



A monthly review of news and events from within the bereavement sector



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It is a pleasure to bring you our final news review of 2022. It has been another full year, starting the year with the threat of Omicron but thankfully ending the year with the pressure of COVID being (we hope) a threat of the past. We were delighted to be able to meet in-person once again for this year's CBCE which proved to be another highly successful event and we will be announcing news for 2023 very soon. We look forward to working with many of you in the new year as the sector faces change in the form of the revision of the Process Guidance notes for crematoria, the continued implementation of the medical examiner system and the highly anticipated Law Commission's project on modernising the law surrounding the 'disposal' of the dead. We still have much to do - so for now, I wish you a restful festive break and a happy and healthy new year.

**Wendy Buchan**  
**Executive Officer & Secretary to The Cremation Society**

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## NEWS REVIEW

### CREMATORIA NEWS

A green light has been given for the first crematorium in **Kildare**, as **Kildare County Council** have granted planning permission for a crematorium in the Allenwood area. **Wellbrook Funeral Home**, which sought approval to erect the facility at Derrymullen, is owned by Brendan Carroll, whose family first began an undertaking business in Allenwood in the 1960s. People living in Kildare currently travel out of the county for cremation services such as to Dublin. There are six crematoria in Ireland, three of which are in Dublin with the others in Cavan, Clare and Cork. The number of people opting for cremation has increased in recent years, with one factor being the high cost of burial plots in towns and cities. There has also been a rise in the number of columbarium walls - to accommodate the cremated remains of deceased persons - built at local cemeteries. The plans for the crematorium include an administration office, a gas storage compound and a wastewater treatment system. Also in the designs is an access road from the existing Wellbrook Embalming Centre and Chapel of Rest. Extensive landscaping including wildflowers is also part of the development. To read this article, please visit the [Kildare Now website](#).

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Work on a £1.2m upgrade and extension to the **Coychurch Crematorium** flower court in **Bridgend** has begun. The extension will be the first structural addition to the public areas of the main building since it first opened in 1970. It came after the **Coychurch Crematorium Joint Committee** gave approval for the rear of the crematorium building to be extended onto the grassed area outside the exit doors of the Crallo Chapel. The project is now expected to be completed in time for the summer though the crematorium will remain open throughout the construction. To enable the works to proceed as quickly as possible all funerals will now take place in the crematorium's Coity Chapel until the project is complete. Coity Chapel can seat 60 people and the number of daily funerals will only be slightly reduced to allow for the restricted layout of the entrance and exit doors, along with the building works taking place on site. Cllr John Spanswick said: "The project provides a fitting way of bringing the crematorium into modern times by improving access for anyone attending a funeral. Cremations are now more common than they were when the building first opened and it is important we adapt to this and invest in the building for future generations." To read the full article, please visit the [Wales Online website](#).



## NEWS REVIEW

### CREMATORIA NEWS



The Cremation Society

Work has begun to provide **Herne Bay** with its own crematorium. The new facility is being constructed in Bullockstone Road by the **Westerleigh Group**. Ian McArdle, Chief Property Officer at the Westerleigh Group said that: “research showed there is a need for additional crematoria capacity in the area, the new crematorium will meet that need, giving communities of Herne Bay, Whitstable and surrounding areas more choice and the chance to benefit from the exceptional levels of care that the group prides itself on providing.” The new facility will also shorten the travel journey currently required to Barham Crematorium, the Group’s existing site serving the area. The Westerleigh Group had previously aimed to have the centre operational by early 2023, but the project was delayed by setbacks in getting the plans approved, and coordinating logistics with Kent County Council’s highways team. Now, construction work itself will not begin until January, with completion expected in the second half of the year. Once finished, the 14-acre site will feature a 98-seat chapel, waiting room, crematory, 89 parking spaces and a memorial garden. Documents produced by Westerleigh state the crematorium will be the nearest facility for about 108,000 people, and within 30 minutes of 89,000 residents. It will mean grieving families will no longer have to venture to Barham or Margate for services. To read the complete article, please visit the [Kent Online website](#).

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**Antrim and Newtownabbey Council** has proposed the development of a garden of remembrance at **Sixmile Cemetery** in Antrim. Currently, the council provides a garden of remembrance in Carnmoney, Ballyclare and Mallusk cemeteries for the interment of ashes. However, there is no provision in the Antrim area. The local authority is anticipating a rise in demand in line with an increase in cremations further to the opening of the new crematorium at **Doagh Road, Newtownabbey**, in June and declining burial space in the borough’s cemeteries. The council has an estimated 13 years of burial capacity in its cemeteries overall and is continuing to “actively search” for potential new cemetery locations. The authority is also seeking to establish a **columbarium** for the storage of ashes on the site of the old cemetery house at **Carnmoney**. Of the 1,491 plots in the garden of remembrance, there are fewer than 287 remaining, meaning it has capacity for five to six years. There are no new burial plots available at **Carnmoney Cemetery** with committals only possible in existing family-owned plots. To read more, please visit the [Northern Ireland World website](#).

## NATIONAL MEDICAL EXAMINER NEWS

The latest update by **National Medical Examiner, Dr Alan Fletcher**, has been published and can be read on the [NHS England website](#).

Topics covered in the update include:

- Good Practice Series – antimicrobial resistance and out-of-hours
- Reviewing GP patient records
- Medical Indemnity
- Template information for members of the public
- Implementation in Wales
- Quarterly reporting in England
- Patient Safety Incident Response Framework in England
- Training and events
- Contact details

You can read the latest **National Medical Examiner** update [here](#)



## NEWS REVIEW

### CREMATION SOCIETY NEWS

Our annual Directory of Crematoria is available now. To order your copy please fill in our [online form](#)



**Published:** Annually - latest edition 2022

**Price:** £38.00 each incl. claret binder and p+p.; £35.00 each insert only incl. p+p; £9.00 binder only incl. p+p

**Contents:** Statistics of cremations in Great Britain since 1885; Addresses of crematoria listed by county, indicating whether publicly or privately owned, and showing number of cremations carried out in each in previous year and since opening.

- Progress of Cremation in the United Kingdom 1885-present (Statistics)
- Crematorium Ownership Projected Crematoria (whether public or private)
- Directory of Crematoria: crematoria listed by county.
- Maximum accepted coffin dimensions
- Facts and Figures
- Table of Cremations (showing number of cremations carried out in each crematoria for previous year and since opening)
- Building Costs
- Architects
- The Siting and Planning of Crematoria:
- Index







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Rooted in history: committed to the future

Please note that our office will  
be closed from Friday 23  
December and will reopen on  
Tuesday 3 January 2023

We wish you all a very happy Christmas!



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 **OrthoMetals.**

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

 **PlotBox**

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If you have any news you would like us to consider for future newsletters, please do contact us at [info@cremation.org.uk](mailto:info@cremation.org.uk)



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