

Bereavement Services

Haycombe Cemetery & Crematorium



Burial and Cremation





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Opening Times

Office Opening Hours

The main office is situated just inside the main gates to the right.

Monday 9.00am to 4.00pm

Tuesday 9.00am to 4.00pm

Wednesday 9.00am to 12.00pm and 1.30pm to 4.00pm

Thursday 9.00am to 4.00pm

Friday 9.00am to 4.00pm

Saturday closed

Sunday closed

Bank Holidays closed

Cemetery Gates and Books of Remembrance

Open every day, including bank holidays and weekends.

1st October to 31st March - 8.00am to 4.30pm

1st April to 30th September - 8.00am to 8.00pm

Public toilets are available during office opening hours and when funeral services are taking place. They are closed weekends and bank holidays.

We would like to keep Haycombe Cemetery and Crematorium a safe place to visit. Please bear this in mind when bringing items into the cemetery. Glass is not permitted. Please no dogs, except assistance dogs and any dogs visiting the pet section with their owners.

Welcome to Haycombe

On the southern edge of Bath, Haycombe offers unrivalled views of the rolling landscape of the beautiful Englishcombe Valley, Newton St Loe Valley and the Welsh Hills. The fortunate position and outlook allows visitors to feel connected with Bath and its natural surroundings.

Haycombe first opened in 1937, purely as a cemetery and Chapel. The Crematorium was added later, in 1961, and the grounds and facilities have evolved to meet the needs of the people we serve.

We offer a variety of services including, burials, cremations, interments of ashes, and memorials for people of all faiths and beliefs. We aim to give some guidance on those services with this brochure.



Organising a funeral can be a challenge. There is so much to consider when arranging a suitable send-off for a loved one. Your funeral director is likely to be your biggest source of support, but we are also here to guide you and to assist with what happens after the funeral has taken place.

You are welcome to make an appointment with one of our friendly and experienced team. They can talk to you about the services we offer or discuss your needs for a fitting memorial.

Our services

At Haycombe we offer the following services;

- A funeral service in one of our two chapels. A cremation service can be held in either the Hilltop Chapel or Valley Chapel.
- Memorial services, or funerals linked to burial in the Hilltop Chapel.
- A full body burial. This can be with or without a graveside service, or with use of our Hilltop Chapel.
- A direct cremation (without service) using our dedicated Orchard Entrance.
- Private plots for ashes.
- Scattering areas and communal shrubbery beds for the interment of ashes.
- Memorials of various types (additional brochure available).
- Green burials.
- Pet burial or interment of pet ashes.
- Celebrancy Service (for funerals, ashes interments or scatterings).
- Obitus, audio visual and web casting system.



The Funeral Service

A cremation service can be held in either of our chapels. Each standard service lasts up to 30 minutes, which can be extended by half an hour. Shorter early morning time slots are available in the Valley Chapel.

Both chapels have an organ, the Obitus media system, and a loop system for those with hearing impairments. There is a wheelchair, and large-print editions of hymn books and service books in each chapel. There are public toilets, including an accessible toilet, and parking close to the chapels (including accessible spaces).

Your funeral director can enlist a Minister or celebrant for you, or you can use the services of our own in-house celebrant. The funeral director will submit all of your music, on-screen, and web-casting requests on your behalf, and employ an organist if you would like one. Please see pages 33 and 34 for more details about our media facilities and in-house celebrancy.

The practical arrangements for all stages preceding the service will have been made by your funeral director, unless you intend to undertake them yourself.

When the hearse arrives, it will be met by a member of staff who will be there throughout to ensure that the service goes as smoothly as possible.

All crosses in the chapels can be removed or covered if you prefer to have the service without them. Haycombe provides a service to people of all faiths and beliefs, and our facilities are designed to be accessible to everyone.

On request, a donation box is available and can be placed at the exit.

You do not have to have a conventional service or even a service at all. You can also choose to have the service elsewhere before coming to Haycombe for the burial, or have a graveside service before the interment takes place.

If you would like to view either of the Chapels in advance, please ring or e-mail the main office to book a convenient time.

The Hilltop Chapel & The Valley Chapel

The chapel used for full burial or memorial services is the Hilltop Chapel, just inside the cemetery gates. The chapel seats 158 with additional standing room. Refurbishment in 2023 has given the Hilltop Chapel a fresh updated look, and comfortable seating for a more accessible space.



The Valley Chapel is set within the crematorium building and has large windows with dramatic, stunning views over the Newton St Loe Valley. These encompassing natural views can be a great source of comfort to mourners.

The Valley Chapel provides a funeral service for up to 75 seated people.



Cremation at Haycombe

Haycombe Crematorium opened in 1961. It is the only crematorium in the Bath and North East Somerset area and carries out approximately 1,500 cremations each year.

Arranging the cremation

Once you have decided on cremation, your funeral director will arrange the date and time of the funeral, unless you wish to arrange the funeral yourself. You will be asked to complete and sign an Application Form. This is a statutory form, which means that answers to questions are the equivalent of answering questions in a court of law, so please check your answers thoroughly.

