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

Competition and Markets Authority

The CMA has published updates on its Funerals Market investigation.

For more details, please see page five.

Miriam Deacon – Newsletter Editor
Chief Executive of The Cremation Society

The Christmas season is upon us and we have a brief round-up of news from across the sector for you this month.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy Christmas. We look forward to seeing what the New Year has in store!
CREMATION SOCIETY NEWS

In January, we will be posting out our **annual cremation statistics form** and questionnaire to crematoria. Your assistance with this is really appreciated and if the forms be returned as soon as possible, that would also be very helpful. If you have any feedback on the forms, please do let us know as we would like to try to make the process as easy as possible for you.

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**THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN**

Brecon House 1st Floor, 16 Allerton Place, Maidstone, Kent ME14 5DZ
Tel: (01622) 658292/3 Fax: (01622) 656693 E-mail: info@cremation.org.uk Web: www.cremation.org.uk

Could you please complete these forms and return to the above address or e-mail to info@cremation.org.uk

**NATIONAL CREMATION STATISTICS 2019**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Crematorium:</th>
<th>Number:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**NUMBER OF CREMATORIA**

| The LAST NUMBER in your Cremation Register as at 31st December 2019 | (a) |
| The LAST NUMBER in your Cremation Register as at 31st December 2018 | (b) |
| TOTAL CREMATIONS for the year 2019 | [(a) – (b)] |
| How many of the cremations for 2019 were ‘direct/attended’ cremations (if known)? |

**DISPOSAL OF CREMATED REMAINS FOR THE YEAR 2019**

1. Strewn in the grounds of this crematorium
2. Interred in the grounds of this crematorium
3. Placed above ground at this crematorium
4. Removed from this crematorium
5. No collectable remains obtained
6. Pending instructions for disposal

TOTAL [Should agree with (a) above] |

**OTHER CREMATIONS CARRIED OUT IN THE YEAR 2019**

(Not to be included in the above figures)

1. The number of individual fetal cremations that you carried out at your crematorium during the last calendar year (2019)
2. The number of shared coffins containing fetal remains that were cremated at your crematorium during the last calendar year (2019)
3. The total number of individual fetuses (if known) that were contained within the shared cremations (Question 2) that you carried out at your crematorium in the last calendar year (2019)

This is essential for us to be able to accurately record the number of fetal remains cremated each year and to compare this figure with the total fetal losses occurring in the UK during the same period.

Signature: ___________________________ Date: ___________________________

Name and position of Signatory (BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE): ___________________________

Telephone number in case of any queries: ___________________________
The Winter issue of *Pharos International* is now available to purchase. This issue's articles include:

- 'Who was Mrs Pickersgill, the first person to be cremated at Woking?' – article by Brian Parsons

- CBCE 2019 speaker presentation – Steven Wibberley – Chief Executive of Cruse Bereavement Care – '60 years of supporting bereaved people'

- CBCE 2019 speaker presentation – Update by Judith Bernstein OBE, JP, MA (Oxon), LLM – Joint Head of the Coroners, Burials, Cremation and Inquiries Policy Team, Ministry of Justice

- National and international cremation news

- Crematoria planning updates

You can buy the issue as a single publication or as part of an annual subscription. For more details or to order this online, please visit the Publications section of our website.
NEWS REVIEW

CREMATORIA NEWS

New Milton Town Council's Planning Committee has agreed to recommend New Forest District Council approve the proposal to build a multi-million-pound crematorium on green belt in the New Forest. Westerleigh Group has applied for planning permission to construct a 130-seat facility on farmland off Stem Lane in New Milton, which will hold about 1,200 services a year. The Planning Committee voted unanimously to support the application, which is soon to be decided by New Forest District Council. For more on this development, please read the Daily Echo article.

More than £1.5m is set to be spent on overhauling Whitley Bay Crematorium after North Tyneside Council gave its approval to the upgrade. A report from the Council's Department of Environment Housing and Leisure said the two cremators at the crematorium are almost 20 years old and "approaching the end of their economic life". An extensive programme of works costing more than £1.5m is needed with two existing cremators being replaced with one larger 'mercury abatement' cremator. A new vehicle exit will be built in the cemetery to create a one-way system for traffic. For more on this story, please visit the Chronicle Live website.

A Government planning inspector has given the green light to a crematorium in Lach Dennis but says landscaping plans require a rethink. The Birches Remembrance Park and Crematorium was rejected by Cheshire West and Chester Council in 2012 but later approved on appeal. In 2016, a landscaping plan was approved – but the Council and residents say this and other approved aspects were not adhered to. However, Planning inspector Hilda Higenbottam concluded: “The building as built, and the car park layout are acceptable and should be approved. However, the changes to the levels, the hard and soft landscaping are unacceptable and so the relevant conditions remain unchanged.” For more details, please read the Northwich Guardian article.
GOVERNMENT NEWS

The Competition and Markets Authority has published a number of updates on its Funerals Market Investigation. The administrative timetable has been updated and the CMA has released its summaries of hearings/roundtable meetings, together with its approach to the valuation of crematoria land. Please visit the Gov.uk website to read the updates.

INTERNATIONAL CREMATION FEDERATION

We are delighted to report that The Cremation Society’s Chief Executive, Miriam Deacon, has been elected as Vice-President of the International Cremation Federation on 22nd November at their General Council Meeting held in Paris. Miriam succeeds Rick Powell, former Executive Officer of the Federation of Burial and Cremation Authorities (FBCA). For more details about the ICF please visit their website www.int-crem-fed.org
AND FINALLY...

How much do you know about Dr William Price, the Welsh Druid pioneer of cremation? Without a doubt a fascinating character and now one brought to life in a 'musical odyssey' by Jon Tregenna, creator of 'Hail Cremation!'

Advertised on the National Theatre Wales website, 'this psychedelic fusion of live music, dance and video, will take you on a riotous journey to celebrate the life of one of Wales’ most visionary radicals – Dr William Price'.

For more information on the production which will take place from 23 March – 4 April 2020 at Newbridge Memo, Newbridge, please visit the National Theatre Wales website.
Current advertisers in *Pharos International*

**Cemetery Development Services** - Cemetery Development Services is recognised as a leading international brand in cemetery, crematorium and mausoleum design and development.

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

**Dodge UK** has become a leader in the field of manufacture and supply of embalming chemicals, equipment and supplies which reach over Europe and other continents in the world.

**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.

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

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*

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

**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%

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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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