



Aylesbury Vale

Natural Burial Meadow

Leedam





Peaceful and Beautiful

The meadow at Aylesbury is rich in natural beauty. A special place to spend time listening to the skylark's song amid the expansive skies and sweeping vales, taking in the fine views of the Chiltern Hills and beyond.

As you enter, we have a beautiful pond to offer encouragement to wildlife and wildflowers. This calming corner is also home to our memorial panel, with slate plaques that commemorate those buried in the meadow.

Burials at Aylesbury Vale are simple, using only natural materials and leaving the lightest of footprints in the picturesque Buckinghamshire countryside.

Ashes can also be laid to rest at the meadow, nestled among vibrant wildflowers and grasses, local wildlife and grazing sheep.

In memory of Dorothy Brock

This meadow celebrates the vision of Dorothy Brock, whose family has farmed the land for five generations. Dorothy chose to rest here in the landscape she loved and opened Aylesbury Vale to share that possibility with others. The burial meadow is now owned and managed by Dorothy's daughter, Sally Whitworth.



Our custodian



Sally Whitworth

Tel: 01844 872028

Office: 01600 716438

Email: sally.whitworth@leedam.co.uk



Our custodian at Aylesbury Vale is Sally Whitworth. Sally and her husband Craig are actively involved in farming the land, sowing wildflowers and planting trees. They and Sally's cousin Howard jointly look after the burial ground, and will be there to meet families and friends to help with parking and questions on the day of a funeral.

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

How it works

A natural burial is the most ecological funeral option, a thoughtful legacy for future generations. The meadow will remain as it is now, permanent pasture - preserving its authentic, agricultural character.

In advance

- Visit Aylesbury Vale Natural Burial Meadow and spend time there getting a feel for whether it's right for you.
- Apply online or download an application form from our website, or phone us and we can send you an information pack via post.
- Pre-purchase at today's rate. Options available to pay by standing order.

Practicalities

We recommend sturdy footwear for walking in the Meadow. A foldable chair is a good idea for those who find it difficult to stand and please dress appropriately for the weather. We also have composting toilet facilities on site in the car park.

There is extensive information about natural burials on our website www.aylesburynaturalburials.co.uk and we are here in the Leedam office to answer your questions - 01600 716438.

When planning a funeral

- Complete an application form to let us know your plans for the day so that we can help you deliver your wishes.
- Make the arrangements yourself or ask your funeral director to do this for you.
- Book the date and time with us. Burials can take place at anytime during the day on weekdays and even on Saturdays by arrangement.



Simple, natural and beautiful

The concept behind natural burial is one of giving back to nature. The body is returned to the earth in a biodegradable coffin, wearing only natural materials, without toxic preservative treatment and at a shallower depth, to encourage transformation by nature in the living layer of the soil.





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.

Choose the best format, music ceremony and style to suit the person who has died. You could celebrate with an open-air picnic; wear bright colours or a favourite team's strip; arrive by motorbike or horse and carriage. You have the time and space to do it your way.



Flowers

Consider using flowers from your garden, or a friend's, or fresh produce from the veg patch to create a hand-tied bouquet. Ask florists to use these or locally grown flowers. No plastic, Oasis foam or wire, please.

Think about scattering petals from a basket or single stems into the grave.



Pets

Dogs offer comfort and companionship, especially at funerals. We know that they help relieve anxiety and stress. They help children who are grieving and dealing with all the emotions that are brought up at funerals.

Dogs on leads are welcome at the burial meadow.



Memorials

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

Rights to display a plaque are granted for a period of 25 years after which they can be renewed.

We also offer a limited number of places where trees can be planted or dedicated to someone's memory within Aylesbury Vale.

