

Report of the Executive Director

CHRISTMAS SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE 2023

1. Purpose of Report

To provide the Joint Committee with an update on the Christmas Service of Remembrance 2023.

2. Recommendation

The Joint Committee is asked to NOTE this report.

3. Detail

Each year Bramcote Crematorium holds at least one Service of Remembrance. This is part of providing professional, compassionate and sensitive bereavement services. The Service of Remembrance also assists with:

- Providing comfort and reassurance to the bereaved
- Promoting the crematorium and bereavement services
- Gaining valuable customer feedback on the services provided by Bramcote Bereavement Services.

The annual Christmas Service of Remembrance was held on Friday 1 December 2023. The chapel was open at 6.30pm with the service commencing at 7pm. The service was attended by 150 members of the public, including 12 children.

To welcome members of the public, Father Christmas from Church Wilne Rotary Club was on site with his Sleigh, and Carols were being sung by Erewash Phoenix Choir.

This is the second year Bramcote Bereavement Services have held the service in the evening. The event was marketed as a candle light service so the evening time was chosen. It has been very well received and feedback has been very positive.

At the service members of the public were invited to light a candle in memory of their loved ones.

The service was led by a Civil Celebrant. The names of the loved ones were read out during the Act of Remembrance by a representative of Gillotts Funeral Directors, A W Lymn Funeral Directors and Bramcote Bereavement Services Manager. This year included a slideshow of photographs provided by families of their loved ones who have passed. It proved very popular and was well received. The annual Christmas Service of Remembrance was also available on webcast for people to view at home. The service was available online from the 1 December to 10 December 2023 inclusive.

As an additional Christmas experience the Memory Christmas Tree was erected in the Book of Remembrance Room and members of the public were invited to add a tag to the tree in memory of loved ones. The tree remains in place throughout December and has proved popular.

Comments received:

“I attended the Carols by Candlelight at Bramcote on Friday and although I was attending in remembrance of my wife and also my brother, I did enjoy it. The carol singing by the Erewash Phoenix Choir, not forgetting Father Christmas, helped make it also a joyous occasion.”

“The Service was led by Nell Brooker she was truly excellent. Thank you for including the photographs of my wife Jackie and my brother Michael. This was the 2nd service I have attended; I hope you will continue to have them every year.”

“Hello, I’ve just watched the service by candle light and it was amazing. I wasn’t able to attend as I was working.”

“I attended the Carols by Candlelight service at Bramcote. I think the service was excellent and although I was there in remembrance of my wife and my brother I enjoyed the evening. As a nearly 83-year-old widower it is a long time since someone read me a story. Thank you and a Happy Christmas.”

“Just a huge thankyou yet again for a lovely remembrance service thankyou to all the staff and thank you so much for our gift”

4. Financial Implications

The comments from the Head of Finance Services were as follows:

The nominal cost of providing the Christmas Service of Remembrance is contained within existing budgets.

5. Legal Implications

The comments from the Head of Legal Services were as follows:

There are no direct legal implications arising from this report.

6. Human Resources Implications

No comments

7. Union Comments

No comments

8. Data Protection Compliance Implications

No comments

9. Equality Impact Assessment

No comments

10. Background Papers

Nil