

ST LAWRENCE CHURCH BARLOW: GRAVEYARD

The Church of England graveyard at St Lawrence Barlow is a quiet and peaceful place and well suited as a final resting place for your loved one. In due course it is also good to have a permanent memorial placed on the grave as a way of honouring them.

Within Barlow churchyard you will see a variety of styles and designs of headstone, but you will notice that there is some overall consistency in design and style in the newest areas. This is because we, as the Vicar and Churchwardens, have to abide by diocesan legal regulations and can only give permission for certain designs/sizes of headstones and plaques *.

We hope that this booklet, which contains a summary of the rules, will help you to make a suitable choice of headstone or memorial plaque. If you would like a copy of the full regulations please contact the Vicar who will be happy to help, and your memorial mason will also be able to advise you.

Where to start....

There are some basic regulations which apply to every memorial which are as follows:

- **Any** memorial needs permission before it can be placed in the churchyard.
- If a memorial does not comply with the details of the diocesan regulations (downloadable from the church website), the Vicar has no authority to grant permission.
- The memorial should be of modest and sober appearance which will not cause it to either stand out, detract or distract from the atmosphere of the churchyard as a place of quiet prayer, reflection and commemoration.
- Materials for all memorials **must** harmonise with the natural landscape and local stones are to be preferred.
Materials permitted are as follows:
Limestones, including Nabresina, Boticino; Sandstones; Stancliffe or Darley Dale stone; Grey granite - no lighter than light grey and no darker than Rustenburg grey; Wood (teak and oak)
- Stone should be **matt** i.e. unpolished - polishing should not be greater than that required to go give a smooth finish. Mirror polishing is not permitted.

Inscriptions for all stones and plaques

- Inscriptions must be set out in plain creed lettering and may be painted a shade lighter or darker than the natural colour of the stone.
- The Christian name and surname of the deceased should be given, with age and date of death.
- Scriptural texts, quotations, a hymn, poem or other suitable texts may be used.
- **Small** (no more than 10cm x 10cm), well carved and uncoloured engravings depicting some relevance to the deceased can be applied for.
These do not fall strictly within the regulations but may be allowed by the Archdeacon if it considered appropriate.

Upright Headstones – standard specifications

Adult headstone

Height: 75cm (30')- 120 cm (48")

Width: 50cm (20') and 90cm (36")

Thickness: 7.5cm /3') and 15cm /6') thick

Child's headstone *may be smaller but **no less than***

Height: 60cm (24")

Width: 37.5 (15")

Thickness: 5cm (2") thick.

There are three basic designs which you can choose from:

- Headstone (only) is inserted into the ground to sufficient depth to ensure stability
- Stone placed on an integral base which does not project above the ground by more than the thickness of the gravestone and does not project beyond the gravestone by more than 10cm (4").
- Stone on a vase base where the receptacle for flowers shall be flush with the top of the base and may extend to 20cm (8") in front of the headstone.

Cremated Remains - standard specifications

A 60cm x 40cm (24"x16") horizontal stone may be placed over the cremated remains.

Please note that the scattering of ashes or unauthorised internment of ashes is not permissible.

Please note that the following are not permitted:

- Memorials in highly polished materials including granites, coloured, black or white materials including marble, synthetic stone, terracotta, metal, glass or plastic.
- Memorials in shape of heart or any other object.
- Memorials with kerbed surrounds, railings, chains, chipping or glass.
- Cursive script, leaded lettering trademarks or advertisements.
- Large (ie more than 10cm x10cm) carved but uncoloured motifs or images
- Coloured or painted images of any size
- Images of the deceased.

No deviations from the rules will be accepted unless application is made to and permission given by the Chancellor of Derby in exceptional circumstances.

**If you strongly wish for a different design you will have to go through an application process involving the Archdeacon and Chancellor, but this can be expensive and has no guarantee of success.*

*If you have any queries
please do not hesitate to contact the Vicar,
Revd Sarah Colver, who is happy to offer advice.*

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