Durham Crematorium

Providing a tranquil resting place
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Sympathetic and supportive
Creating eternal memories with compassion, dignity and respect

Please accept our sincere condolences on your bereavement. This brochure explains the services we can offer you here at Durham Crematorium, following the cremation of your loved one.

Our professional team can guide you through the cremation process and long-lasting memorial options.

As a proud member of the Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management (ICCM), we guarantee all of our practices meet social, ethical and environmental principles.

We pride ourselves on offering choices that enable everyone to arrange a meaningful funeral.

Since opening the crematorium, we have strived to develop and extend the services on offer; however, if you have something else in mind, please do not hesitate to get in touch to discuss your requirements.

Cremation options

Durham Crematorium offers different options for the final resting place of your loved one:

• Appointments can be arranged for you and your family to witness the scattering of the cremated remains within the crematorium grounds, along with the presence of a crematorium attendant.

• The cremated remains can be scattered by a crematorium staff member on the morning following the funeral.

• If you wish to retain the cremated remains for private disposal, a choice of colourful scatter tubes is provided to allow the funeral director to remove the cremated remains from the crematorium building.
About the crematorium

Durham Crematorium is situated on South Road in Durham City. It opened in August 1960 and was designed by JP Chaplin, A.R.I.B.A. It is owned and operated by a Joint Committee on behalf of Durham County Council and Spennymoor Town Council.

Standing amid beautiful woodland and flora, its octagonal shape and large windows allows outstanding panoramic views over the serene meadows.

An internal car park is located to the right of the main gates for approximately 42 cars. Disabled parking is also available for 4 cars directly opposite the crematorium building. Overflow car parking is available within the cemetery grounds.

**Spirit of Hope**

In 1972, the late Adrian Pearce, a local teacher and artist, was commissioned to create a sculpture of an angel for the Mission to Seamen at Wilton on Teesside. The ‘Spirit of Hope’ sculpture was cold cast and was a focal point of the building until it closed. The impressive work of art was then moved to the Seafarers Mission in Hull, where it remained until 2004. After 32 years, the sculpture was returned to Adrian and he agreed to the installation being mounted on a wall overlooking the Garden of Remembrance. Its legacy now serves as a tribute to Adrian’s memory and to all who visit.
The Chapel

**Location:**
At the entrance to the crematorium

**Accessibility:**
365 day access

**Memorial options:**
Fresh cut memorial flowers are permitted within the chapel

Situated facing the woodland areas, the soothing chapel provides a peaceful environment to reflect and remember your loved one throughout the ceremony.

It has seating for 60 people, with standing room for a further 50. Service times are every hour and half hour, allowing 20 minutes for each service.

The Chapel is equipped with the Wesley music and media system as well as a new Visual Tribute Service whereby photographs and/or video can be digitally displayed on a 55” screen in the chapel to any accompanying music. As well as providing this service, we are also able to broadcast the service electronically via webcast or on a CD or DVD.

A 40” overflow screen is at the exit foyer to show the service to those unable to get a seat within the chapel area.

A Viscount Prestige 60 organ is also available which is suitable for a wide a range of hymn requests.

An induction loop system for the hard of hearing is fitted in the chapel as well as the provision of a wheel chair on site.
Memorial gardens

Location:
To the side of the crematorium overlooking the meadow and woodland

Accessibility:
365 day access

Type of memorial:
10 year lease

Options available:
There is a choice of memorials available and we suggest that you visit us to discuss your requirements

The memorial gardens provide a beautiful remembrance setting for all seasons; Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter and this is reflected within the design. The ornamental pond, complete with cast bronze cranes and four gentle fountains, add tranquillity for quiet contemplation.

The walled garden is fully paved and level, offering easy access with car parking close by.

We welcome fresh cut flowers any day of the year within the memorial gardens. However, we do advise that plastic, silk or any other artificial flowers or pot plants are not allowed in the memorial gardens and we reserve the right to remove such items.
Our Books of Remembrance provide a simple and lasting memorial that you can see displayed in glass cabinets in the Book of Remembrance room.

The Book, which is hand-made throughout, is bound in black Morocco with pages of Goatskin Parchment. The inscriptional work is executed by-hand, by lettering craftsmen.

Each volume has a page for each day of the year. The pages are turned daily. You can decide which date the entry is to appear; whether it’s your loved ones birthday, anniversary or their date of death; whatever date is special for you.

There are also facilities available to leave flowers within the building, with vases and fresh water supplied.

You can also order a copy of the inscription for your own personal mini book of remembrance or memorial cards so that you could view the entry any time you wish.

The Miniature Book of Remembrance

This is approximately 8” x 6” and has a full binding in blue simulated vellum. The book contains a title page and suitable quotation page together with other pages of best quality paper. On the centre page, under the hand inscribed anniversary date, is a hand penned copy of the original inscription as it appears in the Book of Remembrance.

The Folded Memorial Card

This is approximately 6.5” x 4.75” and is blocked on the outside in simulated gold. It is supplied with a protective PVC coach-hide wallet. On the inside, underneath the anniversary date, carefully inscribed by hand, is a copy of the original inscription as it appears in the Book of Remembrance.

We also offer a digital version of the Remembrance Book available at: www.remembrance-books.com/durham
Memorial vase block and plaque

**Location:**
Within the memorial garden areas

**Accessibility:**
365 day access

**Type of memorial:**
Permanent

**Options available:**
Lease of space and memorial plaque package; Caithness Stone plaque and a choice of lettering

Memorial vase blocks and plaques provide a personal remembrance for the placing of fresh cut flowers. The block is polished grey granite with a Caithness Stone plaque, allowing for deep cut lettering and a vase provided.

