



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



It has been a busy past few weeks with the final preparations for this year's joint conference in Southampton and the final gentle 'chasing' of the last few crematoria for their annual cremation statistics forms. We hope that we will be in a position to publish the annual cremation numbers very soon - please do look out for news on that as we will announce once the information is available on our website. I was also delighted to speak about the work of the Society at a recent conference held by the European Cremation Network. It was an interesting day of speakers - and a clear message came through - that our European cremation colleagues face the same challenges as those in the UK and there is room for more joint working to share knowledge in many of these challenging areas.

I look forward to seeing many of you in Southampton and look out for news of next year's event - it is already in the planning!

Wendy Buchan
Executive Officer & Secretary to
The Cremation Society



Cremation and Burial Communication and Education 2023

CBCE 2023 will take place from Monday 26th June to
Wednesday 28th June 2023.

Booking is still open!

Details of this year's programme of speakers can be found on
the CBCE website

For more details, please visit the CBCE website:
www.cbce.org.uk

Please also follow us on Twitter @CBCEevent



26 -28TH
JUNE
2023

NEWS REVIEW

CREMATORIA NEWS



A spokesperson for **Derry City and Strabane District Council** confirmed that plans for a regional crematorium are still being considered and discussed with Councils in the region. It is now five years since it emerged that Derry & Strabane and two neighbouring Councils – Fermanagh & Omagh District and Mid-Ulster Councils – had agreed to develop a business case and each of the three councils had allocated funding towards this. For decades, the only option for the loved ones of people who wish to be cremated after they pass away has been to travel to either Roselawn, in Belfast, or to Cavan. Asked if the plans were still actively being discussed for a crematorium for the west, a spokesperson for Derry & Strabane Council confirmed: “Plans for a regional crematorium are still being considered and discussed with Councils in the region. Council will review all options in relation to the development of a regional crematorium and will update elected members in relation to this in due course.” To read the full article, please visit the: [Derry Journal's website](#).

Waltham Forest Council is hoping to build a “flagship” new crematorium in **Chingford**. A new “contemporary, purpose-built” crematorium in Chingford Mount Cemetery would replace the current temporary mortuary compound set up during the pandemic. The Council is developing designs for a 450sqm building including a waiting area, family viewing area, chapel, crematorium space and office area. However, a report expected to be considered by cabinet last week that would have asked council officers to proceed with the £8.4m project has been pushed back until next month. Council leader **Grace Williams** said the cabinet needed to ensure “proper scoping” of the project. She added: “It’s a really beneficial project, not only in terms of the service and the borough but also the local area.” Benefits of a new crematorium include easing “funeral day logistics”, accommodating residents of diverse beliefs, reducing traffic and creating additional revenue, the report says. For more on this story, please visit the: [Waltham Forest Echo's website](#)

NEWS REVIEW

CREMATORIA NEWS



A new **Angus** crematorium has cleared its final planning hurdle and could be operational by the end of 2024. The farmer behind the £3 million project says he is delighted planning conditions for the **Duntrune** proposal have finally been set to allow the project to progress. **Mr Batchelor's** proposal for farmland near Duntrune House was approved in March. He successfully appealed the council's 2021 refusal of the plan. The crematorium will have a capacity for around 120 mourners and 125 car parking spaces. Local residents fought a lengthy campaign against the project, but DMRC councillors have now agreed conditions relating to landscaping, lighting and drainage around the Duntrune site. They also want to see clear signage for the crematorium, particularly around the B978 from Monifieth. Mr Batchelor said he was happy with the committee outcome, stating that "Realistically, with the time these things take, it will probably be the start of the better weather next year when work begins. It is still looking like the end of next year for the opening of the crematorium." To read the full article, please visit: [The Courier's website.](#)