Also on this form you will be asked as the applicant for cremation to sign against your choice for the disposal of the cremated remains. Your funeral director cannot sign this for you and if you change your mind subsequently we must have your new instruction in writing. You should read the information provided by your funeral director for the disposal of cremated remains carefully – this includes information on the environmental issues affecting cremation.

Finally, your funeral director will deliver all the necessary paperwork to us. This will then be authorised by the medical referee to allow the cremation to go ahead.

Your funeral director will also explain everything you need to know to ensure that the funeral runs smoothly.



Planning the Cremation Service

A cremation service can be held in either of our chapels. Each standard service lasts up to 30 minutes, which can be extended by half an hour. Shorter early morning time slots are available.

A short amount of time is allowed in between services to give staff the opportunity to prepare for the following service. Even if there is no service following yours, there may be a need to access the chapel for repairs and maintenance, so it is important that services do not exceed their allocated time.

You do not have to have a conventional service or any service at all. We offer the option for the deceased to be brought into our care via the newly built Orchard Entrance. You can also choose to have the service elsewhere before coming to Haycombe.

The Funeral Service Procedure

At the start of the funeral, the coffin is usually brought into the chapel, followed by the mourners. An attendant will guide the coffin into the Chapel.

As the coffin is placed on the catafalque (the stand where the coffin rests during the service) the mourners take their seats and the ceremony begins.

If you are using the Valley Chapel, the curtain or voile (sheer curtain) can be drawn at the committal, or can be left open on request of the applicant for cremation.

Following the service, visitors will be guided towards the exit doors. Upon leaving the chapel floral tributes will be available to view.

We respectfully ask mourners to move away from the exit doors after the service as any sounds may be heard during the next service.

On request, a donations box is available and is placed at the exit. Your funeral director will be responsible for the security and gathering of any donations.

The Cremation Itself

If using the Valley Chapel the coffin is lowered into the crematory once the curtains are closed. If using our Hilltop Chapel, or in the event of a direct cremation the deceased will be received through our Orchard Entrance, and will pass directly into the crematory.

The coffin plate will be checked to ensure it corresponds with the information on the instructions for cremation. An identity label will accompany the deceased through the whole process – it will be placed on the cremator during cremation and will be placed with the remains.

Each cremation is carried out individually and every coffin is cremated with the body. Coffins are only touched to load it onto a trolley to enable it to be placed into the cremator.

For some faiths it is requested that family members witness the cremation. Two members of the family are permitted to do so, providing that arrangements are made when the booking for cremation is made. More family members may be accommodated on request in advance of the day of the service.

All cremations will be carried out as soon as possible after the service. Most cremations take approximately one and a half hours, so the cremation doesn't always start immediately after the service. Because of this, the coffin will be placed in our bespoke cold storage facility until a cremator becomes available. If the cremation is not carried out on the day of the funeral for any reason, or for environmental good practice, the coffin will be held securely overnight.



Your Floral Tributes

All floral tributes are placed in the fenced area adjacent to the Valley Chapel car park, or in a viewing area if using the Hilltop Chapel. Floral tributes will remain in these areas until 48 hours after the funeral. They are then taken to a composting area and the compost is eventually put back into the grounds.

If you wish, you can arrange with your funeral director to have cards removed from the floral tributes, or to remove the tributes to a grave, garden or shrubbery elsewhere in the cemetery. Alternatively you can take them away yourself.

In order to protect the environment, we recommend that you ask your florist to use environmentally-friendly, recyclable materials when constructing your floral tribute.

After the cremation

Cremated remains are placed into a paper bag inside a bio-degradable box. Each box has an identity label that follows the deceased throughout the whole process of cremation to identify the cremated remains.

Haycombe Crematorium subscribes to a 'not for profit' recycling scheme for all metals recovered from the cremation process. All surplus monies derived from this scheme will be distributed amongst appropriate charities. Precious metals are not identifiable after cremation and cannot be returned separately. Applicants may choose to retain the metals after the cremation but they must take them away, after which time they cannot be returned. If you wish to retain the metals after cremation, please inform your funeral director when arranging the funeral with them.

The cremated remains will only be released to the applicant for cremation. Anyone else, including the funeral director, must have the written permission of the applicant. This permission will have been given by the applicant's signature on the Application for Cremation Form prior to the cremation, but can also be given by letter at a later date. Any change of mind on the part of the applicant requires a signed letter to that effect.

Disposal of remains

In the case of cremation, the cremated remains of your loved one can be laid to rest in a variety of ways. You can have these buried, scattered in a designated area or you may choose to scatter the ashes at a place that held great significance in the life of your loved one, with the permission of the landowner. You could also choose to keep them in your home.

Options to consider after cremation

- A burial of cremated remains (also known as an interment of ashes).
- Scattering of cremated remains in a designated area.
- Placement of cremated remains in a private above-ground vault.
- The cremated remains to be taken away for private disposal or to keep at home.
- Having the cremated remains divided so that some may be interred/ scattered and some retained for disposal elsewhere or to be kept at home. A range of Jewellery and Keepsake containers are available.

