

# *Bereavement Guide*

## to Help You



## What Happens Now?

This bereavement guide has been prepared by a group of registration officers employed in Northumberland.

Our aim is to give helpful advice and guidance to relatives who have recently suffered the loss of a loved one.

We will endeavour to arrange an appointment for relatives at a time and place of their choice.



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## *Register Offices in Northumberland*

You can register a death that occurred in Northumberland at any of our offices. Our aim is to give you an appointment at your chosen office within two working days.

*Please ring for an appointment.*



**0845 600 6400**



more information can be found on our website:  
[www.northumberland.gov.uk/registrar](http://www.northumberland.gov.uk/registrar)

## **Alnwick Register Office**

27 Fenkle Street, Alnwick NE66 1HW

## **Ashington Register Office**

Lower Floor, Ashington Library, Kenilworth Road,  
Ashington NE61 8AA

## **Berwick Register Office**

Council Offices, Wallace Green,  
Berwick-upon-Tweed TD15 1ED

## **Blyth Register Office**

Northumberland Information Centre  
Unit 10, Keel Row Shopping Centre, Blyth NE24 1AH

## **Cramlington Register Office**

Cramlington Library and Information Centre  
Forum Way, Cramlington NE23 6YB

## **Hexham Register Office**

Hadrian House, Market Street, Hexham NE46 3NH

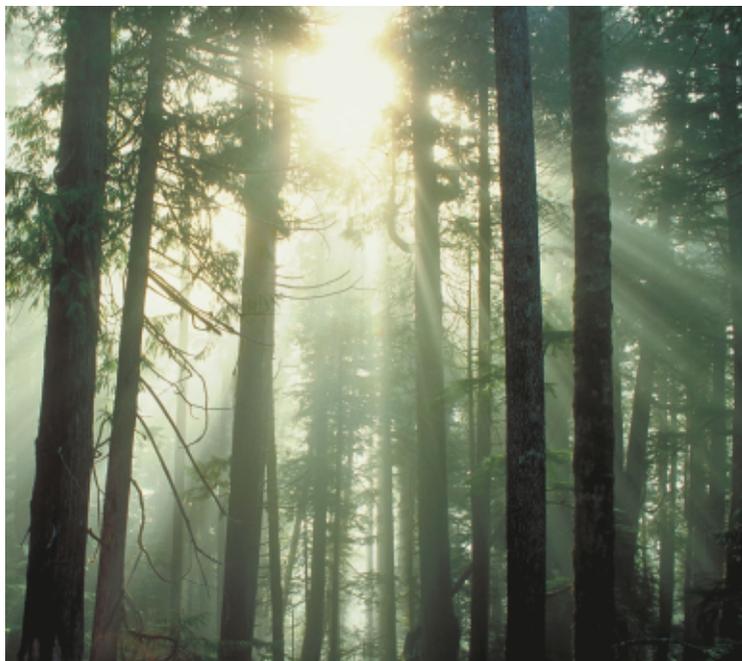
## **Morpeth Register Office**

The Town Hall, Market Place, Morpeth NE61 1LZ

## *First Steps . . . . .*

### **WHAT MUST YOU DO WHEN SOMEONE DIES?**

When someone dies, you will need to inform a number of people and complete certain documents required by law. If you are a relative or friend of the deceased you can do some of these things yourself. Others will need to be done by the executor or administrator of the estate. There is plenty of support available to help you through this difficult time.



## WHAT TO DO IN THE FIRST FEW DAYS:

*You won't be able to do everything right away but in the first few days it is important that you:*

- **Obtain a Medical Certificate of Cause of Death signed by a doctor or, if the Coroner is involved, take instructions from the Coroner's Officer regarding registration of the death.**
- **Register the death at the Register Office. You will find details of how to do this in the section on 'Registration' (page 9).**
- **Contact a funeral director, if you intend to use one – if the death occurs at home or in a nursing home the funeral director will need to be contacted to move the deceased to a Chapel of Rest.**  
*(Addresses and useful telephone numbers are listed in a separate section. See pages 31 - 34)*
- **Begin arrangements for the funeral – you should check the deceased's Will for any special requests.**

## DOCUMENTS YOU WILL NEED IN THE FIRST FEW DAYS.....

- Medical Certificate of Cause of Death signed by a doctor (unless the Coroner is involved).
- Deceased's Birth Certificate
- Deceased's Marriage or Civil Partnership Certificates

*You will need to bring the above documents with you when registering the death.*

## AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE:

- Contact the executor of the deceased. The executor is usually nominated in the Will, as there may be special requests affecting the funeral.