Northern Ireland's second crematorium opened for services at the start of June. Located at Doagh Road, **Newtownabbey**, this £5m facility will complement the existing services at Roselawn. However, crematorium manager **Jim Parker** said it will ease but not solve the demand for cremation slots in Northern Ireland, stating that "this has been a substantial investment by **Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council**. It is a state of the art, modern facility and it's very contemporary but it also has a purpose for religious or secular services. It is not here to satisfy the issue of cremation demand in Northern Ireland. It is primarily here to offer a fitting and reverent service for the public and users of it." Mr Parker said that the crematorium will offer a 45 minute cremation service so that families don't feel rushed and that they have a service which is fitting and personal to themselves. The council have also invested heavily in audio visual technology at the site including a live broadcast feature alongside TV screens where families can display videos, images of the deceased or tributes. Pricing for 2023/24 is £475 for residents in the Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough and £950 for non-residents. To read the full article, please visit the: [Belfast Live website.](#)

NEWS REVIEW

COMPANY NEWS

THE L O N D O N C R E M A T I O N C O M P A N Y P L C



London Cremation Company plc recently hosted a tour of **Woking Crematorium**, by delegates attending a conference of the **European Cremation Network**. The tour was given by **Nick Stein, General Manager** of Woking Crematorium, assisted by colleagues Chris Powell and Christine Wallace. The crematorium team hosted 30 delegates and were guided through the crematorium, chapel, columbarium, cloisters and gardens. “Remarkably traditional” and “very welcoming atmosphere”, were among the many positive comments heard during the tour. The columbarium was also a focus of much discussion and admiration.

Tour members were fascinated by the history of the columbarium and its relationship to the LCC’s **Golders Green Crematorium** through the **Duke of Bedford**. The Cloisters were a fitting end to the tour. Constructed during the 1930s, every wall contained a bit of history and family remembrances, and everyone left pleased with the opportunity to have visited the UK’s oldest crematorium.




COMPANY NEWS

Funeral directors, celebrants, members of the clergy and senior representatives from many organisations within the bereavement sector came together for a Service of Dedication at **Waseley Hills Crematorium**. The crematorium, one of the most environmentally-friendly facilities of its kind in the UK, opened in March 2022 to serve the communities of South Birmingham, Bromsgrove and North Worcestershire. It is part of **Westerleigh Group**, one of the UK's largest independent owners and operators of crematoria and cemeteries, with 36 other sites across England, Scotland and Wales, all set within beautifully-landscaped gardens of remembrance which provide pleasant, peaceful places for people to visit and reflect. It is Westerleigh Group's tradition to dedicate a new crematorium to its community, an occasion which usually takes place approximately 12 months after its opening. The service was led by Reverend Phelim O'Hare, the Area Dean for Kings Norton, Moseley and Shirley in the Diocese of Birmingham, assisted by Reverend Chloe Hewitt, Curate at St Chads Church in Rubery, local celebrant Samantha Pitt and soloist Kevin Ward. Waseley Hills Crematorium Manager Joy Edgington said: "We're very pleased to have hosted this special event and dedicated our beautiful crematorium to the community we serve. We are proud of how we have engaged with our bereaved families and local communities since we opened. We're a welcoming place where people find comfort, not just on the day of their loved one's final farewell but also at other times, to have a permanent place of remembrance for a loved one in our memorial gardens or just have quiet moments of reflection in the fitting and peaceful environment of our beautiful grounds."



NATIONAL MEDICAL EXAMINER NEWS

Dr Alan Fletcher, National Medical Examiner, has published National Medical Examiner's Good Practice Series No. 11: Medical examiners and dementia. To read this report, please go to: the [Royal College of Pathologists website](https://www.rcpath.org/).



The Royal College of Pathologists
Pathology: the science behind the cure


**National Medical Examiner's
Good Practice Series No. 11**

Medical examiners and dementia

May 2023
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Booking is now open for this year's Cremation and Burial Communication and Education 2019. This year's theme is **TRUST, RESPECT, RESPOND**. An informative update on burial and cremation issues! and it is written by... [View more](#)

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



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



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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



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