Whether you would like to inter cremated remains in an urn, a casket, loose in the ground, or scatter them above ground, there are various options available at Haycombe. We are also able to accept cremated remains if the cremation has taken place elsewhere. Similarly, your loved one can have a memorial erected at Haycombe even if their cremated remains are not with us.



There are several options to consider, so if you are unsure there is no need to make an immediate decision. Cremated remains can be held at Haycombe for up to 6 months, or your funeral director will hold them until you are ready to make a decision. You can also keep them yourself - sometimes people do this so that cremated remains can be interred at the same time as someone else.



Interment or Scattering of Cremated Remains

We are blessed with beautiful natural surroundings here at Haycombe, and the site benefits from a well-established, mature landscape. This allows us to be able to offer various attractive options for memorializing your loved ones and for the interment or scattering of cremated remains. They can be interred in an urn, casket or loose.

Please refer to our Memorials Brochure for full details about these and other memorial options.

Gardens for interments

Private plots that allow for an interment of up to two interments of cremated remains are a popular choice. We have a number of options to choose from. The memorial and inscription are purchased through us as part of the package, so there is no need to seek the assistance of a stonemason.

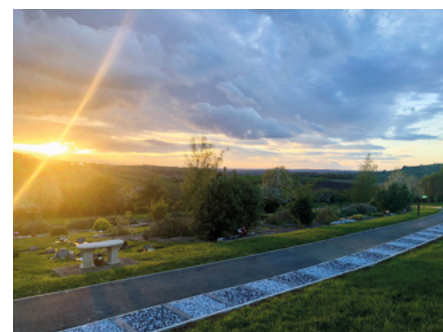
Our Memorials Brochure and our website are available to give you more information.



Englishcombe Garden



Valley View Garden



Sunset Walk



Circle Garden



Pergola Garden



Sanctum

Grassland, Glade and Meadow

These areas are communal areas for the scattering of cremated remains.



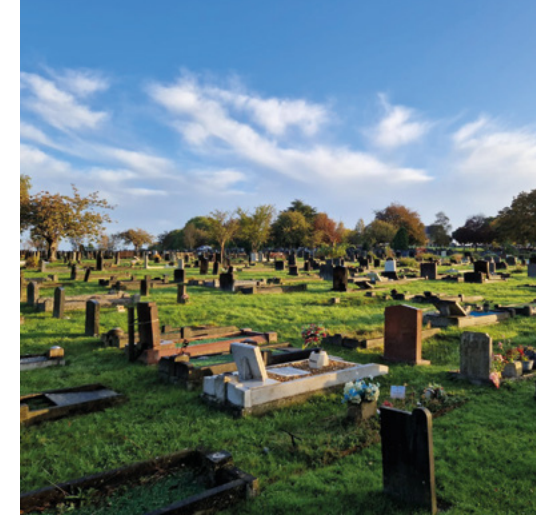
Shrubberies for interring cremated remains

The shrubberies are communal areas for interring loose cremated remains. If you have other family or friends already interred in a shrubbery, it may be possible to inter the ashes of family members.



Using a family grave

You can use a family grave for cremated remains. To do this, you need to own the right of burial for a grave or gain written permission from the owner/s.



Cremation Plots

Half grave spaces, called cremation plots, can be used to inter cremated remains. You need to own the right of burial for a half grave space where up to four caskets or urns can be interred.



Green Burials

Cremated remains can be interred under an established tree in the Coppice or in the Queen Elizabeth II Memorial Woodland.



Ashes into Glass, Keepsakes & Urns

You may like to have your loved one's ashes placed in a beautiful urn or casket before laying them to rest. You may also like to keep a little of their ashes with you. We have a range of full-size and keepsake urns that you are welcome to view in the Office. We can also order some beautiful pieces from the Yarwood range.



Retaining an amount of the ashes gives you the opportunity to keep a small part of your loved one close to you, or to take them away to a different location in the future. We are pleased to work alongside Ashes into Glass who create exquisite jewellery and other items crafted individually, using a small amount of the cremated remains.



Ashes into Glass

FAQ about cremations

Can a cremation be arranged without a funeral director?

Yes. The executor or nearest surviving relative may arrange the cremation service themselves. We will provide advice to people arranging a cremation without the use of a funeral director.

Can relatives witness the placing of the coffin into the cremator?

Yes. Please inform the Crematorium that you wish to witness when the cremation is booked.

Is the coffin cremated with the body?

Yes. The coffin or container will not be opened or disturbed before cremation.

Can more than one body be cremated at a time?

A cremator can only accept one coffin at a time and all the cremated remains are removed before the next cremation. An identity label is used throughout the process until the final disposal, ensuring correct identification.

How soon will the cremation take place?

For reasons of environmental good practice or due to unforeseen circumstances the cremation may not take place on the same day as the funeral. However it will take place as soon as practicable.

Can I see what happens behind the scenes?

Yes. Haycombe will arrange for a visit, if given prior notice. Open days are also offered from time to time, when all are welcomed 'behind the scenes'. Seeing the cremation process will reassure you that all cremations take place with dignity and respect, and that identity is maintained throughout.

