

Yealmpton Woodland Burial Association Newsletter 2015

Dear members

Our Woodland Burial has had another busy year taking the total number of burials to date to over 300 and members who have joined the Association and pre-paid for burial rights to a further 250.

Income has been sufficient to meet all our operational costs and add a small sum to our reserves which will fund the long-term maintenance of the woodland. However, with some

major expenditure planned to improve access to more areas of the site, we have decided it is prudent to increase our charges from April. All charges include the provision and planting of a

Charges from 1st April 2015	Membership Subscriptions	Burial Charges Non-members
Chartered grave plot	£650	£700
Burial of ashes	£250	£300
Scattering of ashes	£180	£200

memorial tree and members who join the Association during their lifetime pay reduced charges. Grave plots are located in groves with the position carefully charted so they can be easily located by future visitors. Note: we do not record where ashes are buried or scattered in our woodland areas but, to allow a precise record to be kept, those of two or more family members may be interred in a grave plot. Plots are allocated at the time of burial or may be reserved alongside that of a family member.



A view to the north with Dartmoor in the distance



Cherry blossom at springtime

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Grave plots are located in groves with the position carefully

Thank you for your continued support and involvement. If you are able to attend our Annual General Meeting (see back page for details), we look forward to meeting you. We welcome comments, queries or suggestions at any time.

Mike Cosby, Chairman

Tree planting day 2014

We were blessed with a lovely sunny day for our annual tree-planting on 29th November when 42 new trees were planted. 22 were planted by, or on behalf of, families who had loved ones buried over the past year and a further 20 to establish a new area of woodland where ashes will be interred in the future.

Our tent was kept busy serving hot drinks – we lost count at about 50 cups – plus an amazing selection of cakes including some fantastic chocolate brownies. Thanks to all who helped serve refreshments, plant trees or generally tidy up the site.

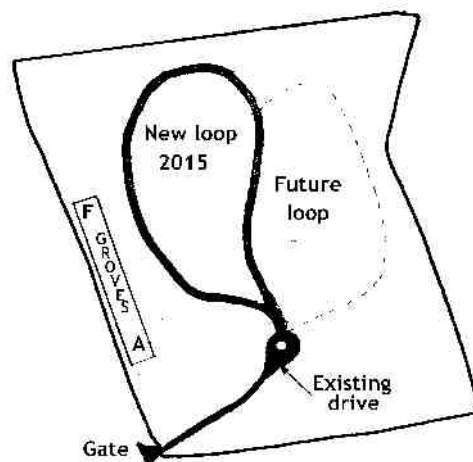


*** This year's tree planting day will be: SATURDAY 28th November 2015 ***

Extension to roadway

Planning permission has been granted and we plan to start work in the spring to extend the roadway from the existing turning circle to form a loop around the site. This will be a gentle sweep around the unused part of our 9.6 acre site which will blend into the natural landscape but allow vehicle

access to the farthest areas as we need to establish new burial groves. We will continue northwards with our next grove (Grove G) and then plan subsequent groves inside the new loop.



Visitors

Graves are arranged in Groves and to locate a particular plot you need to know the Grove and Plot Number. This information can be found on your Interment Certificates but, if you do not have a certificate, please contact us as we do not publish the burials register online for confidentiality reasons. To assist you in locating a grave, you will find a chart, similar to that shown here, at Plot 1 of each Grove. You can also download the appropriate chart (pdf format) from our website.

Help us preserve the woodland in harmony with nature

We have noticed a significant increase in plastic materials being left on the site. The Association's rules are very clear and say **'Flowers (but not artificial flowers) are permitted provided they are not contained in plastic wrapping or other non-biodegradable material.'**



A major offender is the green 'oasis' blocks that florists dearly love to use as the basis for floral tributes. These look lovely on the day of a funeral but become a real eyesore within a very short time.

The flowers by this memorial tree not only had cellophane

wrapping but were also left in a cut-off plastic drinks bottle – all tied together with plastic tape!



People choose burials at our,

and other, woodland sites because they value the unspoilt beauty of a natural landscape and, when they see it being littered with plastic material, they rightly complain and ask us to enforce the rules. We do not want to be over-zealous in doing that and hope a gentle reminder will suffice to reduce the amount of debris left around the site.



We understand that nobody wants to worry about these matters at the time of a funeral and are quite happy to turn a blind eye on the day and for a short period afterwards – provided arrangements are made to return and clear away all plastic within a couple of weeks of the burial.

- Please respect the site and other members by not bringing any plastic onto the burial ground.
- If floral tributes are constructed on plastic frames or use plastic 'oasis' material, please ensure they are removed within 14 days.

British Legion Bench



When the local Brixton branch of the British Legion no longer had a suitable home for this bench, they kindly offered it to us.

We hope it will provide a welcome rest for weary visitors – and a fantastic view!

Notice of Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday 23rd April 2015 at 7pm at Yealmpton Community Centre, Stray Park, Yealmpton, Devon, PL8 2HF

Agenda

1. Minutes of the AGM held on 24th April 2014
2. Chairman's annual report
3. Finance report
4. Retirement and election of directors see Note 1.
5. Date of AGM for 2016

After the formal business, the meeting will be open to all for a question and answer session.

Note 1. All current directors shall retire but will be eligible for nomination for re-election. Any member may nominate one member or other suitable person to serve as a director. Nominations shall be submitted in writing to the Secretary not less than 21 days before the date of the meeting.

Our Contact Information

telephone: 07739 806898

email: enquiries@woodlandburial.org.uk **web:** www.woodlandburial.org.uk

post: YWBA at Yealmpton Community Centre, Stray Park, Yealmpton, Plymouth PL8 2HF

Note: this is not the address for the burial ground
You can find directions to the burial ground on our website or please phone us.