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Cemeteries Bylaw  
May 2015**

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## Andrew, Vera

**Submission to** Draft Cemeteries Bylaw  
**Submission ID** CEM\_7  
**Date received** 3/9/2015 4:29:00 PM  
**Submission type** Letter, <http://docs.tcdc.govt.nz/store/default/3752871.pdf>  
**Contact details** 304 Ngati Maru Highway, Totara, Thames, 3500  
07 868 8409

### Would you like to attend a hearing?

No

## Submission

### Please tell us what you think about the Draft Cemeteries Bylaw

I would like a natural burial in an area that would eventually be a nature park. I do not want chemicals in my body. I would also like a restful place for people to enjoy. I have seen an area in Melbourne that had dedicated shrubs and roses and it was beautiful. Also Motuake has a lovely area. Hopefully you are in time for me. Vera Andrew 91 years.

## Broadley, Colin

**Submission to** Draft Cemeteries Bylaw  
**Submission ID** CEM\_5  
**Date received** 3/9/2015 4:29:00 PM  
**Submission type** Letter, <http://docs.tcdc.govt.nz/store/default/3752865.pdf>  
**Contact details** 32 Waiotahi Road, Grahamstown, Thames, 3500  
colinbroadley@gmail.com  
07 868 3844

### Would you like to attend a hearing?

No

## Submission

### Please tell us what you think about the Draft Cemeteries Bylaw

To have 'natural burials' in the regular cemetery would, after normal decomposition time, illustrate the lack of knowledge on those responsible for that compromise decision. A separate 'natural burials' location would include a landscape architect to determine water flows as well as people, traffic and wind flows. Other major points will no doubt be outlined by other submitters to this proposed bylaw.

## Fitzsimons, Jeanette

**Submission to** Draft Cemeteries Bylaw  
**Submission ID** CEM\_9  
**Date received** 3/11/2015 2:27:00 PM  
**Submission type** E-Mail, <http://docs.tcdc.govt.nz/store/default/3753427.pdf>  
**Contact details** 80 Pakaraka, RD2, Thames, 3577  
 jeanette@pakaraka.net  
 07 868 6641

### Would you like to attend a hearing?

Yes

## Submission

### Please tell us what you think about the Draft Cemeteries Bylaw

The Natural Burial Group

I am a member of the Thames Natural Burials Group, a loose association of people wanting a more ecologically appropriate way of burying the dead. Thanks you for granting us two days' extension because of our email problems. I request: That a specific area of cemeteries, and in particular the cemetery at Totara, be set aside for natural burials in shallow graves (1metre deep) of unembalmed bodies in biodegradable coffins or shrouds with the area landscaped and planted as a whole in native species. My reasons: My vision is of an area which is landscaped as a whole; a native woodland which would attract birds and be a pleasant and healing place for relatives to visit and reflect. This cannot be achieved with the current proposal to allow "natural" burials pepper-potted among other graves and surrounded by mown grass. The area would be planned, with grave sites purchased in the usual way, but not necessarily arranged in straight rows like a parking lot. The area chosen would be particularly suitable for close to waterways as there would be no pollution from embalming chemicals or treated timber caskets and the bodies would break down naturally into humus. We are looking at forming a Trust to work with the Council on mutually acceptable ways of carrying this out. Some of our members have considerable experience in landscaping and in establishing native plantings. We are well aware of the need to facilitate access and vegetation management in the design. I envisage the area being developed in small blocks with the landscaping planned from the beginning but only commenced when each block is full. Until then the area would be mowed by the Council with the rest of the cemetery and kept tidy. As each block is planted the Trust would take over management and the Council would save the mowing costs. In the long term it would need very little management and would come to resemble a natural forest. Several Councils in NZ have already developed the natural burial option; notably in Wellington, Hamilton, Auckland. More information about the underlying philosophy is at [www.naturalburials.com](http://www.naturalburials.com)

## Grose, Ans

**Submission to** Draft Cemeteries Bylaw  
**Submission ID** CEM\_2  
**Date received** 3/10/2015 2:41:00 PM  
**Submission type** Letter, <http://docs.tcdc.govt.nz/store/default/3751718.pdf>  
**Contact details** 8 Patui Ave, RD5, Ngarimu Bay, 3575  
 ngarimulodge@clear.net.nz  
 07 868 2084

