

The Green Funeral Company

Creating a Ceremony



We have twenty years of experience in helping people create ceremonies, often entirely from scratch. There are no rules.

Certain practical things do need to happen; the coffin needs to be carried in and out, to the grave (or the catafalque, if in a crematorium) but what we do around this, how we mourn or celebrate that life, is entirely up to you.

Our aim is to help you create a funeral that reflects the life of the person who has died, both to fully honour them in all of their complexities and to help your grief unfold in a way that is healthy and heartfelt.

We believe that a ceremony, which is in keeping with the person who has died, is what lies at the heart of a good funeral.

If you wish to have a religious ceremony, we can help with this, however, if this is not appropriate, we have the ability to take and hold the ceremony, or alternately, we can support you to do it.

Before you start, know that a ceremony can take place anywhere. This can be in a church, in a field, a hall or in your home. Wherever seems appropriate.

Our Philosophy

Our watchwords are:

Honesty / Appropriateness / Participation

We are neither Christian nor Humanist. That is to say, we are neither wholly one nor the other, so are happy doing a full religious service, or one without any mention of God, but we owe a great deal to the Quaker notion of speaking truth, the Christian sense of hope, and the Humanist belief in an individual's potential.

We believe that people have important things to say to each other, but in our busy modern lives are starved of the time and opportunity to do so. A funeral can create the right conditions to say these things.

When somebody dies, no matter how many times we have been through it before, or how prepared we think we are, it is always like a punch to the heart. But within this pain is a huge potential for emotional growth. The unimportant drops away, and we can see that all that matters is our relationships with each other.

We think that one brief, shared moment of truth is worth more than hours of comforting fluff. We believe in the redemptive, healing power of words.