



THE CREMATION SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

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



**Miriam Deacon - Newsletter Editor
Chief Executive of The Cremation Society**

Whether you are still keeping your New Year's Resolutions or whether these have fallen to the wayside, a Happy New Year to you all.

With legislation in Scotland keeping momentum, and the aftermath of the CMA report still having an effect, there are certain to be changes and challenges ahead for the bereavement sector in 2019.

We have recently sent out the annual cremation statistics questionnaire and I am grateful to all of you who have returned the forms so promptly already. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

We look forward to hopefully welcoming you to one of our upcoming events which will give us all an opportunity to bring ourselves up to date with developments and a chance to share our knowledge and experience from across the sector.

Welcome to The Cremation Society's Monthly News Review

CREMATION SOCIETY NEWS

BEREAVEMENT SERVICES SEMINAR 2019 - 'The Impact of Burial and Cremation on the Environment'.

Booking is now open for this year's joint organisations' one-day **Bereavement Services Seminar**. After the success of last year's event, it is certain to be an interesting and informative day. Speakers will include:

- Simon Rothwell (Life Art)
- Howard Pickard (Resomation)
- Tony Brookes (Facultatieve Technologies)
- Charlotte Knight (Natural Death Centre)
- Richard Overton (Overton UK)
- Debbie Kerslake (former CEO of Cruse)

You can book onto the seminar by downloading the **booking form here**.

**WEDNESDAY 27th
MARCH 2019**

**BEREAVEMENT SERVICES
SEMINAR:**

**'The Impact of Burial and
Cremation on the Environment'**

Stratford Manor Hotel, Warwick Road,
Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire CV37 0PY
The four representative organisations for cemeteries and crematoria in the UK are once again holding a one-day joint Seminar for their members. Each organisation will sponsor one session, and introduce a paper relating to a key aspect of bereavement services, followed by a discussion based on the themes in the paper. See over for details of each session. A not-to-be-missed event for all involved in bereavement services in the UK.

 Association of Private Crematoria and Cemeteries

 Cremation Society of Great Britain

 Federation of Burial and Cremation Authorities

 ICCM Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management



CREMATION & BURIAL COMMUNICATION & EDUCATION 2019

'Pause, Reflect, Respond' - An informative update on burial and cremation issues

Booking is now open for this year's **CBCE 2019**. Please visit cbce.org.uk/2019 to book your place. This year's event will take place from 1st - 3rd July 2019. If you would like to **submit papers** for consideration, to be presented at this prestigious event, please visit <http://cbce.org.uk/2019/call-for-papers>



NEWS REVIEW

CREMATORIA NEWS

Plans have been submitted by **Mercia Crematoria Developments**, for the new **Rushcliffe crematorium** to be built on land between Stragglethorpe Road and Main Road, near Cotgrave, Nottinghamshire.

The plans were submitted after a "public information day" in the area. A spokesman for Mercia Crematoria Developments, said "the vast majority of responses were very positive". More details can be found in the **Nottinghamshire Live article**.

Plans for a new crematorium in **Little Dunmow, Essex**, have been submitted by **Michael J Walsh Funeral Directors**. The family funeral directors have operated in the area for over 100 years. It is expected that the crematorium would hold an average of four services a day. To read more, please visit the article on the **Dunmow Broadcast website**.

Cannock Chase Council's Planning Committee have unanimously voted in favour of plans for a new crematorium in Cannock Chase. The plans, submitted by **Horizon Cremation**, include a ceremony hall, memorial areas, garden of remembrance and parking facilities. Councillors agreed that whilst the site is located in the Green Belt, there were special circumstances for allowing the crematorium because there was a great need for it in the district. You can read more on the **Stoke on Trent Live website**.

CREMATORIA NEWS

A planning application has been submitted by **Landlink Estates** for a new crematorium in Yapton, Arundel. The proposed **Central Arun Crematorium** is being put to Arun District Council and would include a single chapel seating up to 120 people and a separate family room. For more details, you can read the full article on the **West Sussex Today website**.

