Grave Searches

Bereavement Services

wolverhampton.gov.uk
City of Wolverhampton Council

Bereavement Services

The City of Wolverhampton Council has seven cemeteries, the oldest, Merridale Cemetery opened in 1850, Bushbury Cemetery opened in 1949 followed by the Crematorium in 1954. We have over 165 years of heritage recorded in our Cemetery Burial and Cremation Registers.

The City has over 74675 graves within the council’s cemeteries and in excess of 145800 cremations have taken place at Bushbury Crematorium between 1954 and 2015.

What information do we have?

The City of Wolverhampton has the recorded details of every Burial and Cremation that has taken place in council run Cemeteries and Crematorium since Merridale Cemetery’s opening in 1850.

From 1856 – 1966 some of our registers weren’t indexed so searching for an individual record can be a lengthy and time consuming process, particularly without the exact date of death.

Please be aware that the information recorded about a person is limited to:

• The date of burial / cremation
• The full name of the deceased*
• The age of the deceased*
• The address of the deceased, or place of death*

* As given when the death was registered. It is not uncommon for information supplied to the cemetery to be incorrect. Often the person making the funeral arrangements will mistakenly give the wrong age of the person, incorrectly spell a name, or not record a middle name etc. This will need to be taken into account when conducting the investigation.

How research is conducted

The complexity and length of time it takes to search for a record is reflected in the cost for the searches. The more data you can gather before contacting us will result in a lower cost to find the information you require.

Information in the registers has always been recorded on the day the burial or cremation took place. Therefore the easiest way to find the information you want is by knowing the name of deceased and date of funeral. It is then possible to locate the register for that period.

It is difficult to conduct searches without accurate information and the possibility of finding the information you want is greatly reduced.

We can undertake a search for you and the costs for doing so are all listed in our Scale of Charges Table opposite.
Scale of Charges Table

Cremations
Per name with exact date of death: Pre 1st January 1987 No Fee
From 1st January 1987 No Fee
Per name where date of death not available: Pre 1st January 1987 £10.50
From 1st January 1987 No Fee
(Please provide an approximate year of death, we will search 2 years either side of this date)

Burials
Per name with exact date of death:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cemetery:</th>
<th>Bilston</th>
<th>Bushbury</th>
<th>Beacon Hill</th>
<th>Merridale</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date of Opening:</td>
<td>Mar 1855</td>
<td>Aug 1949</td>
<td>Sep 1960</td>
<td>Jun 1850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1850 - 1937</td>
<td>£10.50</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>£10.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1937 - 1987</td>
<td>£10.50</td>
<td>£10.50</td>
<td>No Fee</td>
<td>£10.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1988 - Present</td>
<td>No Fee</td>
<td>No Fee</td>
<td>No Fee</td>
<td>No Fee</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cemetery:</th>
<th>Danescourt</th>
<th>Penn</th>
<th>Hall Green</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1850 - 1937</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1937 - 1987</td>
<td>No Fee</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1988 - Present</td>
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<td>No Fee</td>
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Per name where the date of death is not available, per 30 minute search
(Please provide an approximate year of death, we will search 2 years either side of this date)

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To meet a family at the cemetery and locate approximate position of the grave on site. £42.00
To locate approximate position of a grave on site and place a temporary marker.
(Marker will remain in position for one month only) £42.00
City of Wolverhampton Council

Bereavement Services
Grave Search

Order Form

Once completed, please detach the order form and return to:

Bereavement Services,
Civic Centre,
St Peter’s Square,
Wolverhampton
WV1 1SD
The Search Service is calculated at a rate of £10.50 per thirty minutes or part of thirty minutes, inclusive of VAT per person. The maximum research we undertake is two hours. Searches will be carried out in the order they are received.

Please give as many details as you can. The more information you give us the easier it is to check the relevant records. We cannot guarantee that the information you are looking for will be found in our records.

When we locate the information you require from our records we will provide you with the following information;

- Age of deceased
- Date of burial
- Grave number
- Grant number

Please provide details for your search. (One name per application only)

Name of deceased: ___________________________________________________________

Date of death: ____________________________

Where the date of death is not available, please provide an approximate year of death, we will search 2 years either side of this date

Approximate year of death: __________________________________________________

Name of cemetery: __________________________________________________________

Other Relevant Information: __________________________________________________
Payment in advance is required otherwise orders cannot be processed.

Payment

I enclose a cheque for £

All cheques to be made payable to "Wolverhampton City Council".

Please telephone for payment by credit/debit card.

Full Name:

Address:

Postcode:

Daytime Telephone No:

Please complete this form and return to:
Bereavement Services,
Civic Centre, St Peter’s Square, Wolverhampton WV1 1SD

For further information or assistance please contact us on 01902 554992
or email us at bereavement.services@wolverhampton.gov.uk

For office use only

Grave number:

Cremation number:

Receipt number:

Date:
Searches conducted by Bereavement Services

We require payment for this service prior to undertaking any research.

You can pay fees by:

- Cheques made payable to "Wolverhampton City Council"
- Credit or debit card, in person or by telephone.
- Cash in person

For further information please contact us on 01902 554997 or email us at bereavement.services@wolverhampton.gov.uk

Conduct your own research

Wolverhampton Archives & Local Studies,
Molineux Hotel Building, Whitmore Hill, Wolverhampton WV1 1SF
Telephone: 01902 552480
Email: archives@wolverhampton.gov.uk
Web: www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/archives