

## Poole

There are four active cemeteries in the Borough of Poole that are owned and operated by Poole Council. These four cemeteries have the same fees structure, which can be obtained on request. [Click here](#) to link to the relevant pages of Poole Council's web site.

The contact details for each of the four cemeteries are via the crematorium office at Gravel Hill, Poole BH17 9BQ. Telephone 01202 265235.

Burial in the Poole Cemeteries is reserved for the council tax payers of the Borough. Non-residents can use the cemeteries but are charged double fees for the privilege.

### **Poole Cemetery**

Dorchester Road  
Oakdale

This cemetery is full in respect of new full size graves. New graves are available for cremated remains burials and for children. Many families have existing graves that still have space for further burials. Poole Cemetery has the 'Snowdrop Garden' which is a section specifically for babies and young children.

Poole Cemetery was opened in 1855 to ease the problem of burial space in the Old Town, Poole. It is difficult to believe that at this time Poole Cemetery was well beyond the populous areas of the borough and was surrounded by countryside. The Old Town had at least six burial grounds, all within a few hundred yards.

Poole Cemetery covers about 15 acres and has two chapels one of which is now used as a store. The one in use is not in the best condition and should be inspected before selecting to use. The original parts of the cemetery are on the higher ground and offer some fascinating memorials and many unusual specimen trees. Inspection of the memorials will reveal many a name associated with Poole's history and its road names.

Poole Cemetery offers both lawn and traditional sections, albeit as previously stated space is very short.

### **Parkstone Cemetery**

Elgin Road (and Pottery Road)  
Lower Parkstone

Parkstone Cemetery was the second of the cemeteries to open and in 1894 it provided an alternative to Poole which had already been providing burial space for nearly forty years.

Situated on the corner of Elgin Road and Pottery Road (off Sandbanks Road), the cemetery is made up of two very distinct sections. The original cemetery, which has at its entrance, the lodge, is dominated by well established pine trees which offer a

considerable amount of shade and cover. This area used to be home to the cemetery chapel, but this has long since been removed, and never replaced. Many people favour this part of the cemetery because it looks so well established. To the left of the drive, the grounds bank upwards, and it is here you will find many of the oldest graves. To the right, the land falls away into a slope. Here, many new burials are taking place.

The cemetery extension could not't be more different. It is a very large open space with few trees or shrubs. If it is a sense of open space that is required, then this part of the cemetery will be quite suitable. The area furthest from the entrance is being utilised for new full burials, while cremated remains graves are being created among the existing headstones.

With two such different areas to consider, we would encourage any family to visit the cemetery to judge for themselves which best suits their requirements.

### **Broadstone Cemetery**

Dunyeats Road  
Broadstone

The authorities saw fit to open two new cemeteries in the year of 1904. Broadstone and Branksome. Broadstone is the smallest of the cemeteries in Poole and is positioned off Dunyeats Road, very near the main Broadstone Highstreet. Its picturesque surroundings with tree lined paths and well maintained hedge rows create a beautiful environment in which to bury a loved one. Full burials remain possible, but the cemetery is very near to closing for this. Cremated remains burials will continue to be possible.

Perhaps Broadstone Cemetery's most famous occupant is Alfred Wallace (1823 – 1913), botanist author and naturalist who, along with Charles Darwin was widely credited with the theory of natural selection. His stunning memorial, which includes a fossilized tree, can be found on the right side of the path near the entrance to the cemetery.

### **Branksome Cemetery**

Upper Road,  
Upper Parkstone

The name Branksome Cemetery is nowadays a little misleading, because the cemetery is found situated in Upper Road on the outskirts of Parkstone, around  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile from the main shopping area of Ashley Road.

As the 20th Century dawned, the Sharpe Jones Company was well established in the Branksome area and from its base in the Bourne Valley Potteries (later Redland Pipes and now Homebase) was the provider of clay pipework for sewerage among other things. Sharpe Jones took much of the raw materials for its pipes from the surrounding area, and what is now Branksome Cemetery was no exception.

Branksome has its own lodge at the entrance to the cemetery and a chapel a little further up. The chapel, while somewhat basic, at least offers a place of shelter for small funerals being followed by interment in the grounds. Branksome is set on the higher areas of Parkstone which overlook the areas from which it takes its name. On a clear day, it is possible to glimpse Bournemouth in the distance. Many of the graves are set upon the hills of the cemetery, but to the left of the entrance, there is a large area of flat land. An opportunity to purchase further land at the bottom boundary was passed up by the council, so sadly this is another of our cemeteries which is now closed to new full burials. There are however, small graves available for the burial of cremated remains and for the burial of small children. If an existing grave is owned by a family it is possible there may be space for further adult burial within it.



Poole Cemetery, The Chapel



Poole Cemetery, The War Memorial



Poole Cemetery, Snowdrop Garden



Poole Cemetery, view across the lawn



Parkstone Cemetery



Parkstone Cemetery



Broadstone Cemetery



Broadstone Cemetery



Branksome Cemetery



Branksome Cemetery