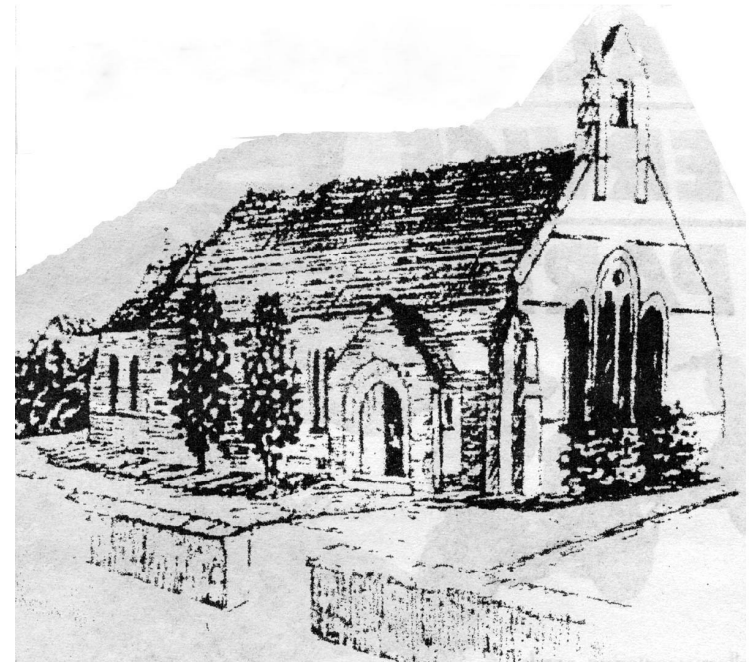


ST ANNE'S, SHEVINGTON,
STANDISH LOWER GROUND
& CROOKE



**Guide to Use of the
Gardens of Remembrance**

Issued by the Vicar, Churchwardens and
Parochial Church Council

St Anne's Vicarage
81 Gathurst Lane
Shevington
Wigan
WN6 8HW

Tel 01257 252136

Donations and Endowments

Donations and endowments for the maintenance of the churchyard will be gratefully accepted by St Anne's Parochial Church Council and may be sent to the vicar

at:
St Anne's Vicarage
81 Gathurst Lane
Shevington
Wigan
WN6 8HW

A Final Word

We apologise for the quantity and detail in these Guidelines, especially to those who read them at a time of recent bereavement, but the details are necessary for the sake of clarity.

Our hope is that your experience of our churchyard will be positive and that you will find strength in the truths which St Paul writes about:

'I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord'.

(Romans 8:38-39)

Losing a Loved One

Losing a loved one is a traumatic experience. The person who has been so much a part of one's life is not there any more. There will be grief and there may be tears to be shed.

Those who are bereaved may sometimes find it helpful to visit the Churchyard or Garden of Remembrance where the ashes of their loved one are to be, or have been, interred and spend time quietly with their thoughts and memories.

Churchyards not only provide a focal point for present day mourners, but also an historical record for future generations. It is because of all these functions that it is important that the quality and the dignity of the churchyard, including the Garden of Remembrance, be maintained for present and future generations. That is why churchyards are governed by various laws and guidelines.

Understandably, families who are newly bereaved may be unfamiliar with what is permissible or desirable in a churchyard, i.e. with what may be placed around or on a grave, or in a Garden of Remembrance. The regulations are issued under the authority of the Chancellor of the Diocese of Blackburn. The Parochial Church Council control the day to day management of the churchyard including cutting the grass, clearing weeds and generally keeping the churchyard presentable.

We are sure you will understand that the purpose of the regulations is to preserve the rights of the majority and to curb the excesses of the few.

Interment of Ashes

Ashes can be interred in an existing grave, in an ashes plot, or in the New Garden of Remembrance.

If ashes are interred in an existing grave or ashes plot in the Churchyard, please see 'Guide to the Use of the Churchyard' booklet.

Caskets

The dimensions of the casket must not exceed:

height 6ins (150mm) length 10ins (260mm)
width 7ins (175mm).

Guidance for the Garden of Remembrance adjacent to Church Lane

(For families who already have a plot)

Inscriptions

In this Garden names of the deceased are inscribed onto a large memorial stone. There is only room for one fore-name, initials, surname and years of birth and death. Several weeks after the interment of ashes, the stonemason contracted to inscribe the memorial stone will contact you and agree the inscription.

The stonemason's invoice for this work will include the Church's fee for your right to have an inscription on the stone.

Flowers

Flowers are to be placed in the brick plinth against the road-side wall. (There are some individual vases there but in 1994 permission for further vases was withdrawn due to shortage of space.)

Please do not place baskets or pots around the memorial stones during the growing season (March to October) thereby enabling grass cutting and strimming to take place. Exceptionally, flowers given at the time of the funeral itself may be placed on the lawn area of the Garden for a maximum of **ten days**, after which they must be removed.

Some bulbs and bushes have been planted in the borders of the Garden, but permission for more plants cannot be granted due to shortage of space.

Guidance for the New Garden of Remembrance

A new Garden of Remembrance has been created in the lower part of the churchyard on the Churchfield side. Stringent rules will be applied so that the Garden can be kept tidy and remain a fitting place for visitors to spend time quietly with their thoughts and memories of loved ones.

Flowers

As part of the agreement to inter ashes in this Garden, you will be paying the Church to purchase a vase and have it inscribed with your loved one's name and years of birth and death, and having it fixed. Flowers must be put in that one receptacle at all times and nowhere else. No other receptacles will be allowed.

No flowers or any other objects will be allowed on the grassed area, paths or paved walling at any time.