Cemeteries and Burial

Cemeteries in the Bath & North East Somerset region

Bath and North East Somerset Council have two open cemeteries, Haycombe and Harptree. The larger and more frequently used site for burials is Haycombe. Harptree Cemetery is to the far south west of the region and is used mainly by the three surrounding communities of East Harptree, West Harptree and Bishop Sutton.

Areas for burial

Haycombe has areas of consecrated and unconsecrated ground. The area to the left or east of the approach road to the Crematorium was consecrated when the cemetery was first opened in 1937. The area to the right or west of this road is unconsecrated.

Consecrated ground means that the ground has been declared holy – this is the preferred area for those whose religion is the Church of England. It is governed by ecclesiastical law, in addition to the Law of Burial, Cremation and Exhumation that governs all cemeteries. Both consecrated and unconsecrated areas are available to all.

There is a specific area at Haycombe set aside for Muslim burials and another for Baha'i burials. There is also a Butterfly Section, an area created for the burial of babies. Babies can be buried in other areas at Haycombe, but many families like to feel that all the little ones are together in the Butterfly Section.

There is also a corner of the cemetery set aside for small domestic family pets, such as cats and dogs. This is a quiet area screened from the rest of the cemetery by a hedge of conifers. Pets can be buried in coffins or their cremated remains can be interred. Please note that we are not licensed to offer pet cremations.



Burial options

Within the cemetery there are areas for lawn graves, traditional graves, tablet graves and green burial graves.

These graves are designed to be used for full burials but can also be used for the burial of cremated remains.

If considering burial in a new grave we strongly encourage you to make an appointment to be shown the options by a member of our experienced staff.

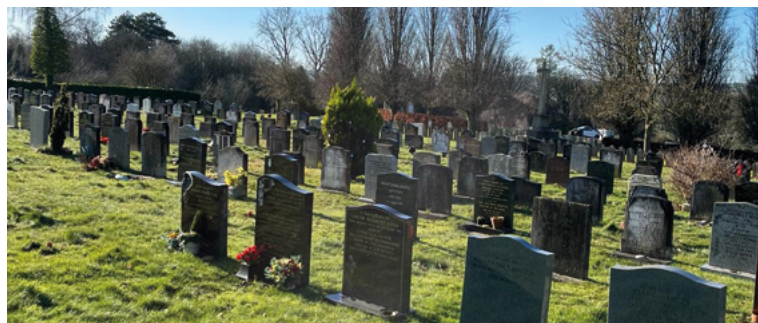
Once you have decided on burial, your funeral director will arrange the date and time of the funeral, unless you wish to arrange it yourself. You will be asked to complete and sign an application form.

You'll need two forms to carry out a burial at Haycombe:

- The Interment Form for a full burial, is available from your funeral director, which should be completed by the owner, an executor or the next of kin if the owner is being buried.
- Either the Disposal Form given to you by the Registrar of Births and Deaths when you registered or Coroner's Form 101.

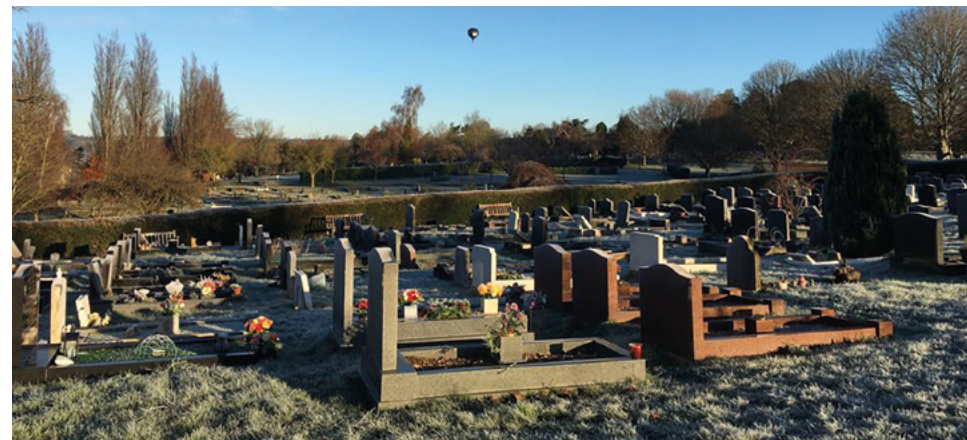
Lawn graves

The lawn graves are grassed sections where only a headstone conforming to a specific size, or a vase can be used as a memorial. Only 2ft 6in wide by 2ft long is available for the headstone and any planting. The remainder of the grave is grassed and will be regularly mowed.



Traditional graves

Areas for traditional graves measure 7ft x 3ft. Memorials in this section are permitted to cover the entire grave space and a wider range of memorials can be used here with a maximum height of 4ft 6 inches.



Tablet lawn graves

The tablet graves are grassed sections where only a tablet memorial can be placed. The remainder of the grave is grassed and will be regularly mowed. All tablet memorials must conform to the specific size of 2ft x 2ft 6 inches.



Natural full burial graves

Haycombe also offer options for burials in a more natural setting.

