



Henley-on-Thames

Woodland Burial Ground


Leedam





A space to reflect and remember

The tranquility of the burial ground at Rotherfield Greys, just outside Henley, provides a welcome escape from the hustle and bustle of daily life.

Unhurried and secluded, it is a peaceful and serene haven away from it all - a sanctuary of calm and solitude, available whenever you seek a moment of peace and love. Immerse yourself in nature, witnessing the changing seasons.

Here, there's the freedom and space to arrange a personalised farewell, be it through a traditional funeral or a unique approach. We are here to assist you with inspiration, support, and guidance in organising the day.

For those at rest in this place, it symbolises a simple return to nature.

How it works

A natural burial is the most ecological funeral option, a thoughtful legacy for future generations. The burial ground will become a thriving mature native woodland.

In advance

- Visit the burial ground and spend time there getting to know it and deciding whether it's right for you.
- Download an application form from our website, or phone us and we'll send you an information pack.
- Pre-purchase at today's rate. Options available to pay by standing order.

When planning a funeral

- Complete an interment form to let us know your plans for the day so that we can help you achieve your wishes.
- Make the arrangements yourself or ask your funeral director to do this for you.
- Book the date and time with us. Burials may take place 10am-3pm and at weekends by special arrangement.

Practicalities

We recommend stout footwear as the ground is uneven. A foldable chair is a good idea for those who find it difficult to stand and remember, there's no such thing as bad weather, just the wrong sort of clothes...

There is a wealth of information about natural burial on our website www.henleynaturalburials.co.uk and we are here in the Leedam office to answer your questions - 01600 716438.



Our custodians

Jonny Yaxley & Philip Pawley-Kean

Tel: 01491 902419

Office: 01600 716438

Email: henley@leedam.co.uk

Jonny and Phil jointly look after Henley-On-Thames woodland burial ground. They ensure that the burial ground is maintained to the highest standard at all times.

On the day of a funeral, Jonny and Phil will be there to welcome and look after you.

Please contact the office if you would like to arrange a visit or learn more about having a natural burial at Henley-On-Thames. If you prefer to explore the burial ground independently, please call the office for the gate code and enjoy the serenity of the burial ground yourself.





More time and space

An unhurried and private place away from the hustle of daily life. Somewhere to remember, replenish and reflect. A place of peace and solitude, when you need it, and love.

Spend time in nature, experience the weather and watch the seasons change. And for those at rest here, it offers a simple return to nature.



Flowers

Consider using flowers from your garden, or a friend's, or produce from the veg patch to create a hand-tied bouquet. Ask florists to use these or locally grown flowers. No plastic, Oasis foam or wire, please.

Think about scattering petals from a basket or single stems into the grave.

Pets

Dogs offer comfort and companionship, especially at funerals. Dogs on leads are welcome at the burial ground.

A pet's ashes may be included in its owners grave at the time of interment.

Creating a new native woodland

We are planting new native woodland across the areas where burials take place, so that one day this place will be a thriving mature woodland with open glades and rides, shrub margins and deeper woodland shade.

Tree planting began in 2011

Whips were planted in the winter in protective tubes fixed to sturdy stakes to give them the best chance for growth and survival. Since then, more shrubs and trees have been planted each winter. The pattern follows the design for the woodland so that a structured layout with paths, glades and vistas is created.

At 12 years old

Having grown out of their tubes, the trees now stand alone and begin to create the layered canopy which is essential for access to sunlight. The trees will be a mixture of native species including Oak, Cherry and Hazel and will eventually merge with the surrounding countryside.

Several years on

The young saplings found their way out of the protective tubes. These tubes help to protect from rabbit and deer damage while providing a microclimate perfect for young trees. The woodland is overplanted and inevitably some will fail and if appropriate some will be replaced.

50 years and beyond

By this stage the woodland will have matured and the layered canopy of trees and shrubs will support a stable ecosystem including spring flowering native plants, shrubs and an abundance of wildlife.





Memorial plaques

It's important to commemorate the names of the dead and when they lived. Unlike a conventional cemetery, there will not be rows of memorial stones, vases of flowers or mementos placed on each grave.

Instead, inside the burial ground among the woodland there is a solid oak-framed and chestnut-framed memorial panels where slate plaques are mounted.

Each plaque is inscribed with the name, year of birth and year of death of those buried here.

