



The Cremation Society

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



Miriam Deacon - Newsletter Editor
Chief Executive of The Cremation Society

Happy New Year to you all. I wonder how many of us have made and broken New Year's Resolutions already?

The New Year has started with Oscar-nominated actor, Robert Downey Jr, discussing how the inimitable Dr William Price inspired his acting in his latest film. We look forward to a renewed interest in Dr Price (and all that he achieved for the practice of cremation)!


We are very excited to announce the theme for this year's **CBCE 2020**:

'Honouring the past, evaluating the present, shaping the future'

Please keep an eye on the **CBCE 2020 website** and on our social media pages for updates on booking, speakers etc. We are looking forward to another successful event!

CREMATION SOCIETY NEWS

We were delighted that some crematoria were so keen to complete the annual cremation statistics questionnaire, they contacted us to request it before we had a chance to post it out! All questionnaires have now been posted and we look forward to their return as soon as possible. The information gathered allows us to continue to provide invaluable statistical analysis on trends across the cremation sector.



THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

Brecon House (1st Floor), 16 Albion Place, Maidstone, Kent ME14 5DZ
Tel: (01622) 688292/3 Fax: (01622) 686698 E-mail: info@cremation.org.uk Web: www.cremation.org.uk

Could you please complete these forms and return to the above address or e-mail to info@cremation.org.uk

NATIONAL CREMATION STATISTICS 2019

Name of Crematorium: _____ Number: _____

NUMBER OF CREMATONS

The LAST NUMBER in your Cremation Register as at 31st December 2019 (a) _____

The LAST NUMBER in your Cremation Register as at 31st December 2018 (b) _____

TOTAL CREMATONS for the year 2019 [(a) – (b)] **(c)** _____

How many of the cremations for 2019 were 'direct/unattended' cremations (if known)? _____

DISPOSAL OF CREMATED REMAINS FOR THE YEAR 2019

1. Strewn in the grounds of this crematorium
 2. Interred in the grounds of this crematorium
 3. Placed above ground at this crematorium
 4. Removed from this crematorium
 5. No collectable remains obtained
 6. Awaiting instructions for disposal

TOTAL [Should agree with **(c)** above]

OTHER CREMATONS CARRIED OUT IN THE YEAR 2019
 (**Not** to be included in the above figures)

1. The number of **individual** fetal cremations that you carried out at your crematorium during the the last calendar year (2019) _____

2. The **number** of **shared coffins** containing fetal remains that were cremated at your crematorium during the last calendar year (2019) _____

3. The **total number** of individual fetuses (if known) that were contained **within** the shared cremations (Question 2) that you carried out at your crematorium in the last calendar year (2019) _____

This is essential for us to be able to accurately record the number of fetal remains cremated each year and to compare this figure with the total fetal losses occurring in the UK during the same period.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Name and position of Signatory (BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE): _____

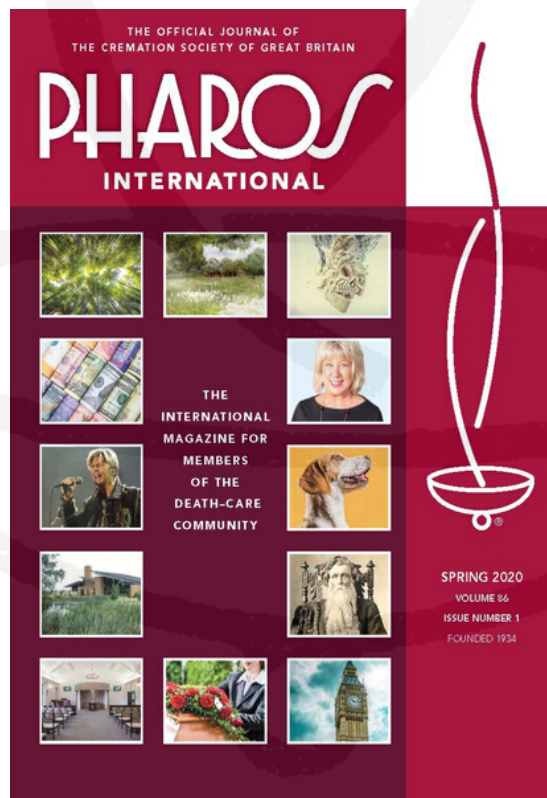
Telephone number in case of any queries: _____

CREMATION SOCIETY NEWS

The Spring issue of **Pharos International** will shortly be available to purchase. This issue's articles include:-