## *Registration*

### **HOW DO YOU REGISTER A DEATH?**

*How and where you can register a death, and information you will need to provide.*

A death must be registered within five days. This period can be extended in exceptional circumstances or if the coroner is involved. Registering a death will take about half an hour.

If the death took place in Northumberland you can register at any of our offices. Please ring **0845 600 6400** for an appointment. Our aim is to give you an appointment at your chosen office within two working days

*For addresses of Register Offices in Northumberland, see page 5 or visit our website:*

<http://www.northumberland.gov.uk/registrar>

At this time we also offer **“Tell us Once”**. This service enables you, at the time of registration, to inform various Government and Council Departments of the death. Full details of this service and the documents you will be asked to bring with you, can be found on page 15. If you intend to use the service, a double appointment is required.

Where a death occurs outside Northumberland and it is difficult for you to get to the appropriate registration office, telephone your local register office and they will be able to advise you further. It may be possible to register the death by declaration. In these circumstances there may be a delay in the issue of the document needed for the funeral arrangements.

You can only register a death once you have received the Medical Certificate of Cause of Death from the doctor or, in the case of a death reported to the Coroner, confirmation from the coroner's office that the relevant paperwork has been issued to the registrar.



## WHO CAN REGISTER A DEATH?

*The death can be registered by:*

- A relative.
- Someone present at the death.
- An occupant of the residential home or an official of the hospital where the death took place.
- The person making the funeral arrangements.
- The person in charge of the body.

Most deaths are registered by a relative of the deceased.

The Registrar would normally only accept another informant if there were no relatives available.

*(Documents you will need to bring with you - see page 8).*

*Questions you will be asked about the deceased.*

- The date and place of death.
- Their full name and surname (and any other names they are or have been known by) including a female's maiden surname.
- Their date and place of birth.
- Their last occupation. If the deceased is married, widowed or has formed a civil partnership, the full name and occupation of their spouse/civil partner.
- Their usual address.
- The date of birth of a surviving spouse/civil partner.
- Detail of any public sector pension (e.g. civil service, teacher or armed forces).



*Questions you will be asked about yourself as the person registering.*

- **Your relationship to the deceased** (*eg. son, daughter, widow, widower, niece, nephew, surviving civil partner*).
- **Your full name.**
- **Your usual address.**

All the information the registrar collects is given to the best of your knowledge at that time.

**YOU WILL BE ASKED TO CHECK ALL THE INFORMATION YOU HAVE GIVEN VERY CAREFULLY**

## Documents Issued by the Registrar

After the information has been recorded in the death register, the registrar will issue the necessary forms and certificates.

*If a post-mortem is not being held, the registrar will give you:*

- **A Certificate for Burial or Cremation** (*sometimes referred to as the 'Green Form'*) giving permission for the body to be buried or for an application for cremation to be made.
- If the deceased is to be buried or cremated outside England or Wales the coroner will issue the necessary forms.
- **A Certificate of Registration or Notification of Death** (form BD8); issued for the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) / Benefits Agency. (*for advice and guidance regarding benefits and entitlements, please call 0845 6060 265*)
- **Death Certificates.**  
*The cost of certificates are as follows:*  
£4.00 at the time of registration  
£7.00 for the next month  
£10.00 there after

Additional certificates can be purchased on line at:  
<http://registrar.northumberland.gov.uk/certificates>

You will be able to purchase one or more death certificates. These are certified copies of the original register entry. These will be needed by the executor or administrator when sorting out the deceased's affairs and need to be originals and not photocopies. Anything that has to be closed down or claimed will need a certificate. Most companies will return the certificate once they have had sight of it. The registrar will also give you a booklet called "What to do after a death", offering advice on probate and other administrative issues that will need to be sorted out around this time.

