



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

I recently had the pleasure of attending the London Cremation Company dinner at the Emirates Stadium to mark the occasion of Lord de Mauley's appointment as Chairman. It was good to spend time with fellow professionals and colleagues from across the field of bereavement. It provided a positive opportunity for members of different organisations to come together at an informal event and celebrate the work we are all doing, across the sector.

Thank you to Harvey Thomas and his colleagues at the London Cremation Company for their superb hospitality, as always.





Welcome to The Cremation Society's Monthly News Review

CREMATION SOCIETY NEWS

Staff from the Cremation Society were recently given a tour of **Golders Green Crematorium**, the first crematorium to be opened in London, in 1902 and owned by London Cremation Company plc.

A tour of the crematorium and its beautiful 12-acre gardens was given by Eric Willis, a loyal member of staff with an enormous passion for the crematorium.

We were able to visit the ashes of the founder of the Cremation Society, Sir Henry Thompson, along with the bust of Sir Henry, located in one of the chapels.

It is clear there is a sense of pride in those working at the crematorium which is indeed a special place to visit. Our huge thanks to Eric for passing on his invaluable knowledge.

You can read more about the crematorium on the **London Cremation Company website**.





CREMATION SOCIETY NEWS

CREMATION AND BURIAL COMMUNICATION AND EDUCATION 'Pause, Reflect, Respond'

Monday 1st, Tuesday 2nd and Wednesday 3rd July 2019
Hilton at the Ageas Bowl, Southampton

We hope you've been following our #speakerfeature posts on Twitter, where we have been featuring the profiles of many of this year's CBCE speakers.

We are delighted to have a programme packed with high quality experts in their field who are certain to bring us topical and informative presentations.

If you haven't registered your place yet, please visit <http://cbce.org.uk/2019> and take a look at the programme.

Time is flying and accommodation is now limited so please don't leave it too late!



NEWS REVIEW

CREMATORIA NEWS

The new **Bierton Crematorium**, built by the **Chilterns Crematorium Joint Committee** (CCJC), opened for services on 23 April 2019. Councillor Mike Smith, Chairman of the CCJC, said: “It took us a long time to get here and there were some considerable hurdles to overcome, not least a High Court challenge, but we are ready to open now and to provide the same well-regarded service to residents as we currently do at our Chilterns Crematorium in Amersham.” The new crematorium has a modern, 120-seater, multi-faith chapel with services running from 10am to 4pm weekdays and 10am to 1pm on Saturdays. For more information, see the **Bucks Free Press article**.

Huntingdon Town Council has confirmed that the construction of the new crematorium in Huntingdon will start in September, with the multi-million pound crematorium and cemetery estimated to open in July 2020. The planning application includes: a new town cemetery accommodating more than 2,000 traditional burial plots, a columbarium and mausoleums, a garden of remembrance and natural burial ground. There will also be a bespoke designed chapel, seating up to 120 mourners. A rival application made by Dignity Funerals to build a crematorium a short distance away was refused by district councillors in January. Dignity Funerals has appealed to the Planning Inspectorate to overturn the refusal, and is awaiting a decision. For full details, please read the **Hunts Post article**.

An official re-opening ceremony has taken place at **Rotherham Crematorium** following a £400,000 improvement programme. Crematorium Manager, Samantha Fletcher said: “Families now have a modern crematorium that provides a fitting venue for them to say a last farewell to loved ones. Our investment to refurbish the chapel has addressed that change in what people want from a crematorium.” Please visit the **Rotherham Advertiser article** to read more about the event.



CREMATORIA NEWS

North Hertfordshire District Council's outline planning application to build a new crematorium on land adjacent to **Wilbury Hills Cemetery** has been rejected by Central Bedfordshire Council. The plans were rejected on the grounds that 'the applicant has failed to demonstrate that the loss of open land characteristic of this landscape character area would be necessary and justified having regard to the need for such facilities...'

