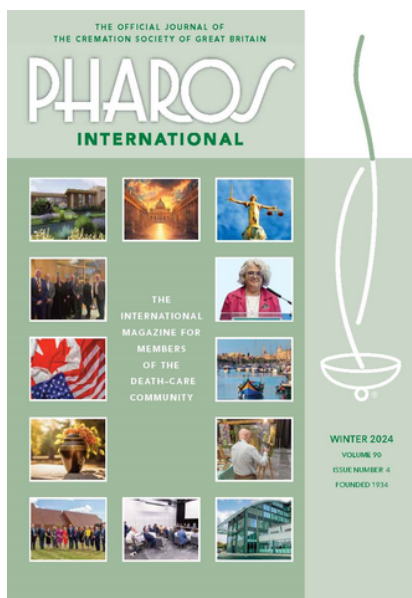




We are pleased to bring you this month's round-up of news articles from across the cremation sector. We will also shortly be publishing the winter issue of *Pharos International*. If you don't already subscribe, please do visit [our website](#) for more details.

News in this issue includes updates on:

- Bramcote crematorium's new environmentally-friendly cremators
- Ryedale's first crematorium allowed after planning inspector upholds appeal
- Partners announced for next phase of Shirebrook crematorium project
- Appeal bid for Angus crematorium near Carmyllie fails
- Cardross crematorium praised by inspector



NEWS REVIEW

CREMATORIA NEWS



The Cremation Society

A Nottinghamshire bereavement service will be installing more efficient and climate-friendly cremators – which even heat the building – as part of a £1.8 million joint investment between councils. Broxtowe Borough Council’s **Bramcote Bereavement Services Joint Committee** met in early October to discuss the service’s performance. The committee involves partnership across county boundaries, with representatives from Derbyshire’s Erewash Borough Council attending the meeting. Part of the service’s budget for 2024 to 2025 includes a £1.8 million investment for new cremators, equally funded by both Borough Councils. Two cremators currently operate at Bramcote but plans after the new year will see two new efficient, climate-friendly furnaces brought in. They will be wide-chambered to accommodate bariatric coffins – for deceased people who are obese, allowing the facility to provide extra service. Following the new-year break, the service will run on one cremator for around eight weeks to accommodate for the changes, swapping this at around four weeks. The new cremators will be more cost efficient, having better insulation, lower maintenance costs and reduced gas usage. They will also be cleaner and safer for the environment, with less Co2 emissions. To read the full article, please heads to: www.derbytelegraph.co.uk.

A developer has been allowed to build **Ryedale's** first crematorium, after a planning inspector found its’ emissions would not interfere with research at a neighbouring science park. North Yorkshire councillors rejected Westerleigh Group’s plan for the facility along with memorial gardens and parking beside the A64, at Sand Hutton, north of York, in October 2023, after hearing it could impact on studies undertaken at York Biotech Campus, including at the National Bee Unit. The meeting also heard funeral corteges would “considerably impede traffic on the A64”. However allowing the appeal, Inspector Matthew Woodward said emissions from the crematorium would be “generally much smaller” than from traffic on the A64. He'd not been presented with any scientific evidence to indicate that the level of pollutant, even around the chimney stack, “would have a biologically detectable effect on bees so as to affect the validity of any research undertaken at the campus”. Mr Woodward said it would be the closest facility for over 40,000 people in the Ryedale area and prevent family and friends having to travel long distances to other crematoriums in York, Scarborough and the East Riding. Future demand “is forecast to significantly exceed 80 per cent at all three sites by 2033”, he said. To read the full article, please go to the: [Yorkshire Post website](http://www.yorkshirepost.com).

Bolsover District Council and Dragonfly Development Limited are delighted to announce the appointment of **Benchmark Architects** and **Whiteley Eaves** to continue the development of the **Roseland Park and Crematorium project** in Shirebrook. Benchmark Architects are specialists in creating sensitive and reflective multi-faith spaces for remembrance and memorial, and have previously completed crematoria across the country – achieving recognition and commendation in a number of industry and design award categories. Work has been underway for a number of months to substantially complete the groundworks, including car parking, footpaths and underground infrastructure before the design teams return to site in the next week, following a period of review. For the full article, please go to the: **[Derbyshire Times website.](#)**

An Angus farmer has lost his appeal to secure permission for the area's third crematorium on a rural site west of **Arbroath**. Development review committee councillors said they could not go against officials who previously rejected Neil McEwan's application under delegated powers. They ruled the greenfield site breached local and national planning policies. Mr McEwan launched the planning bid in May 2023. He ruled out dozens of alternative locations, but there were more than 15 objections to the proposal. Refusal of the Carmyllie application follows a successful appeal challenge by another Angus farmer for a crematorium near the edge of Dundee. To read the full article, please go to the: **[Courier Evening Telegraph's website.](#)**

The team at **Cardross Crematorium** has been praised for providing “an excellent service to the local community and beyond”, after a recent inspection. The Scottish Government's inspector for crematoria examined a range of aspects of the facilities provided by Cardross, including cremation, grounds and memorials, service and staff and overall quality of the premises. They said that good practice was observed throughout with noted attention to detail that ensured compliance with the instructions of the applicant. The administration process was found to be of a high standard, while the public and private areas were considered in good repair and the grounds and garden of remembrance were seen to be maintained to a high standard. Overall, the crematorium was said to operate to a high standard with no shortcomings in any area of the cremation process. To read the full article, please head to: **www.thelochsidepress.com**

LAW COMMISSION NEWS

Burial and Cremation project online consultation events

The Law Commission's consultation on Burial and Cremation began on 3rd October 2024 and will run for 13 weeks until **9th January 2025**. The consultation considers, among other things, the proposed reuse of old graves, regulation of burial grounds, and issues in cremation law like what should be done regarding sets of ashes left uncollected at funeral directors' premises.

