The Cremation Society
Rooted in history: committed to the future

# Glossary of funeral organisations

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| **ANBG** | The Association of Natural Burial Grounds | The Association of Natural Burial Grounds (ANBG) was established by The Natural Death Centre in 1994. Its aims and objects have remained unchanged.<br><br>By requiring members to comply with their Code of Conduct the ANBG provides the public with the assurance of best practice at every one of their member sites. ANBG also assists individuals in the process of establishing new natural burial grounds, provides guidance to existing burial ground operators and represents members as a whole. |
| **APCC** | Association of Private Crematoria and Cemeteries | The Association can trace its roots back to 1924. Today it represents just under 60 crematoria and 11 cemeteries.<br><br>The prime aim of the Association is to provide quiet surroundings for the bereaved by ensuring that the highest professional standards are applied to every aspect of cremations and cemetery services.<br><br>The private sector have met the needs of both rural and urban communities by developing and operating 31 out of 38 new crematoria opened since 1985 – over 80% of the total.<br><br>Such developments have had a very beneficial effect on the environment by significantly reducing the distance and the time it takes the bereaved to reach their nearest crematorium and/or cemetery. |
| **APPCC** | The Association of Private Pet Cemeteries & Crematoria | In April 1993 The Association of Private Pet Cemeteries and Crematoria was founded in order to promote companion animal facilities, to set and maintain a code of conduct to ensure quality of service and to have a voice with regard to legislation being introduced. |

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| **BCAG** | Burial and Cemeteries Advisory Group | BCAG advises burial authorities, the public and government on:<br>• providing, managing and maintaining burial grounds, including those closed to further burials<br>• good burial practice and procedures, including on exhumation<br>• possible improvements to policy and legislation<br><br>It also makes recommendations on future advisory arrangements. |
| | Humanists UK | Humanists UK is a charity devoted to promoting humanist values, human rights, and equality, while providing services that support the non-religious in leading happier lives. |
| **BIE** | British Institute of Embalmers | The British Institute of Embalmers was founded in 1927 by 15 Funeral Directors who recognised the need for a separate organisation for the professional embalmer. |
| **BIFD** | British Institute of Funeral Directors | The BIFD, British Institute of Funeral Directors, was established in 1982 by members of the NAFD, to be the pre-eminent provider of education for the UK funeral profession while enabling members of the public the opportunity to identify Funeral Directors that offer the best possible professional services. The institute places the professional and educational needs of Funeral Directors firmly at the centre of its work. Through its Continual Professional Development, accredited courses and best practice, the BIFD is committed to helping practitioners best serve the bereaved. |

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| **BRAMM** | British Register of Accredited Memorial Masons | BRAMM was set up in 2004 to establish a recognised uniform standard of work to meet the requirements of BS 8415 in all burial grounds.<br>**PRIMARY AIMS:**<br>• To maintain a register of accredited companies and fixers for Burial Authorities and the Bereaved.<br>• To ensure the BRAMM Register will be effectively policed ensuring that acceptable standards of fixing are maintained for safe memorials.<br>• To promote BRAMM Accredited Businesses and Registered Fixers.<br>• To encourage on-going training and education within the memorial masonry industry to meet the requirements of BS 8415.<br>• To promote a closer working relationship between Memorial Masons and Burial Authorities to improve standards. |
| **CAMEO** | Crematoria Abatement of Mercury Emissions Organisation | In 2005 Defra introduced a requirement for the cremation industry to remove mercury from 50% of cremations. This target achieves a proportionate response for removing mercury from cremations, whilst not burdening the bereaved with excessive cost.<br>CAMEO was created in 2006 as the lead organisation, providing and managing a national burden sharing scheme. |
| **CANA** | The Cremation Association of North America | Founded in 1913, the Cremation Association of North America (CANA) is an international trade association of over 3,700 members, composed of funeral homes, cemeteries, crematoria, industry suppliers, consultants and students. CANA members believe that cremation is preparation for memorialisation. |
| **CBFS** | Council of British Funeral Services | The Council of British Funeral Services is a forum of representatives open to every organisation connected with the funeral profession. Its objective and purpose is to provide an opportunity to discuss and exchange information within the funeral sector. |

