

CHUDLEIGH TOWN COUNCIL INTRODUCES

'UNDERWOOD MEADOW'

NATURAL/GREEN BURIALS

'UNDERWOOD' MEADOW'

Natural/Green
Burials in
Chudleigh

CHUDLEIGH TOWN COUNCIL

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Repeated studies are now revealing that many of us would prefer a woodland or meadow burial. This is primarily due to concerns surrounding the UK's carbon footprint and the amount of energy required for cremations and the need to use even more energy to prepare coffins from man-made materials. But green burials are even more than that, they are helping in the preservation of our natural heritage by encouraging and maintaining natural pasture land and native trees.



Harmers Weekly Reporters
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Fifteen years ago, there was one green cemetery in the UK. Now there are over 270. Two-thirds of us, according to a poll, would prefer a woodland or meadow burial.

In response to requests, Chudleigh Town Council is now devoting a pastoral corner of the town cemetery to green or natural burials.

The area has been named 'Underwood Meadow' and is screened by young native trees and sown with meadow flower. This area is now managed under Natural England principals and is designed to encourage the wildlife so important to us all.

Wild flowers in underwood Meadow





Chudleigh cemetery in a few years

Choosing a final resting place for yourself or for a loved can be a very emotional time and your funeral director and Chudleigh Town Council staff are here to help.

Here are a few reminders of a natural burial.

- Dedicated 3 square yard plot.
- No double depth burials.
- The burial depth is 3 feet.
- Only biodegradable materials for the coffin.
- Small teak or oak plaques allowed.
- No headstones.
- Memorial tree may be planted in the town.
- Plots sown with wild flowers to blend in.
- Buríals can be religious or non-religious to suit the family.

'Underwood Meadow', Chudleigh's Natural Burial ground, has the benefit of being adjacent to, but separate from, the Chudleigh Town Cemetery. This means that there is easy vehicular access and parking.

Charges may be found on the town council web site www.chudleigh-tc.gov.uk

Generally green burials cost slightly more than a traditional burial because double depth interments are not permitted and we want the deceased to have space to rest in peace.

Typically, the cost of natural burials in Chudleigh includes the cost of the grave plot, interment and over-sowing of natural flowers at the appropriate time and managing the cemetery into the future.

Grave plots may be pre-purchased upon request.

Small oak or teak plaques (max. size 330mmx230mmx35mm) may be placed horizontally on the grave of your loved one – suggestions from the town hall staff who have a wide and sympathetic experience to advise you. Please note: A memorial Rights Application is required.

To preserve the natural appearance, no memorabilia (ie: pots, soft toys, pebbles, ornaments etc) are permitted, however, a memorial tree (planted in the town) may be arranged through the Town Hall staff.