



**CITY
OF
LONDON**



Sustainability and Climate Change

- Is Traditional Burial really sustainable?
- Is Traditional Cremation really sustainable?
- Can we just stop doing them?
- What can I do to make them as sustainable as possible at my site?
- Will it be enough?

The City of London Cemetery & Crematorium

- 200 acres
- Opened in 1856
- Crematorium added in 1904
- A Grade I listed Landscape
- Eight Grade II listed buildings
- The Subject of a Conservation Management Plan












Cemetery &
Crematorium

SPEED LIMIT
10 MPH
Pedestrians at all times
have priority



SPEED LIMIT
15 MPH



A few Fact and Figures

- Purchased in 1854
- Opened in 1856
- 200 acre site
- There were 9,807 burials in 1871
- Crematorium opened in 1904
- 305,458 burials by the end of 1908
- 69 cremations by the end of 1908

More Facts and Figures

- Over 155,000 graves to date
- Over 500,000 burials
- Over 280,000 cremations
- We carried out 912 burials in 2020
- We carried out 2,711 cremations in 2020
- That is 849 more funerals than in 2019

Cremation

- We cannot pretend that Cremation is Environmentally friendly
- But, approximately 80% of deaths in the UK result in a cremation
- Should we wait for a more environmentally friendly option or try to do the best with what we have?




South Chapel →
&
Car Park

South Chapel



Facultaire Technologies





Burial

- There are lots of arguments against traditional burial.
- But it is still necessary for many people
- Can we make it more sustainable?
- How?

Knowing your site

- Why is this essential?
- What do you need to know?
- What mistakes can be avoided?







WOODLAND BURIAL
A NATURAL OPTION







In Loving Memory of
HILKA GRIFFITHS
A TRUE WIFE
MOTHER AND GRANDMOTHER
WHO FELL ASLEEP 29th APRIL 2018
AGED 79 YEARS
NACEY WIFE

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
JENNY
WIFE OF ALUN REES JONES
BORN 1924 DIED 2008
A TRUE WIFE
MOTHER AND GRANDMOTHER
WHO FELL ASLEEP 29th APRIL 2018
AGED 79 YEARS
NACEY WIFE

In Loving Memory Of
ALUN REES JONES
(19th July 1964 - 28th March 2008)
Devoted Son, Husband, Father
and Brother
In life so dearly loved
In death a precious memory

In Loving Memory of
The Family of
SIBELLY BUTLER
12th June 1914 - 10th September 2008
Caring Sister
Mother to the Family

In Loving Memory of
The Family of
MARGARET
1914 - 2008

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
DORIS
1914 - 2008



LOUISE ANN O'NEILL
1918 - 1998

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
AGNES THERESA McMILLAN-SAMUEL
BORN 10 11 1940
WHO FELL ASLEEP 12 12 2004
THE LIFE A HAPPY MEMORY
HER RAINDROP IS BRIGHT CLEAR



IN LOVING MEMORY OF
WALTER MICHAEL O'NEILL
BORN 10 11 1940
WHO FELL ASLEEP 12 12 2004
THE LIFE A HAPPY MEMORY
HER RAINDROP IS BRIGHT CLEAR

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
HELEN ROSAMUND O'NEILL
BORN 10 11 1940
WHO FELL ASLEEP 12 12 2004
THE LIFE A HAPPY MEMORY
HER RAINDROP IS BRIGHT CLEAR

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
MARGARET ROSAMUND O'NEILL
BORN 10 11 1940
WHO FELL ASLEEP 12 12 2004
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SARVEY MISSED
AND LOVED
BY ALL
HIS FRIENDS
1898 - 19

18945-17

Ernie Turner



Grave Reclamation 'Heritage Graves'

- City of London (Various Powers) Act 1969
- Greater London (General Powers) Act 1976
- Reclaim private graves in general ground where;
- Grave has not been used in over 75 years
- Depth within the grave for further burials



THE FAMILY HOME OF CLARA HULBERT
In Loving Memory of
JAMES HENRY HULBERT
DIED 27 MARCH 1894 AGED 48 YEARS
ALSO CLARA HULBERT
WIFE OF THE ABOVE
DIED 21st MAY 1902 AGED 40 YEARS

THOMAS HULL
WHO PASSED AWAY 21st FEBRUARY
1894 AGED 70 YEARS
WIFE OF THE ABOVE
ALSO EDWIN FOUR BROTHERS
1st SON OF THE ABOVE
DIED 20th FEBRUARY
1894 18 YEARS
AND EDWIN DAUGHTER
DIED 11th FEBRUARY
1894 18 YEARS

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HT 5000

HT 5034



In Loving Memory
 of
 JANE COVILL
 WIFE OF
 THOMAS LITTLEMAN
 BORN 1811
 DIED 1881
 Aged 70 Years

IN
 LOVING MEMORY
 OF
 W. LILLIE BOWDITCH
 WHO DIED 21st JUN 68
 AGED 73 YEARS

IN
 LOVING MEMORY
 OF
 M. ELIZABETH
 WIFE OF THE ABOVE
 AGED 66 YEARS
 WHO DIED 14th APRIL 1866

[Large, dark granite headstone with a white horizontal band]

In
 Loving Memory
 of
 WILLIAM
 BORN SEPTEMBER 1
 DIED JULY 30th
 HE SHALL GATHER THE LABORS
 AND CARRY THEM IN HIS BOSOM





In Loving Memory
 OF
ROBERT PARKER
 BORN 22 APRIL 1814, DIED 7TH JULY 1883
 BURIED IN GRAVE NO. 143 TO HIS DEAR WIFE
 ALSO OF **MARY**, HIS WIFE
 BORN 1815, DIED 1883
 ALSO OF **SOPHIA & SARAH**
 DAUGHTERS OF THE ABOVE ROBERT PARKER & SOPHIA
 BORN 1840 & 1842
 FOR 24 YEARS BY MILDRED ALLEN
 ALSO OF **FLORA MARY**
 THE DEAR, LOVED WIFE OF HARRY PARKER
 WHO DIED 6TH JANUARY 1893,
 AGED 34 YEARS.
 ALSO OF **SOPHIA ESTHER**,
 WIFE OF ROBERT PARKER,
 WHO DIED 15TH APRIL 1904, AGED 75 YEARS
 "HER END WAS PEACE"

N-1370
 Sp.143

City of London Reuse Pilot

- Consecrated ground
- Public (common) burial area of the 1920s
- Predominantly cleared of memorials
- Signs in place since 2000
- Three graves with a registered interest
- Space for 1071 graves
- Faculty issued







Number of Complaints

None!

Grave Reuse

- London Local Authorities Act 2007
- Private graves
- General ground
- 75 years from last interment
- Lift and deepen
- Remains to be placed deeper within existing grave







Where we are Now

- Faculty in Consecrated areas achieved
- Target of Reclaiming 400 graves a year
- Select graves where memorial has already been cleared
- Select most suitable areas first
- Provide 'Heritage' graves as an option

Is Grave Reuse Viable

- We sell an average of 70 Heritage Graves a year
- In 2020 we sold 133
- Reuse at the City of London has proved to be an acceptable option
- It is still a choice for bereaved families
- It gives new life to old areas of the site
- It brings in valuable income





Conclusion

- Reuse is achievable
- Reuse need not be complicated
- Cemeteries can be sustainable

Thank you

Any Questions?