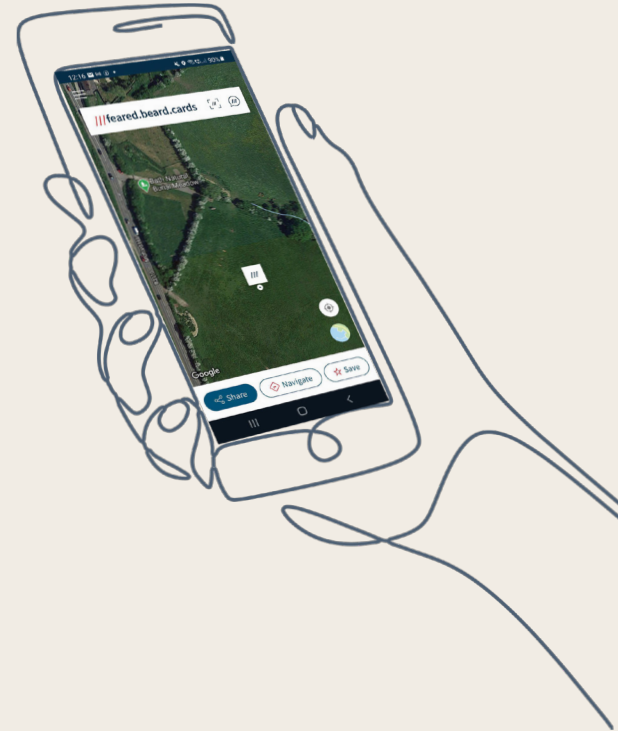
Finding the spot

To preserve the natural landscape, graves do not feature headstones, grave-markers or surrounds; instead, they are carefully mapped and their locations are recorded and shared with you so that you'll know where to visit.

Whichever way you would prefer to share the location, we have got it covered...

- >> Latitude and Longitude
- >> /// What3Words address
- >> Google Pluscode
- >> Google Maps link
- >> QR Code (scan with your camera app)

If you struggle with any of these, don't worry, we will be able to flag the spot for you. You'll be able to return to the spot at any time and you'll have helped preserve a much loved landscape for future generations to enjoy.





Henley-on-Thames Woodland Burial Ground

Greys Road, Rotherfield Greys, Henley-on-Thames,
RG9 4PN (*not for correspondence*)

Google Maps Plus Code: G2MX+GV Henley-on-Thames
[what3words.com/anthems.placidly.create](https://www.what3words.com/anthems.placidly.create)

Find us as you leave Rotherfield Greys village, past
the Maltsters Arms (on the right), and the entrance
to the natural burial ground is on the right.

Contact the office for the padlock code to access the
burial ground car park.

Office

Leedam Natural Heritage
26 Agincourt Square
Monmouth, NP25 3BT
01600 716438
hello@leedam.co.uk

Custodian

Philip Pawley-Kean
01491 902419
henley@leedam.co.uk

Facebook @henleynaturalburials
Instagram @henley_natural_burials
www.henleynaturalburials.co.uk



Leedam

Leedam Natural Heritage is a trading name of
Native Woodland Ltd, registered in Scotland
Company No. SC240278

Interment form - Valid from 1 April 2025 - 31 March 2026

1. The applicant (the person who will be responsible for payment)

Your name	
Your address	
Your email address	
Your telephone number(s)	

2. The person who has died

Their full name			
The deceased's address			
Their date of birth		The date of death	
Your relationship to the deceased?	You are the deceased's...		
The name of the deceased's: <input type="checkbox"/> next of kin <input type="checkbox"/> executor <input type="checkbox"/> representative <i>(tick relevant contact)</i>			
Their telephone number			
Their email address			

3. Funeral director (FD) - if you are using one

Company name	
Contact name	
Contact email address	
Contact telephone number(s)	

4. The grave

Type of grave	<input type="checkbox"/> Burial	<input type="checkbox"/> Ashes
Are the rights pre-purchased?	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
If yes, the Register Number	06 -	
Would you like to reserve a second plot?	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes - burial plot <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - ashes plot

Please note - Woodland creation is ongoing and as new trees are planted, roots grow and branches spread, future grave locations cannot be predetermined.

If yes, please provide their:	Name	
	Address	
	Date of birth	
	Phone no.	
	Email	

5. The coffin, casket or shroud

What material is it made of?						
<i>Please note - NO PLASTIC LININGS or polyester trimmings must be used. Line with canvas or paper.</i>						
Accurate exterior dimensions	Length		Width		Height	

6. Extra ashes within the coffin/casket/grave

Extra ashes?	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Human ashes	<input type="checkbox"/> Pet ashes
		<i>Human ashes require an additional registration fee.</i>	<i>Pet's ashes require a separate fee to cover APHA costs.</i>
For extra human ashes, please provide their:	Name		
	Their last address		
	Date of birth		
	Date of death		

