



News Review

THE LATEST NEWS, INSIGHTS AND UPDATES

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

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**.

INCLUDED THIS MONTH

- CBCE 2027 - SAVE THE DATE!
- Roseland Park & Crematorium Official Opening Ceremony
- Worthing Borough Council considering 'decarbonising' crematorium
- Plans for Wantage Park crematorium re-submitted
- Dignity launches new group identity
- North York Crematorium and Memorial Gardens open in November



The Cremation Society
Rooted in history: committed to the future

The Cremation Society is delighted to be partnering again with our colleagues at the FBCA to bring CBCE to a new venue in 2027.

CBCE 2027 will be held from Tuesday 22nd to Thursday 24th June 2027 at the **Hilton at St George's Park, Burton Upon Trent.**

Please save the date in your diaries and look out for booking news very soon!



The poster features a background image of a conference with a speaker at a podium and an audience. Overlaid on this is a large circular graphic divided into four segments: a blue sky with clouds, a green field with bubbles, a red and orange flame, and a grey cracked earth. The text 'CBCE' is written across the center of this circle. To the right of the circle, the text 'SAVE THE DATE' is displayed in white on a dark blue rectangular background. Below the circle, on the left, is a white box containing a calendar icon, the dates '22 - 24 June 2027', a location pin icon, and the venue 'St George's Park, National Football Centre'. On the right, a dark blue rounded rectangle contains the heading 'WHAT TO EXPECT' followed by a list of seven items, each preceded by a white checkmark icon.

CREMATION & BURIAL COMMUNICATION & EDUCATION 2027

SAVE THE DATE

WHAT TO EXPECT

- ✓ Industry-leading speakers
- ✓ Actionable takeaways
- ✓ Meaningful networking
- ✓ Cutting-edge insights
- ✓ Real-world case studies
- ✓ Trusted suppliers & partners
- ✓ Friendly, inclusive environment

22 - 24 June 2027
**St George's Park,
National Football Centre**

Hosted by:

Roseland Park & Crematorium Officially Opens, Delivering a Landmark Investment for Bolsover District

Roseland Park & Crematorium in Shirebrook, has officially opened its doors, marking the completion of a major project by Bolsover District Council and the start of a new chapter in the delivery of bereavement services for local communities.

The development has been designed to provide a modern, high-quality and environmentally conscious facility for families across the district and beyond.

The opening ceremony saw Natalie Fleet MP open the facility alongside Councillors from Bolsover District Council, representatives of the bereavement industry and some of those who helped create the facility.

Roseland Park & Crematorium has been designed to offer a peaceful and dignified environment for families at some of life's most difficult moments. The facility combines high-quality architecture, carefully planned gardens and modern facilities with a strong focus on sustainability and operational excellence. The development also showcases innovative cremation technology, including the first UK-designed and manufactured fully electric cremator.

Andrew Smith, Crematorium Manager at Roseland Park, said: "Roseland Park & Crematorium has been created with families at its heart. We are committed to supporting each family with sensitivity and expertise, delivering a service that reflects our high standards and genuine commitment to care. We are proud to be entrusted with operating this exceptional facility and look forward to serving communities across the region for many years to come."

Roseland Park & Crematorium is now fully operational and welcomes enquiries from funeral directors and families seeking information about the services available.

www.roselandparkcrematorium.co.uk



North York Crematorium and Memorial Gardens open in November

A NEW funeral 'SuperVenue' and crematorium is set to open next month - offering families more personal options to remember loved ones.

Vale of York Crematorium and Memorial Gardens, located in Sand Hutton near York, will begin welcoming visitors from Tuesday, November 17. Developed by Westerleigh Group, the building is the first of its kind in Yorkshire, offering unique technology from Obitus which allows families to customise services through immersive visuals and soundscapes.

Nikki Anderson, manager at Vale of York Crematorium and Memorial Gardens, said: "I am proud to be the first manager of this exceptional crematorium, which will bring greater choice to local communities with all the care and extremely high standards of service that Westerleigh Group is known for." The crematorium is located on a 13-acre site off the A64 on Arcot Lane, near Sand Hutton, and has been designed to serve families across York and North Yorkshire. Its contemporary chapel can seat up to 112 guests, with additional standing space and external screens for larger gatherings, and parking for 127 cars - including accessible spaces. To read the full story, head to www.yorkpress.co.uk



Credit: Westerleigh Group

Plans for Wantage Park crematorium re-submitted

New plans for a large crematorium next to a village have been submitted again five months after they were thrown out by planners. West Northamptonshire Council want to build the Wantage Park facility next to a new secondary school near Moulton and a new housing development. Similar plans were dismissed by its own planning committee in May because of concerns it would disrupt local residents and destroy green space.