The Queen Elizabeth II Memorial Woodland is a Green Burial area where a tree can be planted in place of a headstone and a simple plaque on a wooden stake erected. This area is intended to be entirely natural, so only coffins of sustainable, environmentally-friendly materials can be buried here



The burial itself

After a service in the Hilltop Chapel, or if going directly to the graveside, mourners will follow the coffin to the graveside. The grave will have been dug and 'dressed'. This means that grass matting will have been placed over the spoil (the soil/rubble from the grave) that will be used to backfill it. There will also be boards positioned for the bearers to stand on as they lower the coffin into the grave. Your funeral director will show mourners where to stand (a risk assessment will have been carried out by the funeral director to find the safest place). Following the service, the grounds staff will backfill the grave once the mourners disperse. Floral tributes will be placed on the length of the grave, but be aware that deer visit the cemetery and sometimes nibble the flowers, especially during the winter. Flowers will be removed and disposed of after one month following the burial.

Spoil on graves

As part of the grave-digging process, the soil/rubble from the grave that is being dug is placed over nearby graves. This may happen to the grave for which you own the right of interment. Memorials on the grave will be protected from harm, either by use of boards or staging, or both. Where there are temporary markers and plants, they will be removed to prevent damage to them. Once the burial has taken place, the grave will be restored to its normal condition. We apologise in advance for any distress this may cause.

Grave settlement

In the weeks and months after the burial, you should not be surprised if the grave settles well below the level of the surrounding ground. In general we allow six months before 'topping up' as the maximum settlement occurs during that time, but if you think it is sinking too far, or is becoming a safety hazard, please report this to the main office. Please do not place items on the grave, or plant it out during this time, as access will be required in order to top it up effectively.

Pre-purchase of the Exclusive Right of Burial

You can pre-purchase the Exclusive Right of Burial, which means buying the right to be buried in a certain place before you die. Many people like to do this so that it is organised in advance. Others may have just lost a relative and want to choose a grave to be close to their loved one in the future. You will be given the opportunity to meet with cemetery staff to be guided around the areas of the cemetery where graves are available. The Exclusive Right of Burial can be pre-purchased for 30, 50, 75 or 99 years. This starts from the date of purchase. It is important to ensure that the people who intend to be buried in the grave are the registered owners of the Rights. Additional funeral costs such as the interment fee (payable for each burial), and use of a chapel cannot be paid in advance through us, but could be arranged through a funeral plan purchased via a funeral director or online provider.

Erecting a memorial

Once you have bought the Exclusive Right of Burial for a grave then you can commission a memorial, this needs to be organised through an approved stonemason. The memorial fee covers all administrative costs, including checking that the owner of the Exclusive Right of Burial is making the application and carrying out memorial safety checks. The main office can supply a list of authorised stonemasons on request. The maintenance and upkeep of these memorials is the responsibility of the purchaser of the Exclusive Right of Burial.

Memorial Safety

Bath and North East Somerset Council is responsible for the testing of memorials in cemeteries and closed churchyards across the district in the sites they have maintenance responsibility. The council does not have any obligation to restore memorials, but it does need to ensure that these cemeteries and churchyards are safe places to visit. Testing is carried out by trained staff in accordance with advice from the Health and Safety Executive, and to

Ministry of Justice guidelines. All memorials remain the property of the owner and it is therefore their responsibility to keep them in a safe condition. We strongly recommend that memorials are insured against damage such as vandalism, or natural occurrences like damage due to treefall.

Transfer of ownership of the Exclusive Right of Burial

The owner of the Exclusive Right of Burial to a grave can transfer that right at any time, either to someone else outright or to share the Exclusive Right of Burial jointly with them. Such transfers are fairly straightforward and can be prepared on request.

When an owner dies, the Exclusive Right of Burial allows the owner to be buried in the grave. However, no other burials may take place in that grave without a transfer of ownership to the appropriate living next of kin/executor.

A transfer of ownership can be organised with an original or certified copy of probate, or if probate was not obtained with an original Will, a certified copy

of the Will or, in the absence of a Will, a Letter of Administration. Please ask at the main office for full details.

Once the transfer has been completed, all the new owners' signatures will be required on any applications pertaining to the grave, for example when memorial work is required.

Please note that the Exclusive Right of Burial does not automatically revert to the family on the death of the owner just as a bank account or house does not. Because people often assume this happens, sometimes there is more than one generation between the original owner and present claimant. This can lead to difficulties in establishing who is entitled to claim. Staff will always give advice with issues of this nature. A nominal charge is made to transfer ownership.



Grave Searches

It is often the case that a family loses track of where relatives are buried in a cemetery and there has been in recent years a surge in interest in genealogy. There are several ways for you to find more information about a loved one.

You will need basic details such as full name and year of death.

We suggest using;

www.bathbmd.org.uk/deathsearch.php

www.batharchives.co.uk/burial-index

www.discovereverafter.com

this site links to our inhouse plotting system.

www.deceasedonline.com



The burial grounds for which we hold the records are as follows.

