



PRESS RELEASE

June 2009

NATIONAL CEMETERY OF THE YEAR AWARDS ENTRIES ARE IN

For the 12th year running, burial grounds across the UK are looking to bury the competition to secure a place at the Cemetery of the Year Awards (CYA). Preparations commence as the 58 entries of the 2009 CYA hope to make the judges' prestigious short-list; taking them one step closer to becoming top of the plots.

Organised by the Memorial Awareness Board (MAB), the Cemetery of the Year Awards aims to reward high standards in the nation's burial grounds and encourage choice for the bereaved. Playing an integral role within local communities, burial sites act as areas of tranquillity and reflection, and are a vital social, historical and environmental resource.

Entries flooded in from a variety of burial sites across the country including cemeteries, crematoria, churchyards, green burial sites and pet cemeteries. Closing date for entries was 29th May 2009 and site visits are taking place between now and August. The judges will be looking at a whole range of criteria, from customer care and environmental enhancements to signage and community involvement. The awards take into account the varying degree of funding received by cemeteries, and acknowledge innovative ideas and areas of improvement.

Awards Administrator Elisabeth Edvardsen said, "we are pleased to report an unprecedented number of new entries this year; with competition remaining strong across all categories. In 2009 we will be giving particular praise to the dedicated men and women who work hard to maintain our burial sites throughout the UK with the new Cemetery Operatives Team of the Year Award. It is important to reward the work and devotion of these essential members of society, who make our burial grounds community cornerstones as well as a place of serenity and remembrance."

Finalists will be announced early September with the winning sites being unveiled on Tuesday 29th September 2009 during an awards ceremony hosted at the annual Institute of Cemetery and

Crematorium (ICCM) Conference and Exhibition at Chesford Grange Hotel, Kenilworth, Warwickshire.

- ENDS -

For more information or to request images please contact CYA Administrator Elisabeth Edvardsen on 020 7993 3833 or email elisabethe@oneismore.com.

For more details on this year's Awards and the previous winners please visit: www.memorialawarenessboard.com

Notes to Editors:

The Awards were established to encourage and reward high standards amongst the nation's cemeteries and to raise public awareness of the importance of cemeteries, which can house a wealth of historical, ecological and sociological information.

Sites are assessed by a field assessment that is made on a single day against the set criteria. Entrants will be advised on the judges' visits in advance.

The Cemetery of the Year Awards is sponsored by The City of London Corporation, the Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management (ICCM), the National Association of Memorial Masons (NAMM), George Squire & Sons Funeral Service (Neville Funeral Service), Blue AV and the Columbaria Company.

Burial grounds should be user friendly, include access for the disabled, and provide a quality service to the community. It is the aim of CYA to inspire communities to take pride in their grounds and encourage site managers to consider upgrades and new initiatives.

The judges will look at all aspects of the site including customer care, maintenance of grounds and buildings, safety and security, availability of choice to the bereaved, on site facilities such as bins, taps, shelters and toilets (including those for the disabled), environmental enhancements such as wild flower or conservation areas, and the encouragement and protection of biodiversity.

ENTRANTS OF THE 2009 CEMETERY OF THE YEAR AWARDS

Category A – Cemeteries up to 5 acres

- Syston Cemetery, Syston, Lincolnshire
- Gwaelodybrithdir Cemetery, New Tredegar, Caerphilly
- Castleside Cemetery, Consett, County Durham
- Millport New Cemetery, Millport, Isle of Cumbrae, Ayrshire
- Portchester Memorial Gardens, Portchester, Hampshire
- Reigate Garden of Remembrance, Reigate, Surrey
- Hatfield Cemetery, Hatfield, Doncaster, South Yorkshire

Category B – Cemeteries between 5 and 15 acres

- Falmouth Town Cemetery, Falmouth, Cornwall
- Stainforth Cemetery, Doncaster, South Yorkshire
- Mount Noddy Cemetery, East Grinstead, West Sussex
- Spennymoor Cemetery, Spennymoor, County Durham
- Tudhoe Cemetery, Spennymoor, County Durham

