

News Review



We are pleased to bring you **The Cremation Society's** news review for January.

We hope our newsletter will help you to stay informed of news and developments from across the cremation sector.

You can also follow regular Cremation Society updates on [LinkedIn](#).

THIS ISSUE'S NEWS UPDATES

- CBCE 2026
- Sikh and Hindu crematorium refusal overturned
- New Glenrothes crematorium bid lodged
- Aldershot Crematorium reopens after extensive refurbishment
- Blackpool is set to get its first pet crematorium under new plans for Carleton Cemetery
- Work starts on new crematorium near Cramlington
- Council considers electric cremators to cut costs and carbon emissions
- Salisbury Crematorium gets £15,000 'eco' software upgrade
- Cyprus crematorium moves into development phase
- European Cremation Network News

NEWS REVIEW

CREMATION SOCIETY NEWS

CBCE 2026

We are delighted to be returning to the Hilton Utilita Bowl, Southampton for next year's CBCE.

With our joint conference hosts, the Federation of Burial and Cremation Authorities, we will be bringing delegates another first-class conference programme.

We look forward to welcoming delegates, speakers and exhibitors to Southampton.

Please save the dates and keep an eye on announcements for registration openings.



23rd - 25th June 2026



www.cbce.org.uk



CBCE (Cremation & Burial Communication & Education)

NEWS REVIEW

CREMATORIA NEWS

Sikh and Hindu crematorium refusal overturned

A planning inspector has overturned a council's decision to refuse permission for a crematorium for Hindu and Sikh funerals in Leicestershire. **Harborough District Council's** planning committee said **CDS Group's** proposed crematorium complex in Keyham Lane West, on the edge of Scraptoft, would be too large and would not fit in with the surrounding area. The firm lodged an appeal against the refusal, and a planning inspector has approved the scheme following a hearing on 14 January. The inspector concluded the development would be "well designed and sensitively sited in an area where urban influences are common". The proposed crematorium, which includes two chapels and a dining hall, would host six services a day. Supporters of the bid said it would foster inclusivity, but opponents raised objections about the design, parking, and any extra traffic funeral processions would create. To read the full article, head to : www.bbc.co.uk

New Glenrothes crematorium bid lodged as applicants seek to change Scottish Government condition

Respect Developments says conditions imposed by a Holyrood reporter are too restrictive and put the project at risk. Civil servants said the crematorium could go ahead only once a manufacturing facility and construction skills academy was up and running. Both were part of the same application, with the factory and academy set to provide up to 150 jobs. However, the applicant now says the condition "risks making the entire project unviable" and it has lodged a new planning application seeking to drop the ruling so it can build the crematorium first. Fife councillors originally refused permission for the entire development at Southfield Industrial Estate in May 2024. They said it was the wrong location for a crematorium as the land is zoned for employment use. However, following the appeal, the applicants now say being forced to build the academy and manufacturing site places an "unreasonable reliance" on third parties to complete their buildings. "It creates significant financial uncertainty for the applicant attempting to fund the crematorium element. This unnecessary restriction risks making the entire project unviable by preventing the applicant from securing funding for the crematorium development." Respect Development has asked to replace the condition with a requirement for a "meaningful" start on the commercial development before starting on the crem. To read the full article, head to: www.thecourier.co.uk

NEWS REVIEW

CREMATORIA NEWS

Aldershot Crematorium reopens after extensive refurbishment

Aldershot Crematorium has officially reopened following a major refurbishment project carried out by **Rushmoor Borough Council** over the past year. Councillors and council staff marked the completion of the work at a special event last week when a commemorative plaque was unveiled. Significant improvements have been made to modernise the facilities at Aldershot Crematorium during the project. This has included the installation of a second cremator, a new roof, external cladding, extending the covered entrance and improving access for people with disabilities. There is also improved insulation and solar panels as part of the council's commitment to tackling climate change.

