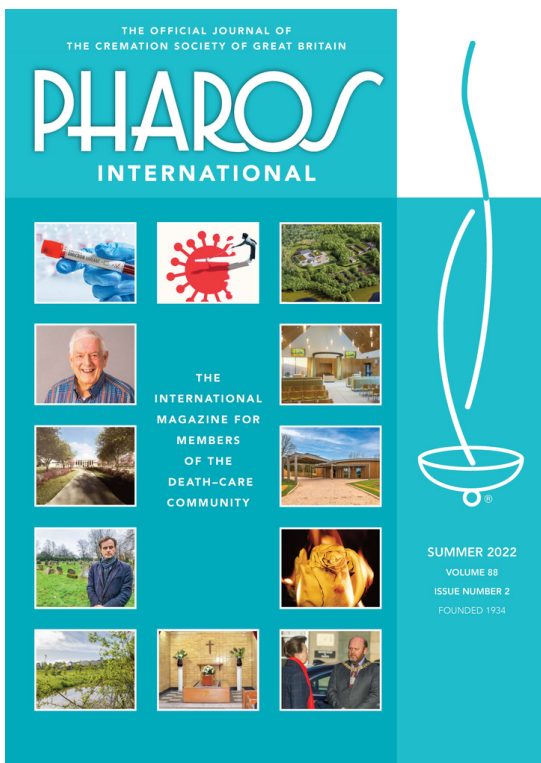




A monthly review of news and events from within the bereavement sector



We would like to begin this month's news review by saying thank you to all crematoria for returning their annual cremation questionnaires to us. We hope to be able to publish the 2021 cremation statistics on our website within the next week, with fuller information being published in our dedicated [statistics issue](#) of **Pharos International**. The statistics issue is available as part of an annual subscription. The summer issue has recently been published and posted to subscribers, so if you do not already subscribe, please do take a look at this [on our website](#).

Wendy Buchan
Executive Officer & Secretary to
The Cremation Society

SECTOR NEWS



CBCE 2022 - 'Return and Reset. Exploring post-COVID changes in the cremation and burial sector'

The programme for this year's CBCE is now available to view on the [CBCE website](#). We are delighted to welcome some excellent speakers who will be covering a wide range of topical issues focusing on the significant changes now impacting the cremation and burial sector:

- Dr Alan Fletcher - National Medical Examiner
- Philip Peacock - Town Clerk, Huntingdon Town Council
- Jamieson Hodgson - Deputy CEO, Memoria Ltd
- Simon Holbrook - Manager, Local Authority Review - Environment Agency
- Chris Edge - CEO, Edge IT Systems Ltd and Peter Linsell - Bereavement Services Consultant, EDGE IT Systems Ltd
- Professor Douglas Davies - Director of The Centre for Death and Life Studies, Durham University
- Dr Emily Harrop - Research Fellow, Marie Curie Research Centre, Cardiff University - UK Commission on Bereavement
- Kevin Smith - Director, Marchini Curran Associates
- Heather Atkinson - Head of Coroners, Inquests and Inquiries Policy Team, Ministry of Justice
- Professor Lucy Easthope - Universities of Bath and Durham
- Dr Kate Woodthorpe - Senior Lecturer, Centre for Death and Society, University of Bath
- Julian Atkinson - Company Director, JC Atkinson
- Simon Holden - CEO, Faunus Group
- Heidi Bignell - Technical Advisor, Environment Agency

This year's event will be held at **Hilton at the Ageas Bowl, Southampton** from **Monday 20th to Wednesday 22nd June 2022**. To register please visit the [CBCE website](#) and book online. For any queries please contact the CBCE Administration Team at info@cbce.org.uk or call on **01543 439714**. Follow CBCE on [Twitter](#) for further updates.



