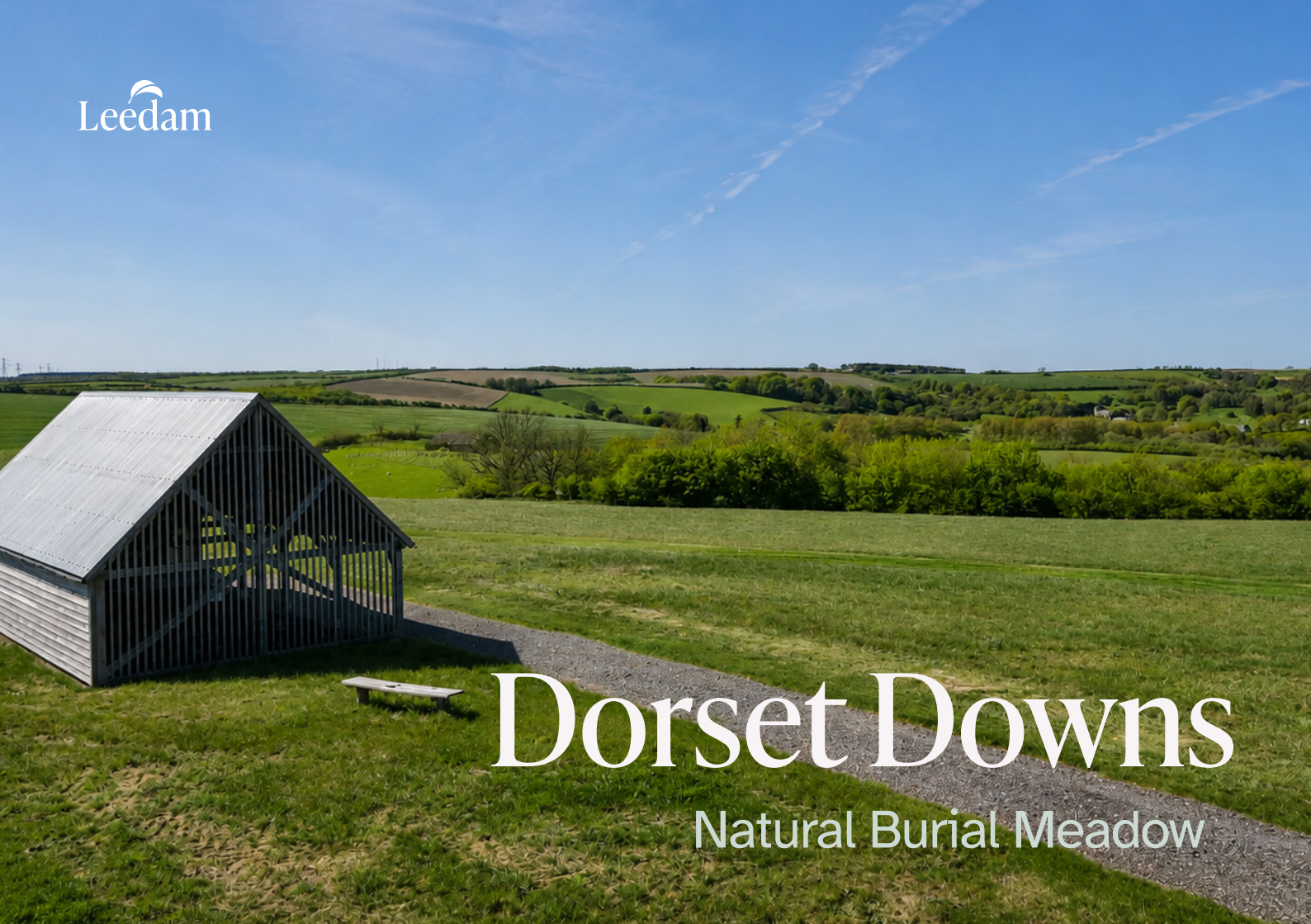


The Leedam logo, featuring a stylized white arch above the word "Leedam" in a serif font.

Leedam



# Dorset Downs

Natural Burial Meadow





# Quintessential downland

The Dorset Downs natural burial meadow sits in the heart of the West Dorset countryside, above the village of Compton Valence, just five miles from the county town of Dorchester. This beautiful land, a designated part of the Dorset Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, is farmed by the Russell family, who have lived here for several generations.

The natural burial ground is restored to pre-war downland having been ploughed for many years in a drive for more home-grown food. The adjacent downland is already a Site of Nature Conservation Interest (SNCI) and it is expected that within a relatively short space of time the natural burial ground will become imbued with the same wildflower species.

