



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



SAIF call for regulation of funeral profession

See page 6 for full details

Dedication...that's what you need!

Miriam Deacon - Newsletter Editor
Chief Executive of The Cremation Society

My thanks to all who contacted us after receiving our first news review last month. We received a really positive response and we hope that you will continue to find this a useful source of information on developments in our sector.

As Autumn well and truly gets under way, it has been a busy month with a number of crematoria holding dedication services, which I have had the privilege to attend. I would like to thank all of those organisations who have come together to wish the crematoria well.

Welcome to The Cremation Society's Monthly News Review

CREMATION SOCIETY NEWS - SAVE THE DATE!

We are pleased to be taking part again in a joint **Bereavement Services Seminar** next year, along with the Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management (ICCM), the Federation of Burial and Cremation Authorities (FBCA) and the Association of Private Cemeteries and Crematoria (APCC). The event will be held on Wednesday 27 March 2019 at the Stratford Manor Hotel, Stratford-upon-Avon.

Last year's seminar programme can be found on our **website** and more details on next year's event will be featured in future newsletters.



NEWS REVIEW

CREMATORIA NEWS

Westerleigh Group's new crematorium at Uttlesford was formally opened with a dedication service led by the Bishop of East Anglia, the Right Reverend Alan Hopes. **Cam Valley Crematorium** opened in January and has already held almost 500 services. The chapel seats 100 and is equipped with a digital media system. The service was attended by the deputy mayor of Saffron Walden, religious and civic leaders, as well as representatives from across the bereavement sector. To read the full report on the service, please read the article on the **Funeral Services Times website**.

North Wiltshire Crematorium near Royal Wootton Bassett has opened its doors for the first time, holding eight services on its first day. Westerleigh's new facility began operating on 8 October 2018. Gordon Dunn, Westerleigh's director for the region, said: 'To have it open and serving the local community is something we're very delighted about'. To read more on the opening day, please visit the full article on the **Swindon Advertiser website**.

Langstone Vale Crematorium, near Newport has been officially dedicated during a service led by the former Bishop of Monmouth. Crematorium Manager, Heather Hughes commented: 'It's really important for families to be able to say goodbye to their loved ones in an appropriate environment. This is a site for all denominations. We hope to allow their last memories of their loved ones to be as positive as they can be in the circumstances.' To read more on the dedication service, please visit Westerleigh's **Langstone Vale Crematorium webpage**.

Bradford Metropolitan District Council have announced a 'competition' for a design team to design and deliver two new crematoria and revamp an existing crematorium. The deadline for applications is 2pm on 31 October. You can find more details on the **Architects Journal website**.

North Kesteven District Council considered proposals put forward by South Lincolnshire Crematorium and Lincolnshire Co-operative for a new facility at Surfleet. The new crematorium would include an 85 space car park with associated gardens and landscaping. To read more on the proposals, please visit the **news article online**.

Test Valley Crematorium was dedicated in a service led by the Vicar of Romsey Abbey, Reverend Thomas Wharton. For more details, please visit **Westerleigh's website**.

Dignity UK have seen their plans for a new crematorium in Broughton, near Huntingdon, put on hold for a second time. The plans submitted by Dignity UK were deferred for the first time in July and have now been deferred again pending the results of further traffic surveys. Huntingdon Town Council are also in the process of changing their own planning application for a new crematorium and are expected to submit their amended plans later in the year. You can read the full article on **The Hunts Post website**.

NEWS FROM IRELAND

Cork could be set to see its second crematorium built following submission of a planning application to North Cork County Council. The application seeks to make provision for the construction of a crematorium, car park and alterations to the site entrance. For more details on this development, please follow the link to [The Corkman's full article](#).

