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Office Opening Times:

Monday – Thursday 9.00am – 5.00pm  
Friday: 9.00am – 4.30pm



# Rushden Town Council

## A Guide to Newton Road Cemetery Rushden NN10 0HJ

## RUSHDEN CEMETERY

Rushden's non-denominational Cemetery is located in Newton Road, Rushden. Her Majesty the Queen established it in the 1880's following a declaration.

Rushden Town Council, who are now responsible for the Cemetery maintenance, took over the operation and management of the Cemetery from East Northamptonshire Council in April 2000. Careful attention is paid to landscaping and the planting of trees, shrubs and flowers, along with the provision of a Memorial Wall and seating, to provide for quiet contemplation.

Contractors on behalf of the Council undertake the grounds maintenance work. A member of their staff is usually available in the Cemetery, should you require any assistance, from 7.30am to 4.00pm Monday – Thursday and 7.30am until 1.00pm Friday.

## ACCESS AND OPENING TIMES



Vehicular access is restricted to disabled persons and authorised vehicles only. No other vehicle may enter the Cemetery without first seeking permission from the Council.

All visitors to the Cemetery are requested to keep to the pathways. Dogs are NOT permitted within the Cemetery grounds.

The Cemetery is open every day 7.00am – 9.00pm from the 1<sup>st</sup> April – 30<sup>th</sup> September and 7.00am – 7.00pm from the 1<sup>st</sup> October – 31<sup>st</sup> March.

## THE GROUNDS

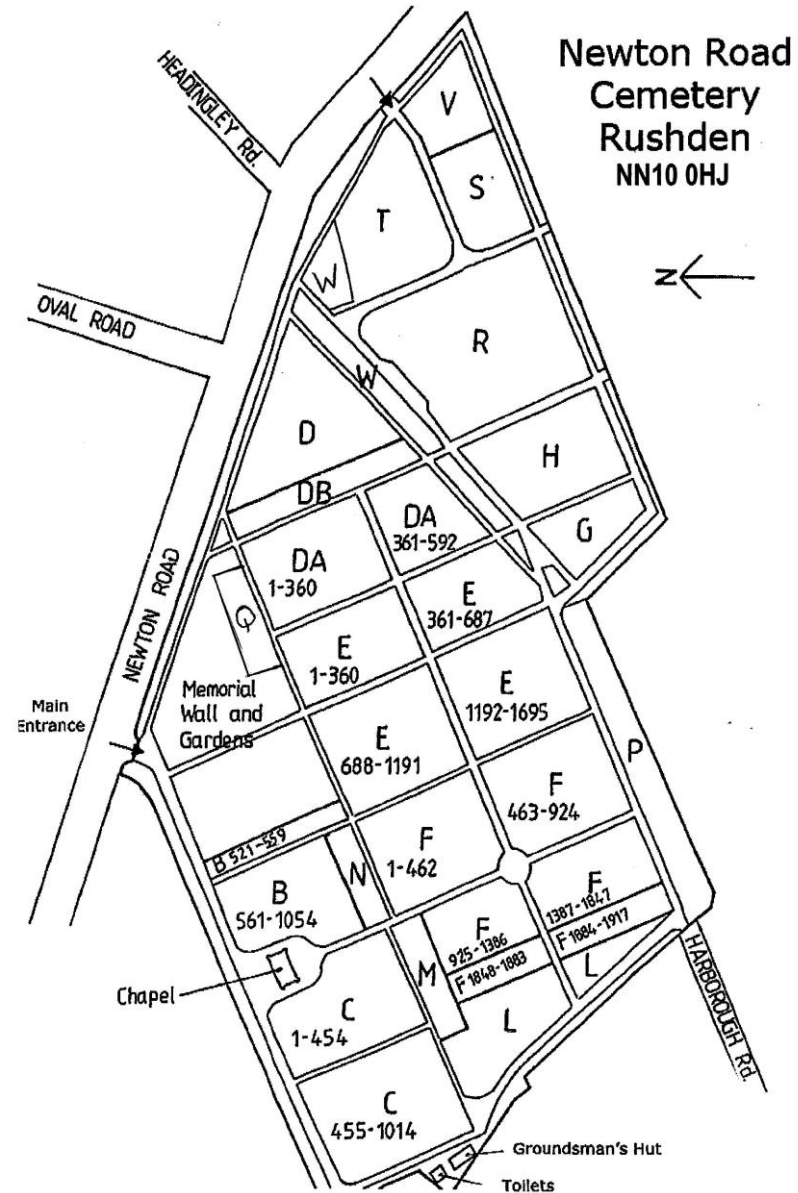
The Cemetery has six areas: ~

- ~ The Lawn Cemetery
- ~ The Rose Garden & Cremated Remains Section
- ~ Memorial Wall and Gardens
- ~ The Children's Section
- ~ The Old Cemetery
- ~ The Chapel