Finding the spot

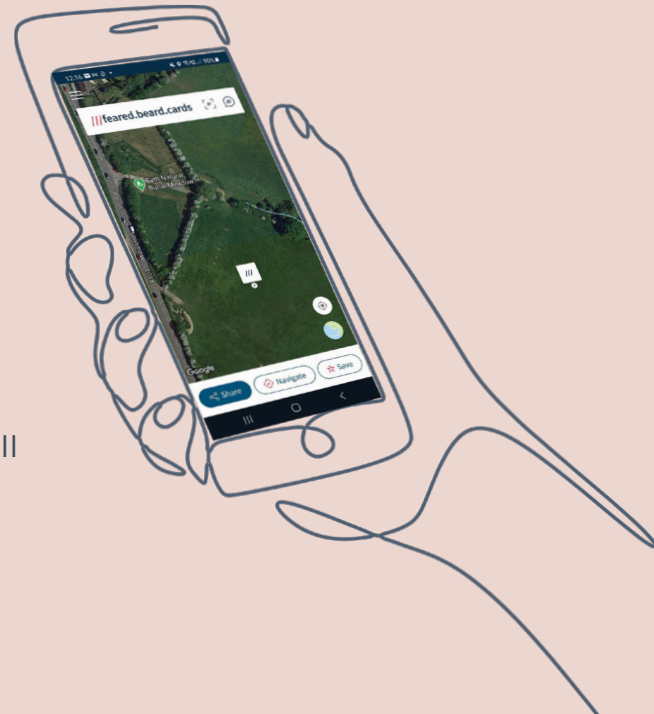
To preserve the natural landscape, graves do not feature headstones, grave-markers or surrounds; instead, they are carefully mapped and their locations are recorded and shared with you so that you'll know where to visit.

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

- >> Latitude and Longitude
- >> **///** What3Words address
- >> Google Pluscode
- >> Google Maps link
- >> QR Code (scan with your camera app)

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

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





Aylesbury Vale Natural Burial Meadow

Stockwell Lane, Aylesbury, HP17 9UG

(not for correspondence)

Google Maps Plus Code: [Q43R+R7 Aylesbury](#)

What3Words: [///knee.rooster.modifies](#)

Find us on Stockwell Lane, one mile along from Meadle and just past Orchard View Farm Shop and Cafe. Look out for signs on the left side of the road when heading away from Meadle towards Ford. Use the What3Words for precise entrance location.

Custodian

Sally Whitworth

01844 872028

sally.whitworth@leedam.co.uk

Office

Leedam Natural Heritage

26 Agincourt Square

Monmouth, NP25 3BT

01600 716438

aylesbury@leedam.co.uk

Facebook [@aylesburynaturalburials](#)

Instagram [@aylesburymeadow](#)

www.aylesburynaturalburials.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 2024 - 31 March 2025

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?	<i>You are the deceased's...</i>		
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

Return form via email to aylesbury@leedam.co.uk

or post to: Leedam, The Market Tavern, Monmouth, NP25 3BT | 01600 716 438

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	08 -			
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 <i>Human ashes require an additional registration fee.</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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You can dedicate a **tree for life** in memory of someone. The type of tree will need to be agreed with the custodian and will be planted in the next dormant season.

<input type="checkbox"/> In the copse area	<input type="checkbox"/> In the pond area
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Tree label inscription (displayed for an initial period of 10 years and can be renewed thereafter)

This tree celebrates the life of...

Inscription (max 10 words)...

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

Signature		Date	
Full name			

Valid from 1 April 2024 - 31 March 2025

Payment options

Item	2024-25 Price	£
Registration fee	£240	
Burial Plot - Meadow	£1,320	
Burial Plot - Owlswick End	£995	
Ashes Plot - Meadow	£720	
Ashes Plot - Owlswick End	£450	
Optional items:		
Adjacent plot (ashes or burial)	Insert price:	
Extra human ashes in same plot	£240	
Service only	£250	
Memorial plaque - 25 year term	£335	
Tree-for-life in the copse/pond area	£600	
	TOTAL:	
Payable to Leedam Natural Heritage, Account No: 06006136, Sort Code: 80-02-38		

Grave digging for burial	2024-25 Price	£
Grave digging	£600	
Payable to Keith P E Heybourn, Account No: 40225118, Sort Code: 07-01-16		

Grave digging for ashes	2024-25 Price	£
Grave digging for ashes	£180	
Grave digging for ashes Saturday	£280	
Payable to S Whitworth, Account No: 17500360, Sort Code: 30-96-86		

Who will be responsible for payment?