- CBCE 2019 speaker presentation - Debbie Kerlake - 'What have you done David Bowie?'
- CBCE 2019 speaker presentation - Howard Hodgson (Memoria Ltd) - 'Cost of Funerals - The Cremation Industry Perspective'
- Crematoria planning updates
- Government news updates

You can buy the issue as a single publication or as part of an annual subscription. For more details or to order this online, **please visit the Publications section of our website.**



NEWS REVIEW

CREMATORIA NEWS

Huntingdon Town Council has announced 'the first all-electric, carbon neutral cremator which uses a 'green energy' supply in the UK' will be installed in its new crematorium scheme. The scheme will see surplus heat used in greenhouses to grow plants for the town's floral displays. The project, costing around £7m, is the biggest ever taken on by the town council. Contracts were signed at an Extraordinary Town Council meeting on 19 December 2019 by the Mayor of Huntingdon, Cllr Stephen McAdam and the managing director of Kier Construction Eastern, Mark Dady. For full details, please read the **Hunts Post** article.

Bradford Council has agreed the location of its planned new £10.5 million crematorium site, at a meeting of its Executive Committee on 7 January 2020. The site chosen is a private site off Shetcliffe Lane, **Bierley**. If the Council is unable to negotiate a sale with the site's owners, officers have instructions to begin a compulsory purchase order of the land. For more details on this development, please visit the **Telegraph and Argus** website.

Louth County Council have granted planning permission for a new crematorium on a site at Racecourse Road, Dowdallshill, **Dundalk**. The decision was made following the submission of further information in relation to the application by **Gerard Hughes**. The development comprises a single storey building with mezzanine containing the main accommodation which will include a "crematorium facility to accommodate two cremators and necessary support facilities e.g. cold rooms, plant spaces & staff welfare facilities." For more details, please read the **Dundalk Democrat** article.

NEWS REVIEW

CREMATORIA NEWS

A project to upgrade **Stourbridge Crematorium** is now expected to cost around £2 million after inspections revealed more extensive work is needed. **Dudley Council** bosses had already given approval for works to take place at a cost of around £1 million but a report to the Council's cabinet says since the original cost of the project was approved in February 2018 it has become clear the work required is more extensive and it will cost an extra £1 million. To read the full story, please visit the **Stourbridge News website**.

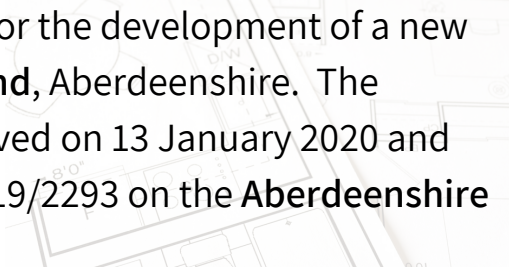
An appeal regarding the building of a new crematorium between **Shrewsbury** and **Oswestry** will now be heard in public. **Westerleigh Group** lodged an appeal with the Planning Inspectorate in October, following refusal of the plans by Shropshire Council earlier last year. The Planning Inspectorate has now decided that the hearing will take place at a public meeting starting on 11 March 2020. For more details, please read the **Shropshire Star article**.

Clyde Coast and Garnock Valley Crematorium has announced that it is to become 'one of the first crematoriums in the country to offset all of the carbon emissions generated through the use of LPG gas'. In their Press release, director **Jeremy Hamilton** said: "We also have one of the country's most environmentally advanced cremator systems, and we are the only abated crematorium in the local area – meaning that we treat our emissions through an advanced filtering system, rather than releasing untreated emissions directly into the air and the local atmosphere as others do. But we wanted to do more, and by offsetting our Carbon Footprint and adopting only Renewable Energy sources now means that we can confidently say that we are one of, if not the most environmentally friendly crematorium in the country." You can read the news story on the **Crematorium's website**.

NEWS REVIEW

CREMATORIA NEWS

Aberdeenshire Council has granted planning permission for the development of a new crematorium on the former airfield, Hillhead Road, **Crimond**, Aberdeenshire. The application submitted by **The Firm of N Cowie**, was approved on 13 January 2020 and full details can be found by searching planning ref APP/2019/2293 on the **Aberdeenshire Council website**.