### **AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.....**

- **Contact the executor to enable them to start the process of settling the deceased's estate.**
- **If there is no will, please see section 'The Estate' on page 25.**

If you need to talk to someone about other problems, such as housing, debt, etc, please contact your local Citizens Advice Bureau  
[www.citizensadvice.org.uk](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk)

## *What is the Tell us Once Service?*

**The Tell Us Once Service can help you tell the people who need to know.**



When someone has died, there are lots of things that need to be done, at a time when you probably least feel like doing them. One of these is contacting government departments and local council services that need to be told.

Northumberland County Council is providing a service which we hope will make things easier. This new service means that you can just tell us and these organisations will be contacted.

### **How the service can help you**

When someone has died, their death needs to be registered with the Registrar.

Once that's done, several other organisations may have to be contacted and given the same information.

We can help you to give the information to the Department for Work and Pensions and they can pass on this information to a number of other government departments and local council services for you.



## How you can contact us to use the service

*There are different ways you can use the service:*

- **In person** – If you would like to come and use the service please call **0845 600 6400** to make an appointment. Our office is open Monday to Friday between 8.30 am to 5 pm
- **By telephone** – You can use the telephone service once you have registered, so if you would like to speak to someone on the phone please call the department for Work and Pensions on **0800 085 7308**. The lines are open Monday to Friday between 8 am and 8 pm. This number is free to call from a BT landline, but other providers, including mobile phone providers, may charge you. If you don't speak English call us on **0800 085 7308** and one of our Advisers and an interpreter will call you back and help you. If you are calling from Wales you will have the choice of continuing your call in Welsh.
- **On-line** – You can use the online service once you have registered. Your registrar will give you a unique Tell Us Once reference number, which you will need to log in. The website address is **[www.direct.gov.uk/death-tellusonce](http://www.direct.gov.uk/death-tellusonce)**

## What happens to the information?

*If you decide to use this service we will be able to tell the following organisations:*

### **Department for Work and Pensions**

- Pension, Disability and Carers Service
- Jobcentre Plus
- Overseas Health Team

### **Ministry of Defence, Service Personnel and Veterans Agency**

- War Pensions Scheme

### **HM Revenue & Customs**

- Child Benefit
- Child Tax Credit & Working Tax Credit
- Personal Taxation

### **Identity and Passport Service**

### **Local Councils**

- Housing Benefit Office
- Council Tax Benefit Office

*These organisations can also be told if you ask us to do so:*

### **Local Councils**

- Council Housing
- Council Tax
- Libraries
- Blue Badges
- Adult Services
- Children's Services
- Collection of payment for council services
- Electoral services
- Concessionary Travel

### **Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency**



## How we will treat the information you give us

The information you give will be treated securely and confidentially. The organisations who are contacted will use the information to update records; to end services, benefits and credits as appropriate; and to resolve any outstanding issues. They may use this information in other ways, but only as the law allows.

## Information you will need to use the service

*To make sure the right information is given to any organisations we contact for you and so that you get the most out of the service it will help if you can bring along with you the following information about the person who has died:*

- Their National Insurance number and date of birth
- Details of any benefits or services they were receiving
- Their Driving Licence or Driving Licence number
- Their Passport or Passport number and town/country of birth
- Their Blue Badge (disabled person's parking badge)
- Their Bus Pass
- We may also ask you for the contact details for:
  - Their next of kin
  - A surviving husband, wife or civil partner
  - The person dealing with their estate (affairs)

You must obtain the permission of the persons listed above if you are going to provide us with information about them.

## Next of Kin

If you are the next of kin (closest relative by blood or marriage to the deceased), your entitlement to benefits may change, so please have your own National Insurance number and / or date of birth with you when you attend the register office for the appointment or if you are using the DWP telephone service.

If you are not the next of kin, or the person who is dealing with the deceased's estate (the person sorting out their property, belongings and money), you can still use the service if you have their permission to provide their details and act on their behalf.

## Privacy

This service is committed to ensuring your information is protected. Our privacy statement tells you how we will use and protect the information you provide when you use this service. Ask the Adviser if you wish to see the full privacy statement.

Please remember that it is your responsibility to ensure that all organisations, that pay you a benefit/credit or provide a service to you, have correct and up to date information about you.



## *The Funeral*

### HOW DO YOU ARRANGE THE FUNERAL?

#### What are your rights under the law?

*The main legal requirements in England and Wales are:*

- The death has to be certified by a doctor or coroner.
- The death is registered with a registrar of births, deaths and marriages.
- The body should either be cremated or buried.
- There is no legal requirement to have any kind of funeral ceremony at all.



