

**WEDNESDAY 21<sup>ST</sup>  
MARCH 2018**

# **BEREAVEMENT SERVICES SEMINAR**

**Hillscourt, Rose Hill, Rednal, Birmingham B45 8RS**

The four representative organisations for cemeteries and crematoria in the UK are 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



Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management

**Joint  
Organisations'  
Seminar**

**For Professionals,  
By Professionals**

**Excellent  
Learning  
Opportunity**

**4 Sessions –  
Papers and  
Discussion**

**Excellent Value  
for Money**

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:**

APCC - 01964 503055

CSGB - 01622 688292

FBCA - 020 8669 4521

ICCM - 020 8989 4661

Email:

[jointorgevent@gmail.com](mailto:jointorgevent@gmail.com)

# Joint Organisations' Bereavement Services Seminar

## Seminar Programme

09:30 Registration

09:50 Welcome and Introduction to the Seminar

### 10:00 Session 1: Association of Private Crematoria and Cemeteries

**Chaired By:** Alan José, Westerleigh Group Ambassador

**Paper Title:** Reform of Burial and Cremation Law – What do we want from it?

**Speaker:** Richard Barradell, Secretary and Treasurer of the Association Private Crematoria and Cemeteries.

**Paper Description:** The Law Commission has confirmed that it is including the reform of Burial and Cremation Law within its 13<sup>th</sup> Programme of Law Reform, and the project is entitled 'A Modern Framework For Disposing of the Dead'. The APCC session will be used to suggest priority areas and issues that would seemingly benefit from reform and to try and establish how representatives from the sector would like their views on the key matters to be conveyed to the Law Commission before they finalise their programme.

11:00 – 11:30 Refreshment Break

### 11:30 Session 2: Cremation Society of Great Britain

**Chaired By:** Alan José, Westerleigh Group Ambassador

**Paper Title:** Contested Funeral, Contested Ashes and Some Other Legal Quirks

**Speaker:** Dr Heather Conway, LLB, PhD, Senior Lecturer, School of Law, Queens University Belfast

**Paper Description:** This paper begins by looking at who has the legal right to decide funeral arrangements when the deceased's family cannot agree on the fundamentals – for example burial or cremation, the type of ceremony, the proposed gravesite etc. It then asks who has the best claim to post-cremation ashes: who the crematorium has a statutory duty to release these to; who has the ultimate entitlement once ashes have been released; and the complex question of who 'owns' retained ashes following that person's death (what we might call second-generation disputes). The paper concludes with a few examples of funeral directors and crematoria being sued for their handling of a funeral (or ashes), and the extent of any liability.

**Speaker Bio:** Dr Heather Conway is a Senior Lecturer in Law at Queen's University Belfast. Her research focuses on the substantive laws surrounding the fate of the dead and who has decision-making powers at various stages. Particular areas of expertise include family disputes surrounding funeral arrangements, their underlying reasons and how courts resolve them; who 'owns' post-cremation ashes; the legal status of funeral instructions; and family conflicts around exhumation and commemoration of the dead. Heather has written and presented extensively in these areas, and is the author of the Law and the Dead (Routledge, 2016).

12:30 – 13:30 Lunch

### 13:30 Session 3: Federation of Burial and Cremation Authorities

**Chaired By:** Alan José, Westerleigh Group Ambassador

**Paper Title:** Working Together through The Primary Authority Scheme

**Speaker:** The presentation will be made by members of Worcestershire Regulatory Services (WRS). WRS is a shared service acting on behalf of Worcestershire County Council, Redditch Borough Council, Bromsgrove Council, Wyre Forest Council, Worcester City Council, Malvern Hills Council and Wychavon District Council. The primary aim of WRS is to ensure compliance with the legislative framework within which they operate so that consumers, businesses, employees and individuals and the environment are protected.

**Paper Description:** The Cremation Process Guidance notes require each crematorium to hold an operating permit, requirements tend to vary with each authority. The introduction of a Primary Authority Scheme will provide the opportunity for a single consistent process across all those crematoria which adopt the scheme. Bringing together crematoria and the Primary Authority, Worcestershire Regulatory Services will also provide the opportunity to shape both the existing and future Process Guidance notes.

14:30 – 15:00 Refreshment Break

## 15:00 Session 4: Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management

**Chaired By:** Alan José, Westerleigh Group Ambassador

**Paper Title:** The Real Effects of Funeral Poverty

**Paper Description:** Funeral poverty is a real issue that is causing problems for many families faced with making funeral arrangements. Claire will highlight the issue through discussion of real cases that they have dealt with at Quaker Social Action.

**Speaker:** Claire Brandon, Quaker Social Action

**Paper Title:** Burial and Cremation Authority responses to Funeral Poverty

**Paper Description:** Tim will outline sector responses to funeral poverty and highlight initiatives that some authorities have introduced that are having a positive impact.

**Speaker:** Tim Morris

**Discussion:** Following the two short papers there will be an opportunity for delegates to discuss the cost of funerals and the impact that this is having on services, and what can be done to ensure funerals remain appropriate and affordable for families.

**16.00 Close of Seminar** – Alan José, Westerleigh Group Ambassador

# Booking Form

## Joint Organisations'

## Bereavement Services Seminar

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2018 09.30 – 16.15

Hillscourt, Rose Hill, Rednal, Birmingham, B45 8RS

£85.00 for Organisations' Members, £125.00 for non-members (prices are ex VAT)

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I wish to attend/send the following delegate(s) to the Joint Organisations Seminar at Hillscourt on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2018:

	Member of APCC, CSGB, FBCA, ICCM?
Name 1: _____	Y/N
Name 2: _____	Y/N
Name 3: _____	Y/N

Representing: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Confirmation of attendance will be sent by email within 21 days of receipt of the booking form

Address for invoice: \_\_\_\_\_

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Order No: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No: \_\_\_\_\_

Any Special Dietary/Access Requirements: \_\_\_\_\_

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The fee for the event covers attendance, documentation, lunch and refreshments. The fee is £85.00 + VAT for Organisations' members and £125.00 + VAT for non-members. The member rate applies to corporate and professional members of the APCC, CSGB, FBCA or ICCM.

Please do not send cash or a cheque with the booking form – an invoice will be sent to you at the address given above.

Cancellations and refunds – receipt of the completed booking form is a contract. Cancellations must be made in writing at least 10 working days before the event, and will incur a 20% administration fee. Cancellations made after 10 working days before the event will not be refunded. No refund will be given for non-attendance. Substitution of delegates at no extra charge may be made by emailing [jointorgevent@gmail.com](mailto:jointorgevent@gmail.com). In the unlikely event of cancellation by the organisers, any fees paid will be refunded but no further liability will be accepted. The organisers reserve the right to make changes to the programme, speakers and venue should this be necessary.

Please email completed forms to [jointorgevent@gmail.com](mailto:jointorgevent@gmail.com)