- North Road Cemetery, Hertford, Hertfordshire
- Torrisholme Cemetery, Westgate, Morecambe, Lancashire
- Hoddesdon Cemetery, Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire
- Redstone Cemetery, Redhill, Surrey
- Bear Street Cemetery, Barnstaple, North Devon
- Cemetery Boverton Road, Llantwit Major Vale, Glamorgan

Category C – Cemeteries above 15 acres

- Stapenhill Cemetery, Burton upon Trent, Staffordshire
- Colchester Cemetery, Colchester, Essex
- East Sheen & Richmond Cemetery, Richmond, Greater London
- Teddington Cemetery, Teddington, Middlesex
- Cheshunt Cemetery, Cheshunt, Hertfordshire
- East Finchley Cemetery, East Finchley, Greater London
- Mill Hill Cemetery, Mill Hill, Greater London
- Borough Cemetery, Tunbridge Wells, Kent
- Paddington Old Cemetery, Paddington, Greater London

Category D – Crematoria and Grounds

- Bradwell Crematorium, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire
- Grenoside Crematorium, Grenoside, Sheffield, South Yorkshire
- South West Middlesex Crematorium, Feltham, Middlesex
- Coychurch Crematorium, Coychurch, Bridgend
- Bretby Crematorium, Bretby, Nr Burton upon Trent, Staffordshire
- Colchester Crematorium, Colchester, Essex
- South Shields Crematorium, South Shields, Tyne and Wear
- Kent & Sussex Crematorium, Tunbridge Wells, Kent
- North East Surrey Crematorium, Morden, Surrey

Category E – Green Burial Sites

- Clayton Wood Natural Burial Ground, Clayton, West Sussex
- Hinton Park Woodland Burial Ground, Christchurch, Dorset
- Greenhaven Woodland Burial Ground, Rugby, Warwickshire
- Poole & Wimborne Woodland Burial Ground, Wimborne, Dorset
- Epping Forest Burial Park, Epping, Essex
- Tarn Moor Memorial Woodland, Skipton, North Yorkshire
- Usk Castle Chase Natural Burial Meadow, Usk, Gwent, Monmouthshire
- Cardiff & The Vale Natural Burial Ground, Cardiff, Glamorgan
- Delliefure Strathspey Natural Burial Ground, Strathspey, Grantown on Spey, Highland
- Hundy Mundy Wood Natural Burial Ground, Gordon, Berwickshire
- Cothiemuir Hill Natural Burial Ground, Alford, Aberdeenshire

Category F – Pet Cemeteries and Crematoria

- The Pet Cemetery, Brynford, Holywell, Flintshire
- Dignity Pet Crematorium, Winchfield, Hartley Wintney, Hampshire

Special Awards

Award for Community Involvement

- Falmouth Town Cemetery, Falmouth, Cornwall
- South West Middlesex Crematorium, Feltham, Middlesex
- Epping Forest Burial Park, Epping, Essex
- Wood Green Cemetery, Wood Green, Greater London
- Torrisholme Cemetery, Westgate, Morecambe, Lancashire
- Bear Street Cemetery, Barnstaple, North Devon

Award for Best Baby and Infant Memorial Garden

- Stapenhill Cemetery, Burton upon Trent, Staffordshire
- Laleston Cemetery, Laleston, Bridgend
- Colchester Cemetery & Crematorium, Colchester, Essex
- West Herts Crematorium, Garston, Watford, Hertfordshire
- Kent & Sussex Crematorium, Tunbridge Wells, Kent
- Cemetery Boverton Road, Llantwit Major Vale, Glamorgan
- Cardiff & The Vale Natural Burial Ground, Cardiff, Glamorgan

ICCM Award for Environmental Awareness

- Clayton Wood Natural Burial Ground, Clayton, West Sussex
- Greenhaven Woodland Burial Ground, Rugby, Warwickshire
- South West Middlesex Crematorium, Feltham, Middlesex
- Epping Forest Burial Park, Epping, Essex
- Cemetery Boverton Road, Llantwit Major Vale, Glamorgan
- Usk Castle Chase Natural Burial Meadow, Usk, Gwent, Monmouthshire
- Cardiff & The Vale Natural Burial Ground, Cardiff, Glamorgan
- Delliefure Strathspey Natural Burial Ground, Strathspey, Grantown on Spey, Highland
- Hundy Mundy Wood Natural Burial Ground, Gordon, Berwickshire
- Cothiemuir Hill Natural Burial Ground, Alford, Aberdeenshire