## What choices do you have for the funeral?

A funeral can be either by burial or cremation.

You can organise it with or without the help of a funeral director and personalise it as much as you wish. In some cases the deceased may have planned their own funeral in advance. It may be beneficial to first check the details of the deceased person's Will.

*There are many different types of funeral and it is useful to remember that:*

- You can decide for yourself what form any ceremony you choose to have should take.
- You do not have to use a funeral director - though the majority of people do.
- You can choose a religious, humanist or civil ceremony.
- You do not have to use a clergyman unless you want a religious service.
- You can choose a ceremony that reflects any religious beliefs or multi-cultural traditions.
- You do not have to hold the funeral ceremony in a licensed building - it can be held in your home.
- Your ceremony does not have to take place in a crematorium or place of worship.



### **Taking the wishes of the deceased into account**

Remember to check the deceased person's Will or other written instructions for special wishes about their funeral, or what should happen to their body. If there are no clear wishes it is generally the executor or nearest relative who decides whether the body is to be cremated or buried.

## WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE FUNERAL DIRECTOR?

### Using a Funeral Director

The majority of people choose to use a professional funeral director. This can help at what is generally a stressful time. Your funeral director can advise you about the options available to you.

*Most funeral directors will provide the following services as a minimum:*

- Take control of all necessary arrangements.
- Provide appropriate staff.
- Provide a suitable coffin.
- Transfer the deceased from the place of death to the funeral director's premises.
- Care for the deceased prior to the funeral.
- Provide a hearse to the nearest cemetery or crematorium.
- Arrange for burial or cremation as appropriate.

### Organising alternative burials

You can consider different types of funerals as an alternative to traditional services and cremations. Your Funeral Director will advise you.

## HOW WILL YOU PAY FOR THE FUNERAL?

### Funeral costs

If you arrange a funeral you are responsible for paying the bill, so first check where the money will come from and if there will be enough.

*Funeral costs may be paid for in different ways:*

- From the estate of the deceased.
- The deceased may have been paying into a funeral scheme or have a prepaid funeral plan - you need to check the paperwork to see if a plan exists.
- Money from a life insurance policy or pension scheme.
- The bank or building society of the deceased may agree to release funds to pay for the funeral costs.
- You, or the executor, may need to pay and then recover the money from the estate later.

## Financial help

*Dependant on your age at the time you are widowed, or your civil partner dies, you may be able to get one or more of the following bereavement benefits:*

- **Bereavement Payment - a one-off tax-free payment.**
- **Bereavement Allowance - a weekly benefit which can be paid for up to 52 weeks.**
- **Widowed Parent's Allowance - a weekly benefit if you are a widow or widower, or your civil partner has died and you have a child or a qualifying young person (this means a young person aged between 16 and 20).**
- **Social Fund – if you do not have funds, help may be available from the Department of Work and Pensions.**

You can only get these benefits if your deceased husband, wife or civil partner paid National Insurance contributions. Your own contributions are not taken into account. Also, you can only get bereavement benefits if you were married to, or had formed a civil partnership with, the person who died.

In Northumberland we have a dedicated Department of Work and Pensions/Benefits team who are available to give guidance and advice to bereaved relatives regarding benefit entitlements. They can arrange to visit you in your own home.

**Please call 0845 6060 265**

*If no one is able or willing to arrange and pay for the funeral, the organisations below **may** be able to help (but only where the funeral has not already been arranged):*

- **Northumberland County Council, Legal Services – Regulation Team (Telephone: 0845 600 6400)**
- or**
- **If the death occurred in hospital, the Health Authority,**

### **Documents you will need before you can arrange the funeral**

The correct documentation will be given to you when the death is registered.

### **What should you do if the deceased asked for their body to be donated to medical science?**

In this case, you should contact your local Department of Human Anatomy to see if they are willing to accept the body and, if not, whether anywhere else would be willing to accept it. The hospital or doctor will normally help to arrange this.

This request **must** have been made in writing, by the deceased, to the Medical Science Department.