## THE LAWN CEMETERY

Sections H (Plot numbers 44-284 inclusive) L, P, Q, R, S, T and W are maintained as the Lawn Cemetery. As the name implies, the Lawn Cemetery is arranged to give the appearance of a lawn, with the grassed area being kept clear of all grave mounds, kerbstones or other markers, to give easy access to mowing and other maintenance. Memorials (headstones and flower vases, etc.) may only be erected with the permission of the Council and are subject to compliance with the Cemetery Regulations. Where permission has been granted, memorials must be in line with the headstones of adjoining graves. The grave owner may set plants immediately in front of the headstone only, not exceeding 12", and provided they do not extend onto any other grave.

## CEMETERY LAYOUT



## FUNERAL SERVICES

### ***With the use of Cemetery Chapel Facilities: ~***

Interments may be carried out between 10.00am and 2.00pm Monday to Friday. Please note that these times are on the basis of the service in the Cemetery Chapel being no longer than half an hour, although the wishes of the individual are considered wherever possible.

### ***Without the use of the Cemetery Chapel Facilities: ~***

Interments may be carried out in the Cemetery between 10.00am and 2.30pm Monday to Friday.

Enquiries regarding the facilities within the Chapel, together with fees payable, should be made through Rushden Town Council.

## PURCHASING THE RIGHTS OF BURIAL

### **Burial Plot**

Anyone may apply to purchase the Exclusive Right of Burial for a grave space in the Cemetery. The allocation of plots is at the discretion of the Council, although the wishes of individuals are considered, wherever possible.

Burial Rights are granted for a period of 100 years in each case and, when an application is processed, the applicant will be given a Deed of Grant for safe keeping. On application from the owner of the Burial Rights (or his / her Representatives or Successor in title) a grave space may be used for up to two interments of bodies, or up to eight interments of cremated remains.

### **Cremated Remains Plot**

Anyone may apply to purchase the Exclusive Right of Burial for a cremated remains plot in the Cemetery. If more than two interments of cremated remains are required in any plot, this should be indicated at the time the plot is purchased. The allocation of plots is at the discretion of the Council, although the wishes of individuals are considered, whenever possible.

Burial Rights are granted for 100 years in each case and, when an application has been processed, the applicant will be given a Deed of Grant for safe keeping.

On application from the owner of the Burial Rights (or his / her Representatives or Successor in title) for interment of ashes, a plot may be used for up to four interments of cremated remains.

For further information and assistance please contact Rushden Town Council.

## HEADSTONES AND MEMORIALS

When a new grave has settled, usually between 9 months and 12 months, a permanent memorial may be erected in the prepared area (the border) at the head of the grave. During the settlement period the grave may be marked with a temporary plain hardwood cross bearing the name of the deceased, these are normally supplied by the Funeral Director. The marker will be removed (normally by a Stonemason or Cemetery staff) as soon as a permanent memorial is erected.

Applications to erect memorial headstones are only permitted if the Exclusive Rights of Burial for the grave have been purchased. If you need any assistance or advice on the procedure to apply for a headstone, the permitted sizes and fees payable, please contact Rushden Town Council.

A Funeral Director or a Memorial Stonemason will help with the completion of memorial application forms. Please ask Rushden Town Council for a list of Approved Monumental Masons.

The person owning the Rights of Burial is responsible for the maintenance and repairs of all memorials and the Council accepts no responsibility for damage, unless it can be proven as contractor negligence. Any claims for negligence must be made to the Council in writing and should give as much detail as possible (e.g. the plot number, description and date of damage).

## INSCRIPTIONS ON THE MEMORIAL WALL

Inscriptions are inscribed on a spare panel kept at the Stonemason's workshop. When complete, the panel is exchanged for one of the blank panels on the Memorial Wall. This work is done when 36 applications have been received. Some applicants may have to wait up to 24 months for the inscription to appear on the Memorial Wall. Applicants are notified in writing when the new panel has been fixed.

