

Patient information

Woodland burials

In conjunction with the West Suffolk Hospital, Woodland Burials have established an area for the interment of babies at the Woodland of Remembrance, Parsons Gap, Culford, Bury St Edmunds, IP28 6TX (just outside the village, past the school).

A woodland burial is a recent introduction and a new concept of interment, different from traditional burial and cremation. It provides a permanent and undisturbed resting place.

The Woodland of Remembrance is managed in accordance with a Scheme of Management agreed with Wildlife Trusts. The object of the scheme is to ensure the development of a natural habitat for all forms of wildlife, creating a nature reserve and a place where flora and fauna will establish themselves naturally. Over the years and as the trees mature the burial ground will largely be left to develop naturally.

Under the arrangements made with the West Suffolk Hospital, each interment will be attended by a professional funeral director and will be conducted in a dignified, sensitive and respectful manner. The funeral director is appointed by the West Suffolk Hospital and will liaise with and meet the high standards required by the hospital.

Babies are interred in groups within a small area of land, marked with a hardwood plaque bearing the name of a wildflower. In each area of land, a broadleaf tree will be planted to provide a canopy to cover the area and regenerate all aspects of the wood in a relatively short space of time.

In addition to the wooden plaque, each area of land is identified with a computer chip with its own unique code. The code for each area of land is given to the hospital and our staff will have the details of babies interred within that area. Families can obtain the name of the relevant area by contacting the Bereavement Office at West Suffolk Hospital on 01284 713410.

Once the name of the area is known, families may then contact Woodland Burials for assistance in locating the specific area of land, should there be any difficulty in finding it in years to come.

Website www.woodlandburials.co.uk

email info@woodlandburials.co.uk

The Woodland of Remembrance is open all day, every day and families and friends are welcome to visit at any time of their choosing. There are no restricted hours.

Out of respect for all families and in accordance with the scheme of management of the woodland, the decoration of graves is not allowed in any way. This includes memorabilia, name plaques or trinkets. Cut flowers are permitted at interment and at other important times.

It will always be an attractive place to visit and will also present a peaceful and tranquil environment for reflecting and remembering.

Please note, if your pregnancy remains are held in our mortuary and you wish to make alternative arrangements, please contact the Bereavement Office within two weeks. If they do not hear from you after two weeks, the remains will automatically be sent for Woodland Burial.

If you would like any information regarding access to the West Suffolk Hospital and its facilities please visit the website for AccessAble (formally DisabledGo)
<https://www.accessable.co.uk/organisations/west-suffolk-nhs-foundation-trust>.



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