### **Spoken requests will not be accepted.**

If you need to know more about donating a body, visit [www.hta.gov.uk](http://www.hta.gov.uk)

The body is normally kept for up to three years and then burial or arrangements are discussed with the family or representative of the deceased.

You should remember that the death still needs to be registered in the normal way at the time of its occurrence.

## *The Role of the Coroner*

### **WHAT HAPPENS IF THE DEATH IS REFERRED TO THE CORONER?**

If a death is reported to the Coroner, he may arrange for a post-mortem examination to be carried out. If the cause of death was due to natural causes he will issue a notification allowing the death to be registered with a Registrar of Births and Deaths.

*It is the duty of Coroners to investigate deaths that are reported to them and which:*

- **Are of sudden and / or unknown cause.**
- **Could be industrial related.**
- **Are unnatural.**
- **Appear to be due to violence.**
- **Occur in legal custody.**

In the event of any of the above the Coroner would open an Inquest.

## WHAT IS AN INQUEST?

An Inquest is an enquiry into the medical cause and circumstances of a death. The Coroner will, as far as possible, preserve confidentiality but it should be understood that the system is based on public court hearings. An Inquest is not a trial and it is not the Coroner's duty to apportion blame. It is an enquiry to establish the circumstances surrounding a death and to give a Coroner's verdict on those.

As the conclusion of Inquests can take some time, a Coroner may issue an **Interim Death Certificate**. This should be presented, in the interim, to anyone asking for a death certificate. You may be asked to produce the actual death certificate once the death has been registered. On conclusion of the Inquest the findings are passed to the Registrar in whose district the death occurred and the death registered without the presence of an informant. This process normally takes a few days. Once registered, you will then be able to obtain a death certificate on payment of the appropriate fee.

*Delays do occur when an inquest is for a death which happened more than 12 months ago.*

*Such matters have to be referred to the Registrar General for approval prior to registration.*

## CORONER'S SERVICE FOR NORTHUMBERLAND

There are two Coroners responsible for the County of Northumberland.

*North Northumberland Coroner:*

Tony Brown (Telephone: 01289 304318)

*South Northumberland Coroner:*

Eric Armstrong (Telephone: 0191 6436929)

However, they are assisted by Coroner's Officers and these are the people that you would normally have contact with, if a death was referred to the Coroner. Between them they cover the whole of Northumberland, assisted in their absence initially by police officers.

**Keith Lamb** (*South Northumberland*)

Telephone: 01661 861654

**Sue Dorrian** (*North Northumberland*)

Telephone: 01661 861239

**David Webster** (*North Northumberland*)

Telephone: 01661 861243

(Because of high volumes of work you may be asked to leave an answer phone message and the Coroner's Officer will return your call).

## *The Estate*

### **DEALING WITH SOMEONE'S ESTATE**

When a person dies someone is required to deal with his or her estate, this includes money, property and their possessions. Before you start dealing with someone's affairs you must find out whether or not they left a valid Will. This document will inform you of their wishes regarding the distribution of monies and property.

You may wish to engage a solicitor to deal with this for you (the deceased may have already instructed a solicitor to act on their behalf). You may have your own solicitor or, if not, you may appoint one (ask for recommendations and always establish solicitor's charges before engaging them).

### **DO YOU NEED A GRANT OF PROBATE?**

Not always. It may not be necessary to obtain a Grant of Probate where possessions are in joint ownership and are passing by survivorship. Production of a death certificate may be sufficient for monies to be transferred to the joint holder. Certain institutions may release monies without a grant being produced if the amount held in the deceased's name was small.

Staff at Probate Registries will offer procedural guidance on how to obtain a grant. They cannot however provide legal advice.

## APPLYING FOR PROBATE

If you are entitled to deal with someone's estate you may need to apply for a Grant of Representation allowing you to execute the deceased's wishes. It is advisable to check with a solicitor first as obtaining Probate is not always necessary. The Probate Office will give you a Grant of Probate if the deceased left a will; if there is no will, then the Probate Office will grant Letters of Administration. Your local Probate Registry will send the forms along with guidance for their completion and details of any fees required.

A Grant of Representation is a legal document that allows those named in it to collect and distribute the estate of the deceased. It can be shown to those holding a deceased person's assets e.g. banks and building societies.

Probate is the process of officially proving that a Will is valid; but the following information applies equally where the deceased died without leaving a valid Will, in which case the grant is called Letters of Administration.

