

Cremations

Our most local Crematorium is the Kent and Sussex Crematorium which is owned and administered by Tunbridge Wells Borough Council. Visitors are always welcome to the grounds where they may find comfort and consolation amid the beauty of the carefully landscaped setting.

Spring and summer planting is carried out annually and in the spring the grounds are a mass of flowering bulbs. Formal planting is carried out for the summer months to give added colour to the background of trees and shrubs. The Garden of Remembrance is maintained to the highest standards, in accordance with a prearranged plan.

You can request a full service to be held there or just the committal following a service elsewhere. The service time is half an hour and within that time, time is allocated for the mourners to enter and leave, if you have a large congregation it may be advisable to ask for a double time allocation. Service times are on the hour and half hour from 9am until 4pm

All Crematoria that are members of the Federation of British Cremation Authorities must follow The Code of Cremation Practice which states that:

- Nothing can be removed from the coffin after it has been received from the Chapel
- Cremation of the body will take place as soon as is practicable. If it is not cremated on the same day as the coffin is received at the crematorium it may only be retained on the written consent of the applicant and in circumstances deemed necessary by the cremation authority, including impacts on the environment.*

*Generally, our local crematorium will cremate within 72 hours of the committal.

It is not obligatory to have a religious ceremony conducted by the Clergy. Whoever you wish can perform the service.

Some religions demand that the charging of the coffin is witnessed. Two people are permitted to attend this procedure, which is the placing of the coffin into the cremator, however, you must advise the Crematorium Office beforehand.

Only one coffin can be cremated at a time, with the exception of perhaps a mother and baby if the next of kin requests. On arrival each coffin is identified with a card, this is then placed on the outside of the cremator just before the coffin is put in. The card is then put on the cooling tray with the cremated remains (ashes) and finally attached to the urn, thus ensuring that the ashes are those of your loved one and no other.

You will be asked to make a decision regarding the final resting place of the cremated remains. There are various options available to you and we are happy to advise you on this either at time of need or later, if you prefer.

Contact

Kent and Sussex Cemetery & Crematorium

Benhall Mill Road
Royal Tunbridge Wells
Kent
TN2 5JJ

Telephone: 01892 523894

Fax: 01892 510552

E-mail: bereavement@tunbridgewells.gov.uk

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 8.30 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. Friday - 8.30 a.m. - 4.15 p.m. (Closed for lunch 1 p.m. - 2 p.m.)
(the office is closed Saturdays, Sundays, Bank Holidays, Good Friday, Christmas Day)

All correspondence should be addressed to 'The Registrar'.