The wildflower rich mix of seed we have sown, together with the restored and newly planted hedgerows should help encourage wildlife and give shelter to the reborn downland. It's a place that's special to us, which we hope others will share and enjoy.

# How it works

A natural burial is the most ecological funeral option, a thoughtful legacy for future generations. At Dorset Downs Natural Burial Ground, you can purchase rights for burial or ashes interment...

## In advance

- Visit the burial meadow and spend time there getting to know it and deciding whether it's right for you.
- Complete an online application on our website, or phone us and we'll talk you through the process or send you forms.
- Pre-purchase at today's rate. Options available to pay by standing order.

## Further Information

There is extensive information about natural burials on our website and we are here in the Leedam office to answer your questions.

Visit: [leedam.com/advice](http://leedam.com/advice) | Email: [dorset@leedam.co.uk](mailto:dorset@leedam.co.uk) | Call: 01305 564 075

## When planning a funeral

- Complete our online application 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 between 10am-3pm on weekdays.



# Visiting the meadow

## Practicalities

We recommend sturdy footwear for walking in the meadow. A foldable chair is a good idea for those who find it difficult to stand.

There is a memorial shelter just inside the burial ground to the left of the entrance, which offers cover in wet weather. However, we still advise dressing appropriately for the conditions, as the site is open to the elements.

## Arrange a meeting

If you would like to arrange a visit to have a look around the burial ground and learn more about natural burial, please contact our office (01305 564 075) and we will arrange for our custodian to meet you.

If you prefer to explore the burial meadow independently, please feel free to visit and have a wander around.





# More time and space

The Dorset Downs natural burial meadow lies at the heart of the Dorset Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

It is tranquil and private. An unhurried and gentle place to get away from it all. It is somewhere quiet to be with your memories, to take one step at a time, close to nature, whatever the weather, throughout the seasons.



“A sad occasion became  
full of love, friendship  
and time for reflection”

# Make the day your own

The meadow gives you the freedom to be yourselves. Whether you are planning a simple interment with only a few in attendance or a larger funeral event we will offer inspiration, support and guidance, so you can organise the day exactly as you'd like it.





## 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

Many families choose to bring their dogs to the burial meadow for comfort and companionship.

Dogs on leads are always welcome, both during ceremonies and when visiting loved ones in the meadow.



## Memorial plaques

Oak memorial plaques engraved with names and dates commemorate people buried in the meadow.

The plaques are housed between the upright timbers of the walls of the memorial shelter, located within the top corner of the meadow nearest the entrance.

Rights to display a plaque are granted for a period of 25 years, after which they can be renewed.