FBCA
Federation of Burial
& Cremation Authorities

Federation and Cremation Society
Joint Conference



The Cremation Society



NEWS REVIEW

CREMATORIA NEWS

East Yorkshire's new crematorium is set to open in January, with a manager and deputy manager already appointed. The crematorium will be located off Lelley Road in Preston and although it received planning permission last year, concerns about its impact on local traffic remain. East Riding Council's environment and climate change portfolio holder Cllr Chris Matthews promised that council officers would work with residents on what mitigation measures can be introduced to lessen the effect of the crematorium on traffic. Cllr Matthews issued an update on the crematorium at the full council meeting. The project is being managed by StreetScene Services and Kier were awarded the £9.6m construction contract in October 2021. He confirmed that the aim is for the crematorium to be open in January 2023. For more details, please visit the [Hull Live website](#).

A new crematorium has opened near Thirsk. The multi-million pound, council-led development has been named Maple Park in memory of the members of the Royal Canadian Airforce who sadly lost their lives in the area during WW2. The 22-acre site which features a revolutionary electric cremator to reduce emissions and therefore the area's carbon footprint, is close to both the A1 and A19 and includes a service hall to accommodate approximately 120 mourners plus additional room for standing. There is also an entrance foyer, waiting lobby, offices and a family room. As well as this, the single storey facility includes a wake facility and café, which is set to open soon, with beautiful views out over the Hambleton hills. The site also offers a memorial garden, meadows and a wooded area making it a calm and peaceful place for reflection or for scattering ashes. A digital book of remembrance which is the first in North Yorkshire is also available, enabling families to create, edit and publish final messages for their loved ones. The site poignantly also features 98 maple trees, planted to commemorate the bombers lost in operations flown from nearby RAF Skipton-on-Swale. For more details please visit: [The York Press](#).

CREMATORIA NEWS

Mourners are promised a “peaceful” local place to say goodbye to their loved ones as the New Forest Crematorium opens in New Milton. The single-chapel development sits within 11 acres off Stem Lane and Great Woar Copse and is run by the Westerleigh Group, the UK’s second largest crematorium operator. Capable of hosting up to 48 services per week, the facility will serve those from New Milton, Christchurch, Bournemouth and surrounding areas. There is seating for 117, with further standing space and provision for larger gatherings to witness services from outside as well as webcasts. There are 104 parking spaces. Personalised religious or non-religious services can be held, with specialist provision including a choice of hearse, such as vintage, horse drawn or even motorcycle. To read the full article please visit the [New Milton Advertiser website](#).

Hooton Paddocks have submitted updated plans for a development on School Lane in the latest move in the saga over a new crematorium in Hooton. At a planning meeting for Cheshire West and Chester Council, rival developer Horizon's proposal was withdrawn from the discussion with the Council citing the "submission of a separate application for another crematorium development on land nearby." The new plans retain the original design of the Hooton Paddocks model, but have been submitted on behalf of the family business, by an independent town planning consultancy firm Emery Planning, who have offices in both Chester and Macclesfield. The proposal, outlined by designer LHC Design, says that the site will be located between the villages of Hooton and Childer Thornton and that a single storey dwelling and a large equestrian stable block will make way for "a new, high-quality crematorium with associated parking and landscaping will be provided on the site." Currently, families from Ellesmere Port and South Wirral have to travel to Landican or Blacon for cremation services, with the former reported to be the fifth busiest crematorium in the country, with an average of 3200 funerals each year. To read more on this story, please visit: [The Chester Standard](#).

GOVERNMENT NEWS

Ministry of Justice - Medical examiner scheme: update on cremation regulations and retention of medical referees for transitional period

The Ministry of Justice has provided an update on the planned changes to the cremation regulations as part of the wider implementation of the medical examiner scheme:-

‘We previously informed you that secondary legislation had been laid in Parliament to remove form Cremation 5. This legislation came into effect on 25 March 2022 and form Cremation 5 has been removed on a permanent basis.

