

Recycling of Bronze Plaques

An authority in membership of the 'Metals Recycling Scheme' has approached the Institute and asked if the scheme can be extended to include abandoned bronze plaques.

The Institute has made some enquiries of other authorities and current methods for dealing with expired agreements range from burying the plaques with other metal residue to indefinite storage in an out-building ! One authority already recycles these plaques !!

We have consulted with our specialist company OrthoMetals who have informed us that these plaques can be collected along with other metal residues covered by the scheme and can be handled by the smelting plant.

The Institute believe the inclusion of bronze plaques within the scheme enhances its environmental principles and will further assist the death related charities benefiting from the scheme. This scheme extension may also enhance your own authority/company environmental policy.

In order to provide safeguards to cremation authorities/companies wishing to dispose of abandoned plaques in a sensitive manner the following statements should be included in memorial agreements and renewal notices:

Renewal Notices *A statement to the effect of :-*

Should you not wish to renew the lease on your memorial plaque it will be retained in store for you to collect. Should you not collect your plaque within 12 months of the date of this reminder it will be included in the Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management's (ICCM) Recycling Scheme (a scheme designed to benefit the environment and provide income to death related charities. Details of the scheme can be obtained from the crematorium office).

Memorial agreements

The agreement should include a statement detailing that the applicant will be sent a renewal reminder at the end of the lease and can renew the agreement for a further period if required. The agreement should also state that recycling of the plaque will only take place should the agreement for the plaque not be renewed and not collected within 12 months following the expiry date.

Old memorial plaques that are currently being stored can be recycled in accordance with the legal advice relating to abandonment, provided you have sent a renewal reminder and have held the plaques in store for a reasonable period in which to allow collection.

A public information leaflet and example agreements and renewal notices are available from the ICCM website at: www.iccm-uk.com

In order that we may estimate uptake from this element of the recycling scheme we would appreciate a letter or email expressing interest.

ISSUED BY: The Institute of Cemetery & Crematorium Management
ICCM National Office, City of London Cemetery, Aldersbrook Road,
Manor Park, London E12 5DQ
Tel: 020 8989 4661 Fax: 020 8989 6112 Website: www.iccm-uk.com