

News Review



We are pleased to bring you **The Cremation Society's** news review for December.

We hope our newsletter will help you to stay informed of news and developments from across the cremation sector.

You can also follow regular Cremation Society updates on [LinkedIn](#).

THIS ISSUE'S NEWS UPDATES

- CBCE 2026
- Plans for new crematorium north of Carlisle submitted
- Outline approval granted for proposed £6m Omagh crematorium
- Major energy efficient works completed at North Devon Crematorium
- Revised Process Guidance Notes for Crematoria PG 5/2(25) published
- Scottish Government Introduces New Hydrolysis Regulations Under the Burial and Cremation (Scotland) Act 2016
- Crematorium chapel gets a new look following refurbishment work
- Cabinet approves finding a new operator for Poole Crematorium
- Scottish Govt recruitment for Inspectors of Burial, Cremation and Funeral Directors
- Advertiser Spotlight: The CDS Group

NEWS REVIEW

CREMATION SOCIETY NEWS

CBCE 2026

We are delighted to be returning to the Hilton Utilita Bowl, Southampton for next year's CBCE.

With our joint conference hosts, the Federation of Burial and Cremation Authorities, we will be bringing delegates another first-class conference programme.

We look forward to welcoming delegates, speakers and exhibitors to Southampton.

Please save the dates and keep an eye on announcements for registration openings.



23rd - 25th June 2026



www.cbce.org.uk



CBCE (Cremation & Burial Communication & Education)



NEWS REVIEW

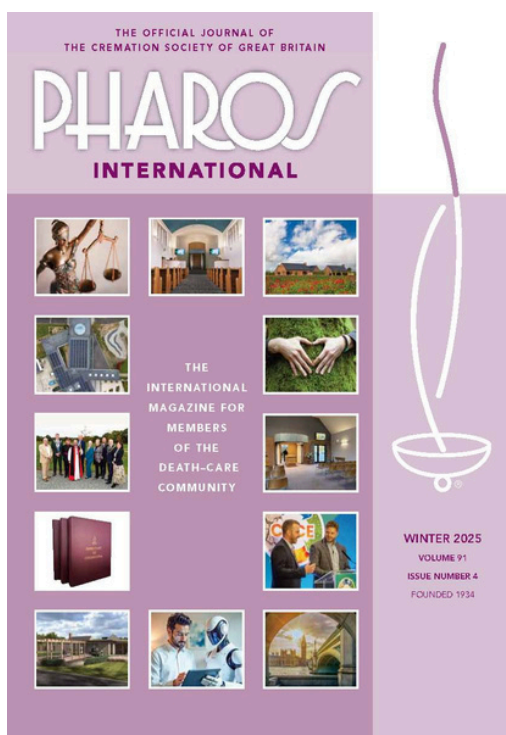
CREMATION SOCIETY NEWS

Pharos International

The official journal of **The Cremation Society** and the **International Cremation Federation** - **Pharos International** features CBCE speaker papers, environmental news, as well as articles and updates from the UK and international cremation sector.

The winter issue of **Pharos International** is now available either as a one-off purchase or as an annual subscription, in either digital or hard copy.

The annual subscription also provides you with the highly-regarded and eagerly awaited annual **dedicated statistics issue**, which provides comprehensive data and information on cremations across the British Isles and internationally.



You can order your copy via our website:

www.cremation.org.uk/publications

NEWS REVIEW

CREMATORIA NEWS

Plans for new crematorium north of Carlisle submitted

A planning application has been submitted for a new crematorium and memorial gardens on farmland near **Smithfield**, north of Carlisle. **I and K Enterprises Ltd** has submitted plans to **Cumberland Council** for the construction of a single-storey crematorium with a chapel, landscaped grounds, a separate pavilion for funeral teas, and new access and parking.

The site in question covers 3.4 hectares on the north side of the A6071, around eight miles from Carlisle and about two miles east of Smithfield village. The development would include a 715 square-metre crematorium building with a chapel seating capacity of about 150 people, along with waiting areas, a crematory and ancillary spaces. Plans also include a covered arrival area, internal roads, a service yard and around 85 parking spaces for visitors, including seven accessible bays. A 203 square-metre pavilion is also proposed at the north-west corner of the site to host funeral teas and gatherings, with catering expected to be provided by local businesses. The scheme includes a Garden of Remembrance and wider memorial grounds.

The applicant said the site has been chosen after a 'two year long search' for suitable land, with alternatives ruled out due to issues including flood risk, size constraints, access problems and proximity to housing. To read the full article, head to: www.newsandstar.co.uk

Cabinet approves finding a new operator for Poole Crematorium

BCP Council's Cabinet unanimously approved beginning the process of finding a new operator to run services at **Poole Crematorium** with the Director of Environment and the Cabinet Member for Communities to write the details of the contract and select a provider.

