



COTHIEMUIR HILL

ABERDEENSHIRE

WOODLAND BURIAL GROUND

Leedam
NATURAL HERITAGE

COTHIEMUIR HILL

WOODLAND BURIAL GROUND

The woodland at Cothiemuir Hill is a peaceful, natural place. Somewhere special to spend time listening to the birdsong in the surrounding woodland, admiring the Neolithic stones, and taking in the view towards Bennachie. A place of escape, away from it all.



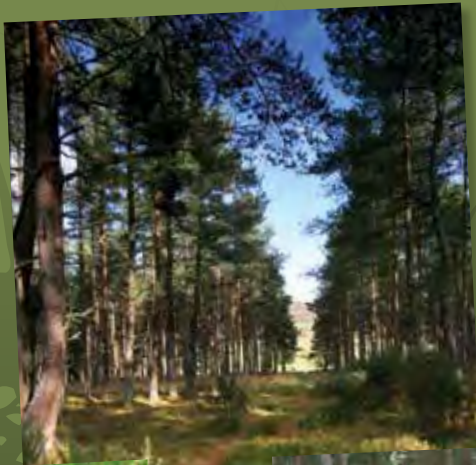
In the peace of wild things

The natural burial ground is managed as a central part of the historic Forbes Estate, located within the beautiful Strathdon landscape. Native wild flowers grow around the burial glades, wildlife inhabits the woodland and surrounding hills, which all make for an inspiring and enchanting place to be.



Memorial stones

Small, locally sourced memorial stones are permitted in the margins of the glades close to the graves. Naturally-shaped river or field stones are ideal. To arrange this, please complete a memorial application form.



Flowers

Instead of the usual arrangements, try a simple posy of flowers from your garden, a couple of leeks from the veg patch or a hand-tied bouquet from one of the growing number of florists who source locally. Scatter single stems or petals into the grave as a tribute.

Neolithic stone circle

The four and a half thousand year-old Neolithic stone-circle is dominated by two huge flankers that stand either side of a recumbent stone reputed to be the largest in Europe. Families are welcome to return at any time during the year to see the stones and explore the woodland.



How it works

Natural burial is the most ecological funeral option, a thoughtful legacy for future generations. Being fully sustainable, the meadow will remain as it is now, permanent pasture - real, farmed countryside.

In advance

- Visit the burial woodland and spend time there getting to know it and deciding whether it's right for you.
- Download an application form from our website, or phone us and we'll send you an information pack.
- You can pay for pre-purchases by standing order over 10 or 20 months.

At the time of the funeral

- Complete an interment form to let us know your plans for the day so that we can help you achieve your wishes.
- You can make the arrangements and payments yourself or your funeral director can do this for you.
- Burials can take place between 10am-3pm. Weekends are also possible.

Practicalities

We recommend stout footwear as the ground may be uneven. A foldable chair is a good idea for those who find it difficult to stand. And remember, there's no such thing as bad weather, just the wrong sort of clothes...

More time, space and meaning

Cothiemuir Hill Woodland Burial Ground is tranquil and private. An unhurried and gentle place to get away from it all.

Organise the day exactly as you'd like it. The meadow gives you the freedom to be yourselves completely and we will offer inspiration, support and guidance.

Afterwards it is a place of escape; somewhere quiet to take one step at a time, close to wildlife, with your memories, and view the changes through the seasons.






Who you'll meet at the burial ground

Malcolm, 23rd Lord Forbes (Premier Lord of Scotland), or a member of the estate team, is able to meet you to walk you round and talk about what works well. They will also be there on the day of the funeral to greet you (tel: 01975 562524).

Nearby Castle Forbes has been the seat of Premier Lord of Scotland for almost six hundred years. Cothiemuir Hill and the burial ground, lie at the heart of the estate.



“ Peaceful, beautiful and somewhere we can comfortably visit as a family, including children and dog. ”

the South Wood area of the hill



Beech

Blackthorn

Ash

Rowan

Oak

Carpark

Entrance

Cothiemuir Hill

Pine Wood

Stone Circle

South Wood

COTHIEMUIR HILL ABERDEENSHIRE

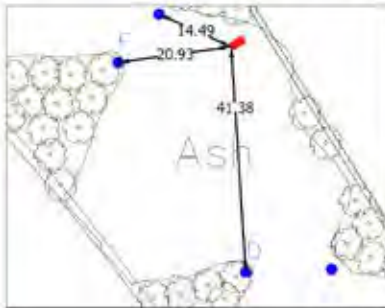
Grave Location Plan

National Grid Coordinates: X: 861804 Y: 815998

Scan the QR Code into your smart phone to see the grave location on a digital map
or enter the x + y co-ordinates at www.gndreferencefinder.com



Cothiemuir Hill, Nr Alford



Forbes Estate

Leedam Natural Heritage

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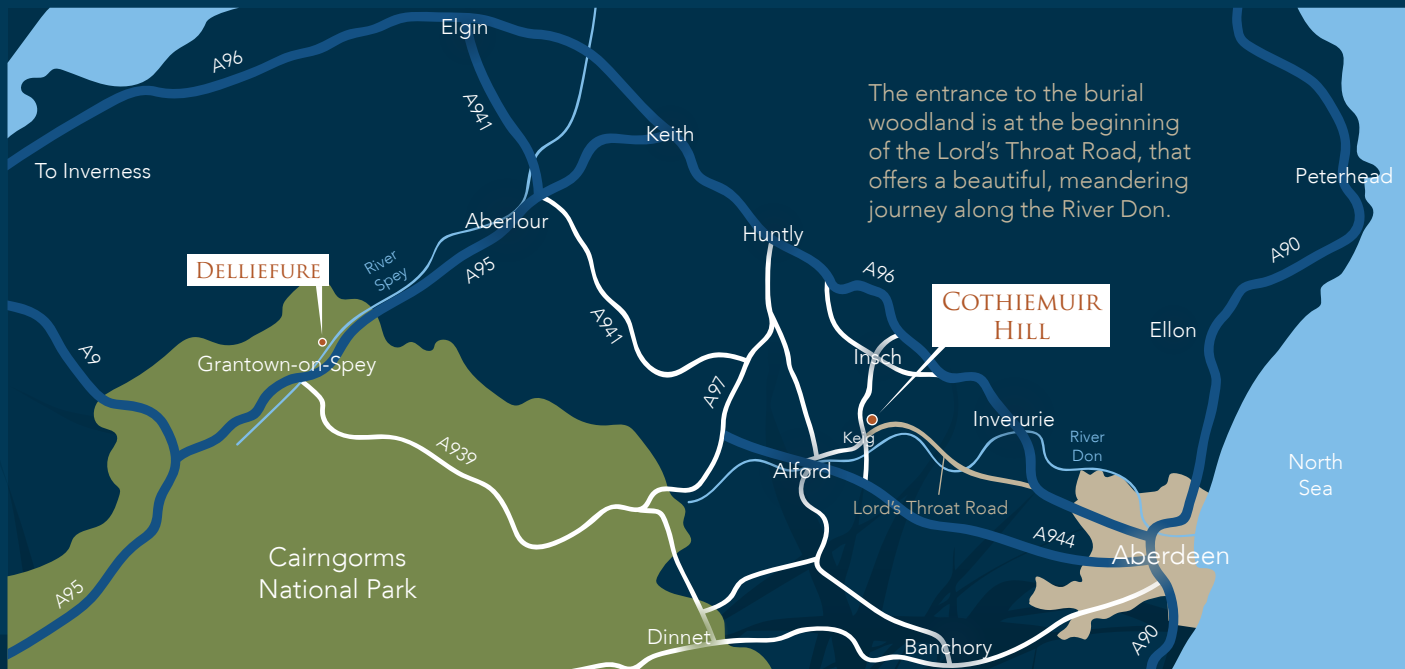
Finding the spot

We have installed survey points, as shown below, at intervals around the burial ground. The locations of these survey points have been digitally mapped and the precise position of each grave is measured from these.

Using the digital maps on our computers and the measurements from the survey points, we are able to provide families with a plan to show the exact location of the grave and the measurements.

We also provide GPS coordinates and a QR code so that you can use your smartphone to point you in the right direction (visit our website for more information on this).

If you have any problems, just let us know and we'll help or flag the spot for you.



Office

Leedam Natural Heritage
26 Agincourt Square
Monmouth, NP25 3BT
t. 01600 716438
e. cothiemuir@leedam.co.uk

Custodian

Forbes Estate Office
t. 01975 562524
e. office@castle-forbes.com

Burial Ground

Castle Forbes
Alford, Aberdeenshire
AB33 8BL



Leedam
NATURAL HERITAGE

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

www.aberdeennaturalburials.co.uk

Pre-purchase form - Valid from 1 April 2023 - 31 March 2024

1. The applicant (the person who will be responsible for payment)

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

2. For whom is the right of burial being purchased?

Their full name (☐ as above)			
Their address (☐ as above)			
Their date of birth		Relationship <i>You are their...</i>	
Selected area		<input type="checkbox"/> Ashes	<input type="checkbox"/> Burial

3. OPTIONAL - Purchase an adjacent right of burial

Their full name			
Their address (☐ as above)			
Their date of birth		<input type="checkbox"/> Ashes	<input type="checkbox"/> Burial

4. 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) and the Burial Ground Regulations (www.leedam.com/rules-and-regulations/) which apply.

Signature		Date	
Full name			
How did you hear about the burial ground?			

Continued overleaf...

Return by email to cothiemuir@leedam.co.uk

or by post to Leedam, The Market Tavern, 26 Agincourt Square, Monmouth, NP25 3BT | 01600 716 438

5. Payment options

At this stage only the right of burial (or ashes interment) can be reserved; the registration fee, memorial rights and the gravedigging charges are always paid at prevailing rate at the time of the burial.

Item	2023-24 Price	£
Right to inter cremated remains	£535	
Right of burial	£1,075	
Adjacent plot	Please insert price	
Standing Order Admin Fee*	£75	
	TOTAL:	
Payable to Leedam Natural Heritage, Account No: 06006136, Sort Code: 80-02-38		

*Please add the Standing Order Admin Fee if you wish to spread payments over 10 or 20 months and make arrangements with your bank to pay monthly instalments to Leedam Natural Heritage a/c 06006136, s/c 80-02-38, quoting ref: CoHi+Yourname.

Please note - At the time of the burial or ashes interment there will be two additional charges: (i) the Registration Fee, and (ii) the gravedigger's charges.

We will send you a certificate (or certificates if you are also reserving the adjacent plot) confirming your reserved right(s) of burial and a receipt for your payment.

6. Updates and how we use your personal data

We would like to be able to contact you about future matters concerning the burial ground and any new options that might become available. If you agree to being contacted this way please tick the relevant boxes: ☐ Email ☐ Post ☐ Phone (you can opt out at any time).

Personal data you supply will be used to confirm the purchase and to register rights sold at the burial ground. We share details of the event and the people involved with the custodian to prepare them for your arrival. We may also use it for statistical analysis. We will not share your data with other organisations. View our privacy policy for further information (www.leedam.co.uk/privacy-policy). We are obliged to keep a register of all burials and interments, recording the date of burial, names in full, age, address and grave number. By law, this data must be accessible to the public.



For when I die...



Message

TIP - Write a message here to the person who reads this document

My full name

My home address

My date of birth

The key person/people to contact in case of my death

They are my... (son, daughter, executor etc)

Their contact details are...

I have made a will, it is kept here¹

TIP - if you haven't, you probably should get a solicitor-written will, a service which is often offered in return for a charitable donation

¹ Edit or delete as necessary

I have a pre-paid funeral plan²

TIP - Don't feel pressured into taking out a pre-paid funeral plan, it can be just as good to keep your money in a savings account, because of the fees charged by the plan provider and commissions paid out to the person who arranged it.

Plan details -

I have set aside money to pay for my funeral

Bank:

Account No:

Sort code:

Telephone tree – who to call

I attach a list of people to call and have highlighted those who should be asked to let others know.

Newspaper ? Online announcement

No | Yes * (say where) | No Preference

I have decided to be

Buried | Cremated *

Name of natural burial ground, cemetery or crematorium

² Edit or delete as necessary

Have I reserved a plot?

No | Yes* - the papers relating to this are attached

Location:

No, I would like my ashes to be scattered. (TIP - this requires the landowner's consent and is not great for the environment or ecologically sound)

Funeral director

[] None if possible (using a FD is not a legal requirement in the UK)

First choice

Second choice

Preferred coffin / shroud

(TIP - locally made from biodegradable materials such as wicker, wood, wool, or recycled fabrics like cotton sheets)

Before the funeral

Embalming - An unnatural, invasive and toxic process, also called hygienic treatment by some FDs. If you are having a natural burial you should ask not to be embalmed - the poisonous chemicals will kill soil microbes and leech into groundwater)

I do | I do not * wish to be embalmed

Where to rest

before the funeral for some or all of the period

I would like to be buried with / next to

(TIP - You can reserve an adjacent plot in most cases. Also, extra cremated remains can be included as part of a burial, even your pet's ashes can go in with you.)

Viewing

(TIP - for some this is important, but don't delay viewing)

I am happy for my body to be viewed: No | Yes * | No Preference

Instructions for laying out

My family may/may not* help lay me out if they wish

Hair

Clothes, glasses etc.

(TIPS - it's a struggle to dress a dead body which you might prefer to avoid.

For natural burial, choose natural, biodegradable fabrics like cotton, silk, wool, leather etc.)

Make-up

The funeral

Think about what's important when organising your funeral...

Funeral Service

Who to invite

Type of service

(Tip: Services at crematoriums, natural burial grounds, and cemeteries can be religious and non-religious or of mixed religion. You can also choose to have no service at all.)

Dress code

Arrival perhaps you would like to arrive on a hay-trailer behind a vintage tractor...

Venue (Tip: You can have a funeral service anywhere - at your local pub, hotel, your home, or even outdoors with a simple committal beforehand, and maybe a wake there too after the funeral.)

Celebrant / Minister

Words... provide some help with an outline of your life, special events (we have collected some here <http://www.leedam.com/words-and-music.html>).

Order of ceremony sheet

Folded A4 card with a paper insert sheet? (TIP: why not include a seed card, pack of seeds or acorn to take away to plant?)

Photograph

Readings

Music

Video

Flowers (TIP - instead of florist's flowers, gather flowers from the garden or specimens from the veg patch. Alternatively suggest a favourite item like a hat, flag, fishing gear, model boat, remote-controlled car etc. to be placed on the coffin)

Photos

Photography/video recording

Special things - like a hat, emblem, craftwork, baking, scent, tipple, crossword...

Collection – which charity?

Special instructions

Vehicles (hearse, limo, own cars etc)

Bearers (list if there are any people you would like to be asked to bear the coffin)

Gathering after funeral service

Place

Instructions

Newspaper report

Memorial

Type of memorial
(if any is permitted)

Inscription

Anniversaries

Tree Planting

FINANCIAL MATTERS

I attach a list of my bank accounts, building society accounts, savings bonds, insurance plans, pension plans, shares and investments etc

BUSINESS MATTERS

I attach a list of my Business partners, Solicitor, Accountant, Landlord(s), Tenant(s) etc