Reform UK councillor Andrew Last, cabinet member for regulatory services, said the revised application included "reductions in the scale and visual impact of the development, enhanced landscaping and improvements designed to better integrate the proposal with its surroundings".

In May, the planning committee said the development would contravene planning policy which stated designated green wedges - which helped maintain the separation between the countryside and built-up areas - should be protected to prevent coalescence. Following that decision, the Council chose not to appeal and instead undertook a comprehensive review of the scheme. A target decision date for the application has been set for January 2027. To read the full story, head to www.bbc.co.uk/news



Credit : West Northamptonshire Council

Worthing Borough Council considering 'decarbonising' crematorium

Replacing gas-powered cremators at Worthing Crematorium with electric alternatives could cost millions of pounds and require the site to close for at least six months, according to Adur and Worthing councils.

A report looking at decarbonising emissions from the authorities' own services and buildings found the crematorium, in Horsham Road, Findon, to be a particular challenge to the councils' plans to become carbon neutral by 2030. The cremators currently use gas and the councils said replacing them with electric alternatives would be a major undertaking. The costs would include buying electric cremators, construction work to remove the existing ones, upgrading the electrical supply to the facility, and lost income while the crematorium was closed.

A spokesperson for the councils said: "We want to make the service as environmentally friendly as possible, which will involve reducing the impact of the cremators. We will develop a strategy to target that objective. While we don't have a detailed cost analysis at this stage, we know it would be a multi-million pound project." To read the full story, head to www.sussexexpress.co.uk

Plans for first crematorium in Laois take major step forward as land deal approved

Plans for the development of the first crematorium in Laois have taken a significant step forward after Laois County Council approved the sale of land in Portlaoise for the project. Councillors agreed at their monthly meeting on Monday to sell 1.24 hectares of land at the J17 National Enterprise Park in Togher, Portlaoise, to The Island Crematorium Ltd for €540,000 plus VAT. The company operates The Island Crematorium at Rocky Island in Ringaskiddy, Co Cork, and the proposed Portlaoise development would become the first crematorium in Laois.

The approval was granted after the land sale was proposed by Fine Gael Cllr Paddy Buggy and seconded by Independent Cllr Aisling Moran, both of whom welcomed the progress after previously raising the need for such a facility. At present, people in Laois seeking cremation services must travel outside the county, with the nearest facility identified as being at Newlands Cross on the outskirts of Dublin, almost 80km away. Following the agreement on the land sale, Laois County Council is expected to work with The Island Crematorium Ltd on plans for the proposed Portlaoise facility. To read the full story, head to www.laoistoday.ie

CREMATORIA NEWS

Antrim and Newtownabbey Crematorium recently held its annual open day for members of the public- the fourth such event since the crematorium opened in 2023.

"We were absolutely delighted to welcome so many visitors through our doors," said Crematorium Manager, Jim Parker. "While myths have long surrounded the cremation process, seeing the community's deep interest in our facilities and dedicated service is incredibly rewarding. Days like this are vital in helping families make informed, comforted choices."

Cremation rates are steadily increasing in Northern Ireland, and recent research published by The Cremation Society in its report on Public Perceptions of Cremation shows that increasing numbers of adults in Northern Ireland expect to arrange a cremation for a family member in the future.

The open day was attended by representatives from Obitus; McClure's Funeral Service on behalf of SAIF; Humanists (NI); Fresh Minds Education; and Dignity Funeral Directors. S & J Irvine Funeral Directors provided a Motorcycle Funeral Sidecar that was on display at the entrance to the crematorium building. Professor Heather Conway attended on behalf of The Cremation Society, and is pictured with Jim Parker and the Mayor of Antrim and Newtownabbey Crematorium, Councillor Henry Cushinan who was there to lend his support to the event.

Jim and his team are also proud of the part that they played in Antrim and Newtownabbey Council's recent achievement as winners of the Apse Service Awards 2026 - Best Service Team of the Year: Cemetery and Crematorium. Congratulations all!



Dignity launches new group identity - “the next chapter for our business and our 3,000 colleagues”

Funeral giant Dignity has today launched a new group identity to bring together its brands, services and technology under one end-of-life services platform. The Life Services Group name will sit above the company's established customer-facing brands, including Dignity Funeral Directors, Dignity Funeral Plans, Dignity Legal Services, Farewill, Simplicity Cremations and the Crematorium and Memorial Group. Each will continue to operate under its existing name and serve its respective customers and communities.