Councillors also acknowledged the fact bereavement processes are moving away from traditional cremations. No formal debate was had on the contents in the report and members moved straight to a vote which was passed unanimously.

To read the full article, head to: www.bournemouthecho.co.uk/news

NEWS REVIEW

CREMATORIA NEWS

Outline approval granted for proposed £6m Omagh crematorium

Long-running plans to develop a crematorium and chapel of rest in **Omagh** have taken a significant step forward with the granting of outline approval for the £6m project. **Fermanagh and Omagh District Council** hopes to build the new facility at Greenhill Cemetery on the Gortin Road, where it would occupy a site at the edge of the existing car park near the main entrance. The council recently lodged tender documents seeking a contractor for the first phase of work, estimated at around £840,000. The council has stated that construction will follow industry best practice, with the landscaped surroundings helping ensure the facility operates discreetly and without disturbance. A final decision on when the work will begin has still to be agreed, and it is expected that the construction company which has been successful in the tender process will be known soon following the deadline for tender submissions. To read the full article, head to: www.wearetyrone.com

Major energy efficient works completed at North Devon Crematorium

An £80,000 solar panel array at North Devon Crematorium will help reduce its carbon foot print and save money, says **North Devon Council**. The new panels are expected to significantly reduce the crematorium's carbon footprint, supporting both North Devon and Torridge district councils' ongoing commitment to more efficient and environmentally friendly operations. Chair of the North Devon Crematorium joint committee, Councillor Helen Walker, said: "We are delighted to see the completion of this project, which makes the crematorium more sustainable and cost-effective and contributes to a greener future for North Devon and Torridge. To read the full article, head to: www.exetertoday.co.uk

NEWS REVIEW

CREMATORIA NEWS

Crematorium chapel gets a new look following refurbishment work

THE chapel at Camborne's **Treswithian Downs Crematorium** has been given a new look following a programme of refurbishment work. The modern, oak-furnished, chapel, which was especially designed to blend into its natural surroundings, offers even more comforting space for families to say goodbye to their loved ones. The improvements include full internal redecoration, new flooring and a host of stylish features such as a fully moveable catafalque, contemporary chapel chairs, a rise-and-fall lectern and enhanced lighting to complement the service requirements.

A movable, catafalque means that each family will be able to select the exact position for where their loved one's coffin will rest during the service, whether that is nearer the mourners for extra closeness or in a designated area over which curtains can be gently closed during the committal.

Manager Kathy Green said: "We have always been proud of our first-class facilities at the crematorium and this refurbishment further enhances the light and tranquil setting we offer to all families." To read the full article, head to: www.voicenewspapers.co.uk

First crematorium proposed for Laois

A crematorium has been proposed for Laois that would serve the midlands region. Laois Co Council has agreed to consider zoning suitable land for a crematorium in the County Development Plan, following a proposal by Cllr Paddy Buggy. He pointed out that councillors have repeatedly called for more columbarium walls for cremated remains in cemeteries across the county, with a growing demand for the service and an expanding population. He also believed that a crematorium should be provided in the county.

Cllr Buggy said: "There are only nine crematoria in the Republic of Ireland and the nearest to us in Laois is in Newlands Cross. We could serve the whole midlands region if we had a crematorium here."

The proposal was passed unanimously. Cllr James Kelly also spoke in favour, repeating an appeal for more columbarium walls, as he said: "Crematoria are being used more and more." To read the full article, head to: www.laoisnationalist.ie

NEWS REVIEW

UK GOVERNMENT NEWS

Revised Process Guidance Notes for Crematoria PG 5/2(25) published

The Environment Agency has announced the eagerly anticipated publication of the updated guidance notes for crematoria. The technical guidance applies to the whole of the UK. It is issued by the Secretary of State, the Welsh Ministers, the Scottish Government and the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs in Northern Ireland (DAERA).

You can read the documents published on the [Gov.UK website](#). You can also read the summary of consultation responses and the Government's response [here](#).

SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT NEWS

Recruitment for Inspectors of Burial, Cremation and Funeral Directors

Scottish Ministers are seeking to appoint up to three **Inspectors** to strengthen the regulatory framework for the funeral sector under the Burial and Cremation (Scotland) Act 2016. The role involves conducting inspections, assessing compliance and promoting best practice among burial authorities, cremation authorities and funeral directors. The Scottish Parliament is currently considering the introduction of hydrolysis regulations. If passed Inspectors would also inspect hydrolysis authorities.

Successful candidates will contribute to maintaining high standards, improving sector credibility, and ensuring quality services for the public. Whilst experience of working in the funeral sector in Scotland or elsewhere is desirable it is not a requirement for these appointments as training will be provided.

