

The burial ground is managed using an ecologically-sound system. The woodland will be worked as a coppice to ensure rich and diverse biodiversity.

The native woodland, created by the planting of memorial trees, becomes a lasting tribute to those that rest there.

The former conifer plantation is being cleared and restored to create a native broadleaf woodland. Any existing native trees, that are undamaged, will be left to offer shade to visitors, whilst new ash and hazel will be planted to create a woodland for the future.



The South Downs Natural Burial Site is owned by the charity Earthworks Trust, thus ensuring that environmental interests and sensitive management of this site are paramount.



For more details or an information pack about the
South Downs Natural Burial Site
Or
Earthworks Trust Ltd

Please contact

South Downs Natural Burial Site
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SOUTH DOWNS



NATURAL BURIAL SITE

A tranquil burial site, which offers a private corner of the South Downs, where family and friends can enjoy peaceful reflection.

This natural alternative provides a resting place for loved ones, where the creation of natural woodland becomes a tribute to their lives.



The loss of a loved one can be confusing and painful. The staff at the South Downs Natural Burial Site, offer support when it is needed most, and allow plenty of time for goodbyes and grieving, a freedom not often available through other means of burial and cremation.

Rooms can be booked for a service at the Centre and excellent catering facilities mean you can stay close by, to spend time together after your farewells have been said.



All religious denominations and beliefs are welcome.

Graves are dug by hand to minimise impact on flora and fauna and to preserve the tranquillity.

We are members of the Association of Nature Reserve Burial Grounds

SOUTH DOWNS



NATURAL BURIAL SITE

The burial ground is situated on the south side of the beautiful South Downs, not far from Old Winchester Hill and 2 miles south of the picturesque village of East Meon.

The site is surrounded on three sides by existing woodland and the fourth side overlooks a fifty-acre sheep pasture which is managed organically.

The burial ground is within an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty in the historical Meon Valley.

A walk through the land owned by the Trust, follows paths through woodland and chalk grassland, finally reaching the burial site in a secluded corner, creating a sense of true privacy and intimacy. On a clear day the upper walk can sometimes offer views across Hampshire showing the harbours in the distance of Chichester and Langstone.

The charity Earthworks Trust owns the land, which was a former conifer plantation on part of the old navy base, H.M.S Mercury.



To ensure the protection of the natural surroundings, no permanent markers for the graves, such as headstones, are allowed. The graves are located by a system using trig-points, which are carefully plotted and recorded.

This natural alternative means even the coffins and shrouds are made from biodegradable materials ensuring that no damage is caused to the land.

Loved ones are conveyed through the grounds to the burial site by choosing either the hand bier or horse drawn cart.

A Book of Remembrance allows messages, photographs and personal details to be recorded on a specially dedicated page, which is kept safely in a glass topped case for viewing on significant dates.