To read the full article, head to : www.altonherald.com

Blackpool is set to get its first pet crematorium under new plans for Carleton Cemetery

Blackpool Council's executive committee has approved the construction of a small pet crematorium facility at Carleton, giving animal owners the opportunity to give their beloved pets a dignified send-off in a supportive setting. The pet funeral industry is now worth over £100 million a year and continues to grow rapidly. A recent poll revealed that half of all pet owners have held a funeral for a deceased animal. This would be the only pet crematorium on the Fylde Coast. Alongside the pet crematorium, there will be an upgrade to the yard maintenance facilities at Carleton cemetery. The project will be funded by prudential borrowing of £633,000 for both the yard and pet crematorium works. Cllr Jane Hugo, Deputy Leader (Place) and Cabinet Member for Climate Change, said: "The loss of a pet is deeply distressing for many, so having a dedicated facility for animal cremations will offer real comfort to grieving pet owners. Pets bring us joy and companionship, and many people want the opportunity to properly celebrate their animal's life. With growing demand for pet funerals, the council is introducing this service for residents, helping to meet community needs while generating income to support vital frontline services." To read the full article, head to: www.blackpool.gov.uk

NEWS REVIEW

CREMATORIA NEWS

Council considers electric cremators to cut costs and carbon emissions

North East Lincolnshire Council is considering plans to replace ageing gas cremators at Grimsby Crematorium with energy-efficient electric models. The move could save money, reduce carbon emissions, and support the Council's ambition to reach net zero by 2030. The proposal will go before Cabinet on February 11 2026. If approved, the Council would utilise a £1.5m grant from the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS), delivered by Salix, toward the cost of the electric cremators. This funding was approved by Cabinet in March 2024 as part of a larger grant fund of £4.4m secured for decarbonisation schemes in the Borough. The overall cost of the electric cremators would be around £4.7m, with the remainder of funding coming from council borrowing. This includes a 30% contingency fund for further design and procurement works. The current gas cremators at Grimsby Crematorium have come to the end of their lives, with maintenance issues and costs increasing. To read the full article, head to: www.nelincs.gov.uk

Salisbury Crematorium gets £15,000 'eco' software upgrade

A £15,000 investment in the cremators has introduced an eco mode software enhancement that 'significantly' brings down their fossil fuel consumption. The crematorium, on Barrington Road, is owned by **Salisbury City Council**. The council says the cremators' increased efficiency will also reduce operating costs, creating opportunities to reinvest funds into other core services. Councillor Jenny Bolwell, chair of the city council's environment committee, said: "This upgrade supports our goal of reducing the council's carbon footprint, and we will continue to identify opportunities to advance the sustainability of our services." The crematorium is one of the city council's key sources of income – but it will require further investment over the next seven years. The council's budget and medium-term financial plan, voted through earlier this month, says the cremators will need to be replaced "in or around 2033", costing approximately £1m. To read the full article, head to : www.salisburyjournal.co.uk

NEWS REVIEW

CREMATORIA NEWS

Work starts on new crematorium near Cramlington

Work has started on building a brand-new crematorium in Northumberland. The new Great North Crematorium and Memorial Gardens is being built on a 15-acre site off Arcot Lane, just west of Cramlington, and is expected to open in winter 2026. State-of-the-art audio-visual technology will enable a dynamic theme, as selected by the closest family, to be displayed onto the 'canvas' – the entire front wall at the chapel. The canvas can be also accompanied by harmoniously co-ordinated soundscapes and lighting to further elevate the atmosphere of the chosen theme. Tribute photos, visual and themed tributes, and webcasts will continue to be offered in line with current standards across other crematoria. The chapel will accommodate 112 guests seated with ample room for standing and external screens for larger congregations. There will be parking for 120 cars, including several accessible parking spaces. Ed Lane, managing director – Crematoria and Cemeteries from Westerleigh Group, said: "We're excited to be developing our first crematorium in the North East of England, introducing the communities there to the exceptional levels of care and service that we have built our reputation on. The development of this new crematorium marks an important step in our ongoing investment to ensure communities across the UK have access to high-quality, beautifully-designed, facilities that offer choice, exceptional care, and compassion." To read the full article, head to: www.northumberlandgazette.co.uk