CREMATION LAW

A consultant has admitted to signing 'several hundred' cremation forms over a period of five years, whilst failing to examine the body. Brian Cheadle, 63, worked as a consultant in acute geriatric medicine at Stepping Hill Hospital in Stockport. He pleaded guilty to making a false representation with a view to procuring the burning of human remains between 2010 and 2015 contrary to the Cremation Act 1902. To read the full report on the criminal trial, please follow the link to the [Manchester Evening News](#).

GOVERNMENT NEWS

The Competition and Markets Authority have updated their website with recent responses received to their funerals market study. To read the latest updates, please visit the CMA's funerals market study [webpage](#).

The House of Commons Library has released a briefing paper on **infant cremation**. You can read the briefing paper by following [this link](#).

The House of Commons Library has released a briefing paper on Social Fund Funeral Payments. You can read the briefing paper by following [this link](#).

CALL FOR REGULATION OF FUNERAL DIRECTORS

The National Society of Allied and Independent Funeral Directors (SAIF) has issued a press release calling for the introduction of statutory regulation of the funeral profession in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. In their statement, Terry Tennens, Chief Executive of SAIF said: 'it was high time all bereaved people across the UK were guaranteed a minimum set of standards from the professionals taking care of them at life's most difficult time'. You can read the statement in full on **SAIF's website**.

CO-OP AND DIGNITY FIGHT IT OUT IN 'PRICE WAR'

Co-op and Dignity have featured extensively in the news headlines with each company reducing its prices and Co-op offering to price-match its competitors not only in the funeral sector but also in its funeral plans and probate fees. The 'price war' has intensified and featured in many headlines, including this article in **The Guardian**.

SUN-LIFE COST OF DYING REPORT 2018

The SunLife (2018) Cost of Dying Report has been published giving a whole spectrum of analysis, trends and data surrounding the 'cost of dying'. The annual report can be found on SunLife's website by following **sunlife.co.uk/costofdying2018**.

'MORE THAN WORDS' SCHEME LAUNCHED BY CRUSE BEREAVEMENT CARE

Cruse Bereavement Care, in collaboration with British Red Cross and supported by Co-op, have launched a network of 'bereavement social groups'. It is hoped that the groups will enable 'new opportunities for hundreds of bereaved individuals to meet with others in supportive environments and feel better connected in their local areas.' For more information on the new scheme, please visit Cruse Bereavement Care's **'More than Words' webpage.**

ASDS DEATH AND DYING CONFERENCE 2019

The Association for the Study of Death and Society will hold its 14th International Annual Conference on the Social Context of Death, Dying & Disposal in September 2019. The theme will be 'Engagement & Education'. To respond to the call for papers, please follow the link to the **ASDS website.**

RESOMATION NEWS

The process of 'water cremation' was featured in a podcast published by Aftering.com

The podcast features an interview with Resomation's founder, Sandy Sullivan, who explains the process and the environmental aspects of this alternative disposal method.

To listen to the podcast, please visit the **[Aftering.com website.](http://Aftering.com)**

DIRECTORY OF CREMATION 2018 EDITION

Our annual **Directory of Crematoria** is now available to order.

The Directory is considered to be the 'go-to' source of information on crematoria in Great Britain.

The Directory contains:

- Statistics on the progress of cremation in the United Kingdom since 1885
- Details of crematoria ownership
- Projected crematoria (whether public or private)
- Crematoria listed by county; maximum accepted coffin dimensions; details of facilities/contact/location
- Facts and figures; cremation comparisons
- Table of cremations (showing number of cremations carried out in each crematoria for previous year and since opening)
- Building costs
- Architects
- Guidance on the siting and planning of crematoria

2017 Prizes Frozen!

£36.00 each for Directory including binder (choice of blue, red or black)

£32.00 each for insert only

£7.00 each for binder only

All prices are inclusive of postage and packaging (inland only - overseas on application)

To order the 2018 Edition of the Directory of Crematoria please **visit our website and complete the order form.**



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 of Great Britain
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 of Great Britain. No responsibility is accepted for the accuracy of articles reproduced in this newsletter.