

**BASILDON & DISTRICT CREMATORIUM
AND BOWERS GIFFORD CEMETERY**
News and information 2011

- **Grounds**

In addition to having on site staff to maintain our garden area, we also have a team of people who travel around other crematoria we look after cutting much of the grass, hedges and shrubs. Their duties also include grave digging and backfilling in the recently opened cemetery extension. From time to time they will also be involved in our continuing tree planting and landscaping of the grounds and pond area, and creating the kerb-edged Family Gardens.

- **Memorials**

We are able to offer many different types of memorial, including trees, roses, gardens and traditional granite memorials in various designs and sizes. We have a stonemason within our Company so are able to supervise orders from start to finish. It is permitted to have memorials with or without cremated remains and also for those who may have been cremated elsewhere. Metal and leather plaques take 2 to 3 weeks to be made and stone memorials up to 4 months from order to installation.

- **Ornamentation**

We realise there is a need for some bereaved to personalise memorial plots so we do request that if this is intended, that the plot is chosen carefully. It is very hard for us to keep rose beds tidy when they become overloaded with vases, statues, cards and additional plants. The roses are also quite tightly planted, to make a better display, so if there is additional ornamentation it can quite easily irritate the owner of the neighbouring rose. **We will provide one posy vase but no other ornamentation is permitted.** Similarly, some of the smaller stone memorials do not have the space for these types of memento. We do however relax our conditions at Christmas, Mothering Sunday and Fathers Day; unfortunately, it will then take us a considerable time to clear the ornamentation. Solar lights and wind chimes are not permitted.

- **Litter bins**

We have to pay to have litter removed from site. Please help us to limit costs by taking litter home to recycle if possible.

- **Water taps**

These were installed a couple of years ago in place of water butts which had to be filled manually. They can, and do, freeze up in winter so they may occasional be switched off at the adjacent stopcock for protection or repair.

- **Cemetery**

We offer traditional plots with headstones and kerbed surrounds, and also a lawn section where just a headstone memorial is allowed. As a private operator, we are able to sell plots in advance of death and our prices are the same for local residents and for families out of the vicinity.

- **Events**

Each year we have a service in chapel for the local “Forget-me-not” group in memory of pre-term babies, and a Carol Service. We have a website which may provide additional information.

- **Interments**

Can be arranged by appointment between mid-morning Monday to mid-afternoon Friday. Saturday morning appointments are occasionally available at additional cost.

- **People**

Laurie, Nick, Iris, Sue, Phil and Fred are all here at your service and we welcome any feedback – positive or negative!

- As the grounds have matured, we have a number of previously dedicated trees that we will offer at lower than the leaflet prices. For example trees along the cortege road (which will have limited visiting and planting potential) will be at half the advertised price and various other woodland trees will be at two thirds the advertised price.
- Rose bed interments – are not generally available, but we do have some specific roses where interment is permitted. Conditions apply.
- Lease renewals. We are often asked what the renewal price will be in 10 or 20 years time. As a general rule, at any time during the

lease or at the renewal point the cost will be 80% of the plot component, i.e. not including the rose, tree, plaque or stonework