Haycombe Cemetery

Whiteway Road, Bath - from 1937 (no charge as records computerised)

Hartree Cemetery

East Hartree Road, Bristol – from 1885

Locksbrook Cemetery

Bath (Walcot, St. Swithins & Weston sections) - from 1864

St. James Cemetery

(also known as Lyncombe, Widcombe & St. James)
Lower Bristol Road, Bath - from 1862

St. Michael's Cemetery

St. Michael's Road, Lower Weston, Bath - from 1862

Twerton Cemetery

Bellotts Road, Bath - from 1882

Smallcombe Cemetery

Bathwick, Bath - from 1861

We make a charge for searches (with some exceptions) as the search will be carried out manually and is very time-consuming. If we are successful you will receive a letter or e-mail detailing all of the available information and a plan of the cemetery. The approximate location of the grave will be indicated, although finding the grave is often very difficult due to the age of our records and the layout of the cemeteries. We will provide photographs if we have them on file. If an on-site visit is requested (optional) to locate and flag the grave subsequent to the initial search there is an additional charge.



FAQ about burials

Why are graves dug so deep?

A grave has to be dug to a sufficient depth to allow for future burials on top.

It needs to be deep enough to allow for the depth of the coffin/casket and to accommodate the legal requirements of undisturbed earth between each coffin and earth covering the last interment.

I have a lawn grave. Why can't I put a full memorial on the surface?

The lawn grave was designed to have only a memorial of limited size at the head of the grave with the rest laid to lawn. Therefore only regulation size lawn style memorials can be erected.

Full memorials can only be used on traditional graves.

When will I be able to put a memorial on the grave?

Because the headstone is erected directly on the excavated area of the grave, there is a standard waiting period of at least six months to allow the ground time to settle. Please note: the Council is not responsible for the movement of memorials due to ground subsidence.

Are graves filled in straight after a funeral?

Yes. Graves are prepared for burial at least one full day before the funeral. Then, immediately after mourners have left, the grave is backfilled and made tidy.

Coffins are never left unattended or uncovered overnight.

Why have I been sold the grave for a set period of time?

The law stipulates that graves cannot be sold for more than 100 years. At Haycombe and Harptree cemeteries, the current term is either 30, 50, 75 or 99 years. However, the Exclusive Right of Burial can be extended up to 100 years, allowing the grave to stay in the family as long as required. You can extend or renew the Exclusive Right of Burial during, or at the end of each lease period, so it is important to keep the main office informed if you change your address.

I own the grave – can anyone else be buried there if I don't want them to be?

No. Graves cannot be opened without the written permission of the registered owner/s. The only exception is where the burial is to be that of the registered owner, in which case no written authority is required.

If I own a grave, do I own that piece of land?

No. What you have purchased is the Exclusive Right of Burial in that grave, and not the grave itself. The land will always remain the property of the Council, and the Exclusive Right of Burial to be buried there is sold under lease for 30, 50, 75 or 99 years. The Council therefore has the right to approve or object to what is placed on the grave.



Can I bring in anything I like to put on the grave?

Graves can have a memorial suitable to the section you have chosen, provided that it has been approved by us and fixed by an authorised stonemason. Any other items brought into the cemetery should be carefully considered. It is a public place, therefore sentimental and precious items should not be left. You should also be mindful of grass cutting requirements. Powerful strimmers are used to cut the grass around memorials. A proper, authorised memorial will withstand such maintenance, but other tributes and items will not. Staff will take care to avoid plants, flowers and other items, but it is made difficult when they are close to the grass. Glass items are strictly prohibited throughout the cemetery. If any item is seen to be potentially hazardous then it can be removed by staff without notice. The size of the grave footprint must not be exceeded.

I am told the grave is for two people – there is only one person in the grave and I now want two more burials to take place.

When a grave is purchased to take two full body burials, the depth to which the grave is excavated for the first burial must take into account the need for the second but no more. There are legal requirements as to how much earth must be left between and on top of the last coffin, and it is therefore not physically possible to put an extra coffin into the grave. However, after the grave is full for full burials, cremated remains may still be interred within the grave.

I want to bury cremated remains in the grave. Why do I have to decide whether there will be any more burials before this can be done?

If cremated remains are interred into a grave and then a full burial is required, an exhumation would need to be arranged for the removal of the cremated remains. It is not lawful to remove a body or the remains of a body without a licence.

We recommend if a full burial is required at a later date then cremated remains are interred at such a depth that they will not be disturbed – then an exhumation would not be needed. Alternatively cremated remains could be held at home until the time of the next burial.

Who is responsible for the memorial?

You have a responsibility to maintain your memorial so that it stays in a safe condition. If you don't do this, the cemetery may need to make the memorial safe and place a charge against the grave.

What happens when the Exclusive Right of Burial runs out?

You will be able to purchase extra years of a minimum of 20 years to extend the lease period, but should the ownership lapse the rights to the grave will pass back to the Council. The grave, its memorial, and those interred will remain undisturbed. Continued ownership of the grave allows further interments to take place (if space permits) and gives the owner the right to make alterations and additions to the memorial.

Why is a memorial permit needed?