As you are aware, the medical examiner scheme has been rolled out on a non-statutory basis to all acute settings, and is in the process of being rolled out across non-acute settings. The Government is working towards implementing the statutory medical examiner system from April 2023.

As set out in the 2016 consultation on the Introduction of medical examiners and reforms to death certification in England and Wales, the scrutiny provided by the statutory medical examiners will replace the current arrangements for completing form Cremation 4. We therefore intend to remove the requirement to complete form Cremation 4 when the statutory medical examiner scheme is in place in all settings. We will provide updates to the funeral sector as the implementation of the statutory medical examiner scheme progresses and we move to remove form Cremation 4 in legislation.

The consultation also set out the intention to remove medical referees upon implementation of the statutory medical examiner scheme. We recognise that there is concern from crematoria and from within the funeral sector that new processes will need to be developed and that at least six months’ notice will be needed to implement any changes associated with medical referees. We will also liaise with crematoria and the funeral sector for their help on new cremation guidance. In light of the lead in time required to implement the new processes, we have taken the decision to retain medical referees for a transitional period once the statutory medical examiner scheme has been implemented to ensure continuity and any required process changes are identified. We will give sufficient time to enable the medical examiner scheme to be fully established and we will work with the funeral sector before removing the role of the medical referee. This will ensure that everyone within the sector is ready for the forthcoming changes.

We will provide updates on the roll out of the medical examiner scheme when they are available.’

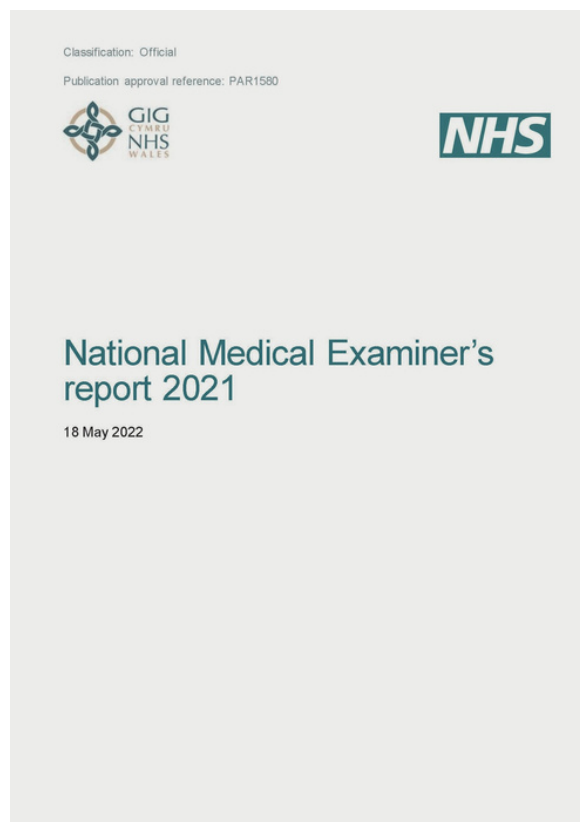
**Burial, Cremation and Funeral Sector Policy Team
Ministry of Justice**

MEDICAL EXAMINER NEWS

National Medical Examiner 2021 Report

Dr Alan Fletcher, National Medical Examiner, has published his latest report. The report details the progress made to date, together with focusing on the next steps to introducing case management systems and processes so that all non-coronial deaths receive independent scrutiny, whether or not the death occurred in a hospital setting. It also reports that Royal Assent for the Health and Care Bill clears the way for the medical examiner system to become a statutory part of death certification processes.

You can read the report in full at https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/B1580_national-medical-examiner-report-for-2021.pdf



SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT NEWS

Scottish Government Funeral Sector Inspectorate and Funeral Director Licensing Scheme

The Scottish Government is progressing implementation of the Burial and Cremation (Scotland) Act 2016 and the related regulations, codes of practice and guidance which will impact the funeral sector.