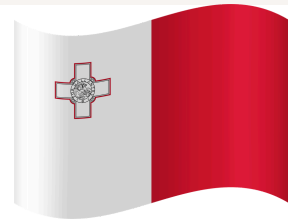
Zillah Byng-Thorne, chief executive of Life Services Group, said: "Today is an important day for us, marking the next chapter for our business and our 3,000 colleagues. The launch of Life Services reflects how far this business has come and, importantly, the group we are building for the future. Over the past three years we have transformed the group financially and operationally, broadened the services we provide and invested significantly in the technology and infrastructure that will support our future growth.

"Our aim is to become the UK's leading end-of-life services provider, supporting one in three families as they plan for and cope with death. We now have the breadth of services, national infrastructure, technology and financial foundations to deliver that ambition and make what can be one of the hardest periods in people's lives as simple, compassionate and well-supported as possible."

It is backed by long-term shareholders Castelnau Group and SPWOne, the investment vehicle founded by Sir Peter Wood, which together acquired Dignity in 2023. Since then, the group has undergone significant operational and financial transformation. A key step in that transformation was the acquisition of digital wills and probate provider Farewill in 2025. To read the full story, head to [**www.insidermedia.com**](https://www.insidermedia.com)

The logo for Life Services Group, featuring the words "Life Services Group" in a dark blue serif font, centered within a solid yellow square.

Life
Services
Group



Malta's first crematorium approved despite objections

The Planning Authority has approved Malta's first crematorium in Siggiewi despite objections from the local council, residents, former minister John Dalli and former Nationalist MP Karol Aquilina over potential health risks, emissions and the development's location on agricultural land.

The project, proposed by funeral undertaker Mario Tonna, will be built beside the historic Ta' Brija cemetery, on land outside the development zone (ODZ). The decision represents Malta's first full planning approval for a crematorium. A separate proposal near the Addolorata cemetery in Paola received outline approval last month but still requires a full development permit.

The Siggiewi project will occupy a site covering approximately 11,615 square metres and include a crematorium, chapel, mortuary and facilities to accommodate 2,480 urns containing cremated remains. To read the full story, head to [**www.timesofmalta.com**](http://www.timesofmalta.com)

Siggiewi Local Council to appeal crematorium approval

The Siggiewi Local Council condemns the Planning Authority's decision to approve the development and intends to pursue the matter before the Court of Appeal following the Planning Authority's decision to approve a crematorium in Ta' Brija.

On Thursday, the Planning Authority approved application PA/07540/25, allowing a crematorium to be built and operated in Ta' Brija, Siggiewi. The council argued that the approval contradicts the PA's own existing policies, while the Environment and Resource Authority failed to provide its opinion on the project despite being legally obliged to provide one. At the same time, it pointed out that no objective scientific analysis was conducted into the project's potential impact on Siggiewi and its residents. To read the full story, head to [**www.maltatoday.com**](http://www.maltatoday.com)



Call For Participants

Working in Death Administration

Uncovering Hidden Inequality: Developing New Ways of Doing Death Administration

What is the research?

This project aims to understand how different groups of people experience death administration in the UK and what could be done to improve the process

What will I be asked to do?

An online survey
(approx 20 minutes)

Death administration: tasks that are required when a person dies. We understand death administration to be broad and can include tasks such as registering the death, organising the funeral, managing assets, social media accounts and many more

Who can take part:

- Aged 16+
- Experience of working in a field related to death administration in the UK in the **past 3 years**

More information about the project:

<https://www.socialsciences.manchester.ac.uk/morgan-centre/research/projects/>

Here's the link to the survey:

https://www.qualtrics.manchester.ac.uk/jfe/form/SV_brpQhJ2N5HS6ZBs

Contact details: sophie.atherton@manchester.ac.uk

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ADVERTISERS



Auden Funeral Supplies Ltd - we have the largest collection of UK manufactured trolleys, stretchers and biers. We also make mortuary equipment and bespoke products all of which are backed by an unrivalled level of support, spare parts and warranties.



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.

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ADVERTISERS



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



DFW Europe has earned a trusted international reputation for developing and building high-quality cremation systems and related equipment. As a full-service partner, DFW Europe designs and manufactures cremation furnaces powered by gas, electricity, or bio-oil.



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.

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ADVERTISERS



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



RSBruce- Crematorium Metal Recycling: Transparent, Flexible and Sustainable.

With over 40 years of precious metal recovery experience, flexible collections options and individual processing for each crematorium.

The perfect audit trail for your recycled metals.



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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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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