Aberdeen crematorium has reopened after a £1 million refurbishment. The refurbishment sees the crematorium with new entrance and reception areas, new flooring and seating in both chapels, new disabled toilets, new lighting, and a new digital media system. Please read more on the **Press & Journal website**.

Hinkley and Bosworth Borough Council are set to approve plans to build and run a new £4.6 million crematorium near Hinckley's Leicester Road Stadium. If built, the crematorium will be the fifth crematorium situated in Leicestershire. For more details, please read the **Leicester Mercury article**.

Havant Crematorium's wildlife initiative has been hailed a success following its latest annual monitoring survey. The Oaks site includes ancient semi-natural woodland, designated as a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation, a natural pond and a wildflower meadow.

Gemma Lacey, Southern Co-op's director for sustainability and communications, said: 'As we celebrate The Oaks' fifth anniversary, we can also celebrate the success of being able to make a real improvement to biodiversity on the site.' To read more on the success of The Oaks' initiative, please read the **Funeral Service Times article**.

FUNERAL DIRECTOR NEWS

MEPs have voted to restrict the use of formaldehyde, used widely in the embalming process. The industrial chemical is to be added to the European Commission's list of restricted carcinogens and mutagens.

West Midlands MEP, Anthea McIntyre, has secured a three-year delay in the implementation of the EU directive, to allow funeral firms to search for a feasible alternative. You can read the full **BBC News article here**.



BEREAVEMENT SECTOR NEWS

Bliss, the UK charity for premature and sick babies, and **Sands**, the stillbirth and neonatal death charity, have revealed in a joint UK audit of neo-natal units, that bereavement care for parents whose babies die in the first few weeks and months of life is 'worryingly inconsistent and under-resourced'.

You can read the full '**Audit of Bereavement Care Provision in UK Neonatal Units**' report on the **Bliss website**



NEWS FROM SCOTLAND

Scottish Parliament is now scrutinising the third set of the **Cremation (Scotland) Regulations 2019** which, if passed, will take effect from 4 April 2019. Once effected, this will include new cremation forms which will be available from the Scottish Government website and will be circulated to cremation authorities prior to the effective date that they are to be used from.

The Scottish Parliament will also consider the third set of the **Burial and Cremation (Scotland) Act 2016 Commencement Regulations** and **Pregnancy Loss Regulations** which, again, are expected to take effect from 4 April 2019. You can find both sets of Regulations on the **Latest News section of the Cremation Society's website**.

The **Scottish Government Inspection Regulation Working Group** also held its first meeting in December 2018. Among other subjects discussed, were the proposals surrounding future inspection of burial authorities, in addition to the existing inspection of cremation authorities and funeral directors already in place. More will be reported on this, as matters progress.

The **Scottish Government** has announced that a new benefit providing help for people on low incomes to meet the costs of a funeral is on course to be delivered through Social Security Scotland by summer 2019.



Funeral Expense Assistance (FEA) will replace the current DWP Funeral Payment in Scotland and improvements mean around 40% more people will be eligible to apply. FEA will provide financial support directly to those who need it most at the point of bereavement.

You can read the full press release on the **Scottish Government website**.

NEWS FROM IRELAND

Cork County Council have requested further reports from Classic Lodges (Ireland) Ltd in relation to the application to build a crematorium on the site of the former Duhallow Park Hotel. The Council have requested information in relation to 13 key points, including access arrangements and air and noise assessments. The Council have stated that should Classic Lodges fail to supply all of the further information requested within six months of the request being issued 'the application shall be declared withdrawn'. For more details, please visit the **Corkman article**.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Denmark has ambitiously aimed to be 'fossil free' by 2050. With 83% of deaths resulting in cremation in 2017, even one of Denmark's city crematoriums is taking steps to become carbon neutral. You can read more details on the **NDTV website**.

