

## Welcome

When someone you love has died, it is a time of sadness and pain. The Church is here to help you through your bereavement. Please be assured of our thoughts and prayers.

There is a lot to think about as you adjust to your loss and it can be a bewildering time. This leaflet is intended to help answer some of the questions you might have about interring the ashes of your loved one in the Churchyard.



### **Contacts:**

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*Vacancy*

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Charlbury PCC, 2023

# *All Saints' Church Shorthampton*



## *Garden of Remembrance*

# Your Questions Answered

## **Can my loved one's ashes be interred in the Churchyard?**

Yes, if they were living in Charlbury at some point during their lifetime. It is not possible to bury in the Churchyard, as it was closed in 1879, but it is possible to inter ashes.

## **Where can they be interred?**

At the bottom of the Shorthampton churchyard near the wall. All interments will be within this area, with the location being carefully measured and recorded. The ashes can be interred straight into the ground or in a casket, in both cases the actual spot will not be marked in any way. The area will be kept as grass and mown in line with the rest of the churchyard.

## **Can I put a memorial stone down?**

In order to maintain the ancient beauty of the churchyard, no individual memorial stones can be placed in the interment area. Most people like to commemorate the person who has died, so a series of stones have been installed, near to your loved one's ashes, upon which individual names may be engraved with dates of birth and death of the person commemorated. It is not possible to add any other text due to limitations of space.

## **How much will it cost?**

There are two fees: one is for the interment and the other for the optional engraving of your loved one's name on the memorial stone. Please enquire at the Parish Office for the current fees. Sometimes people believe that they have bought the plot of land in which their loved one is buried. This is not the case: they are simply paying for the work involved in the interment and making a contribution towards the upkeep of the churchyard. No part of a consecrated churchyard can be sold.

## **Where can I put flowers to remember my loved one?**

There is a place provided by the memorial stone for you to place cut flowers to remember your loved one. Dead flowers will be removed when necessary. In order to preserve the beauty of the churchyard, please do not use plastic or silk flowers. Seasonal wreaths are acceptable provided they are limited to one per family. No pots, toys, candles or other ornaments are allowed, and nothing is to be planted or placed in the churchyard to mark the precise location of the plot.

## **When can I visit the Garden of Remembrance?**

Anytime at all. We hope you will find it a place of peace and quiet reflection. If you would like someone to say some prayers with you, please do ask.

## **Can my ashes be put in the same plot as my loved one?**

Yes, it is possible to arrange for a double depth to allow a further set of ashes to be interred at a later date. Simply mention that this is your wish when you arrange to inter your loved one's ashes.

## **Can I reserve a plot for myself or someone else?**

No. Plots are allocated as they are needed at the time of interment, so that the Garden of Remembrance meets the current needs of the community. But please do not be anxious; there are enough plots for some time to come.

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If you have any other questions, please don't hesitate to ask one of the clergy, churchwardens or the Parish Office (details overleaf). We hope you understand the need for these regulations. They are designed to make sure the churchyard remains a harmonious place of peace and contemplation for all to enjoy.