### **Fees**

These are available on our website and on request. For all queries relating to the cemeteries please contact:

### Cemeteries

Phone: 01702 318134; or

Switchboard: 01702 546366

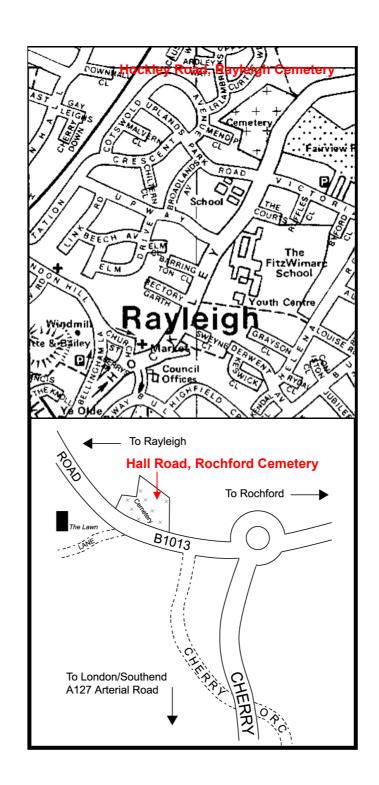
Email: cemeteryadmin@rochford.gov.uk

## **Hours of Opening**

Both Cemeteries are open to the public 365 days a year.



**Assistant Director Environmental Services** 





# Cemeteries and Burials

### Introduction

The Council owns and manages two cemeteries within the District, one at Hall Road, Rochford and one on the Hockley Road, Rayleigh. With the exception of children's graves, the cemetery at Rayleigh has reached its capacity. Burials now only take place in previously reserved graves or cremation plots.

The Columbarium at Rayleigh Cemetery is a place dedicated to the placing of loved ones cremated remains in a dignified and worthy resting place, within niches sized to hold two standard poly urns and closed by a polished and engraved granite plaque.

The Memorial Wall is a beautiful red brick wall, incorporating teak benches. Memorials of polished granite may be placed on the wall. Cremated remains may be scattered beneath the turf, under the trees in a quiet part of the cemetery, with a memorial being placed on the memorial wall. The place of the spreading will not be marked in any way.

Hall Road Cemetery now serves the whole of the District for the purchase of new graves and cremation plots. Although the cemeteries were provided to cater principally for residents of the District, they are available for use by non-residents. A two-tier fee structure reflects this arrangement.

# **Reserving a Grave Space**

Exclusive Right of Burial may be purchased in advance of an interment; however the plot number will not be allocated by the Council until the interment is booked. In the event that the purchase is made more than 12 months before the interment, a fee of 10% of the purchase price shall be paid for each additional year or part year between purchase and interment.

Graves are purchased for up to three burials and four sets of ashes. Cremation plots hold up to four caskets of ashes. New graves will be allocated in strict rotation and are not available for selection.

Only the registered owner has the right to allow a burial to take place in the grave. No memorial may be placed on the grave without the written permission of the grave owner during the period of the Exclusive Right of Burial. If you are the Registered Owner of the Exclusive Right of Burial, you have the automatic right to be buried in the grave. You may also allow others to be buried in the grave (space permitting).

This permission cannot be transferred to another person without a formal procedure. The Council is unable to simply transfer deeds upon request and must be satisfied that any person receiving the deed is legally entitled to it.

### **Interments**

All initial enquiries regarding burial should be made through the Funeral Director of your choice, who will contact the Council's Cemeteries Department to make the arrangements on your behalf.

Enquiries regarding the interment of cremated remains may be made directly to Cemeteries. Cremated remains must be in a biodegradable container. No plastics of any kind are acceptable.

Enquires regarding the Columbarium may be made directly to Cemeteries. Arrangements for the scattering of ashes and a memorial wall plaque may also be made directly to Cemeteries.

Arrangements for an officiating minister are made by the relative or undertaker.

No trees, shrubs, plants, windmills, lights, toys or memorabilia of any kind may be grown or placed on any grave. Any such items will be removed by the Council.

### **Maintenance**

All grass cutting within the cemeteries is undertaken by the Council. To assist visitors tending to graves the Council provides a supply of water, watering cans and litter facilities at both cemeteries.