

A Pagan Burial In Oxfordshire

By **Alexander Baron** - Jun 24, 2015



A photograph of Terence DuQuesne was displayed during the ceremony - photo by Adam Rowland.

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Terence DuQuesne died in a Croydon hospital on April 17 last year and was cremated on June 19 at Camberwell Cemetery and Crematorium. The original plan was for his ashes to be scattered in Egypt, but instead, on the Summer Solstice this year he was buried in an Oxfordshire garden. Why, and more to the point, who was Terence Duquesne? A very short biography can be found [here](#), suffice it to say that he was a poet, an independent scholar, and most of all an Egyptologist. He was also a Pagan, which is why he was given a Pagan burial at the home of his oldest friend, Dwina Murphy-Gibb.



At the burial service, the jackal-headed deity Anubis was played by RJ Gibb – photo by Adam Rowland

Dwina is the widow of Robin Gibb, he of Bee Gees fame, a talented artist in her own right, and a Druid priestess. It was she who arranged the ceremony, which took place in the garden of the Prebendal at Thame, Oxfordshire. Friends and neighbours of Terence DuQuesne took part including Daniel Jacobs his publisher, Edward Goodman his executor, and Dwina's son RJ, who like his late father is a musician. RJ played the part of Anubis in the ceremony, after which DuQuesne's ashes were buried in the garden. A scan of the programme can be found in [The DuQuesne Gallery](#).



On his death, Terence DuQuesne's papers were itemised by scholars from the Griffith Institute at Oxford. Those that have not been retained for UK institutions are in the process of being transported to Egypt for a memorial collection.

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Although he regarded Egypt as his spiritual home, he will sleep soundly surrounded by friends in a garden he knew well.

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