

**Diocese of Lichfield**  
**The ART churchyards:**  
Anslow, Rolleston and Tutbury  
As of 1 June 2021



We invite our communities to help us care for our churchyards please. These are places of comfort for those who are grieving, and for those seeking a quiet space to reflect and remember.

As well as caring for the bereaved, we have a duty of care to those who visit, and especially to those who maintain the churchyards. The church council portion of the funeral fee (*£306 for a grave or £124 for burial of ashes*) is a one-off fee towards churchyard maintenance. It is not the personal purchase of the grave.

We receive no grants from the government or diocese to maintain our churches or Churchyards. We are totally dependent on donations of time and money. Sadly, there have been several incidences recently in Churchyards, including ours, where volunteers have been injured by broken glass, plastic, pebbles, ceramics and rose thorns.

For these reasons, in 2021, we are working towards restoring the churchyard to the diocesan guidelines which are a compromise between the uniformity of a military cemetery and an unrestricted, “free-for-all” expression of grief.

New headstones are to comply with the diocesan guidelines for colour, shape, size, fonts and inscriptions. See overleaf.

**We welcome**

- Fresh cut flowers placed in a “vase receptacle” within the headstone base. Locally, we permit up to 2 vases.
- Spring bulbs planted within 30 cm of the headstone
- Where there is no headstone, one removable flower container (not glass) may be placed adjacent to the memorial cross.

May we remind everyone that the following are not permitted in Churchyards:

- Edgings, pebbles, slate or stone chippings on graves
- Planting of trees, shrubs or other plants on graves
- Free standing vases, troughs or planters.  
Plastic vases can be dug in, level to the ground, beside the headstone.
- Anything fabric, paper, card, glass, plastic or ceramic on the grave. Unbreakable items **are** permitted on the headstone base. A complication locally is that the peacocks often eat things left on graves and headstones.

The Church reserves the right to remove withered or faded flowers at any time, and to remove burial, anniversary or seasonal wreaths and arrangements at 4 weeks of the occasion.

The burial of a loved one or their ashes in a churchyard, and subsequent permission for a headstone carries with it the agreement to adhere to the Churchyard Regulations.

We therefore invite families to work on their loved one's graves restoring them to the guidelines please. Thank you.

For further information on the Regulations, or the full version, please contact the Rector, Revd Phyllis Bainbridge on 01283 814802 or [revdphyllisbainbridge@gmail.com](mailto:revdphyllisbainbridge@gmail.com) or the churchwardens - see the church notice boards.

We appreciate your involvement and commitment to keeping our Churchyards as special, significant and safe as possible.  
Thank you.

## **NB. Headstone details**

Any new upright memorial stone is to be within the following  
Height: No more than 1220mm (4') nor less than 762mm (2'6")  
Width: No more than 915mm (3') nor less than 510mm (1'8")  
Thickness: No more than 152mm (6") nor less than 76mm  
Colour: Mid or Light Gray Granite or slate, with white or black font.

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