## FLORAL TRIBUTES ON GRAVES

After a funeral the Cemetery staff will place any wreaths and floral tributes on the grave. Unless the family remove them first, the Cemetery staff will remove them when faded or decayed, in order to maintain the grave. This will be done without notification to the grave holder. Cut flowers, wreaths, artificial flowers and mourning cards may be placed on graves, but must be removed when faded or decayed. If an area becomes neglected or unsightly the Council will instruct its contractor to clear it, without prior notification.

Glass containers, i.e. jam jars, are not permitted on or around graves as they may shatter and cause injury; they are also a hazard to the staff carrying out maintenance work and will be removed, without prior notification.

Fences, borders, artificial grass, gravel chippings and wind chimes are not permitted on or around graves and may be removed, without prior notification. Solar lights are limited to two per grave.

## **FLORAL TRIBUTES ON GRAVES - CONTINUED**

The planting of flowers, shrubs and bulbs on the surface of the grave is not permitted. The grave owner may set plants immediately in front of the headstone only, not exceeding 12", and provided they do not extend onto any other grave.

## **FLORAL TRIBUTES AT MEMORIAL WALL**

Fresh cut floral tributes (not artificial flowers) may be placed at the foot of the Memorial Walls. When flowers are considered to have wilted the Cemetery staff will remove them, without prior notification. Any other containers placed by the Memorial Wall will be removed without prior notice.

## **DONATIONS OF TREES AND BENCHES**

Many requests are received from families who wish to place a bench or to plant a tree and the Council will always try to accommodate such a request. For advice and assistance please contact Rushden Town Council.

## **MAINTENANCE**

Rushden Town Council maintains the Cemetery and all graves. Grass cutting, strimming and edging is carried out during April to October. Borders are maintained by annual programme. There may also be times when additional work needs to be done on a grave, such as, topping up during ground settlement. This will be done as part of the ongoing maintenance of the Cemetery without notification to the grave holder; however, every care and attention is given to monuments while this work is carried out. The maintenance of any permitted planting areas within the Lawn Cemetery will be the responsibility of the grave holder and must be kept free of weeds and in proper condition. If any such area becomes neglected, the Council will instruct its contractors to clear and maintain it.

As set out in the Cemetery Regulations 1984 (Sections 15-19 and 46 (a)-(h) the Council reserves the right to take any necessary action to ensure that graves are maintained in an appropriate manner. A copy of the Cemetery Regulations can be obtained by contacting Rushden Town Council.

## **WAR GRAVES**

Within the Cemetery the War Graves Commission maintains the graves of servicemen who died during the First and Second World War.

## **THE ROSE GARDEN AND CREMATED REMAINS SECTION**

Sections Q and W in the Lawn Cemetery has been specially set aside with smaller plots for interring cremated remains. Memorials may only be erected with the permission of the Council and are subject to compliance with the Cemetery Regulations.

Cremated remains may be scattered, by arrangement, on the Rose Garden, which is planted and maintained by the Council.

Floral tributes from Crematorium services may be placed at the sides of the Cemetery Chapel.

## **MEMORIAL WALLS AND GARDENS**

This reflective area of the Cemetery has been set aside for memorials for loved ones. The names of those who have passed away may be recorded on the Memorial Walls, their names and date of death being inscribed on the stone panels by a Stonemason.

## **THE CHILDREN'S SECTION**

Section V is set aside for children. Memorials (headstones, kerbs and flower vases, etc.) may only be erected with permission of the Council and are subject to compliance with the Cemetery Regulations.

## **THE OLD CEMETERY**

Sections B, C, D, DA, DB, E, F, G and H (Plots 1-43 inclusive) are not designated as Lawn Cemeteries. They contain the older graves and a variety of memorials. Interments may still take place in this section of the Cemetery, on application from the owner of the Burial Rights.

## **THE CEMETERY CHAPEL**

The Cemetery contains a small, traditional, stone-built, inter-denominational Chapel. The Chapel can be hired for funeral services between 10.00am and 2.00pm Monday to Friday. Seating in the Chapel has an intimate atmosphere, ideally suited for smaller funeral services. Floral tributes from Crematorium services may be placed at the sides of the Chapel.

## **ADVICE AND INFORMATION**

If you would like advice or assistance on any matter concerning Rushden Cemetery please contact Rushden Town Council, details of which can be found on the reverse of this Cemetery Guide.