



Serving the people of Broomhill & Broomhall

Life and Death Matters

Planning for end of life



*“In this world, nothing can be said to be certain,
except death and taxes.”*
Benjamin Franklin

There are advantages of thinking about what your priorities would be in will preparation for when death inevitably comes. You may fear talking about your death upset you and those you are closest to, but once you have done it, you are likely to experience a sense of relief at having been proactive and ensuring that others are aware of your personal wishes and that they have some guidance about handling your affairs in the way you would like. Thinking about life and death matters does not alter the outcome but can raise important questions about dying, death and life beyond death which can help us to come to terms with issues around our mortality.

Planning for end of life is a taboo subject that many people wish to avoid. The centre pages of this leaflet are intended to help you to start to consider what is important to you when life is compromised and following your death. You can always add further details or alter any aspect of it if circumstances change over the years. Start by filling in the sections that are most important to you now. It maybe you would like to do this on your own or you may choose to do it with the support of family, friends or a member of clergy. If you would like them to, the vicar is able to confidentially hold a copy of your wishes on file. If you have written a will, this document does not replace it, but can supplement it. The will is the legally binding document and would take precedent over this document.

Funerals are rites of passage and combined with liturgy offer a meaningful and safe space to help others reflect on your unique life alongside offering a message of hope. Please remember that you don't have to be a church goer or consider yourself religious in order to have a funeral at St Mark's.

If you would like to talk to a member of clergy here at St Mark's, you can do so by contacting:

Revd Sue Hammersley	Vicar	
(0114) 2660260	07904284853	sue@stmarkssheffield.co.uk

Revd Sarah Colver	Associate Priest	
	07975689403	sarah@stmarkssheffield.co.uk

“Death never takes a wise man by surprise – he is always ready to go”
Jean de la Fontaine (1621 – 1695)

Personal details

Name

Address

Post code

Date of Birth

Personal representatives or Next of Kin

(most likely to be dealing with funeral arrangements)

Name

Relationship to yourself or role

Address

Post code

Telephone

E-mail

Name

Relationship to yourself or role

Address

Post code

Telephone

E-mail

General Practitioner: Dr

Practice

telephone Number

End of life care

Do you have a preference where you are cared for at the end of your life?

Do you have a living will or advance care plan?

Have you set up power of attorney for your financial affairs and / or health and welfare?

Would you like a Priest or Chaplain to visit you to offer prayers or last rites?

Funeral wishes

Have you got a pre-paid funeral plan? If yes, with whom?

Do you have a preferred funeral director?

How do you wish to be dressed after your death?

If circumstances allow, are you happy for people to view your body?

Do you have a preference for the type of coffin or casket to be used?

Do you want a funeral or memorial service to be held?

Would you like flowers and / or prefer donations to a charity of your choice?

How do you wish your coffin to be transported to the funeral?

Do you have a preferred route?

Where should your coffin rest before the funeral?

At the funeral home / At home / In church

Where would you like your funeral service to be held?

Is there someone you would like to lead your funeral service?

Is there anyone you would prefer not to be involved in your service?

Are there particular people you would like to be invited to act as pallbearers and carry your coffin?

Have you chosen specific readings or poetry you would like including in your service?

Are there particular people you would like to invite to read these?

Have you chosen hymns or music for your service?

To enter -

During -

To leave -

Do you have a preferred venue for a post funeral gathering?

Do you wish to be buried or cremated?

Do you have a preference for a memorial headstone or plaque?

Where do you want your remains to rest?

Cemetery / natural burial ground / garden of remembrance / scattered

New or existing grave?

Location / plot

Do you have any additional specific wishes?

Signed

Date

Once you have completed as much of the centre pages as you are able to, it is important that the information can be found by the people who will need it when the time comes for your wishes to be implemented. The centre pages can be pulled out and a copy given to your family or friends, Vicar, executor, solicitor or chosen funeral director.

You might find it helpful to have conversations with:

Clergy or funeral Celebrants

Family – especially if you want them to be your advocate if you become unable to speak or act for yourself.

Financial advisors

Health care professionals – if you wish to consider organ donation, to donate your body for medical research

Solicitors or Will writers

Undertakers

Websites which you may find helpful include:

www.churchofenglandfunerals.org

Guidance about sorting out your own funeral service plan, who you can turn to and where you can get help

<https://compassionindying.org.uk/choose-a-way-to-make-an-advance-decision-living-will/>

Has a form available online or to download to help you think about making an advance decision or living will

www.digitallegacyassociation.org

The Digital Legacy Association can help with leaving your important passwords with people or a person who may need them.

www.dyingmatters.org

Dying Matters aims to help people talk more openly about dying, death and bereavement, and to make plans for the end of life.

www.gov.uk/government/collections/lasting-power-of-attorney-forms

Lasting and enduring powers of attorney forms and guidance

www.lawsociety.org.uk

lists solicitors

www.nafd.org.uk/funeral-advice/find-a-member/

Can help you identify a funeral firm that meets the standards set by The National Association of Funeral Directors

www.winstonswish.org.uk

A charity offering practical support and guidance for children



Rev'd Shan Rush Updated 14.04.20