

Burial at sea

Due to the restrictions put in place relating to environmental pollution and marine conservation, sea burials are gaining popularity as a 'green' option. No longer just applicable for naval personnel or sailors, Welham Jones can arrange a burial at sea for your loved one, if required. Usually conducted off the East Sussex coast, we enlist the help of an ex-RNLI vessel crewed by retired RNVR personnel.



If you're considering the option of a sea burial, there are a few things you should take into account:

- Coffin design - you need to choose a coffin that will sink quickly.
- Materials used - to minimise damage to the marine environment, there are strict restrictions of the types of materials used for a sea burial.
- No embalming - again because of pollution considerations, a body must not be embalmed if it is to be interned to the sea.
- Certifications - the body must be free of disease and infections, with signed documentation to verify this.
- Licence - you need an FEPA licence from the Marine Management Organisation, stating date and location of the burial.
- Sea conditions - a sea burial is weather dependent and if conditions aren't suitable, it will have to be postponed. You should also consider having a small service on the shore, to account for rougher sea conditions.

Please contact Simon, Rebecca or Pam at Welham Jones on 01732 808308 or, email enquiries@welhamjones.co.uk.