In addition to in-person events there will also be two online events. These events will be an opportunity to:

- hear about provisional proposals for reform from **Professor Nick Hopkins**, the Commissioner for Property, Family and Trust Law, and his team; and
- ask questions about the Law Commission's provisional proposals and the issues raised in the Consultation Paper.

Please see below for the schedule of events. Full details of each event are available at the links provided:

- 28th November, 3.30-5pm. [Click here for the link.](#)
- 2nd December, 3.30-5pm. [Click here for the link.](#)

Please contact [**bcnfm@lawcommission.gov.uk**](mailto:bcnfm@lawcommission.gov.uk) with any questions about the events.





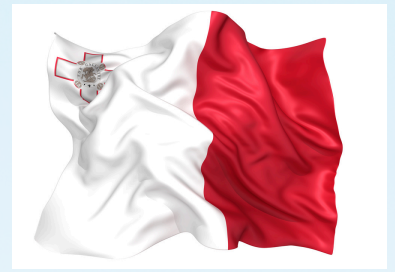
Inspections and other measures will promote the highest standards of care and increase public confidence in the funeral sector under draft regulations laid in the Scottish Parliament.

The Burial and Cremation (Inspection) (Scotland) Regulations 2025, if approved, will ensure minimum standards are maintained to safeguard the dignity of the deceased and promote compassionate and professional care for the bereaved. Inspectors will support any non-compliant business to make the changes needed but can issue enforcement notices with reasonable deadlines for action if necessary.

Public Health Minister Jenni Minto said: “Bereavement can be emotionally overwhelming and being able to engage with the practical issues and funeral arrangements can be very difficult. It is, however, something everyone is likely to experience at some stage in their life, whether it's the death of a family member, a loved one, or a friend. The vast majority of funeral directors and the wider industry provide dignified and professional services, and these reforms will benefit the sector by ensuring it is not unfairly impacted by the failings of a few. These reforms have received widespread support within the industry and we will appoint additional inspectors to work with the sector to ensure best practice. Publishing inspection reports will lead to greater transparency and can help improve standards. Having confidence in the care and dignity given to our loved ones, along with the compassionate and professional treatment of those bereaved, can go some way to alleviating the sorrow of bereavement.”

The Health, Social Care and Sport Committee is expected to consider the draft Burial and Cremation (Inspection) (Scotland) Regulations 2025. Cremation authorities have been inspected since 2019 when the Cremation (Scotland) Regulations came into force. Inspections of funeral directors and burial authorities will become statutory from **1st March 2025** - the same date the Funeral Director Code of Practice and new burial regulations come into force. Separate regulations also laid on Thursday 14th November 2024 cover management of burial grounds, the creation of statutory burial application forms and updated registers of burial. To read the article, please head to: www.gov.scot/news/improving-funeral-standards

INTERNATIONAL NEWS



A funeral company that intends to set up Malta's first crematorium has submitted revised plans for the facility and visual mock-ups of how it could look. The plans were submitted to the Planning Authority by **Active Group**, which owns **Camilleri Funeral Directors**. The facility will be built on land close to the Addolorata cemetery in Paola. The renders show a multi-level crematorium surrounded by tree-lined walkways. Building schematics on the PA website show it containing two columbariums – used for storing urns holding cremated remains – a viewing room and a multi-purpose hall. The schematics also show two underground reservoirs, a cold room, reception area, garage and store. The plans for the facility also show grass surroundings including a 'cremation garden'. Active Group Ltd director Johann Camilleri told **Times of Malta** the plans had been redesigned to conform with PA guidelines for crematoriums rubber-stamped by the planning minister in September. He said the changes included reducing the area of the facility from around 700 square metres to 500 square metres and lowering the building's height. Aesthetic changes have been made to reduce the visual impact and better blend with the environment, he said, pointing to alternative building materials and the use of the more "earthy colours" in the new designs. Earlier on Thursday, Luqa local council added its voice to that of Paola council, objecting to the plans and calling for an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) while raising concerns over air pollution. Responding to the concerns, Camilleri said an EIA was "in progress" and his company was "investing in state-of-the-art equipment with the lowest possible emissions found in the industry," adding there was "no better alternative." He stressed the distance of the facility to nearby residences was "well within required parameters." Camilleri added that the video renders of the site were conceptual and for illustrative purposes only and not for direct interpretation. The new plans submitted to the PA are currently being reviewed, according to the funeral company's Facebook post. The long-awaited guidelines limit cremation facilities to 7.7 metres in height and say they must use the best air-filtering technology on the market while meeting emission targets. Crematoriums cannot be built in sensitive areas such as agricultural land, scheduled sites or industrial zones and should be easily accessible. Constraints are also placed on the building layout, which should include a mortuary, viewing room, cremation chamber and post-cremation room. Cematoriums should also have a garden of remembrance with a columbarium. To read the full article, please head to the: **[Times of Malta website](#)**.

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Benchmark Architects is an innovative architecture and design studio, we are a passionate and personable team who enjoy working on projects to create, challenge and innovate.



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.



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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.



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

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



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