

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: Who is coffin club aimed at?

A: This is an educational course aimed at anyone over the age of 18 years living in Surrey. You do not have to have any plans to die soon. Just as we all plan ahead with the preparation of a "will " we should also look at our end-of-life plans and options.

Q: Can anyone attend?

A: Absolutely! This course is for anyone as we can benefit from having the knowledge around death and funerals and the options available for both yourself, family, partners and friends.

Q: What is the point of The Coffin Club?

A: We hope to enlighten, educate and demystify death and funeral options by giving you an opportunity to listen to, and discuss your end-of-life options with different speakers such as a Celebrant, a Funeral director, a Soul Midwife, a Reverend, The Natural Burial Ground alongside other exciting opportunities.

Q: Do I have to decorate a coffin?

A: No, you can just attend the speaker's section and stay for refreshments afterwards (optional). The Coffin decorating workshop is 11.30 to 12.30pm.

Q: Can you tell me more about the Coffin?

A: The coffin is an eco-friendly reinforced cardboard coffin with weight bearing rope handles. It is made by one of the UK's biggest coffin makers and it is fully assembled. The coffin can hold up to 26 stone and is 6ft 1 in length. This coffin costs £136.00.

If your requirements are different there may be the option to purchase different sizes. We would need plenty of notice though.

Q: What do I do with our decorated coffin at the end of the course?

A: We would need you to take your own coffin away at the end of the course as we cannot store them. For anyone unable to transport it themselves we may be able to deliver it to you. This would need to be arranged in advance.

Q: What do I do with the coffin at home?

A: The coffins are very light and could easily be lifted into a loft. In the past at other clubs people have made a cushion to sit on top of it and use it as a window seat, some use to store the Christmas decorations or spare bedding and clothes. They could be popped under a bed. A decorated coffin is quite a talking point if you felt had the courage to display it as a piece of art!

Q: Can I take the coffin home before the course starts to have grandchildren and children help decorate some of it with pictures and messages?

A: Why not, a truly meaningful and personalised coffin! You would need to arrange for it to be transported.

Q: I am not very artistic and would make such a mess of it if I tried to decorate a coffin. Can you help?

A: Yes, we have some very talented and artistic volunteers on hand to help you.

Q: How do I decide how to decorate my coffin?

A: This is your coffin and you can choose to just paint it a bright colour. Some people choose to decorate it with photos of family and friends or meaningful events in their lives. Others may have a passion that will come through such as chickens, pigs, gardening, sailing or a particular sport. One lady covered her coffin with pictures of Elvis as she wanted to be buried with Elvis. It is possible to paint it with blackboard paint and then have friends and family write messages on it and another lady would like to have pictures of all the past pets she has had in her life.

Q: Who provides the decorating materials?

A: We do! We will have all the paints and materials you need but if you wish to personalise it with letters, notes, photos, pictures etc you would need to bring these. If you have a particular idea in mind and would like help, then let us know and we will put you in contact with our artistic team who could help you prepare and plan the coffin makeover in advance to ensure you have all you need.

Q: Do I need to attend all the sessions?

A: No, if you cannot make one of the weeks you can just miss it.

Q: Where is Coffin Club Surrey held and is there parking?

A: All 6 sessions will be held at Clandon Wood Natural Burial Ground courtesy of Simon Ferrar. This will be for the speakers and the coffin decorating workshop. There is plenty of free parking.

Q: What are timings?

A: 10am to 11.30 Speaker and refreshments
11.30am to 12.30pm Coffin Decorating Workshop



"Anyone who is going to die
should come to Coffin Club"

Miriam Margolyes, 2018