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Cyprus crematorium moves into development phase

Plans for a further crematorium in Cyprus were announced on Friday and have already moved into an active development phase following a partnership between the Cyprus Cremation Society and European funeral services company Funecap. The agreement is intended to see the construction and operation of a modern crematorium facility, addressing the absence of cremation services on the island. Founder of the Cyprus Cremation Society Dr Ian Hussein said the proposed facility aims to reduce pressure on burial space and provide services accessible to all communities in Cyprus. The Society has campaigned for the introduction of cremation for many years, citing demographic change, land use constraints and evolving social attitudes. To read the full article, head to: www.cyprus-mail.com

NEWS REVIEW

EUROPEAN CREMATION NETWORK NEWS

The **European Cremation Network** (ECN) will host its upcoming ECN Meeting from 3 to 6 June in **Düsseldorf**.

This exclusive networking event brings together professionals from across Europe to exchange insights, strengthen connections, and discuss current developments within the cremation sector.

The ECN Meeting will take place alongside Forum BEFA, one of the leading international trade fairs for funeral services and related industries. By aligning these events, participants have the opportunity to combine valuable networking with a visit to this major industry exhibition, the entrance fee is included in the ECN Program.

Registration is now open via the **ECN website**. For more information and to register, please visit: <https://cremation-network.com/>

We look forward to meeting you there.

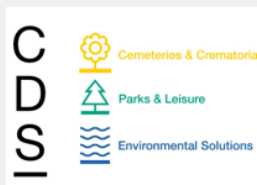
The Cremation Society is pleased to share this opportunity with its network.



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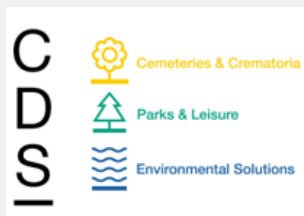
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Benchmark Architects, are an innovative architecture and design studio, with a passionate and personable team who enjoy working on creative, challenging, and innovative projects.



DRM Technic, is one of the UK's leading suppliers of gas analysis and conditioning equipment and services. They are also a renowned manufacturer of Continuous Emissions Monitoring Systems (CEMS).



The CDS Group, offer their clients a complete solution of in-house environmental, design, and planning services covering cemeteries and crematoria, parks and leisure, and environmental solutions.



The Columbaria Company, are specialists in the production of personalised memorial artwork and after cremation memorials.



F G Marshall, supplied the very first Book of Remembrance to Woking Crematorium in 1938. To this day, technology still hasn't replaced the precision, skill and touch of the human hand.

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Facultatieve Technologies, have over 140 years of experience in the design, construction and maintenance of cremation and filtration equipment.



IFZW, is an established manufacturer of cremator and emission filter systems.



Obitus, provide bereavement technology services, delivering music, webcast and tributes for families, funeral directors and leading funeral venues throughout the UK.



OrthoMetals, is a family owned and operated business, recycling metals remaining after cremation.

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PlotBox, is an international death care management solution. They facilitate cemeteries and crematoria in operating to world-class standards through integrated software and georectified mapping modules.



SK Environmental Ltd, is a UK manufacturer of instrumentation for measurement and control of combustion plants, specialising in environmental monitoring and control products.



Treske, are one of the UK's leading makers and suppliers of bespoke crematorium furniture and soft furnishings.



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The Cremation Society

Rooted in history: committed to the future

Contribute to our newsletter

We love to receive news/press suggestions from our readers to include in future newsletters.

For any news you would like us to consider, please contact us at info@cremation.org.uk

Our contact details



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