



CHURCHYARDS AND GARDENS OF REMEMBRANCE

We aim to keep our churchyards and gardens of remembrance as places of order and dignity, where you can be quiet, remember and pray, without the distraction of things that are unsightly or inappropriate. We hope this document helps with this. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you need any further help.

Rev'd Timothy Armstrong.

07547 602666

vicar@holytrinitywestcott.org.uk

CHURCHYARDS

We aim to keep the churchyards tidy and ordered, and this is undertaken by a combination of professional and voluntary help.

During the Spring into early Summer, we deliberately leave sections of the churchyards to grow as a meadow. This allows wildflowers, bees and other pollinating insects to thrive. When the season is over, the meadow grasses are cut back.

We are governed by the Diocese of Guildford's Churchyard Regulations, which are available to view on their website.

HEADSTONES

There is no obligation to have a memorial stone, but if you wish to provide one it should be constructed of natural stone or slate. Coloured or polished finishes are not allowed. Any headstone must be approved by the church before it is installed.

GRAVES

Graves are mown over and therefore "kerbing" and mementoes are not permitted and planting of flowers discouraged. The use of a headstone with a base for a vase of flowers is allowed.

FLOWERS

Cut flowers are welcome on graves, but they will be removed when they become unsightly, as will anything that will not biodegrade such as wreaths, plastic or artificial flowers. Glass and pottery vases are not permitted for safety reasons. It would be very helpful if visitors to the churchyard removed dead flowers, wreaths etc. If it is not practicable to take away such litter it should be disposed of in the waste bin at the entrance.

NEW & OLD GARDENS OF REMEMBRANCE

To the west of the path in the old churchyard there is a closed garden of remembrance. We would be grateful if visitors follow the general guidance on flowers in this area.

To the east of the path there is an "unmarked" lawn, designed for order and simplicity. No wreaths, flowers or plants should be placed in this garden. In this Garden of Remembrance, ashes are interred directly into the earth, and the names of the deceased may be entered into a Book of Remembrance that can be viewed in the church.

EXTENSION GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE

There is an additional garden of remembrance in the extension churchyard by Logmore Lane. Memorials are allowed, made out of the same materials as headstones, to a maximum size of 18 inches wide by 12 inches tall, and ashes should normally be buried in a biodegradable container or, at the discretion of the incumbent, without a container. We would be grateful if visitors also follow the general guidance on flowers in this area. Once cremated remains have been interred, they may not be disturbed without a Faculty.