- Applicant
- Funeral Director
- Other (please provide name & address)

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. You can withdraw your consent at any time. If you agree to being contacted this way please tick the relevant boxes: Email Post Phone

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

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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.

How did you find out about us?

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

Funeral arrangements



Burial ground:	Aylesbury Vale Natural Burial Meadow
Location:	What3Words address schooling.knowledge.something Stockwell Lane, Meadle, Aylesbury, Bucks HP17 9UG (not for correspondence - send forms to the office in Monmouth)
Access:	Open year-round. The pedestrian gate into the meadow is not locked. The vehicular gate to the car park has a combination lock with a code given to families with relatives there. Please let wheelchair users know that there are no paths across the grass.
Description:	The meadow is typical of the Aylesbury Vale area in Buckinghamshire - a wide open rural landscape with big skies. Unhurried, tranquil and private, it offers something gentler. A place of escape, away from it all.
Ethos:	Keep things simple, natural and sustainable. Real countryside preserved for future generations.
On-site facilities:	Car park, wildlife area with pond, memorial plaque panel and bug-hotel. We have composting toilet facilities on site in the car park for use at funerals. No rooms, chapels or mortuary facilities on site.
Operator and Owner:	Operator: Leedam Natural Heritage. Owner - Sally Whitworth.
Custodian:	Sally Whitworth, tel 07736 526941 email: aylesbury@leedam.com

Procedures

- Provisional booking:** Call 01600 716438 to make a provisional funeral booking, after the death has been certified, and let us know the requested date, name of the deceased, your own contact details and any prior purchase information.
- Confirmation:** We will check the calendar to make sure it has not already been taken, then contact the gravedigger and custodian to make sure they are available before confirming the booking.
- Submit forms:** Download the [Interment Form](#) and complete the details as soon as possible and at least two days before the event. Email it to aylesbury@leedam.com 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. [Click here to view 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 (07736 526941) to be shown where the next available plot will be.
- 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. <i>TIP - Use calico canvas lining instead of polythene Crem Film.</i>
Coffin size:	Please measure and include the true maximum external dimensions of the coffin on the Interment Form. If in doubt, please call us.
Grave digging:	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, 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. <i>TIP - Estate cars popular with families instead of the formal hearse.</i>
Bring the dogs:	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. Alternatively, there is a separate area of the meadow where pets can be buried, or their cremated remains can be interred.
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/stout garden/hiking shoes; warm, windproof clothes. <i>TIP - Bring folding chairs, hats, scarves, and blankets for the elderly.</i>
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:	Our gravedigger supplies sanitised webbing, so there is no need to bring your own.

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. *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: Slate plaques inscribed with the names and dates are mounted between the upright timbers of the timber 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: Opportunities exist to plant new trees in the margins of the meadow, pond and in the copse. Please discuss this with the custodian. In order to conserve the natural habitat and protect bereaved families nothing should be planted and no seeds should be scattered without our consent.

Further Information

Baby & infant funerals: England has a scheme in place, which we support, whereby no fees should be charged for the burial of a child or person under the age of 18 (but over the age of 24 weeks). Details [here](#).

Burial Ground Rules: Outlined in full [here](#).

Maintenance: The burial ground is maintained as agricultural grassland. It will be mown once a year. Sheep may be brought in to graze the land and when they do, be careful where you tread.

Long term security: The land has planning consent for use as a natural burial ground combined with agriculture. This gives it a high level of protection. There is no real chance of the land being redeveloped at any time in the future - read more [here](#)

Contact us: **Sally Whitworth (Custodian)**

Telephone 07736 526941

Email: aylesbury@leedam.com

Leedam Natural Heritage (the office)

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Email: aylesbury@leedam.com

Website: <https://www.aylesburynaturalburials.co.uk/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Aylesburynaturalburials>