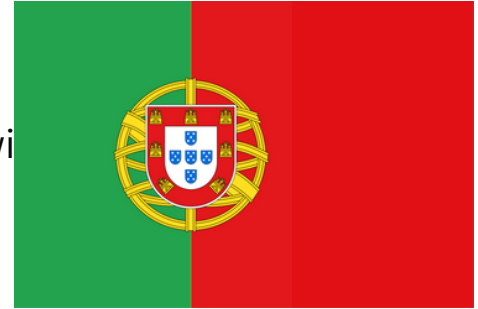
Efford Crematorium is likely to remain closed until April following a fire in the roofspace of the crematorium on New Year's Eve. A **Plymouth City Council** spokesperson said: "Due to ongoing investigations and installing a new roof, repair work may not be complete until the end of March." Extra services are being provided at Weston Mill whilst work is carried out. You can read more on the **Plymouth Live website**.

The first **Gainsborough** crematorium has officially opened at Lea Fields, in parkland near the village of Lea. **West Lindsey District Council** is the operator of the new facility and has invested more than £6 million into the development of the building. The council appointed Deborah Balsdon as Crematorium Manager, who has more than 10 years experience working at crematoria in Lincolnshire. For full details, please visit the **Lincolnshire Reporter website**.



INTERNATIONAL NEWS

The **Algarve** is set to see its first two crematoria open in Albufeira and Faro. Both facilities are to be completed in 2020. Albufeira Mayor, José Carlos Rolo, said that the crematorium represents a €600,000 investment by a building company that will also be managing the facility. The concession contract is for 30 years and the building will be located near the town's cemetery. For more on this story, please read the **Portugal Resident** article.



COMPANY NEWS

LifeArt UK has appointed **Kevin Crute**, former Head of Funerals at Central England Co-op, as Chief Executive from 6th January, to oversee a period of growth, as the business seeks to increase the adoption of greener coffins in the British and Irish markets. LifeArt UK joint venture partner Simon Rothwell, takes on the appointment of Environment and Corporate Affairs Director. You can read more on these appointments on the **LifeArt UK website**.



COST OF DYING - SUNLIFE REPORT

SunLife has published their annual **Cost of Dying Report** which can be found by visiting sunlife.co.uk/costofdying2020

Funeral Service Consumer Standards Review - News


The FSCSR Steering Committee has provided an update following its meeting on 2 December 2019. The main purpose of its meeting was to consider proposals that had been shaped and influenced by the FSCSR working groups. These included a draft industry Code of Practice for the profession and recommendations on how information about funerals could be shared more transparently and widely for the benefit of consumers. You can read the full update on the [FSCSR website](#).

FSCSR
Funeral Service Consumer
Standards Review

OVER ON TWITTER...

This month, the **National Association of Funeral Directors (NAFD)** tweeted a [#tweetyourfuneralwishes](#) challenge. Could you tweet your funeral wishes in under 280 characters? Burial or cremation? What song would you like played? Any preference for the destination of ashes? Why not tweet [@NAFD_UK](#) and see if you can sum it up in one tweet! [#funerals](#)

Got **two** minutes?



Fancy a **tweet** challenge?

DR WILLIAM PRICE INSPIRES...

Many of you will be familiar with the name Dr William Price, as being the 'eccentric' Druid whose act of cremating his infant son, led to the court case which ultimately led to legalising the practice of cremation. Now, actor Robert Downey Jnr is drawing on Dr Price for inspiration in playing his latest part in the film Dr Doolittle. Yes, we could hardly believe it either but you can read more on the [Wales Online website](#)!



Current advertisers in **Pharos International**



Cemetery Development Services - Cemetery Development Services is recognised as a leading international brand in cemetery, crematorium and mausoleum design and development.



The Columbaria Company - 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.



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

If you would like to advertise in **Pharos International** please [click here](#) for a media pack. Attractive discounted rates for 4 issues available upon request for new advertisers. Agency

Discount 10%

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Fordingbridge - designers, manufacturers and installers of innovative canopies and walkways.



Greenbridge Designs - from individual memorials to complete garden schemes, Greenbridge produce a range of memorials that will seamlessly fit into existing schemes as well as some that will create a stunning alternative.



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



Matthews Environmental Solutions - a manufacturer of combustion technology, including waste incineration, human and animal cremation and emission abatement systems. They are a part of the Matthews Family of Companies (MATW).



Dodge is now under new ownership with a new name, but will be maintaining the same team and the same respected products

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Obitus

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



OrthoMetals.

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



PlotBox

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



Treske

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



welters
ORGANISATION
WORLDWIDE

Welters - interment and memorial specialists.

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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



You can contact us at:

The Cremation Society
Brecon House (1st Floor)
16 Albion Place
Maidstone
Kent ME14 5DZ

01622 688292/3
info@cremation.org.uk
www.cremation.org.uk



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