### Would you like to attend a hearing?

Yes

## Submission

### Please tell us what you think about the Draft Cemeteries Bylaw

The Natural Burial Group

The members of the above group have been meeting recently to discuss, and now respectfully put forward a submission to Council regarding, an option for a more ecological way in which to be buried, for those who would appreciate this choice after their death. We believe that a significant number of people in this area want a more ecological way in which to inter the deceased. We request that a specific area be set aside in the cemetery for this purpose, rather than attempting to 'pepper-pot' natural burial graves throughout the other part of the cemetery. Our group have been looking at forming a Trust and if this submission is accepted by Council, we would submit a proposal for the landscaping of this area for discussion by the Council. It is our desire to work with the Council. This landscaping plan would be organised in such a manner as to create a pleasant, native environment - a woodland where people could walk and reflect as they remember their loved ones. Burials in this area would be in 'shallow' graves (one metre deep) and the bodies would not have been embalmed. Caskets would be eco-friendly, made with a variety of materials but not with treated wood. Members of Council may be aware that several other local Councils in N.Z have already developed the natural burial option; notably in Wellington, Hamilton, Auckland (and some others) and in all cases these have been successful ventures. If any Council member wishes to read more detail about the philosophy of Natural Burials, we suggest the following website link.....[www.naturalburials.com](http://www.naturalburials.com)

## Hill, Althea

**Submission to** Draft Cemeteries Bylaw  
**Submission ID** CEM\_3  
**Date received** 3/11/2015 11:48:00 AM  
**Submission type** Letter, <http://docs.tcdc.govt.nz/store/default/3751743.pdf>  
**Contact details** 8 Patui Ave, RD5, Ngarimu Bay, Thames Coast, 3575  
 ngarimulodge@clear.net.nz  
 07 868 2084  
 027 868 2048

### Would you like to attend a hearing?

Yes

## Submission

### Please tell us what you think about the Draft Cemeteries Bylaw

The Natural Burial Group

The members of the above group have been meeting recently to discuss, and now respectfully put forward a submission to Council regarding, an option for a more ecological way in which to be buried, for those who would appreciate this choice after their death. We believe that a significant number of people in this area want a more ecological way in which to inter the deceased. We request that a specific area be set aside in the cemetery for this purpose, rather than attempting to 'pepper-pot' natural burial graves throughout the other part of the cemetery. Our group have been looking at forming a Trust and if this submission is accepted by Council, we would submit a proposal for the landscaping of this area for discussion by the Council. It is our desire to work with the Council. This landscaping plan would be organised in such a manner as to create a pleasant, native environment - a woodland where people could walk and reflect as they remember their loved ones. Burials in this area would be in 'shallow' graves (one metre deep) and the bodies would not have been embalmed. Caskets would be eco-friendly, made with a variety of materials but not with treated wood. Members of Council may be aware that several other local Councils in N.Z have already developed the natural burial option; notably in Wellington, Hamilton, Auckland (and some others) and in all cases these have been successful ventures. If any Council member wishes to read more detail about the philosophy of Natural Burials, we suggest the following website link.....[www.naturalburials.com](http://www.naturalburials.com)

## Jones, Margaret

**Submission to** Draft Cemeteries Bylaw  
**Submission ID** CEM\_8  
**Date received** 3/11/2015 2:18:00 PM  
**Submission type** Letter, <http://docs.tcdc.govt.nz/store/default/3752873.pdf>  
**Contact details** 28 Springbok Ave, Whitianga, 3510  
margaret.76jones@gmail.com  
07 866 0297

### Would you like to attend a hearing?

No

## Submission

### Please tell us what you think about the Draft Cemeteries Bylaw

Mercury Bay (Ferry Landing) Cemetery regarding last item on all cemetery provisions. Saying no trees, shrubs or other plantings to be planted. I feel that existing plantings should be allowed to remain while they are kept in a neat and tidy way. They should not be removed until they are untidy or unkempt and obviously not cared for.

