Ashes Scattering at Chester Zoo
Remembering loved ones

Chester Zoo is a registered charity, number 306077
A passion for wildlife never ends...

We are proud to be a place where a passion for wildlife is inspired and shared; where precious memories are made across generations and where happy times can be celebrated with loved ones.

You may be considering Chester Zoo as one of the special places to remember someone you love, or you may be thinking about where you would like to be remembered one day. We hope that this guide will help you in making such an important and personal decision.

“I always want to treasure Chester Zoo, even after I’m gone, and inspire others to continue to care for the natural world.”
You will be supported with Chester Zoo love

We will be with you at every step; from your initial contact right through to your visit, and beyond. This is not something you need to do on your own, and in fact, we want to work with you to arrange a fitting celebration of your loved one.

To make sure that everything is perfect for you ahead of the day, we will need at least a couple of weeks’ notice; we will always try to accommodate any date requests you have and the more notice we have, really helps us to be able to do this. We cannot close areas of the zoo or alter the timings of the zoo’s routine but we will ensure that you are supported with sensitivity.

Please contact Tanya on 01244 650 229 or at fundraising@chesterzoo.org if you wish to have a chat about the options.

When arranging a date and time for your visit, we will help advise on when the zoo will be quietest and we will be there on the day to ensure it is private and dignified for you and your party.

Things to consider

Ashes can only be scattered in designated planted areas of the zoo’s grounds. We cannot scatter ashes inside animal habitats, near watercourses, in the borders of animal habitats, anywhere that houses sensitive plant collections or where children may play.

Please always speak to us about ashes scattering, as unauthorised scattering is not permitted for all the reasons listed above. We are always changing in order to achieve our mission of preventing extinction: this means that the garden areas where ashes are scattered may be altered or even replaced in the future: we can advise you about this and the best place to choose as a resting place for your loved one.

It is important that you are aware that there is no guarantee you will always have the same access to this area in years to come or that it will look the same.

We appreciate that for this reason Chester Zoo may not be the right space for everyone to remember their loved one.
The Oakfield

- In the historic heart of Chester Zoo
- Beautifully planted areas, rich in colour
- Use The Oakfield as a place to reflect & celebrate for years to come
- Perfect for those who have long memories of the zoo
- Bustling area for those looking to be surrounded by happiness
- Close to bathroom facilities and catering

The Jaguar House

- The entrance or exit borders leading to and from the animal house
- Planted with a wonderful mix of flowers and botanicals
- Close to one of the most beloved habitats at the zoo
- Quiet space early in the morning, or later in the day
- Animal viewing area in close proximity
- Scooter hire recommended for those with mobility challenges or we can provide alternative parking closer to the location for those with mobility needs.
- Close to bathroom facilities and catering
The Butterfly House

- The borders lining the exit of the historic Butterfly House
- Planted with stunning insect-attracting native plant species
- Walk through habitat full of beautiful butterflies
- Close proximity to the giraffe viewing area
- Central location in the zoo, with easy access from the main entrance

The Sunken Gardens

- Beautiful landscaped area with iconic water features
- Planted with a mixture of flowers, shrubs and trees
- Secluded, private and contemplative space with seating available
- Perfectly situated for easy access to picnic areas near June’s Food Court
- Steep incline which can be challenging for some visitors
- We can provide alternative parking closer to the location for those with mobility needs
Making a difference

We do not charge for ashes scattering, but we do ask for a donation due to the time required from our various teams to organise things for you. This donation can be used towards the conservation of a species close to you or your loved one’s heart if you wish.

We feel that a donation of around £500 is suitable and we are happy to provide you with up to 6 complimentary tickets to the zoo for the day so that you and your party can then spend a lovely day together making new memories.

If you think you would like your ashes to be scattered at Chester Zoo when the time comes, we would advise discussing these wishes with your loved ones.

The Asiatic Lions

- Brand new habitat for a truly iconic species
- Unlikely to change for many years
- Carefully planted borders featuring native and exotic planting
- Undercover areas nearby in case shelter is required
- Central location in the zoo, with easy access from the main entrance
Gifts in wills

Making a Will is the best way of ensuring that your loved ones and the causes you care about will be provided for in the future. It is our privilege to work with our special Lifetime Supporters to ensure that this most personal of gifts can have the best impact on protecting vulnerable wildlife.

It doesn’t have to be complicated and once you have spoken to your family, a solicitor can sensitively advise you on how best to articulate your wishes for how you would like to leave your estate.

By leaving a gift to Chester Zoo in your Will, you can help us carry out our vital conservation work for years to come.

Celebrate life, through love

Gather family and friends in the historic heart of Chester Zoo and raise a glass to celebrate the life of your loved one at The Oakfield. Make it a day filled with love, magical experiences and create new memories to cherish forever.

Whether you're thinking of a breakfast buffet in the boardroom, lunch in the garden room or afternoon tea in the library, let us know and our team can organise something special for you.

Private room hire is also available in The Oakfield based on minimum numbers.
The zoo is always changing and evolving so we no longer offer plaques across site. Instead, we have a beautiful ‘Giving Tree’ where we can arrange for you to have a leaf engraved with a special message for your loved one.

This is located in the kitchen garden area next to The Oakfield right in the historic heart of the zoo. It can provide a lovely focal point for your future visits to the zoo and means your loved one will have a little bit of the zoo just for them.

This is not exclusive to those scattering ashes at the zoo, so please ask for further information if you think this may be something that you would like to do. We suggest a donation of around £250 for a leaf.

You can speak to our Individual Giving Specialist to find out more about anything related to remembrance or lifetime support to help you with those conversations message for your loved one. Please ask for further information.
Thank you for your interest in supporting our vital conservation work through remembering a loved one here at Chester Zoo.

For generations we have worked tirelessly to protect wildlife and we will continue to do so with your support. From here in the UK to the plains of Kenya, from the mountains of Peru to the rainforests of Madagascar, we promise to use your donation wherever it is most needed to protect the precious wildlife we are fortunate to share our planet with.

Be part of our mission to prevent extinction.

To discuss these options further please contact our Fundraising department
Telephone: 01244 650 229
Email: fundraising@chesterzoo.org

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