Prior to a memorial being erected, the written authority of the owner of the grave must be given and memorials need to conform to cemetery regulation. The memorial needs to be checked for stability and will be added to the memorial safety programme. Application forms are completed by your stonemason.

What happens when all the owners have died?

Ownership of the Exclusive Right of Burial in a grave can be transferred from a deceased owner via that owner's estate. This can be complex – please contact the main office for information on how to arrange a transfer.

Celebrancy

What is an Accredited Funeral Celebrant?

An accredited celebrant is specifically trained to meet the needs of family and friends during their time of loss.

If you are not a member of a church or other place of worship or would just prefer that it is not a member of the clergy who conducts the ceremony, then a celebrant can work with you to provide a service that honours and remembers your loved one.

We will arrange a time to meet with you to discuss your requirements. This will enable us to create the essence of the stories about your loved one, their family connections and links to the wider community.

We will talk about what you would like to happen, and how to reflect the wishes of your loved one.

We will create a service based on these requirements and email/deliver this to you beforehand for your approval.

We will liaise with all the other services that are working with you, such as Funeral Directors, the crematorium, musicians etc.

We can also deliver burial services, committals, tributes and memorial services.

Saying goodbye to someone you care about is never easy. So, it is important that you choose the person who will help you to navigate through this emotional time.

Our inhouse Celebrant has completed a Level 3 Diploma course in Funeral Celebrancy and has been specifically trained to design a service that is completely personal and unique.

We will incorporate your special stories, memories, tributes and songs into a tribute that reflects your loved one.



Obitus

With the many advances in technology, it is easier than ever to make a personalised and bespoke funeral service, a fitting tribute to the life of your loved one.

At Haycombe we use the Obitus system in both of our chapels which has opened up many more options for our families.



Webcast

We understand that sometimes not everyone can make it to the service. Obitus' specialist team can professionally stream your funeral service and make it available for a further 28 days. This option allows family and friends the chance to attend and pay their respects, even if they can't make it in person.



Visual Tributes

At it's simplest a single photograph of your loved one or their favourite place or animal can be shown during the service.

You may have lots of photographs you would like to show and a slideshow can be created. A basic slideshow can feature around 25 photos with simple transitions changing the photographs every 8 to 10 seconds. The slideshows can be played on a loop and you can choose whether to have music to accompany the slideshow.

Keepsakes

This is a beautiful way to share, remember and revisit a funeral service. Keepsakes are recordings of the funeral supplied in a personalised presentation case. They can be ordered before or after a funeral as a DVD, USB or in a video book format.

There are many options to ensure your service is as individual as your loved one, and a funeral service is never going to be easy but hopefully with advances like this they can be made much more personal.



QR Memories

Presenting the memories of loved ones forever

Create a web page in memory of a loved one and enhance a new or existing memorial.

By simply scanning the QR code with the camera on your smartphone, you will be taken directly to the memorial page. Alternatively visit the web address.

By placing a small unobtrusive plaque on the memorial, a whole life can be represented and shared including text, photographs, video, and music. And, most importantly, your memories of the person who has died will be available as an everlasting tribute.



<https://qr-memories.com/>

When someone we love dies, there is a natural tendency to want to talk about them as much as possible, perhaps to have new pictures put in frames around the house, all to help keep their memory alive and with us.