## Lay, Jude

**Submission to** Draft Cemeteries Bylaw  
**Submission ID** CEM\_4  
**Date received** 3/11/2015 12:13:00 PM  
**Submission type** E-Mail, <http://docs.tcdc.govt.nz/store/default/3752183.pdf>  
**Contact details** 734A Mt Pleasant Road, Thames, 3500  
judelay@xtra.co.nz  
027 244 7035

### Would you like to attend a hearing?

Yes

## Submission

### Please tell us what you think about the Draft Cemeteries Bylaw

The Natural Burial Group

I respectfully put forward a submission to Council regarding, an option for a more ecological way in which to be buried. I believe that a significant number of people in this area want a more ecological way in which the deceased may be interred. I request that a specific area be set aside in the cemetery for this purpose. If any Council member wishes to read more detail about the philosophy of Natural Burials, the following link provides relevant information. [www.naturalburials.com](http://www.naturalburials.com)

## Martin, Maurice

**Submission to** Draft Cemeteries Bylaw  
**Submission ID** CEM\_10  
**Date received** 3/11/2015 2:32:00 PM  
**Submission type** Letter, <http://docs.tcdc.govt.nz/store/default/3754687.pdf>  
**Contact details** 27A Nicholas Ave, Whitianga, 3510  
027 497 1723

**Would you like to attend a hearing?**

No

## Submission

**Please tell us what you think about the Draft Cemeteries Bylaw**

I be allowed to purchase a plot of land for my burial at Mercury Bay

## Tairua-Pauanui Community Board (Renton, Bob)

**Submission to** Draft Cemeteries Bylaw  
**Submission ID** CEM\_1  
**Date received** 3/10/2015 2:20:00 PM  
**Submission type** Letter, <http://docs.tcdc.govt.nz/store/default/3751343.pdf>  
**Contact details** c/- Thames-Coromandel District Council, Private Bag, Thames, 3500  
bobcarol@xtra.co.nz  
07 864 9916  
027 378 8213

**Would you like to attend a hearing?**

No

### Submission

**Please tell us what you think about the Draft Cemeteries Bylaw**

Schedule 1: Days/Hours of service and burials winter period (1 April to 30 September) Monday - Saturday hours should be 9:00am - 4:00pm, 9:00am-2:00pm in a rural community not sufficient time if an afternoon burial.

## Wright, Gwenyth

**Submission to** Draft Cemeteries Bylaw  
**Submission ID** CEM\_6  
**Date received** 3/9/2015 4:29:00 PM  
**Submission type** Letter, <http://docs.tcdc.govt.nz/store/default/3752867.pdf>  
**Contact details** gwenythwright@gmail.com  
078 683844

### Would you like to attend a hearing?

Yes

## Submission

### Please tell us what you think about the Draft Cemeteries Bylaw

The Natural Burial Group

I request that more attention be given to the natural burial option in the cemetery bylaw. We, The Natural Burial Group would like a designated area set aside for burials in shallow graves, with embalming in caskets or shrouds of untreated natural materials. This area would eventually become a woodland for everyone to enjoy as a place of quiet contemplation. The Group propose to form a trust to take care of such an area and work with Council on landscaping etc. Other Councils have developed this option and we believe a more ecological way to be buried.

## Zwaan, Eric

**Submission to** Draft Cemeteries Bylaw  
**Submission ID** CEM\_11  
**Date received** 3/10/2015 7:51:00 PM  
**Submission type** E-Mail, <http://docs.tcdc.govt.nz/store/default/3755276.pdf>  
**Contact details** zwaninn@paradise.net.nz

**Would you like to attend a hearing?**

## Submission

### **Please tell us what you think about the Draft Cemeteries Bylaw**

I would like to see a natural burial site to be included in the long term plan for the Thames-Coromandel District Council. To include this option will be of little cost to the ratepayer as we "the Natural Burial Group" propose to form a trust to look after such an area. It is important to me for the following reasons: I don't want any chemicals leaching into the soil I like to have trees planted over my grave so that in time this becomes a park like area There will be no need for chemicals and noisy lawnmowers to maintain this area. The trees will help reduce carbon.