7. The event

Requested date (burial on weekdays only)			
Requested arrival time: (11am-2pm in winter / 11am - 4pm in summer)		Estimated departure:	
What type of event are you planning?	<input type="checkbox"/> Simple committal with a graveside service <input type="checkbox"/> Committal after a service elsewhere <input type="checkbox"/> A longer celebration of life <input type="checkbox"/> Other...		
Who will carry the coffin?	<input type="checkbox"/> Funeral director's staff <input type="checkbox"/> Family and friends <input type="checkbox"/> A combination (FD + Family and friends)		
Number of people expected		Number of cars:	
Name of officiant (if any)			

8. Memorials

Grave markers and headstones are not permitted at the burial ground. Instead, slate memorial plaques are available to place within the memorial panel to remember someone who is buried at the burial ground. If you would like to purchase memorial rights, please go to:
www.leedam.com/locations/henley-on-thames/memorials/ to download the relevant form.

9. Applicant's signature and declaration

The information given on this form is accurate. I am the person to whom all correspondence should be sent and am responsible for paying the amounts shown in the table below and agree to be bound by Leedam's Terms and Conditions (www.leedam.co.uk/burial-contract) and the Burial Ground Regulations (www.leedam.com/rules-and-regulations/) which apply.

Signature	
Full name	
Date	

Payment options

Item	Price	£
Ashes Plot - Lane End	£775	
Ashes Plot - Woodland	£1,000	
Burial Plot - Lane End	£1,250	
Burial Plot - Woodland	£1,990	
Registration Fee	£245	£245
Optional		
Extra Ashes in Same Plot	£245	
Memorial Plaque	£345	
TOTAL:		
Payable to Leedam Natural Heritage, Account No: 06006136, Sort Code: 80-02-38		

Grave digging for burial	Price	£
Grave Digging	£555	
Grave Digging Saturday	£825	
Payable to Azalea Landscapes, Account No: 83158349, Sort Code: 20-65-20		

Grave digging for ashes	Price	£
Grave Digging Ashes	£170	
Grave Digging Ashes Saturday	£260	
Payable to Azalea Landscapes, Account No: 83158349, Sort Code: 20-65-20		

Who will be responsible for payment?

- ☐ Applicant
☐ Funeral Director
☐ Other (please provide name & address)

Updates and how we use your personal data

We would like to be able to contact you about future matters concerning the burial ground and any new options that might become available. If you agree to be contacted this way please tick the relevant boxes:

☐ Email ☐ Post ☐ Phone

You can withdraw your consent at any time. Personal data you supply will be used to confirm the purchase and to register rights sold at the burial ground. We share details of the event and the people involved with the custodian to prepare them for your arrival. We may also use it for statistical analysis. We will not share your data with other organisations. View our privacy policy for further information (www.leedam.co.uk/privacy-policy). We are obliged to keep a register of all burials and interments, recording the date of burial, names in full, age, address and grave number. By law, this data must be accessible to the public.

Funeral arrangements



Burial ground name:	Henley-on-Thames Woodland Burial Ground
Location:	Greys Road, Henley-on-Thames, RG9 4PN. We recommend using What3 words for navigation. Follow this link - https://w3w.co/mailings.rested.prelude
Access:	<p>Open year-round. The pedestrian gate into the meadow is not locked. The car park is kept locked – please call the office 01600 716438 for the code.</p> <p>Please let wheelchair users know that there are no paths across the grass.</p>
Description:	A beautiful developing woodland within the landscape of the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.
Ethos:	Keep things simple, natural and sustainable. Real countryside preserved for future generations.
On-site facilities:	<p>No rooms, chapels, toilets or mortuary facilities. Simply, car parking, a bench and two solid chestnut memorial frames.</p> <p>The nearest public WCs are at The Oast House car park.</p>
Operator and Owner:	Operator: Leedam Natural Heritage. Owner – Ann Hood.
Custodian:	Andy Chanter, tel 01494 881586

Procedures

Provisional booking:	Call 01600 716438 to make a provisional funeral booking, after the death has been certified, and let us know the requested date, name of the deceased, your own contact details and any prior purchase information.
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Confirmation:	We will check the calendar to make sure it's not already taken, then contact the gravedigger and custodian to make sure they are available before confirming the booking.
Submit forms:	Download the Interment Form and complete the details as soon as possible and <u>at least two days before the event</u> . Email it to henley@leedam.com with a scanned copy of the Coroner's Order for Burial or a Registrar's Certificate (or cremation certificate for an ashes interment).
Payments:	Payment by bank transfer is required before the event. The gravedigger is paid separately, but also before the event. We will send you a receipt and confirm that everything is OK.
Prices and forms:	A price list and all forms are available on the website www.leedam.com/locations/henley-on-thames/forms-and-prices/
Embalming:	Embalming fills the body with toxic chemicals which we do not wish to introduce into the soil. We would only accept embalmed remains in exceptional circumstances, e.g. repatriation.
Arranging a plot:	Arrange a family visit to the burial ground with the Custodian (01494 881586) who will show you the options available. Liaise with the office directly (01600 716438) using the mobile app What3Words.com to make sure the location is right.
Plots:	Plots are single depth. We do not offer double plots, as developing tree roots and canopy prevent new graves from being dug next to older ones, but we will offer the closest possible arrangement when the time comes.
Coffins etc:	Choose an eco-coffin, casket or shroud. All materials, including linings and clothing, should be natural and biodegradable. No veneered MDF or chipboard, please. Standard nameplates are OK or a handwritten card label with the deceased's name and dates. <i>TIP - Use calico canvas instead of polythene Crem Film.</i>
Coffin size:	Please measure and include the true maximum external dimensions of the coffin on the Interment Form. If in doubt, please call us.