Alwyn Littlewood

1943 - 2010

Peter J. Tweddle

1938 - 2008

Susan Patricia Ravenhill

1949 - 2010

Doreen Waring

1924 - 2010

John Desmond Newton

1935 - 2007

Stan R. L. Westacott

1927 - 2010

Barry Rees

1973 - 2010

Robert L. H. K. Pattinson

1930 - 2009

Felicity Nash

1927 - 2009

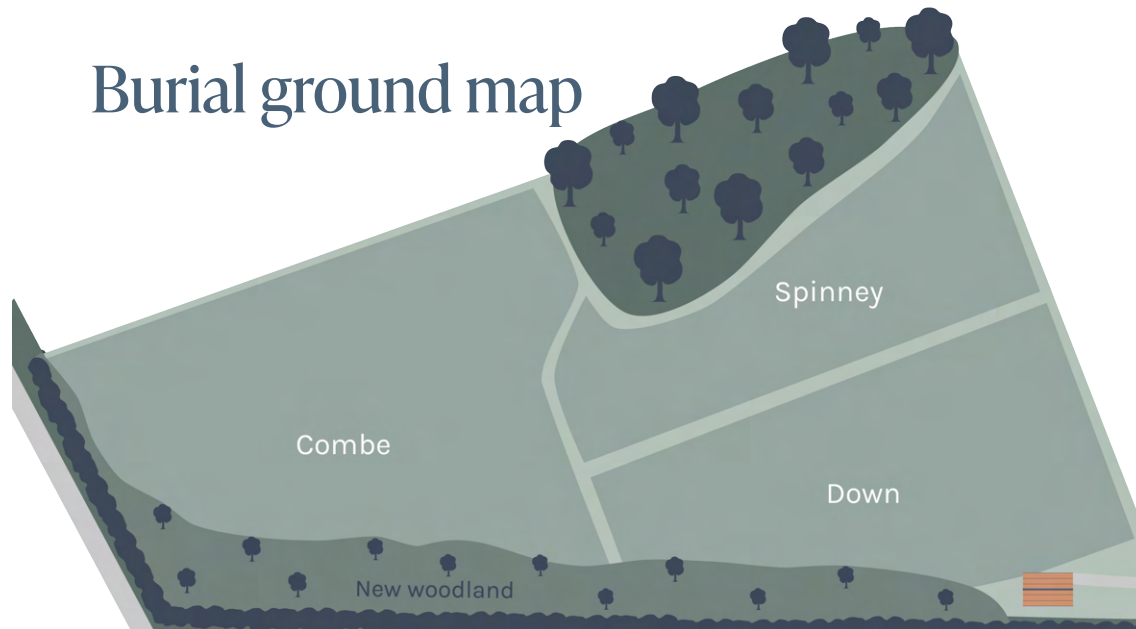
Simon Christopher Cresser

1988 - 2010

Elsie Rabjohns

1907 - 2010

# Burial ground map



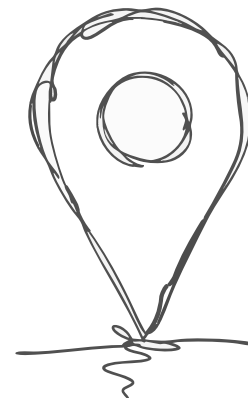
The burial ground is divided into three natural areas: Down, Spinney and Combe. Each offers something a little different.

We invite you to visit, walk the land, and take time to discover the area that feels right for you and your family.

## Finding the spot

Every grave is carefully mapped so families can easily return. We provide location details, including GPS coordinates and What3Words references, to help you find the exact resting place whenever you need to.

If you would prefer, we are always happy to help guide you to the spot by marking the site before your next visit, simply get in touch with us beforehand.



# Interested in learning more?

If you would like to visit the meadow, discuss future arrangements, or learn more about natural burials, our team would be delighted to help.



01305 564 075



[dorset@leedam.co.uk](mailto:dorset@leedam.co.uk)



## Arrange a visit

To arrange a visit, please call us on:  
01305 564 075

## Location

### Dorset Downs Natural Burial Meadow

Roman Road, Winterbourne Abbas,  
Dorchester, DT2 9ET

## Finding us

You can find us on the Roman Road just off the A35 Bridport Road, west of Dorchester. Look out for the large entrance signs.

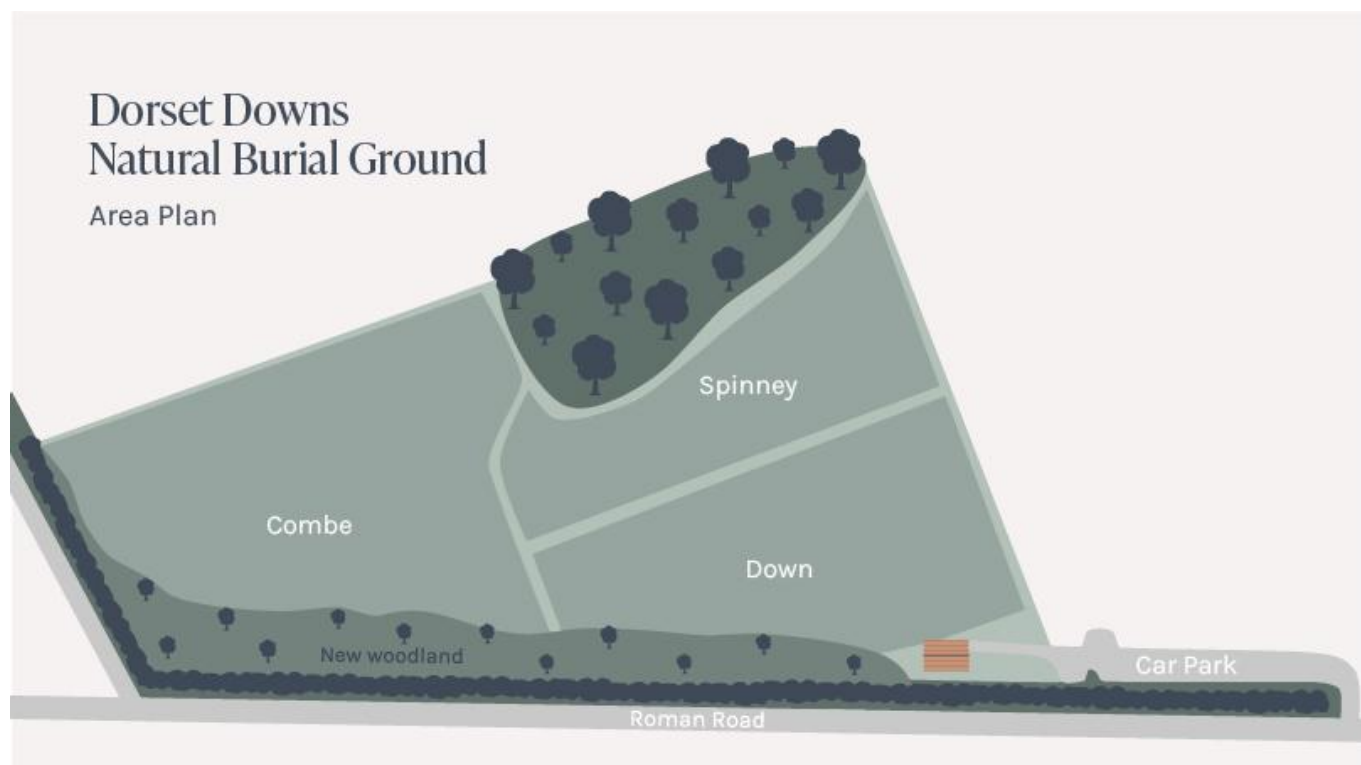
Contact the office for the code to access the burial meadow car park.