*To obtain forms, and for general information contact:*

**Telephone: 0300 123 1072**

**Website: [www.theprobateservice.gov.uk](http://www.theprobateservice.gov.uk)**

## Who you need to contact...

When someone dies you may have to contact a wide variety of organisations to inform them of the death. In many cases you will need to close down accounts, cancel or change insurance details, subscriptions, agreements, payments or direct debit details. You may have to send some organisations a death certificate.

*Below is a checklist to help you make sure you have contacted everyone you need to:*

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Accountant  | <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance companies<br><i>(Car / Household / Private Health / Pets / Travel)</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bank / Building Society / Post Office                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Internet Provider / Cable  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bereavement Register<br><i>(To remove name from mailing list)</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> Landlord or Local Authority  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Church or Place of Worship  | <input type="checkbox"/> Mortgage Provider / Endowments   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clubs and Social Groups   | <input type="checkbox"/> National Insurance Contributions   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Council Tax Office  | <input type="checkbox"/> National Savings / Premium Bonds   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Credit, Debit, Store card providers                               | <input type="checkbox"/> Pension Providers  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Crematoria / Crematory Office                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Schools <i>(if applicable)</i>   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Department of Work and Pensions / Benefits Office                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Share Certificates   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Doctor / Dentist / Hospital / Clinic                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Services / Care Manager   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Employer / Friends / Relatives                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Solicitor  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Funeral Directors   | <input type="checkbox"/> Telephone Company<br><i>(landline / mobile)</i>                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hire purchase / Loan companies                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Television Licence   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Inland Revenue and Customs  | <input type="checkbox"/> Travel Companies / Airlines  |

## Things to send back or cancel

- Any payable orders or cheques to Jobcentre Plus/Social Security / Tax Credit Office  
*(includes Child Benefit if applicable)*
- Passport to regional Passport Office
- Driving Licence / Car Registration documents *(Change of ownership)* to DVLA, Swansea \*
- Library tickets / books
- Memberships / Subscriptions
- Home Help / Meals on Wheels
- Gas / Water / Electricity providers
- Disabled Parking Permits
- Season Tickets

\* You should remember that if the deceased owned a motor vehicle then it is most likely that there is no longer valid insurance cover.

You should check with the insurance provider before the vehicle is used by another person.

This may also apply to other insurance policies where the policy holder was the deceased.

You should also check the household insurance policy, if a property is to be left vacant for any length of time.



## Getting Help and Support when Bereaved

There are many organisations that can help you following bereavement with both practical and emotional support.

*This is a list of some of them that might be useful to you at this sad and difficult time:*

### **Age Concern**

A national organisation for older people  
Tel: 0845 140 0088  
[www.ageconcern.org.uk](http://www.ageconcern.org.uk)

### **British Association of Cancer United Patients (Cancer BACUP)**

Provides information, practical advice and emotional support to patients, their families and friends and others bereaved by the illness.  
Tel: 0808 808 0000  
[www.cancerbacup.org.uk](http://www.cancerbacup.org.uk)

### **British Organ Donor Society (BODY)**

A self-help and support group of organ donors and for those who have received organs and those whose relatives have died whilst awaiting or after organ transplant.  
Tel: 01223 893636  
<http://body.orpheusweb.co.uk>

### **CancerLink**

Provides information, practical advice and emotional support to patients, their families and friends and others bereaved by the illness.  
[www.cancerlinks.org](http://www.cancerlinks.org)

### **Child Death Helpline**

A helpline for all those affected by the death of a child of any age  
Tel: 0800 282 98622  
[www.childdeathhelpline.org.uk](http://www.childdeathhelpline.org.uk)

### **Cruse – Bereavement Care**

Provides nationwide emotional support, counselling and information to anyone bereaved regardless of age, race or belief.  
Tel: 0844 477 9400  
[www.crusebereavementcare.org.uk](http://www.crusebereavementcare.org.uk)

### **Foundation for the Study of Infant Deaths**

Support for families of a baby who has died suddenly.  
Helpline 0808 802 6868  
General: 020 7802 3200  
<http://fsid.org.uk>

### **HTA Human Tissue Authority**

Licence & inspect organisations that store and use human tissue for purposes such as research and patient treatment <http://www.hta.gov.uk>

### **Lesbian and Gay Bereavement Project**

Support and advice to lesbians and gay men bereaved by the death of their life partner.