The Archdeacon of Blackburn has applied to the Bishop of Blackburn for the deconsecration of land known as **Calderstones Cemetery**, in the latest plans for the construction of a new crematorium near **Whalley**, Lancashire. A public notice was issued inviting representations and you can view this, together with the detailed background of this development on the **Diocese of Blackburn website**.

Plans for a new state-of-the-art crematorium to be built on a 17-acre site in **Plymouth** have been approved. The plans for the £12m project have been developed with insights from the public and the funeral industry received during consultation events held last year. Plymouth Councillor Sally Haydon, Cabinet Member for Customer Focus and Community Safety, said: "A lot of hard work has gone into getting this far and I am delighted to have reached this major milestone." You can find full details on the **Plymouth Live website**.

Plans for the development of a crematorium with associated vehicular access, car parking, open space and landscaping on land adjacent to Drumpellier Country Park, **Coatbridge** have been submitted to North Lanarkshire Council by **Dignity plc**. You can view the full planning application on the **North Lanarkshire Council's planning portal**.



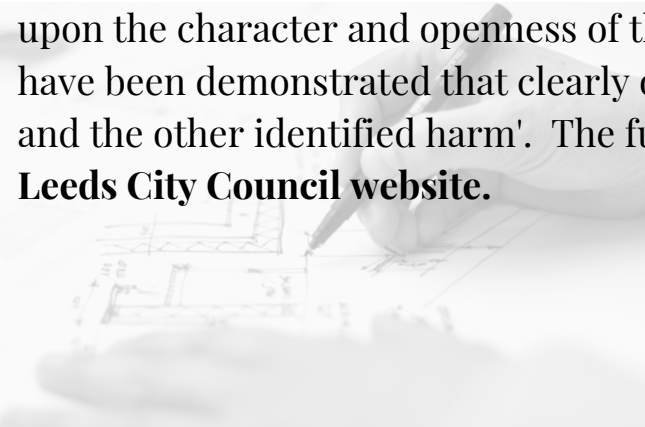
CREMATORIA NEWS

Plans for a new privately-owned crematorium that could serve a large swathe of **north east Fife** have resurfaced. Planning consent was renewed for the development in 2016 but no further progress was made. However, **BLF Properties Limited** has returned with fresh proposals for the crematorium. Cameron Community Council has given its support to the crematorium plans, commenting "It would appear there is a need for this facility in the St Andrews area." Council planners have recommended its approval. You can read more detail on **The Courier website**.

Plans submitted by **Horizon Cremation** for a new crematorium located on Glasgow Road, near Barrhead, have been approved by **East Renfrewshire Council**.

Jeremy Hamilton, Director of Horizon Cremation said: "We are absolutely delighted with the planning approval for a much-needed, new and modern crematorium within East Renfrewshire. This new facility will make a huge difference for local families, by providing a high-quality and inspiring crematorium facility dedicated to and for East Renfrewshire." It is hoped that construction will start at the end of this year, and that the facility will be completed and ready to operate in late 2020 to early 2021. Find more details in **The Scotsman article**.

Leeds City Council has refused an application by **Westerleigh Group** for the development of a new crematorium on land at **Garforth Golf Range** in Barwick in Elmet. The Council refused permission on the basis that 'the development encroaches into the countryside and would have a detrimental and harmful impact upon the character and openness of the Green Belt. No very special circumstances have been demonstrated that clearly outweigh the harm through inappropriateness and the other identified harm'. The full planning decision can be viewed on the **Leeds City Council website**.



NEWS FROM THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT

The Scottish Government's **National Committee on Burial and Cremation** has published the third edition of the **Code of Practice for Infant Cremation**. You can view this on the **Scottish Government's website**.