The plaque measures 7.5” x 5.5” enabling a maximum of 5 lines for inscription. Vase blocks and plaques are available on both the inside and outside of the memorial garden areas.
**Wall of Remembrance**

large polished Caithness Stone wall plaque

Location:
Around the walls of the memorial garden

Accessibility:
365 day access

Type of memorial:
10 year lease

Options available:
Large and small sized plaques are available. Shared memorial vase containers for fresh cut flowers are placed around the walls.

The walls of remembrance are situated in tranquil spots within the memorial gardens and can be viewed at any time.

All plaques are made of Caithness Stone which is a unique versatile material found only in one quarry in the far North East of Scotland.

The stone is finished in satin polish and is easily kept clean. Deep cut lettering allows for a maximum of 6 lines inscription for large size plaques and 3 lines of inscription for small size plaques; or you may choose to leave space for a name to be added in the future.

Shared memorial vase containers are provided for placing fresh cut flowers, at regular intervals, around the walls.
Memorial seats

Location:
In and around the memorial gardens

Accessibility:
365 day access

Type of memorial:
10 year lease

Options:
There are a limited number of seats available, please contact us to discuss availability

Memorial seats provide a personal space to rest, reflect and remember your loved one.

Personalised plaques can be added, with a short inscription, to memorialize their passing or celebration of their life with words of your choice.
Memorial niche

**Location:** In and around the memorial gardens

**Accessibility:** 365 day access

**Type of memorial:** 20 year lease

**Options:** Space for two sets of cremated remains; a stone plaque for inscription and a vase for fresh cut flowers

For families who wish to have a bespoke visiting place to pay respect, we offer a number of niches which contain cremated remains. The niches hold space for two sets of cremated remains and are renewable after a 20 year lease period.

The stone plaque has deep cut lettering for inscription and wording of your choice.

Plaques will generally be prepared and fixed within ten weeks from ordering, but times may vary. We will advise you when the niche and plaque is affixed and details of the exact location.
The Life and Soul garden

**Location:** Bottom of the crematorium grounds beside the cemetery

**Accessibility:** 365 day access

**Type of memorial:** Quiet location surrounded by woodland and trees

The Life and Soul garden was designed and built by tutors and students of Finchale Training College for an exhibition at the Tatton Park Show in August 2007. The garden won a coveted Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) Silver Gilt Medal and is now a permanent feature within the crematorium grounds for thoughtful reflection and remembrance.
Our quality assurance

The Central Durham Crematorium Joint Committee aims to maintain a pleasant environment for all of our visitors. We pride ourselves on:

• providing a sensitive, respectful service, fitting for the bereaved
• ensuring that sympathetic, supportive and confidential advice is given to you and provide assistance in co-ordinating the funeral process if required
• providing high quality building and grounds maintenance

Regulations

In order to meet our quality assurance, please be advised of the following regulations when visiting Durham Crematorium:

• Only fresh cut flowers are permitted in the memorial gardens
• No items may be placed on, or attached to, any tree or shrub within the grounds
• No personal items or memorials are permitted in the gardens. This includes: vases, statues, balloons, fencing, candles/lanterns, windmills, artificial flowers, gravel, ornaments and memorabilia. Prohibited items will be removed without notice.
• Seasonal tributes, such as Christmas wreaths, may only be laid in the specified area and will be removed as necessary.

Recycling of metals

In accordance with the Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management (ICCM) guidelines, we seek consent for the sensitive recycling of metals after cremation. All metal residues from the cremation process are sent to be recycled unless otherwise stated on the application form. Monies raised from recycled metals are donated to local or national death related charities in the UK including Macmillan Cancer Research, Cruse Bereavement Care and the Chyrelle Addams Breast Cancer Trust. Please feel free to get in touch for further information.
The Crematorium office is open Monday to Friday from 8.30am to 4.30pm.

The building is open for viewing the Book of Remembrance 365 days a year:

**Monday to Friday**
9.00am to 4.30pm

**Saturday**
9.00am to 12.00noon

**Sunday**
10.00am to 1.00pm

**Bank Holidays**
10.00am to 2.00pm

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**Directions**

**From SUNDERLAND**
Travelling on A690 straight across roundabout at A1M
Follow signs into Durham City
Second exit off roundabout, follow signs for A177 Bowburn, Darlington
Exit left off next roundabout, follow road straight
Bear right to the top of the hill to traffic lights at New Inn Pub (on left)
Straight over lights, pass Botanical Gardens, Ustinov College and Park and Ride on left
Down incline, sharp left into Durham Crematorium (signposted)

**From the NORTH**
Leave the A1M at Junction 63, follow signs for Chester-le-Street
Follow down the A167 for 8 miles towards the outskirts of Durham City
Continue to Nevilles Cross and straight over all traffic lights, follow signs for Darlington
Exit sharp left at the roundabout, follow signs for Durham Crematorium, ½ mile on the right

**From the SOUTH**
Leave A1M at Junction 59
Exit left, follow signs for Durham, Newton Aycliffe on A167
Straight road all the way through Newton Aycliffe, Chilton By-Pass, Ferryhill
Straight over roundabout at Thinford, follow signs for Durham
Continue on A167 through Croxdale, straight over roundabout approaching Sunderland Bridge
Pass The Honest Lawyer Pub on your right
Pass Durham High School on right
Durham Crematorium is ½ mile on the right

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All enquiries and requests for prices should be directed to
The Superintendent and Registrar:

**Durham Crematorium, South Road, Durham, DH1 3TQ**

**Telephone:** (0191) 384 8677
**Email:** durhamcrem@durham.gov.uk
**Website:** www.durhamcrem.co.uk