Search 'Dorset natural burials' or scan the QR code with your mobile phone.



  
**Leedam**

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



## Price list

| Burial options        | Price  |
|-----------------------|--------|
| Burial Plot - Combe   | £1,545 |
| Burial Plot - Down    | £850   |
| Burial Plot - Spinney | £1,020 |
| Registration Fee      | £255   |

| Grave digging                | Price |
|------------------------------|-------|
| Grave Digging (Mon-Sat)      | £545  |
| Grave Digging Ashes          | £205  |
| Grave Digging Ashes Saturday | £305  |

| Ashes options        | Price |
|----------------------|-------|
| Ashes Plot - Combe   | £775  |
| Ashes Plot - Down    | £425  |
| Ashes Plot - Spinney | £510  |
| Registration Fee     | £255  |

| Optional extras                | Price  |
|--------------------------------|--------|
| Extra ashes in same plot       | £255   |
| Memorial Plaque (25 year term) | £360   |
| Tree Dedication                | £1,020 |
| Standing order admin fee*      | £85    |
| Weekend Custodian Fee          | £85    |

Interment form - Valid from 1 April 2026 - 31 March 2027

## 1. Who is filling this form in?

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

## 2. Who has died?

|                                               |                                  |                   |  |
|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|--|
| Their full name                               |                                  |                   |  |
| The deceased's address                        |                                  |                   |  |
| Their date of birth                           |                                  | The date of death |  |
| Your relationship to the deceased?            | <i>You are the deceased's...</i> |                   |  |
| Who is the deceased's primary representative? |                                  |                   |  |
| Their telephone number                        |                                  |                   |  |
| Their email address                           |                                  |                   |  |

## 3. Funeral director - 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                  | <input type="checkbox"/> 10 - |                                                   |                                            |                                           |
| Next to an existing grave?                   | <input type="checkbox"/> No   |                                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes               |                                           |
| If yes, next to whom?                        | <input type="checkbox"/>      |                                                   |                                            |                                           |
| Would you like to reserve the adjacent plot? | <input type="checkbox"/> No   | <input type="checkbox"/> Provisional (for 1 year) | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - burial plot | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - ashes plot |
| If yes, please provide their:                | Name                          |                                                   |                                            |                                           |
|                                              | Address                       |                                                   |                                            |                                           |
|                                              | Date of birth                 |                                                   |                                            |                                           |
|                                              | Phone no.                     |                                                   |                                            |                                           |

### 5. The coffin, casket or shroud

|                                                                                                         |        |  |       |  |        |  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|--|-------|--|--------|--|
| What material is it made of?                                                                            |        |  |       |  |        |  |
| What shape is it?                                                                                       |        |  |       |  |        |  |
| <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<br><i>Human ashes require an additional registration fee.</i> |  |
| For extra human ashes, please provide their: | Name                        |  |                                                                                                    |  |
|                                              | Their last address          |  |                                                                                                    |  |
|                                              | Date of birth               |  |                                                                                                    |  |
|                                              | Date of death               |  |                                                                                                    |  |

## 7. The event

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

## 8. Optional items

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |  |               |  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|---------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>An oak memorial plaque</b> mounted in the memorial shelter for 25 years (renewable)                                                                                                                                                                       |  |               |  |
| Name to go on plaque<br><i>(Max 28 letters and spaces)</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |  |               |  |
| Year of birth                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |  | Year of death |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Dedicate a tree</b> in memory of someone. The type of tree and position will need to be agreed with the custodian. The sapling will be planted in the next dormant season and will be supported by a stake and tie and protected by a tree guard/shelter. |  |               |  |
| Inscription for the circular tree plaque (slate) mounted on the tree guard/shelter for 10 years:                                                                                                                                                                                      |  |               |  |
| Dedicated in memory of...<br><i>(full name)</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |  |               |  |
| Year of birth                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |  | Year of death |  |

