

HOLLY'S FUNERALS

A NATURAL & HOLISTIC APPROACH
TO FUNERAL DIRECTING



Using Direct Cremation to create truly beautiful funerals

When saying goodbye to someone that has been a truly influential and important part of our lives, a twenty to thirty minute service at a crematorium simply does not provide adequate time to celebrate their lives in an appropriate way.

The idea of direct cremation is often seen as a low cost, no fuss option, but this doesn't need to be the case. In contrast, at Holly's Funerals, we use our Direct Cremation option to help families achieve a far more personal and beautiful service than your standard crematorium service will allow.

Firstly, it's important to realise that the service and the cremation can be separated and do not have to take place at the location or even on the same day. The Service is the ceremonial part of a funeral where family and friends gather to say goodbye and to share memories of the person who has died. The cremation is the practical Process that has to take place at the crematorium.

Separating the Service and the Process allows far greater flexibility and a wider range of options for families trying to arrange a more personal service. By having the service elsewhere, families have more control over the time available for their service and can include multiple eulogies, live music performances, video footage etc. In fact almost anything you want.

Crematoria are generally busy places at most times of the year and you'll often have services both before and after yours. You are allocated a set time period and there can be no hold ups, no flexibility. This can often make it feel like quite an industrialised and impersonal process. By choosing a venue without these time pressures can make the whole process far less stressful and more relaxed.

On the whole crematoria chapels tend to be fairly bland and functional places, designed for fast and efficient turnaround of funeral services. They have very little character and are difficult to personalise. By looking elsewhere, it might be possible to find a more suitable venue, perhaps somewhere that has a special connection to the person who has died and which can be decorated and personalised to make it really special.

Alternative venues can include churches, village halls, gardens, golf clubs or marquees, depending on your needs and spiritual belief. We've arranged funeral services in all of these spaces with quite beautiful effect. Although not always possible, partly due to our English weather, some of the most beautiful services we've helped arrange have been held in the garden of the deceased, either under a marquee or even in the open air.

Providing more time and allowing greater flexibility gives people the opportunity to say goodbye properly. Without the constraints of the crematorium, we've been party to many beautiful ceremonies and witnessed many spontaneous outpourings of love that otherwise just would not have been possible.

Whilst many people will be satisfied with the Crematorium based service, it's nice to know that options are available for those who want a different type of ceremony.

If you would like more information about this topic, or any other funeral related advice, please feel free to contact us without obligation.