A key part of this is establishing the Funeral Sector Inspectorate. The Burial and Cremation Team is requesting that all those working in the funeral sector in Scotland sign up now and provide your business/organisation name, address and email contact details as well as which category of organisation/ business:

- Funeral director,
- Burial authority,
- Cremation authority,
- Other.

While some have previously signed up to receive the team's blog, the legal basis for requesting and retaining your information has been updated. Please look out for a postcard requesting you to provide some information about your business.

You are being asked to agree to the team retaining that information for the purposes of establishing a database of the funeral sector and to provide you with the important updates about progress of the inspectorate and licensing. The revised privacy notice can be read at:

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/funeral-sector-inspectorate-and-funeral-director-licensing-scheme-privacy-notice/>

The sign up page allows you to provide your details, so that you can be added to our list of funeral sector businesses and organisations and is available at:

<https://bit.ly/fd-ca-ba-signup>

If you have any questions about this request please contact BurialandCremation@gov.scot

SECTOR NEWS

20-Year Celebrations for Civil Ceremonies

Civil Ceremonies was founded on 1st May 2002 and is now celebrating 20 years in business. At the Kettering Park Hotel on 4th May, Anne Barber, Managing Director, joined with past and present staff, tutors, assessors and many friends and supporters of the business to celebrate the success of the company, and a glass was raised to the next 20! The Ofsted Outstanding rated company delivers the Level 3 national qualification Diploma in Funeral Celebrancy and additional specialist Level 4 training in Child and Baby Funerals and Advanced Tribute Writing. In 2013 Civil Ceremonies also launched the website www.celebrantsupplies.co.uk offering ceremony related products.

John Valentine, a long-standing tutor with the company spoke of the impact that Civil Ceremonies had made over the years to the growth and increasing popularity of secular funeral ceremonies. Anne described how the success of the business was down to the staff and tutors who had worked so very hard over the years, thanking them and the many loyal suppliers and supporters who had become friends. Describing the highlights of the last 20 years, Anne listed many key achievements, including: an Ofsted Outstanding grading on the very first inspection, receiving a national training award and Matrix accreditation, achieving national qualification status for the diploma training courses, obtaining a government contract to offer Advanced Learner Loans for the training, and establishing the Celebrant Supplies mail order service, the Celebrants' Convention and the National Celebrant Awards. The funeral celebrants trained over the years have gone on to create and deliver professional, unique, and highly personal funeral ceremonies for thousands of bereaved families, a great source of pride for the company.



Current advertisers in **Pharos International**



Capital Refractories is a leading manufacturer and supplier of refractory materials offering bespoke design and installation solutions for cremation and incineration systems.



The CDS Group offer our clients a complete solution of in-house environmental, design and planning services covering Cemeteries and Crematoria, Parks and Leisure, and Environmental Solutions



The Columbaria Company - specialists in the production of personalised memorial artwork and after cremation memorials.



EDGE IT Systems are market leaders in the supply of cloud based software solutions. Our Epitaph software with digital mapping is specifically designed for cemetery and crematorium facilities management.

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%

No responsibility is accepted for the accuracy of claims made by advertisers or for the sustainability or standard of goods so advertised

Current advertisers in **Pharos International**



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.



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



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.



The MazWell Group Ltd - Exclusive Manufacturer and Distributor of Dodge® Products

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%

No responsibility is accepted for the accuracy of claims made by advertisers or for the sustainability or standard of goods so advertised

Current advertisers in **Pharos International**



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



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.



Welters - interment and memorial specialists.

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%

No responsibility is accepted for the accuracy of claims made by advertisers or for the sustainability or standard of goods so advertised

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



If you do not wish to receive future newsletters from us, please email us at info@cremation.org.uk and simply type 'STOP' in the heading

The views expressed in the Editorial comments are those of the Editor and unless specifically stated otherwise, are not the official views of the Cremation Society. No responsibility is accepted for the accuracy of articles reproduced in this newsletter.