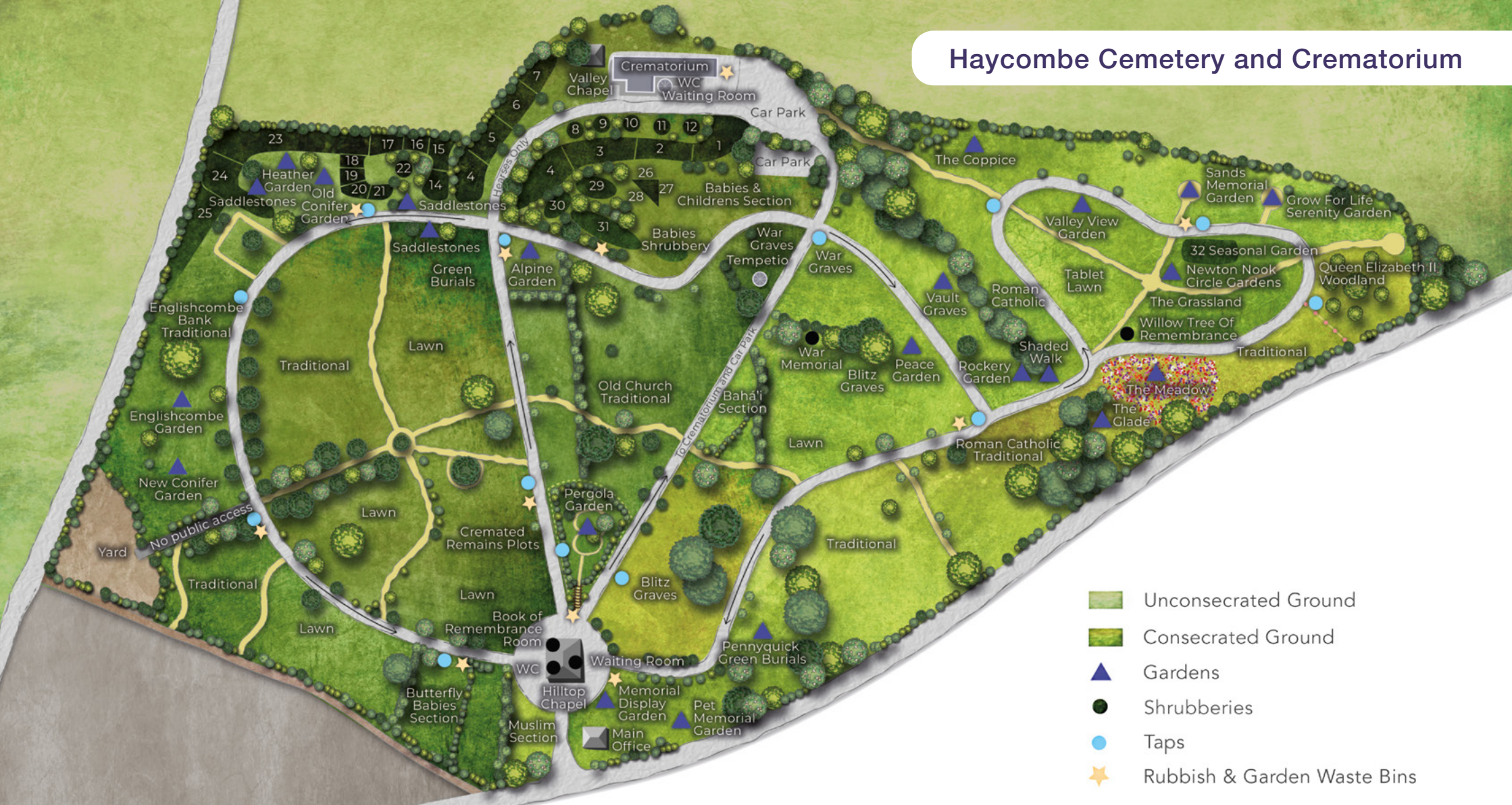
QR memories can now provide a further way to help remember, and at the same time, allow others, perhaps even people who never knew the person, to learn a little more about them, and what they achieved during their life.

QR codes are linked directly to a page online, offering the user the opportunity to learn a little more from text, photos and video. A simple scan is all it takes. This might not just include words, but also pictures, or other images and logos. All of this makes the memorial relevant and provides comfort.

To find out more please call or you can contact QR memories direct and mention you heard about them from Haycombe.



Haycombe Cemetery and Crematorium



The map on this page guides you into the cemetery and around the Hilltop chapel which is situated near the entrance. Beyond the Hilltop chapel are two identical avenues. The avenues guide you to either the left or the right side of the cemetery.

The avenue on the right leads you through the cemetery to the crematorium, which is situated along the bottom boundary.

If you continue to follow the road to the right this will lead you to the graves and memorial gardens with a panoramic view of the Newton St. Loe Valley.

The avenue on the left leads you to the left side of the cemetery where you will find shrubberies, memorial gardens, and graves with a view of Englishcombe village and the surrounding countryside. The map also includes a key which identifies the different sections of the cemetery.

Wildlife at Haycombe

Haycombe is home to many animals, including deer, squirrels, pheasants and other birds.

Unfortunately some of these wild visitors don't understand cemetery etiquette. Deer, for example, are very partial to roses. They may take all the roses on one grave and leave those on the next, giving the impression that one grave has been specifically targeted.

Using animal deterrent sprays on roses can be effective, and curry powder mixed with washing-up liquid is another option. This may also deter squirrels who love crocuses, tulips and lilies and like to dig up small bulbs and corms. Alternatively we suggest you choose plants less appealing to deer or squirrels such as daffodils, grape hyacinths and alliums.



Annual events

You are welcome to attend any of our regular events at Haycombe Cemetery & Crematorium. Please keep an eye on our website, Facebook page, and posters around the cemetery for updates.

Service to Remember Special Babies

This service is organised in partnership with the Royal United Hospital chaplaincy and the Stillbirth and Neonatal Death Charity (SANDS). The service usually takes place in the Hilltop Chapel in May.

Remembrance Day Service;

This open-air service takes place near to the War Graves Memorial Cross on 11 November, starting at 10.45am. After the service, hot drinks are available in the Hilltop Chapel.

Christmas Memorial Service;

On the second Sunday of December, we hold a memorial service so you can remember your loved ones at this special time of year. The service starts in the Hilltop Chapel at 3pm and is then followed by refreshments.

Please note these dates can change so it is recommended to contact the main office near the event date for confirmation.



Contact us and information

Haycombe Cemetery and Crematorium

Whiteway Road, Bath BA2 2RQ

01225 396020

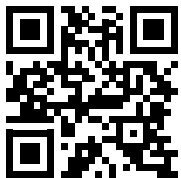
cemeteries_crematorium@bathnes.gov.uk

www.bathnes.gov.uk/bereavementservices



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