The job advert and details on how to apply can be found here: [**Inspectors of Burial, Cremation and Funeral Directors – Scottish Government Recruitment Careers**](#)

NEWS REVIEW

SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT NEWS

Scottish Government Introduces New Hydrolysis Regulations Under the Burial and Cremation (Scotland) Act 2016

The Scottish Government laid the Hydrolysis (Scotland) (No. 1) Regulations 2026 and the Hydrolysis (Scotland) (No. 2) Regulations 2026 in the Scottish Parliament on 3 December 2025. The Regulations will enable hydrolysis to be offered as an option for people interested in alternatives to burial or cremation in Scotland.

The No. 1 Regulations focus on the amendments to the Burial and Cremation (Scotland) Act 2016 (“the 2016 Act”), extending the 2016 Act to hydrolysis.

The No. 2 Regulations are very similar to the Cremation (Scotland) Regulations 2019 and set out the procedures to be followed. The schedules contain the statutory application forms and registers.

If approved by the Scottish Parliament these Regulations will come into force on 2 March 2026.

The full draft Regulations are now available to view on legislation.gov.uk at:

[The Hydrolysis \(Scotland\) \(No. 1\) Regulations 2026](#)

[The Hydrolysis \(Scotland\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2026](#)

We encourage all burial authorities, cremation authorities and funeral directors to review the draft Regulations. The timetable for evidence sessions on the draft regulations will be set by the Scottish Parliament.

For further information or if you have any questions please contact our team at burialandcremation@gov.scot.

NEWS REVIEW

ADVERTISER SPOTLIGHT

A monthly spotlight, covering the recent activities, engagements and contributions of our valued advertisers

The CDS Group

Delivering Trusted Crematoria Development Across the UK



As demand continues for modern, sustainable and resilient crematorium facilities, The CDS Group supports authorities and operators across the UK at every stage of development, from feasibility and planning to design and delivery.

With over 10 years of dedicated crematorium experience and more than 20 years in cemetery development, our in-house specialists work alongside trusted partners to provide a fully coordinated development management service.

As we begin to wrap up on the year of 2025, we reflect on **recent projects** which demonstrate both the breadth and depth of our expertise.

In 2026, CDS continue to work on **three cremator replacement feasibility studies** and the design and planning of six new-build crematoria at various stages of the **development process**.

This ever-growing project portfolio highlights our commitment to providing clear, evidence-based advice and robust project support across the sector.



NEWS REVIEW

ADVERTISER SPOTLIGHT

A monthly spotlight, covering the recent activities, engagements and contributions of our valued advertisers

At **The CDS Group**, we pride ourselves on being the UK's most experienced development management teams specialising in crematorium and cemetery projects.

By combining technical expertise, regulatory understanding and strong coordination, we offer clients a single, integrated team capable of guiding projects from concept to completion.

For organisations considering upgrades, replacements or new facilities, CDS provides clarity, confidence and a proven track record in delivering crematoria that meet community needs both today and for the future.

As the festive season approaches, we want to express our heartfelt gratitude to all our clients, industry partners and friends, for your continued trust and collaboration throughout the year.

Thank you for being an important part of our journey and we look forward to working together in the year ahead.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year filled with peace, joy and success.



If you're planning upgrades or new crematorium facilities in 2026, contact our team today to discuss how we can support your next stage of development

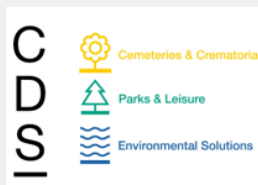
email: info@thecdsgroup.co.uk tel: 01525 864387

For more information visit: Cemetery Development and Environmental Solutions | The CDS Group

PHAROS INTERNATIONAL

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

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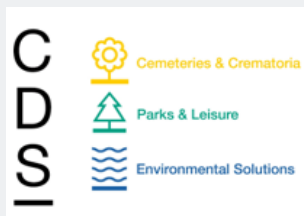
ADVERTISERS



Benchmark Architects, are an innovative architecture and design studio, with a passionate and personable team who enjoy working on creative, challenging, and innovative projects.



DRM Technic, is one of the UK's leading suppliers of gas analysis and conditioning equipment and services. They are also a renowned manufacturer of Continuous Emissions Monitoring Systems (CEMS).



The CDS Group, offer their 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, are 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.

If you would like to advertise in **Pharos International** please [click here](#) for a media pack. We offer attractive discounted rates for 5 issues - available upon request for new advertisers. 10% Agency Discount.

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



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.



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



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

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



SK Environmental Ltd, is a UK manufacturer of instrumentation for measurement and control of combustion plants, specialising in environmental monitoring and control products.



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



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The Cremation Society

Rooted in history: committed to the future

Contribute to our newsletter

We love to receive news/press suggestions from our readers to include in future newsletters.

For any news you would like us to consider, please contact us at info@cremation.org.uk

Our contact details



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