Award for Innovation

- Clayton Wood Natural Burial Ground, Clayton, West Sussex
- Colchester Cemetery & Crematorium, Colchester, Essex
- Epping Forest Burial Park, Epping, Essex
- Cemetery Boverton Road, Llantwit Major Vale, Glamorgan
- Cardiff & The Vale Natural Burial Ground, Cardiff, Glamorgan
- Hundy Mundy Wood Natural Burial Ground

ICCM Award for Most Improved Cemetery/Crematorium

- Falmouth Town Cemetery, Falmouth, Cornwall
- Greenhaven Woodland Burial Ground, Rugby, Warwickshire
- South West Middlesex Crematorium, Feltham, Middlesex
- Colchester Cemetery & Crematorium, Colchester, Essex
- Craigton Cemetery, Cardonald, Glasgow, Lanarkshire
- Paddington Old Cemetery, Paddington, Greater London

MAB Award for Best Memorial

- Colchester Cemetery & Crematorium, Colchester, Essex
- East Sheen & Richmond Cemetery, Richmond, Greater London
- Teddington Cemetery, Teddington, Middlesex
- Tarn Moor Memorial Woodland, Skipton, North Yorkshire
- Topsham Cemetery, Exeter, Devon

NAMM Freedom of Choice Award

- Greenhaven Woodland Burial Ground, Rugby, Warwickshire
- Tudhoe Cemetery, Spennymoor, County Durham
- Colchester Cemetery and Crematorium, Colchester, Essex
- East Sheen & Richmond Cemetery, Richmond, Greater London
- Tarn Moor Memorial Woodland, Skipton, North Yorkshire
- Cemetery Boverton Road, Llantwit Major Vale, Glamorgan
- Cardiff & The Vale Natural Burial Ground, Cardiff, Glamorgan

Award for Best Garden of Remembrance (New in 2009!)

- Bradwell Crematorium, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire
- South West Middlesex Crematorium, Feltham, Middlesex
- Spennymoor Cemetery, Spennymoor, County Durham
- Tudhoe Cemetery, Spennymoor, County Durham
- Colchester Cemetery & Crematorium, Colchester, Essex
- Millport New Cemetery, Millport, Isle of Cumbrae, Ayrshire
- Stockport Cemetery & Crematorium, Heaviley, Stockport, Greater Manchester
- Coychurch Crematorium, Coychurch, Bridgend
- Worthing Crematorium, Findon, West Sussex
- Portchester Memorial Gardens, Portchester, Hampshire
- West Herts Crematorium, Garston, Watford, Hertfordshire
- Reigate Garden of Remembrance, Reigate, Surrey
- Higher Cemetery, Exeter, Devon
- Exwick Cemetery, Exeter, Devon
- Cemetery Boverton Road, Llantwit Major Vale, Glamorgan
- Cardiff & The Vale Natural Burial Ground, Cardiff, Glamorgan

ICCM Award for Cemetery Operatives Team of the Year (New in 2009!)

- Falmouth Town Council, Falmouth, Cornwall
- East Staffordshire Borough Council, Burton upon Trent, Staffordshire
- South West Middlesex Crematorium Board, Feltham, Middlesex
- Colchester Borough Council, Colchester, Essex
- Hertford Town Council, Hertford, Hertfordshire
- Richmond upon Thames Cemeteries Service, Richmond, Greater London
- Havant Borough Council, Havant, Hampshire
- Cardiff & The Vale Natural Burial Ground, Cardiff, Glamorgan

Award for Memorial Mason of the Year (New in 2009!)

This award celebrates excellent craftsmanship combined with customer service. The winner will be announced at the CYA ceremony.

The City of London Award for Overall CYA Winner (New in 2009!)

All category winners will automatically be entered for the chance to be named the best of the best in 2009. The overall winner will be announced at the CYA ceremony.

Cemetery of the Year Awards is sponsored by:

