



# Bath

Natural Burial Meadow

Leedam





## An idyllic meadow

Bath Natural Burial Meadow sits in the heart of the countryside, just four miles from the city of Bath and is part of the Cotswold Area of Natural Beauty. Jock Cross (1918-2002) loved this land in the beautiful Midford valley. It was owned by his aunt, Ivy Cross. From the age of 14 and for the rest of his working life, Jock farmed this land. He and his wife Janet, a nurse, raised their four daughters on the farm.

Today Janet and several members of the family still live here and continue to care for the land. The Bath Natural Burial Meadow supports the upkeep of the remaining 50 acres of farmland which is rich in a wonderful diversity of wild plants, animals, and birds.

The Bath Natural Burial Meadow celebrates Janet's vision of a sustainable alternative to cemeteries. It's where burials return goodness to the earth, sheep graze the field keeping it rich in wildflowers and we have an opportunity to minimise our impact on the environment at the end of our lives.



# How it works

A natural burial is the most ecological funeral option, a thoughtful legacy for future generations. At Bath Natural Burial Meadow, you can purchase rights for burial or ashes interment...

## In advance

- Visit the burial meadow and spend time there getting to know it and deciding whether it's right for you.
- Apply online or download an application form from our website, or phone us and we'll send you an information pack.
- Pre-purchase at today's rate. Options available to pay by standing order.

## When planning a funeral

- Complete an interment form to let us know your plans for the day so that we can help you achieve your wishes.
- Make the arrangements yourself or ask your funeral director to do this for you.
- Book the date and time with us. Burials may take place 10am-3pm and at weekends by special arrangement.

## Practicalities

We recommend stout footwear as the ground is 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...

There is a wealth of information about natural burial on our website [www.bathnaturalburials.co.uk](http://www.bathnaturalburials.co.uk) and we are here in the Leedam Natural Heritage office to answer your questions - 01600 716438.



# Our custodian



## Sally Cook

Bath number: 01225 683128

Monmouth Office: 01600 716438

Email: [sally.cook@leedam.co.uk](mailto:sally.cook@leedam.co.uk)

Our custodian at Bath is Sally Cook, Janet Cross's daughter. Sally grew up on the farm with her sisters and continues to live here today alongside several other family members.

On the day of a funeral Sally is there to welcome and look after you.

Please contact Sally if you would like to arrange a guided visit or would just like to learn more about having a natural burial at Bath. If you prefer to explore the burial meadow independently, please feel free to visit and have a wander around.







## More time and space

The burial ground gives you freedom to remember the people you love in a way that feels personal. Whether you want a traditional funeral, or something a little different, we can inspire, support and guide you to help organise the day.

When visiting, it is tranquil and private. An unhurried and gentle place to get away from it all. It is somewhere quiet to be with your memories, to take one step at a time, close to nature, whatever the weather, throughout the seasons.

“A sad occasion became  
full of love, friendship  
and time for reflection”





## Make the day your own

The meadow gives you the freedom to be yourselves.

Whether you are planning a simple interment with only a few in attendance or a larger funeral event we will offer inspiration, support and guidance, so you can organise the day exactly as you'd like it.



## Flowers

In natural surroundings flower arrangements should not include any wire, plastics or oasis.

Perhaps consider using produce from the veg patch or a hand-tied bouquet from a florist who sources locally. You may like to scatter single stems or petals into the grave as a tribute.



## Pets

Dogs offer comfort and companionship, especially at funerals. Dogs on leads are welcome at the burial meadow.

A pet's ashes may be included in their owner's grave at the time of interment.

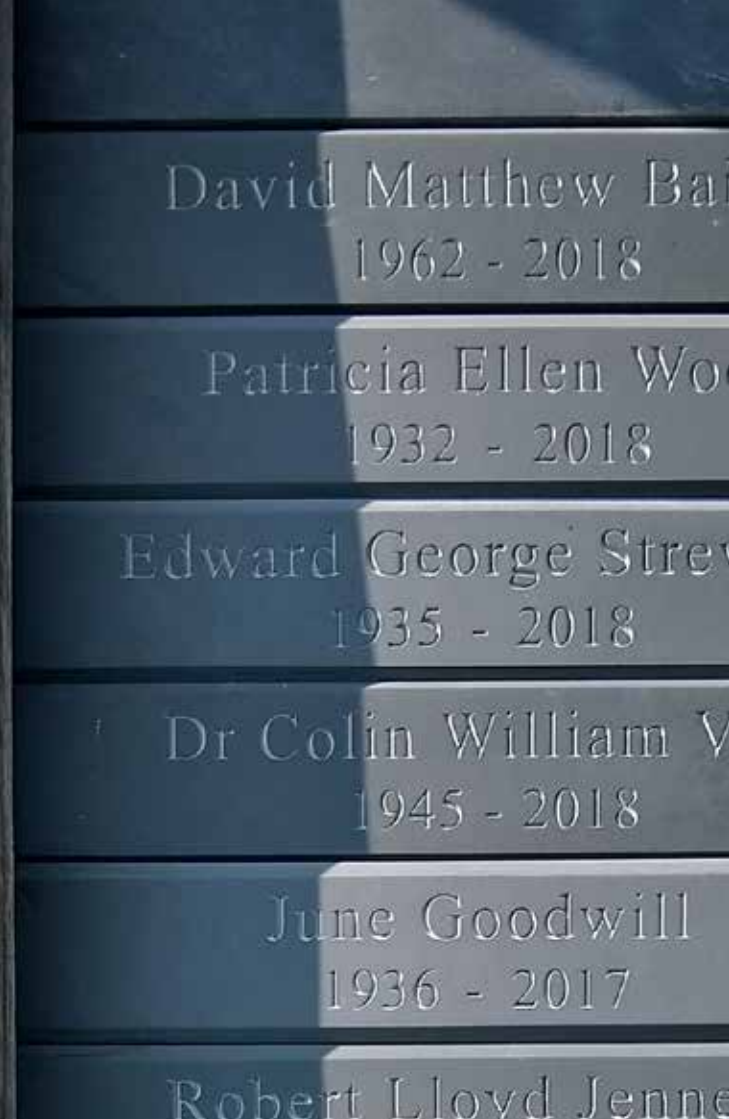


## Memorial frame

Slate memorial plaques engraved with names and dates commemorate people buried in the meadow.

The plaques are housed in this hand built chestnut memorial frame located within the corner of the meadow nearest the entrance.

The wooden frame includes a bench on each side, offering a quiet place to rest a while and take in the surroundings.



## Finding the spot

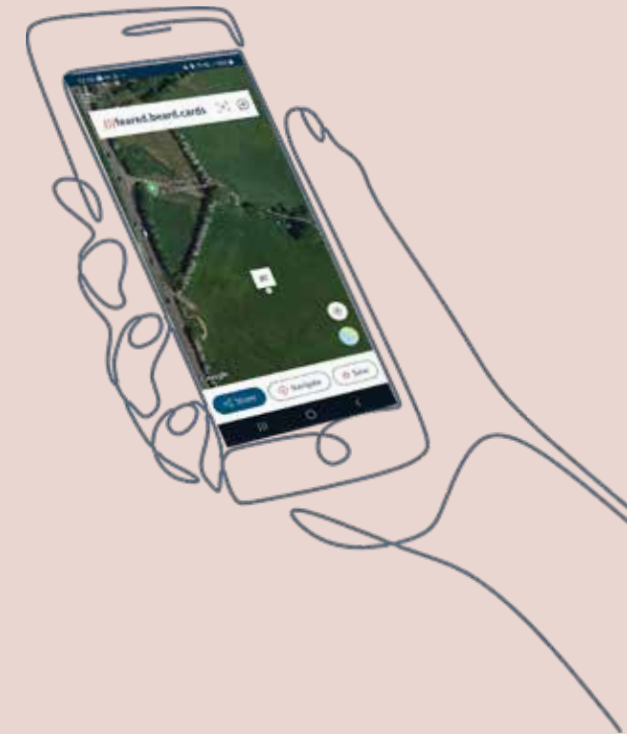
To preserve the natural landscape, graves do not feature headstones, grave-markers or surrounds; instead, they are carefully mapped and their locations are recorded and shared with you so that you'll know where to visit.

Whichever way you would prefer to share the location, we have got it covered...

- >> Latitude and Longitude
- >> [/// What3Words](#) address
- >> Google Pluscode
- >> Google Maps link

If you struggle with any of these, don't worry, we will be able to flag the spot for you.

You'll be able to return to the spot at any time and you'll have helped preserve a much loved landscape for future generations to enjoy.





### **Bath Natural Burial Meadow**

Midford Hill, Midford, Bath, BA2 7DE

(not for correspondence)

What3Words.com ///cards.rail.forced

Google Plus Code: 8MQ6+Q8 Bath

You can find us on the B3110, look out for the large entrance signs. Contact us for the code to access the burial meadow car park.

### **Custodian**

Sally Cook

Tel: 01225 683128

Email: [sally.cook@leedam.co.uk](mailto:sally.cook@leedam.co.uk)

### **Office**

Leedam Natural Heritage

26 Agincourt Square

Monmouth, NP25 3BT

Tel: 01600 716438

Email: [bath@leedam.co.uk](mailto:bath@leedam.co.uk)

Facebook: @bathnaturalburials

Instagram: @bath\_natural\_burials

[www.bathnaturalburials.co.uk](http://www.bathnaturalburials.co.uk)



**Leedam**

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

Interment 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. The person who has died

Their full name			
The deceased's address			
Their date of birth		The date of death	
Your relationship to the deceased?	You are the deceased's...		
Who is the deceased's primary representative?			
Their telephone number			
Their email address			

### 3. Funeral director (FD) - if you are using one

Company name	
Contact name	
Contact email address	
Contact telephone number(s)	

### 4. The coffin, casket or shroud

What material is it made of?					
<i>Please note - NO PLASTIC LININGS or polyester trimmings must be used. Line with canvas or paper.</i>					
Accurate exterior dimensions	Length		Width		Height



## 5. The grave

Type of grave	<input type="checkbox"/> Burial		<input type="checkbox"/> Ashes	
Are the rights pre-purchased?	<input type="checkbox"/> No		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	
If yes, the Register Number	07 -			
Next to an existing grave?	<input type="checkbox"/> No		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	
If yes, next to whom?				
Would you like to reserve the adjacent plot?	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Provisional (for 1 year)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes - burial plot	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes - ashes plot
If yes, please provide their:	Name			
	Address			
	Date of birth			
	Phone no.			
	Email			

## 6. Extra ashes within the coffin/casket/grave

Extra ashes?	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Human ashes	<input type="checkbox"/> Pet ashes
		<i>Human ashes require an additional registration fee.</i>	<i>Pet's ashes require a separate fee to cover APHA costs.</i>
For extra human ashes, please provide their:	Name		
	Their last address		
	Date of birth		
	Date of death		

## 7. The event

Requested date <i>(burial on weekdays only)</i>			
Requested arrival time: <i>(11am-2pm in winter / 11am - 4pm in summer)</i>		Estimated departure:	

What type of event are you planning?	<input type="checkbox"/> Simple committal with a graveside service <input type="checkbox"/> Committal after a service elsewhere <input type="checkbox"/> A longer celebration of life <input type="checkbox"/> Other...		
Who will carry the coffin?	<input type="checkbox"/> Funeral director's staff <input type="checkbox"/> Family and friends <input type="checkbox"/> A combination (FD + Family and friends)		
Number of people expected		Number of cars:	
Name of officiant (if any)			

## 8. Optional items

☐ **A Welsh slate memorial plaque** mounted in the memorial frame for 25 years (renewable)

Name to go on plaque  
*(Max 28 letters and spaces)*

Year of birth		Year of death	
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## 9. 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](http://www.leedam.co.uk/burial-contract)) and the Burial Ground Regulations ([www.leedam.com/rules-and-regulations/](http://www.leedam.com/rules-and-regulations/)) which apply.

Signature	
Full name	
Date	

## How did you find out about us?

Please let us know how you found out about the Natural Burial Ground...



## Payment options

Item	2023-24 Price	£
Right of burial	£1,435	
Right of burial - Southeastern area	£795	
Right to inter ashes	£735	
Right to inter ashes - Southeastern area	£400	
Extra ashes in grave	£240	
Pet's ashes with owner	£60	
Right to scatter ashes	£240	
Memorial plaque	£335	
Registration fee	£240	
Service only	£180	
Weekend supplement	£75	
Adjacent plot reservation	Please insert price:	
	TOTAL:	
Payable to Leedam Natural Heritage, Account No: 06006136, Sort Code: 80-02-38		
Grave digging for burial	2023-24 Price	£
Grave digging	£540	
Grave digging Saturday	£655	
Payable to Stan Harris, Account No: 45860473, Sort Code: 09-01-26		
Grave digging for ashes	2023-24 Price	£
Grave digging for ashes	£180	
Grave digging for ashes Saturday	£260	
Payable to S Cook, Account No: 15707059, Sort Code: 56-00-34		

## 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 withdraw your consent at any time. You may miss out on essential communications if you don't opt-in but we respect your choices if you decline. 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](http://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.

Return by email to [bath@leedam.co.uk](mailto:bath@leedam.co.uk)

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

## Funeral arrangements



<b>Burial ground name:</b>	Bath Natural Burial Meadow
<b>Location:</b>	Midford Hill, Midford, Bath BA2 7DE What3Words link: <a href="https://w3w.co/cards.rail.forced">https://w3w.co/cards.rail.forced</a>
<b>Access:</b>	Open year-round. The pedestrian gate into the meadow is not locked. The car park is kept locked – please call the office 01600 716438 for the code.  Please let wheelchair users know that there are no paths across the grass.
<b>Description:</b>	Rolling agricultural land, flower-rich limestone grassland, deep valleys and woodland, typical of the southern end of the Cotswold Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
<b>Ethos:</b>	Keep things simple, natural and sustainable. Real countryside preserved for future generations.
<b>On-site facilities:</b>	No rooms, chapels, toilets or mortuary facilities. Simply, car parking, log seats and a solid chestnut memorial frame.  The nearest public WCs are at the Sainsbury's supermarket at Frome Rd, Bath BA2 5RF.
<b>Operator and Owner:</b>	Operator: Leedam Natural Heritage. Owner – Janet Cross.
<b>Custodian:</b>	Sally Cook, tel 07749 923645

### Procedures

<b>Provisional booking:</b>	Call 01600 716438 to make a provisional funeral booking, after the death has been certified, and let us know the requested date,
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name of the deceased, your own contact details and any prior purchase information.

**Confirmation:** We will check the calendar to make sure it's not already taken, then contact the gravedigger and custodian to make sure they are available before confirming the booking.

**Submit forms:** Complete the Online form, or download the Interment form and complete the details as soon as possible and at least two days before the event. Email it to [bath@leedam.co.uk](mailto:bath@leedam.co.uk) with a scanned copy of the Coroner's Order for Burial or a Registrar's Certificate (or cremation certificate for an ashes interment).

**Payments:** Payment by bank transfer is required before the event. The gravedigger is paid separately, but also before the event. We will send you a receipt and confirm that everything is OK.

**Prices and forms:** A price list and all forms are available on the website [www.leedam.com/locations/bath/forms-and-prices/](http://www.leedam.com/locations/bath/forms-and-prices/)

**Embalming:** Embalming fills the body with toxic chemicals which we do not wish to introduce into the soil. We would only accept embalmed remains in exceptional circumstances, e.g. repatriation.

**Choosing a plot:** Arrange a family visit to the burial ground with the Custodian (07749 923645) who will show you the options available. Liaise with the office directly (01600 716438) using the mobile app What3Words.com to make sure the location is right.

**Double plots:** Plots are single depth. Double plots are arranged side by side. Choose which side is which. The second plot can be paid for in full or costs can be spread over 10 or 20 months by setting up a monthly standing order (extra admin charge applies). If undecided, we can provisionally reserve it for 1 year, after which it may be offered to others.

**Coffins etc:** Choose an eco-coffin, casket or shroud. All materials, including linings and clothing, should be natural and biodegradable. No veneered MDF or chipboard, please. Standard nameplates are OK or a handwritten card label with the deceased's name and dates.  
*TIP - Use calico canvas instead of polythene Crem Film.*

<b>Coffin size:</b>	Please measure and include the true maximum external dimensions of the coffin on the Interment Form. If in doubt please call us.
<b>Grave digging:</b>	Our nominated gravedigger will prepare the grave ready for your arrival. Graves are single depth 1.3m; double plots are arranged side by side. Families can backfill the soil to cover the coffin if they choose, but the gravedigger will complete the work.

**On the day:** There is usually only one burial on the day and time is not limited. The Custodian will be there to meet and direct you.

The vehicular gate into the meadow will be open for the hearse, limousine and family mourners with limited mobility who display the priority parking sign in the windscreen.

*TIP - Estate cars are popular with families instead of the formal hearse.*

**Dogs and pets:** Dogs offer comfort and companionship, especially at funerals. Dogs on leads are welcome at the burial meadow. A pet's ashes may be included in its owner's grave at the time of interment.

**Music:** There is no electrical power supply in the burial ground. Make sure that battery-powered speakers are powerful enough to deliver good sound quality. Live, acoustic music is always beautiful.

**What to wear:** Wellies/hiking shoes (not high-heels); warm, windproof clothes.  
*TIP - Bring folding chairs, scarves, hats and blankets for the elderly.*

**Carrying the coffin:** The ground is uneven, so the usual church trolley won't work. Carry the coffin underarm rather than on shoulders, feet-first. Set up trestles at regular resting points if the carry distance is long.

**Webbing:** Funeral Directors - please bring your own webbing. The custodian or gravedigger will have a backup set in case you come without.

**Flowers:** Seasonal flowers from the garden or produce from the veg patch are perfect. Let florists know it is for a natural burial, so no plastic, Oasis foam or wire, please. Arrangements should be taken away at



the end of the event. Please let the custodian know if a posy of flowers is to be left on the grave. *TIP - Bring a basket of petals from the garden to scatter into the grave.*

**Items in the grave:** Additional cremated remains can be included the grave, even those of a pet; please include details on the application form. You can also include natural tributes e.g. a wooden boat, sea shells; a sealed museum jar with significant pieces, or other inert objects.

**After the funeral:** We will issue a certificate of interment, by email, with the precise grave location details. This will be in pdf format for sharing.

**Finding the grave:** The certificate of interment will include links to Google Maps, GPS coordinates and the What3Words address of the grave. The What3Words mobile app is an easy way to navigate to the grave. If there is ever concern, we can flag the spot.

**Memorials:** To keep the land sustainable for the future as pasture, individual graves are not marked. Instead, slate plaques inscribed with the names and dates are mounted between the upright timbers of the memorial panel. Memorial rights to display a plaque are granted for 25 years (renewable). The memorial can be ordered on the Interment Form or a separate application form is available [here](#).

**Plants and trees:** To conserve the landscape and the natural habitat, no trees are planted on graves. The old orchard was restored several years ago when heritage varieties of apple trees were planted and these are now maturing well. To protect wildlife and bereaved families from unwanted change, nothing should be planted and no seeds should be scattered without our consent.

## Further Information

**Baby & infant funerals:** England has a scheme in place, whereby no fees should be charged for the burial of a child or person under the age of 18, which we support.

<b>Direct burials:</b>	A direct /simple natural burial can be arranged for families who do not wish to attend the burial. Full grave location details will be provided on the burial certificate.
<b>Burial Ground Rules:</b>	Outlined in full <a href="#">here</a>
<b>Maintenance:</b>	The burial ground is maintained as agricultural grassland. Sheep may be brought in to graze the land and when they do, be careful where you tread.
<b>Long term security:</b>	The land is within the Cotswolds AONB. This gives it a very high level of protection. There is no real chance of the land being redeveloped at any time in the future.
<b>Contact us:</b>	Office: Leedam Natural Heritage, t. 01600 716438 Email: <a href="mailto:bath@leedam.com">bath@leedam.com</a> Website: <a href="https://www.bathnaturalburials.co.uk/">https://www.bathnaturalburials.co.uk/</a> Facebook: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/bathnaturalburials">https://www.facebook.com/bathnaturalburials</a>