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| **CCSS** | **The Coroner's Courts Support Service**<br>The Coroners' Courts Support Service | The Coroners' Courts Support Service (CCSS) is an independent voluntary organisation whose trained volunteers offer emotional support and practical help to bereaved families, witnesses and others attending an Inquest at a Coroner's Court. They are a charity who do not receive central funding, and rely on grants and donations to be able to undertake our work. |
| **CFG** | Churches' Funerals Group<br>THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND | The Churches' Funerals Group (CFG) was formed in 1982 by the mainstream Churches in England and Wales as an advisory group to co-ordinate policy in connection with the pastoral and administrative aspects of funeral services at cemeteries and crematoria, and to represent the Churches in negotiations or discussions with central Government, local authorities and other organisations connected with funerals and the care of the bereaved. |
| **COTS** | Cemetery Operatives Training Scheme<br>City & Guilds NPTC | Health and Safety law places a positive duty upon burial authorities to provide a safe workplace and safe systems of work that will protect the health & safety of employees, persons attending and officiating at funerals, visitors and any other person that may use a cemetery. The Scheme has been designed by the ICCM to train, assess and certificate operatives in safe working practice and to encourage a process of thought that will assist with accident prevention. |
| **CSGB** | The Cremation Society of Great Britain<br>The Cremation Society | The Cremation Society, a registered charity, was established in 1874 and is recognised as the pioneer of cremation in Great Britain. It is the parent company of the London Cremation Company plc, which owns and operates six crematoria. Since its formation, the Society has worked to promote the practice of cremation, with cremation now being the preferred funerary method in over 80% of funerals in the UK.<br>The Society is the central repository of cremation data, collating and publishing cremation statistics from across the world.<br>The Society's activities also include producing regular publications; hosting educational conferences; working with government departments and providing impartial advice to the public on cremation issues. |

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| **FBCA** | Federation of Burial and Cremation Authorities | The Federation of Burial and Cremation Authorities (FBCA) is the UK's principal representative of burial and cremation authorities, providing a range of services to support its members care for over 400,000 funerals a year. It provides services to the owners and operators of cemeteries and crematoria across the whole of the UK.<br><br>The FBCA is a primary link between Government Departments in England Scotland and Wales and Burial and Cremation Authorities throughout the UK and is a provider of accredited training opportunities for those persons working within the service. |
| **FPA** | Funeral Planning Authority | The Funeral Planning Authority (FPA) is an organisation set up by the industry to regulate providers in the UK pre-paid funeral plan industry. Its primary aim is to ensure providers that are registered with the FPA are operating in a manner that will result in customers getting the funeral they have paid for when it is needed. |
| **FSA** | Funeral Suppliers' Association | Established in 1939 and previously known as the FFMA, the Funeral Suppliers' Association (FSA) is the link between manufacturers & suppliers of goods and suppliers to the funeral sector. It aims to safeguard and improve the traditional high standards of products and services that our members provide. |
| **FSJ** | Funeral Services Journal | The FSJ has been a funeral industry source since 1886.<br><br>The A5-size monthly magazine features exclusive industry news, expert advice, opinion columns, in-depth features and trade advertising. |
| **FST** | Funeral Service Times | Funeral Service Times is a magazine for the UK funeral profession. |

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| **ICCM** | Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management | The ICCM was founded in 1913 and since that time has provided policy and best practice guidance to Burial and Cremation authorities, its Corporate members. It represents its Corporate members at government level.<br><br>The ICCM is a provider of accredited education and training opportunities for those working within the bereavement services, its Professional members.<br><br>The aim of the ICCM is to raise standards for bereaved people through the promotion of best practice, guidance, accredited training and education. |
| **ICF** | International Cremation Federation | Founded in London in 1937 the International Cremation Federation (ICF) is an international non-profit organisation devoted to promoting the practice of cremation to the highest standard. |
| **IoCF** | Institute of Civil Funerals | The formal concept of celebrant led funerals began in the UK in 2004 and the Institute of Civil Funerals (IoCF) was created shortly afterwards. The first of its kind in the UK and the only one with institute status.<br><br>Its aims and objectives are:<br><br>*To promote the further education and specialist knowledge of Funeral Celebrants through training courses and seminars.*<br><br>*To deal with complaints and suggestions from members, the public and outside organisations.*<br><br>*To organise annual conferences to facilitate networking and sharing of experiences, with workshops and talks to extend knowledge;*<br><br>*To promote Civil Funerals to funeral directors and the public.* |
| **LAFD** | London Association of Funeral Directors | The London Association of Funeral Directors (LAFD) is an area association of the National Association of Funeral Directors (NAFD). Its aim is to ensure a code of conduct is adhered to and create a high of level of trust and dedication of services provided by their members that can be relied upon at a time of great importance. |

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| **THE LULLABY TRUST** | | The Lullaby Trust was originally formed as The Foundation for the Study of Infant Deaths (FSID) in 1971.<br><br>The Lullaby Trust is a charity that exists to keep babies safe and keep grieving families supported. It give families a safer start to life and creates a supportive space for anyone whose baby or infant has died suddenly or unexpectedly. It does this by:<br><br>• Empowering parents, carers and professionals with trusted advice on baby safety including safer sleep and infection prevention.<br><br>• Funding research into sudden and unexpected death of babies and young children, to save lives.<br><br>• Offering anyone affected by the sudden or unexpected death of a baby or young child a supportive space to grieve, with bereavement support. |
| MAB | Memorial Awareness Board<br><br>**Memorial Awareness Board**<br>Campaigning for Sympathetic Memorialisation in the UK | The Memorial Awareness Board is a campaigning organisation working on behalf of memorial masons to promote the industry by means of a three-track campaign:<br><br>• A high profile PR campaign targeted at the general public and the media in order to increase overall awareness of the importance of memorialisation.<br><br>• A campaign targeted at the managers and regulators of burial grounds with the aim of promoting maximum co-operation between memorial masons and burial authorities.<br><br>• •A campaign within the industry itself designed to increase solidarity, build “team spirit” and maximise the collective potential to increase the market for memorials. |