### 9. Fee summary - Leedam

| Item                      | Cost  | Quantity | Total |
|---------------------------|-------|----------|-------|
| Registration fee          | £255  | 1        | £255  |
| Burial - Combe            | £1545 |          |       |
| Burial - Down             | £850  |          |       |
| Burial - Spinney          | £1020 |          |       |
| Ashes - Combe             | £775  |          |       |
| Ashes - Down              | £425  |          |       |
| Ashes - Spinney           | £5110 |          |       |
| Extra human ashes in plot | £255  |          |       |
| Memorial plaque           | £360  |          |       |
| Tree Dedication           | £1020 |          |       |
| Weekend custodian fee     | £85   |          |       |

#### Total price:

*Payable to: Leedam Natural Burials, Account No: 47269136, Sort Code: 04-00-06*

*Call us (01600716438) if you are unable to pay by bank transfer, and we will share a card payment link.*

### 10. Fee summary - Grave digging

| Item              | Cost | Total |
|-------------------|------|-------|
| Burial - Weekdays | £545 |       |
| Ashes - Weekdays  | £205 |       |

*Burial grave digging is payable to: Nigel Whitefield, Account No 38116510, Sort Code 60-07-01*

#### Who will be responsible for payment?

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

## 11. 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](http://www.leedam.co.uk/burial-contract)) and the Burial Ground Regulations ([www.leedam.com/rules-and-regulations/](http://www.leedam.com/rules-and-regulations/)) which apply.

|           |  |      |  |
|-----------|--|------|--|
| Signature |  | Date |  |
| Full name |  |      |  |

## Updates and how we use your personal data

**Marketing preferences** (you can withdraw consent at any time): ☐ Email ☐ Post ☐ Phone

Your personal data will be used to confirm your purchase, register your rights, and share relevant details with our site custodian. We may also use it for anonymised statistical analysis. We will not share your data with third parties. View our privacy policy at [leedam.com/privacy-policy](http://leedam.com/privacy-policy).

Please note that burial law requires us to maintain a public register recording the date of burial, full name, age, address and grave number of the deceased.

## Terms & Conditions

### Your Rights of Burial

Your Selected Rights of Burial give you the right to have remains interred in your chosen area of the burial ground. They do not confer land ownership, cannot be sold or transferred without our written consent, and remain personal to you. Rights must be exercised within 50 years of purchase.

### Payment and Certificate

Your Certificate will be issued once payment is received in full. Full payment is required at least two working days before the funeral date. The Certificate (and any duplicates) must be surrendered to us before burial can take place.

### Cancellation and Refunds

Refunds are available for five years from the date of full payment, as follows: Within 14 days: full refund | 15 days to 3 months: 90% refund | 3 months to 1 year: 75% refund | 1 year to 5 years: 50% refund. No refund is available after five years, or after the death of the Nominee. To cancel, notify us in writing and return the Certificate.

### Transfers

Rights may be transferred to a new Nominee before burial, subject to our written consent and a fee of £200 per right. The original purchase date is retained for any future refund calculation.

### Conditions of Burial

Only biodegradable coffins, urns or shrouds from sustainable sources may be used. Embalmed remains cannot be interred. We must receive at least three clear working days' notice before interment, along with the completed Interment Form, Certificate, and all relevant fees. No memorials, markers or plantings are permitted unless specifically agreed by us.

### Site Management

The burial ground is managed primarily for wildlife and agriculture. We retain sole discretion over planting, landscaping and maintenance. Only the Nominated Grave Digger may excavate graves. Grave excavation costs are not included in the purchase price.

### Availability

In the event that ground conditions or other circumstances make your selected area unavailable, we will offer reasonable alternatives. If alternatives are not accepted, a full refund will be issued within 28 days.

### Your Responsibilities

You and your Representatives are responsible for complying with all relevant legislation and our reasonable site instructions, and for the conduct of all persons attending the burial ground with your consent.

Full terms and conditions can be viewed at: [www.leedam.com/burial-contract](http://www.leedam.com/burial-contract)

Return form via email to [dorset@leedam.co.uk](mailto:dorset@leedam.co.uk) or post to: Leedam Natural Burials, Apex House, Office 16, Wonastow Industrial Estate East, Monmouth, NP25 5JB | 01600 716 438