A mass marine funeral that went 'horribly wrong' resulted in three urns containing human ashes being washed up on beaches in the Netherlands. A Dutch shipping company, Trip Scheepvaart, admitted that the urns had slipped out of an employee's hands during the exercise and the urns were found by a schoolboy, a fisherman and a woman respectively on Katwijk and Noordwijk beaches north of The Hague. You can read more details on **The Guardian website**.

CALL FOR PAPERS DEADLINE

The **Centre for Death & Society (CDAS)** are hosting their 14th International Conference on Death, Dying, and Disposal (DDD14) from 4th–7th September 2019.

The deadline for the call to papers closes on 20 February 2019 so head over to the **CDAS website** if you are planning to submit papers for their consideration, or simply to book your place.



CIVIL CELEBRANT TRAINERS RECEIVE 'OUTSTANDING' REPORT

A training company offering services to train and develop civil celebrants across the UK has been rated 'Outstanding' by Ofsted in all five performance categories.

Civil Celebrants Limited received its first Ofsted inspection in November. Founder and Managing Director of Civil Celebrants Limited, Anne Barber, said: 'We are thrilled to receive this official recognition from Ofsted. We may only be a small team but this 'Outstanding' mark demonstrates how we can compete at the highest level on the quality of our training.'



PUBLICATION NEWS

Stephen White, a retired Council member of The Cremation Society, has published '*The Churchyards of the Church in Wales: a Legal History*'.

To obtain a copy (hardback, xxii and 222pp), please write to:

Professor T.G. Watkin,
Welsh Legal History Society,
c/o Bangor Law School,
Bangor University,
BANGOR,
Gwynedd, LL57 2DG,

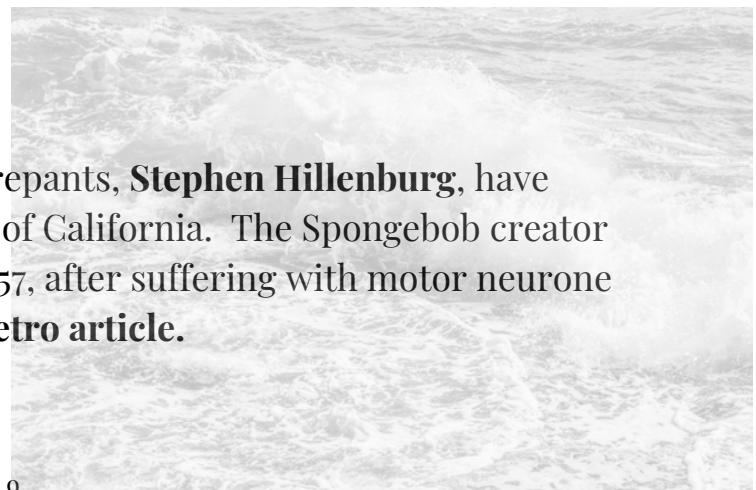
enclosing a cheque for £20, payable to the 'Welsh Legal History Society', with your order.
Stocks are limited.

NOT SEEN EVERY DAY...

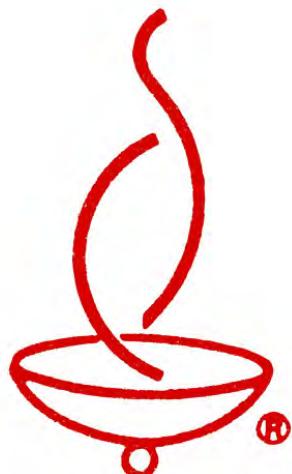
Eyewitnesses reported seeing two men carrying a coffin on the busy Russian metro underground system. Video clips were posted online showing two men heaving the coffin around the underground system before they were asked to leave by metro staff. Follow the link to the **Mirror article** to read more.

FINAL WORD

The ashes of the creator of Spongebob Squarepants, **Stephen Hillenburg**, have been, rather fittingly, scattered off the coast of California. The Spongebob creator passed away on Monday 26 November, aged 57, after suffering with motor neurone disease. You can read more details in the **Metro article**.



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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