Grave digging:	Our nominated gravedigger will prepare the grave ready for your arrival. Graves are single depth 1.3m. Families can backfill the soil to cover the coffin if they choose, but the gravedigger will complete the work.
On the day:	<p>There will be only one burial on the day you have chosen. The Custodian will be there to meet and direct you.</p> <p>The vehicular gate into the meadow will be open for the hearse, limousine and family mourners with limited mobility who display the priority parking sign in the windscreen.</p> <p><i>TIP - Estate cars are popular with families instead of the formal hearse.</i></p>
Dogs and pets:	Dogs offer comfort and companionship, especially at funerals. Dogs on leads are welcome at the burial meadow. A pet's ashes may be included in its owner's grave at the time of interment.
Music:	There is no electrical power supply in the burial ground. Make sure that battery-powered speakers are powerful enough to deliver good sound quality. Live, acoustic music is always beautiful.
What to wear:	Wellies/hiking shoes (not high-heels); warm, windproof clothes.
	<i>TIP - Bring folding chairs, scarves, hats and blankets for the elderly.</i>
Carrying the coffin:	The ground is uneven, so the usual church trolley might struggle. Carry the coffin underarm rather than on shoulders, feet-first. Set up trestles at regular resting points if the carry distance is long.
Webbing:	Funeral Directors - please bring your own webbing. The custodian or gravedigger will have a backup set in case you come without.
Flowers:	Seasonal flowers from the garden or produce from the veg patch are perfect. Let florists know it is for a natural burial, so no plastic, Oasis foam or wire, please. If this type of flower arrangement is brought in error, it should be taken away at the end of the event. Please let the custodian know if a posy of flowers is to be left on the grave. <i>TIP - Bring a basket of petals from the garden to scatter into the grave.</i>

Items in the grave:	Additional cremated remains can be included the grave, even those of a pet; please include details on the application form. You can also include natural tributes e.g. a wooden boat, sea shells; a sealed museum jar with significant pieces, or other inert objects.
After the funeral:	We will issue a certificate of interment, by email, with the precise grave location details. This will be in pdf format for sharing.
Finding the grave:	The certificate of interment will include links to Google Maps, GPS coordinates and the What3Words address of the grave. The What3Words mobile app is an easy way to navigate to the grave. If there is ever concern, we can flag the spot.
Memorials:	To keep the land sustainable for the future as woodland, individual graves are not marked. Instead, slate plaques inscribed with the names and dates are mounted with the others between the upright timbers of the memorial panels (on the left as you enter). Memorial rights to display a plaque are granted for 25 years (renewable). The memorial can be ordered on the Interment Form or a separate application form is available here .
Plants and trees:	Native tree planting at the natural burial ground will create a new area of woodland, improving biodiversity and encouraging wildlife to visit. No individual trees are planted as memorials. Other burial grounds which do are much more like parks or gardens. We aim to create a natural, sustainable woodland. To protect wildlife and bereaved families from unwanted change, nothing should be planted and no seeds should be scattered without our consent.

Further Information

Baby & infant funerals:	England has a scheme in place, whereby no fees should be charged for the burial of a child or person under the age of 18, which we support.
Direct burials:	A direct /simple natural burial can be arranged for families who do not wish to attend the burial. Full grave location details will be provided on the burial certificate.
Burial Ground Rules:	Outlined in full here

- Maintenance:** The burial ground is maintained as a new woodland plantation, with paths mown through the trees. Sheep may be brought in to graze the lower half of the field, but will not be allowed to graze around the graves.
- Long term security:** Use of the land is restricted to natural burials by covenants contained in its 99-year lease. In the future, the land will become a thriving mature native woodland.
- Contact us:**
- Office: Leedam Natural Heritage, tel. 01600 716438
 - Email: henley@leedam.com
 - Website: <https://www.henleynaturalburials.co.uk/>
 - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/henleynaturalburials>