

St Alban's Memorial Garden Project

Where does the idea come from?

The idea for a Memorial Garden at St Alban's Church had been discussed at many Parish Pastoral Council Meetings before Andy & Louise picked up the project and came up with concrete ideas.

What is a Memorial Garden?

The Memorial Garden is a place where the ashes, of those who have died, can be buried and also a place where those who have died in the past or have had funerals elsewhere, even abroad, can be remembered in a special way.

Where will it be?

It will be in the stretch of grassed area between the back of the church and the Revive Centre Car Park as an extension of the existing Peace Garden.

What will it look like?

You will see from the Draft Plans all the key features which will include:

- An area for the burial of ashes of those who have died with name plaques.
- A wall mounted Memorial Tree where copper leaves, engraved with the names of those who have died, can be continuously added to over time.
- Benches where people can sit peacefully among herb planters producing relaxing aromas.
- A colourful shrubbery to remember colourful characters of the past.
- A natural woven screen and extension of the Peace Garden planters to create a special area for prayer & reflection.

Why is now a good time to create this?

A number of our community have died during the Coronavirus Pandemic and the family of Steve Beech RIP especially wanted to establish a memorial fund for a particular parish project (<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/beth-golding>). The Holy Spirit has thus guided us to this creative project to remember those who have recently died and those who, over many years, have formed such an important part of building St Alban's parish community.

When & how will this project happen?

Hopefully this project will be something to look forward to as and when the Government's lock-down measures are eased sufficiently to safely enable this project to go ahead. God willing, around the summer of 2020. It will involve a combination of volunteering from parishioners & skilled trades people where necessary.