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| **NAFD** | **National Association of Funeral Directors** | Established in 1905, the NAFD represents the entire spectrum of funeral directing businesses, including independent and family-owned firms, co-operatives and major funeral groups. The NAFD has more than 3,800 UK funeral homes in membership, as well as international firms and suppliers to the sector – providing advice, advocacy, education and support to help them meet the highest professional standards. |
| **NAFPP** | National Association of Funeral Plan Providers | The National Association of Funeral Plan Providers represents the growing prepaid funeral plan sector. Regulation by the Financial Conduct Authority commenced in 2022. There are currently twenty-eight organisations holding authorisations to provide funeral plans to UK consumers. All but two are members of the NAFPP. These range from national providers and Co-operatives to local funeral directing firms and a number of smaller specialist providers. It promotes and supports the industry and campaigns for a stable and sustainable future for funeral plans. Regulation by the FCA should provide additional peace of mind for prospective customers. Plan holders can be secure in the knowledge that the arrangements are protected against failure by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme. |
| **NAMM** | National Association of Memorial Masons | The Association was founded on 12th March 1907 by a group of memorial masons anxious to raise standards in the trade, and which, from the Association's initial foundation, has remained the driving force behind all NAMM endeavours<br><br>From the early days, NAMM organised specialised seminars for members, but in 1986, it took the very large step of becoming the managing agent for a City & Guilds validated training course devised by its Technical and Training Committee in conjunction with Bath College. This move resulted in the Department of Employment conferring upon it the status of 'Approved Training Organization'. |

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| **NBS** | The National Bereavement Service<br>National Bereavement Service | Now part of Octopus Legacy, the National Bereavement Service (NBS) is proud to offer a uniquely joined-up approach to bereavement care, combining direct support through its public-facing free helpline, dedicated employee helplines for organisations, and bereavement training designed to empower your people to communicate with, and support, bereaved people sensitively, with empathy and care. |
| **NDC** | The Natural Death Centre<br>The Natural Death Centre | Established in 1991, The Natural Death Centre is a social, entrepreneurial, educational charity that gives free, impartial advice on all aspects of dying, bereavement and consumer rights. |
| **NFCF** | National Federation of Cemetery Friends<br>National Federation of CEMETERY FRIENDS | The Federation was set up in 1986 with about 12 members and now has around 140 groups throughout the UK actively caring for cemeteries and churchyards as well as personal and corporate members with complementary interests. Corporate members include local councils and bereavement departments. Personal members are individuals who share our values. The Federation is represented on the government's Burial and Cemetery Advisory Group (BCAG) within the Ministry of Justice and has contributed to research on cemetery management and burial legislation.<br>The Cemetery Friends give their time clearing and maintaining areas, often working with local ecology groups to maintain a balance between wildlife and heritage. |
| **NSS** | National Secular Society<br>National Secular Society | The National Secular Society is a membership-based organisation campaigning for a freer, fairer, more tolerant society.<br>Founded in 1866, they have been at the forefront of advocating for the separation of religion and state, safeguarding freedom of belief, and promoting a truly inclusive and fair society for all.<br>They promote secularism as a vital principle that upholds individual freedoms, protects human rights, and fosters a fair and open society, in which people of all religions and none can live together as equal citizens. |
| **SSAFA** | Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association | Support covers both regulars and reserves in the Royal Navy, the Royal Marines, the British Army and the Royal Air Force and their families, including anyone who has completed National Service. They know and understand the unique |

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| | ssafa<br>Lifelong support for our Forces and their families | demands of service life, whether in the UK or overseas, and in times of need, they help to enable the Forces family to thrive. |
| **SAIF** | Society of Allied and Independent Funeral Directors<br>NATIONAL SAIF INDEPENDENT FUNERAL DIRECTORS | SAIF was established in 1989 to support independent, mostly family owned funeral directors, concerned about the proliferation of larger conglomerates.<br>It currently has approximately 1,000 members across 1,865 sites, as well as an additional 100 Associate members who supply products or services to the funeral profession. |
| **SANDS** | Still-Birth and Neonatal Death Society<br>sands<br>Saving babies' lives.<br>Supporting bereaved families. | Sands is the stillbirth and neonatal death charity. It operates throughout the UK, supporting anyone affected by the death of a baby, working to improve the care bereaved parents receive, and promoting research to reduce the loss of babies' lives. |

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