

## **STROUD PARISH CHURCHES - Garden of Remembrance Regulations (Summary)**

(to be used in conjunction with **Request for Burial Form**)

*"The graveyard is a sacred location to which many relatives and visitors make their way each year to find peace. Many people do so because it is an entrance to the presence of the eternal God with whom the departed reside.*

*To keep it this way, over the passage of the years, decades and centuries, we who are responsible at any given time have to ensure that it has a serenity which is achieved through the harmonising of the burial sites. To enable this, our Church Council, guided by the Church of England, are now following specially designed criteria to help create that atmosphere of peace, serenity and harmony, as well as to facilitate easier access for all and ensure routine maintenance is safer for our volunteers.*

*The rules that follow are for this purpose."*

### **Burial of Ashes**

- Interment of Ashes MUST HAVE written permission from the Parish Priest
- Ashes are buried in individual, unmarked plots in the lawn area.
- Remains should be placed in a small hole between 450-600mm deep and a thin layer of soil sprinkled over the top. Pour in is now the preference and Burial of caskets are not usually permitted. Any local variation to this is noted under Parish Amendments.
- It is not possible to scatter ashes in the garden or in the wider churchyard: they must be buried in a specific allocated plot.
- Please note that due to space limitations it may become necessary to re-use the plot for further internments after a period of 50 years

### **Memorial Plaques**

- All burials will be recorded in the garden's burial register which is kept securely in the church, and which can be inspected by arrangement.
- If you would like a memorial to your loved one in the garden itself, a memorial plaque may be mounted in a previously agreed position within the garden of remembrance using either brass or bronze screws or bonding agent whichever is currently used within the Garden.. The plaque with gold or black embossed lettering must be of bronze measuring 150mm x100mm and be inscribed with the name of the deceased, the years of their birth and death and a short personal message if desired.
- There will be no memorials marking the plots themselves and the lawn area will be kept clear.

### **Tributes**

- Floral tributes may be placed in containers on the allocated area set aside for this purpose but should be removed as soon as they appear withered or dead.
- In order to keep the garden tidy and a pleasant place to sit and remember loved ones, no artificial flowers or other tributes are permitted in the Garden of Remembrance and will be removed with the exception for a period of 4 weeks over Remembrance tide for poppies and Christmas for wreaths.
- Please remove all cellophane, bows and other rubbish from the garden and take home with you.

### **Parish Amendment (if applicable)**

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*It is our responsibility to ensure these regulations are complied with for the sake of the many other users. In the event of any non-compliance with these regulations the next of kin will be notified where possible and if not a notice of non-compliance will be placed on the grave giving 6 months to correct the situation.*