new area of Woodland. The Bishop of Bedford, The Right Reverend Richard Atkinson, officiated with a good number of attendees. We had been looking forward to that day for a long time, it is good to know that all is now as it should be and we are set to be able to offer burials for a long time to come.

Now that we have the new glades almost ready we should like some help with naming them. We already have Skylark, Robin, Curlew, Goldcrest, Linnet, Dove, Owl, Lark, Swift, Kestrel and Wren. Any suggestions to me please.

Thank you all for keeping the Woodland so carefully tidy and natural. Unfortunately we do not have room for cars up in the glades so, unless you are transporting someone who is infirm, we ask that you leave your car in the car park and walk to the glades. It has been noted that someone has driven a car up the new walkway, we ask that it is used solely for pedestrian access.

Again thank you all for your kind words and support at the Woodland. I feel very privileged to be able to meet such caring and interesting people and to share with you your tender moments.

Linda



Common Spotted Orchid



Adder's Tongue Fern

Types of Biodegradable urns for ashes

Soil urn



Paper



Recycled paper



Cardboard tube



Willow



Recycled paper



Fairtrade Bamboo



Sand urn

Recycled paper



I would like to become a Friend of the St Albans Woodland Burial Trust £25 (5yrs)

If enclosing a cheque please pay to St Albans Woodland Burial Trust

Name

Address

These details will not be passed to any third party

Email

Telephone

Please Gift Aid my donations (Yes / No)

Please return to: St Albans Woodland Burial Trust. The Administrator: Mrs Linda Parry
St. Mark's Church Community Centre, Calder Rise, Bedford. MK41 7UY. Tel/Fax 01234 342613
Email: office@woodlandburialtrust.com www.woodlandburialtrust.com

Arranging a Funeral

Everyday of our lives we make choices and decide what we want to do and where we want to go. Why should arranging a funeral be any different? Whether you are arranging a funeral for somebody else, or making choices for your own funeral, one of the most important things is making sure that you know what is available and can make informed decisions for yourself. Not so long ago many people went to a funeral director and everything was then taken out of your hands. Things have changed and people realise that they don't need to even go to a funeral director at all! Most people do of course, but a good funeral director will be willing to discuss the different choices which you have and be willing to meet your needs and your budget. You can choose who will look after your body when you die and where, the type of ceremony you want to have, who will help you to arrange it, and you can choose where you want your body or your ashes to be laid to rest. You can choose the coffin or the casket for your ashes - as shown on page 3.



At the St Albans Woodland Burial Trust we work hard to ensure that everybody is made aware of the choices available to them and the cost. We will also provide you with information about the different arrangements which can be made before a funeral. We believe that everybody is very special and different and we will do all that we can to make sure that you are in control and are able to plan a ceremony which is as special as the person who has died.

For more information you may find The Natural Death Centre helpful. They are a registered charity (number 1091396) and produce the magazine shown above 'More to death'. For more resources you may visit www.naturaldeath.org.uk. 01962 712690 contact@naturaldeath.org.uk



Consecration

In June we acquired a further 10 acres of land for the Trust and the consecration of the new land took place by The Bishop of Bedford, The Right Reverend Richard Inwood. Consecration affords the greatest protection for land available in English law. Providing peace of mind that this will always remain a special place, sacred to the memory of those who are laid to rest.

Figures for St Albans Woodland Burial Trust in each financial year since it was opened in 2007

	Burials	Interment of ashes	Reservation for burials	Reservation for ashes
June2007-March2008	12	6	13	9
April 2008-March 2009	13	9	15	9
April 2009-March 2010	20	13	37	7
April2010-March2011	19	15	34	10
April 2011-March 2012	13	13	36	23
April 2012-March 2013	18	18	43	16
April 2013-March 2014	26	14	52	16
April 2014 - so far this year	9	10	10	2
Total	130	98	240	92