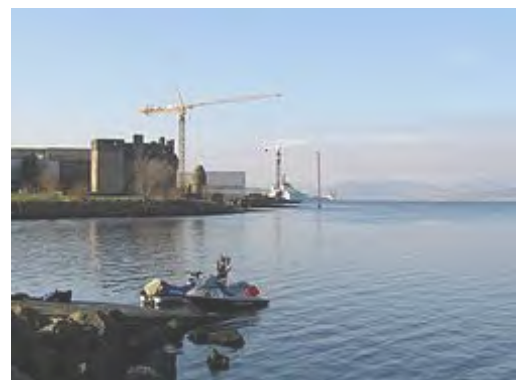


Following a consultation process, the **Scottish Government** has issued **guidance on funeral costs**, aimed at burial and cremation authorities, as well as funeral directors. The aim of the guidance is to make clear and consistent information on costs available so that more informed decisions can be made by those planning funerals. You can read the guidance on the **Scottish Government's website**.

You can also find a new **glossary of terms** commonly used in the funeral sector, on the **Scottish Government's website**. Whilst these terms may be familiar to those of us within the sector, you may find it useful to direct others to **this page**.

NEWS FROM SCOTLAND

Inverclyde Council has introduced the first official spot for the scattering of ashes on the River Clyde as an alternative to the Ganges, as part of the funeral ritual of those in the Sikh and Hindu faiths. A Council spokesman said: "As a welcoming place and one that supports people of all faiths and none in saying their final farewell to loved ones, it is right that we support members of the wider Scottish Sikh community where we can." You can read more on this on **The Scotsman website**.





NEWS FROM WALES

The Cremation Society's Chief Executive, Miriam Deacon, recently attended the 50th anniversary service at **Margam Crematorium** in Port Talbot. The service was attended by prominent members of the community, including representatives from many organisations within the bereavement sector. Miriam remarked: 'In the years since Margam opened, the UK cremation rate has increased by over 46% and environmental practices have changed significantly. We continue to work to promote cremation in today's ever-changing society'.

BEREAVEMENT NEWS

Many events have taken place to mark this year's '**Dying Matters**' awareness week during 13th - 19th May with this year's theme being 'Are We Ready?'

The Dying Matters Coalition was established in 2009 by the National Council for Palliative Care (NCPC) to promote public awareness of dying, death and bereavement.

To read more about the work of the Dying Matters Coalition and news on this year's awareness week, please visit the **Dying Matters website**.



FUNERAL DIRECTOR NEWS

Our congratulations to **David Barrington** of Barrington's Funeral Services in Liverpool on his recent installation as President of the **National Association of Funeral Directors** for 2019-2020. David's nominated charity for his year in office is Child Bereavement UK.





RESOMATION NEWS

Resomation are holding another open day on Wednesday 26th June 2019. The open day enables visitors to find out more information on the process, view a Resomation system and find out the latest about water cremation in the UK. Please visit **Resomation's website** to find out more information.



AND FINALLY...

According to a survey carried out by **Co-op Funeralcare** around a quarter (24%) of UK adults (in a survey of 2,000) say they have made it clear which music they would like at their funeral, compared with just a fifth (19%) in 2016. The recent research revealed that Frank Sinatra's *My Way* again topped the latest chart, but for the first time since the biennial exercise began in 2002 not a single traditional hymn made it into the top ten. Others in the top ten included:

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1. *My Way* – Frank Sinatra
 2. *Time to Say Goodbye* – Andrea Bocelli and Sarah Brightman
 3. *Over The Rainbow* – Eva Cassidy
 4. *Wind Beneath My Wings* – Bette Midler
 5. *Angels* – Robbie Williams
 6. *Supermarket Flowers* – Ed Sheeran
 7. *Unforgettable* – Nat King Cole
 8. *You Raise Me Up* – Westlife
 9. *We'll Meet Again* – Vera Lynn
 10. *Always Look on the Bright Side of Life* – Eric Idle

What would you choose?

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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info@cremation.org.uk and simply type 'STOP' in the heading

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