

# Vale of Glamorgan Memorial Park and Crematorium

## An excellent service for the final journey

DEATH is one of life's certainties – but it remains a taboo topic, with many people unwilling to discuss details of funeral arrangements in advance.

But, in discussing your wishes with your loved-ones, you can be assured that when the time does arrive, your instructions will be met.

You will also know that your family members, who will be responsible for making the arrangements at the most difficult time, will have a clear idea of what you wanted, and this will make their task less stressful.

They will be able to take comfort in the knowledge that they are following your wishes, while at the same time enabling them to deal with the painful mourning process.

And to help people here in the Vale and beyond, a new service has begun, where dedicated and caring staff will do their utmost to look after the needs of the bereaved and make the final journey one that will be remembered for all the right reasons – love, honour, and a sense of peace and respect.

The £4million Vale of Glamorgan Memorial Park and Crematorium, set on a 20-acre site off

Port Road East, Wenvoe, is likely to provide up to 1,500 cremations and burials each year – but every relative and friend will be assured of friendly, caring assistance tailored for individual needs.

Memoria Ltd chairman and chief operating officer, Howard Hodgson, said the ethos is to provide an exceptional service given by people who care. And all associated with the memorial park and crematorium have fully engaged with funeral directors and local clergy to ensure the whole process operates in a smooth manner.

The Memorial Park's chapel seats 76 people with the option of expanding to 96. Up to 200 people can both stand and sit inside the venue, but more than 400 can be potentially be served, with the service piped outside into a pleasant undercover area.

Internet viewing of the service, accessible by code, is available for friends and family unable to attend the service. Plasma screens can provide pre-recorded eulogies or silent photographic memories.

Fourth-generation funeral director Howard Hodgson, who served his apprenticeship in the Penarth office of Summers of Cardiff, said:

"There had been a demand for this facility, but because the Vale is such a beautiful place, it had always resisted giving up agricultural land until the need became irresistible."

The site makes use of Welsh slate, limestone and sandstone and also incorporates space for natural burials, standard burials - with flat headstones - all in-keeping with the tranquil surroundings.

A children's section will meet the needs of the bereaved and the beautifully landscaped grounds, tailor-made for each and every season, offer the perfect surroundings to honour the dearly departed and remember them with true affection.

The grounds offer a sanctuary and a place to visit long after death, and a permanent place where special memories remain very much alive.

Howard said: "A death is the most stressful time in all our lives. It's a sad and dreadful time."

"There's nothing we can do to take away that pain, but we can provide an excellent, kind and professional service."

Vale of Glamorgan Memorial Park and Crematorium manager, Dean Williams said: "Our aim here is provide a first class service for the local community."



**NEW SERVICE:** Vale families now have additional choice for funeral arrangements.

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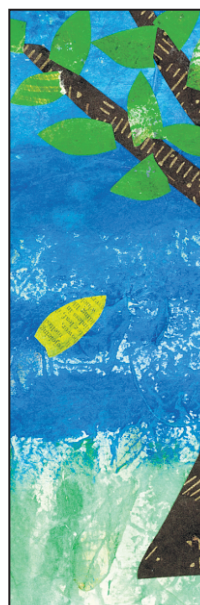
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Average cost  
of Burial  
(Penarth)  
Total £2,595

Includes Hearse - One Limousine  
- Coffin - Plate  
Robe - Bearers - Burial  
- Cremation - Church - Minister  
- Doctor's Fees

Average cost  
of Cremation  
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Total £2,795  
Thornhill  
Total £2,830



### Aspirations



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