



Institute of Cemetery & Crematorium Management



Message from the Chairman

15th January 2008

Throughout the twentieth century the work and growth of our Institute relied upon a steady supply of dedicated volunteers and part-time officers. They achieved a great deal and nurtured the organisation into the UK's only Institute committed to the development of professionals engaged in the operation, administration and management of cemeteries and crematoria. The Institute's growth over nine decades from 1913 reflected the generous but limited time available from the relatively small number of committed volunteers and part-time officers.

During this first decade of the 21st century our Institute has taken a number of great strides forward. We continue to benefit from the contribution of volunteers, who are the life blood of our branches, and we have established a highly professional workforce that now consists of ten full-time and three part-time staff.

The Institute has a great story to tell and will shortly issue an extended newsletter updating our membership about what is being done on your behalf. Our officers continue to work on an exciting programme of new initiatives designed to better serve you. It is evident that the profession will greatly benefit from our much better resourced organisation. The Institute exists to serve you and, on behalf of your Board of Directors, I would be pleased to receive your feedback on the services being provided.

I expect some members may worry whether we are over expanding too quickly. Our 'problem' (if you can call it that) has been that each time we have expanded (with the appointment of a single post) the Institute has been swamped with demand leaving us, time and time again, under-resourced to meet the needs and expectations of the membership. Fortunately, due to the efforts of our officers, led by our outstanding Chief Executive Tim Morris, we are in a financial position to grow as needed.

On behalf of the Board, I am proud to welcome all our new officers (full details including photos to be included in the newsletter) and wish them every success in their new posts. I also wish to thank our entire team of staff, our many generous volunteers and, most importantly, all our members for supporting the Institute.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Martin Hussain".

Chairman of the Board of Directors