



TONG & PERYER  
2007 Limited

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

# NATURAL BURIAL

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## NATURAL CHOICE

Choosing to have a natural burial is a beautiful way of recognising our place as part of nature and an environmentally caring way to step lightly out of this world.

At Tong & Peryer we honour our connections with the natural world and work from a heart-centred perspective with every family we connect with, and every funeral we arrange.

Since 2018, Hawke's Bay has been able to have natural burials at the beautiful Oak Meadow Natural Burial Ground at the Mangaroa Cemetery.

Awareness about the beauty of a natural burial is growing and we are happy to assist families wishing to make this choice. This document outlines options we can offer for a natural burial and the ways we can work with you to create a beautiful farewell.

Tong & Peryer has been serving this community for over 140 years, and it gives us great pleasure to now be able to offer this choice for families. We look forward to discussing your needs and creating a plan to meet them. Oak Meadow at the Mangaroa Cemetery is the only natural burial ground in Hawke's Bay.

**CALL 06 878 5149  
TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT**



## **OAK MEADOW NATURAL BURIAL SITE**

Natural burial involves the burial of the deceased in the soil where their body recycles naturally through the decomposition process. Another difference from traditional cemeteries is that there aren't any headstones or markers on the grave itself. Instead, a plaque is placed on the memorial wall and the siting of burial sites is recorded using GPS.

Natural burial sites are generally left to nature with flora and fauna flourishing over time. Oak Meadow has been sown with mass wildflowers to encourage insects and birds. No grave markers or ornaments can be left at burial sites; nor can plants be put in by families.

Oak Meadow has capacity for 80 graves. When someone passes, we liaise with the cemetery and they allocate a plot for you.

At the entrance to Oak Meadow there is a large granite rock called the Memorial Wall. As part of the fee for the plot, you are allocated a space on this rock for an engraved inscription. The cost for the engraver is additional to the cost of the plot. We can help you find an engraver to do this for you.

Oak Meadow has been designed as a place of reflection in a natural, beautiful and peaceful setting. The seating area near the memorial wall, is a restful spot to take some time and remember your loved one or even hold a small service, and a planted woodland walk around the space is a good way to take in the absolute beauty of this very special burial ground.

### **Natural Burial Site costs**

The fee for the plot (as at December 2020) is \$2525.00. We can make arrangements with the cemetery for you. We do not add any additional charges to these fees.

Oak Meadow and Mangaroa Cemetery are owned and operated by the Hastings District Council.

Oak Meadow Natural Burial Ground  
Mangaroa Cemetery  
62/90 Mangaroa Rd, Longlands





## **HOW WE CAN HELP**

### **Pre-planning**

We think of pre-planning as a gift of love for families because it means you are helping them fulfil your wishes at a time when they are feeling the immediacy of your passing. Preparing information ahead of time means they know you will be happy with what they arrange for you, and you will have made a huge difference to how they are able to cope at this time.

### **Transfer and preparation**

When your loved one passes, we will transfer them into our care. With a natural burial we do not use a traditional embalming process. However, to help give time for family to gather, we do have an environmentally-friendly Eco-prep option which is a special process designed for natural burial.

Eco-prep cleanses the body but does not preserve tissue. All products used in this process are completely natural and include essential oils such as eucalyptus and tea-tree. This preparation can extend possible viewing time to two to three days following death.



## **Presentation**

We believe that providing an opportunity for families to see their loved one to say goodbye is an important part of the grieving process. If a person has been unwell or in pain at the end of life this can be written on their face, yet after death this pain disappears and they can look very peaceful. As part of our service, we take care to have them looking their best for you.

## **Personalisation**

We believe in honouring the individual, not in creating 'cookie cutter' funerals. Our staff has years of combined experience getting to know families and incorporating their loved one's hobbies, activities, interests, and unique requests into meaningful and memorable services.

Do not hesitate to make a request because you think it might be too "out there", we're honoured to work with you to create a service that truly reflects



and celebrates your loved one's individual life journey. With a natural burial we would ensure every aspect of their farewell, reflects that wish to be as eco-friendly as possible.

We can help you plan every aspect of your funeral service or farewell, and we will direct it for you so that on the day you are able to focus on the farewells, not the details. You can choose to use our Crestwood Chapel if you wish. You are also able to have a service at the Oak Meadow burial ground.

### **Paperwork**

We can manage all the necessary paperwork for you including application for the death certificate.

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## CASKETS AND WAYS TO CARE

We have a range of eco casket options from beautiful handwoven willow, to the elegant contemporary shroud board. If you are wanting something truly unique, you could also explore the Return to Sender range. You can see one of their caskets in our Hastings showroom.

We can show you these options when we meet to discuss your needs. Pricing of eco caskets and shroud boards tend to be more expensive than conventional caskets, but this is because of the attention to detail to ensure that every component of the item is fully biodegradable.

The body can be wrapped in simple plain cotton or linen fabric. Or if you are wishing for something even more special, we have handwoven organic cotton shrouds that have been infused and dyed with a range of natural herbs and plants including rosemary, lavender, indigo and vetiver.



## Essence of Nature kits

We have links with a local artisan, healer and certified end of life doula, Georgina Langdale. Under the name Archeus, she creates beautiful Essence of Nature kits to help families care naturally for their loved one at the end of life and after death.

## Plant essences to assist with grief

We have Archeus plant essences and elixir remedies available to support emotions. These are made from plants growing locally in the Archeus apothecary garden in Havelock North.





## ABOUT US

Tong & Peryer has over 140 years of history serving this community we place care and compassion at the heart of everything we do.

Tong & Peryer is run by Monique Longley. With over 14 years professional expertise in the funeral industry, Monique prides herself on the care she gives to families and to their loved one who has passed.

Monique's own family ties are deeply connected to Hastings and Hawke's Bay. This is her turangawaewae and she cares for all families as if they were her own.

Monique and her team can assist you through the process of arranging a natural burial.

Tong & Peryer  
509 Queen Street West  
Hastings 4156

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*I believe the way in which we care for each other and honour the life of someone who has passed is paramount.*

*Experience of working with many families over many years, has shown me how important it is to create dignity, respect and the opportunity to say farewells. This weaves itself through everything we do here at Tong & Peryer.*

*I am dedicated to helping meet your needs and I'll always give caring and honest advice regarding what is possible. I believe that a good funeral can be profound and transformational in helping acknowledge that someone has died and honouring their life.*

*Myself and my team will help you with the choices that can be made and the details that are required at this time.*

Monique Longley Dip. FD

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To honour. To remember. To heal.

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**[www.tnphb.co.nz](http://www.tnphb.co.nz)**

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