Tel: 020 7403 5969

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### **National Association of Widows**

Offers information and support

Tel: 0845 838 2261

[www.nawidows.org.uk](http://www.nawidows.org.uk)

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### **Road Peace**

The UK's national charity for road crash victims. Support to those bereaved or injured in a road crash

Tel: 0845 4500355

[www.roadpeace.org](http://www.roadpeace.org)

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### **SSAFA Forces Help**

National charity helping serving and ex-service men, women and their families in need

Tel: 0800 7314880

[www.ssafa.org.uk](http://www.ssafa.org.uk)

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### **The Samaritans**

Someone to talk to who will listen and give support. Look up local number phone book

[www.samaritans.org.uk](http://www.samaritans.org.uk)

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### **The Stillbirth and Neonatal Death Society (SANDS)**

Offers support for bereaved parents and families when a baby dies at, or soon after, birth.

Helpline: 020 7436 5881

[www.uk-sands.org](http://www.uk-sands.org)



### **The Terrence Higgins Trust**

Charity providing help and support for anyone with or concerned about AIDS or HIV infection.

Tel: 0845 1221 200

[www.tht.org.uk](http://www.tht.org.uk)

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### **The WAY Foundation**

Provides self-help and support for men and women widowed up to the age of 50, and their children.

Tel: 0870 011 3450

[www.wayfoundation.org.uk](http://www.wayfoundation.org.uk)

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### **The Citizens Advice Bureau**

Provides help to people, to resolve their legal, money and other problems by providing free, independent and confidential advice ...

[www.citizensadvice.org.uk](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk)

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### **National Association of Funeral Directors**

Telephone: 0845 230 1343

Website: [www.nafd.org.uk](http://www.nafd.org.uk)

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### **National Society of Allied & Independent Funeral Directors**

Telephone: 0845 230 6777

Website: [www.saif.org.uk](http://www.saif.org.uk)

## Local Funeral Directors

### TELEPHONE NUMBERS AND ADDRESSES

#### Alnwick / Berwick area

#### John Abercrombie

*Cornhill:* Holmlea, Crookham Village, Cornhill on Tweed

**Telephone: 01890 820346**

#### Alan D Haile

*Seahouses:* 156 Main Street, Seahouses

**Telephone: 01665 720258**

#### Charles Mace & Sons

*Berwick:* 92 Castlegate, Berwick-upon-Tweed

**Telephone: 01289 330099**

#### Alastair Turner

*Alnwick:* Greensfield Park, Willowburn Avenue, Alnwick

**Telephone: 01665 510699**

*Seahouses:* 51 Main Street, Seahouses

**Telephone: 01665 721777**

*Rothbury:* Alexandra House, High Street, Rothbury

**Telephone: 01669 631166**

*Amble:* Sanderson House, 18 Bede Street, Amble

**Telephone: 01665 712277**

#### Ashington / Bedlington / Morpeth area

#### Jacob Conroy & Son

*Morpeth:* Fenwick House, 8 Manchester Street, Morpeth

**Telephone: 01670 515521**

**Telephone: 01670 518833**

#### Jacob Conroy & Son

*Guide Post:* Epworth House, 2 High Street, Guide Post

**Telephone: 01670 821281**

#### A.J.Gascoigne & Son

*Newbiggin:* 34 North Seaton Road, Newbiggin-by-the-Sea

**Telephone: 01670 818351**

#### John Grenfell & Son

*Ashington:* 67 Station Road, Ashington

**Telephone: 01670 855588**

*Bedlington:* 3 Front Street West, Bedlington

**Telephone: 01670 823204**

Ashington / Bedlington / Morpeth area cont'd

**Go As You Please  
Funerals**

*Ashington:* 9a Laburnum  
Terrace, Ashington, NE63 0XX  
**Telephone: 01670 459614**

**Peter Grenfell**

*Ashington:* Westfield House,  
Morpeth Road, Ashington  
**Telephone: 01670 812117**

**J.W. Peters**

*Morpeth:* 53 Bridge Street,  
Morpeth  
**Telephone: 01670 517117**

**H.C. White & Son**

*Morpeth:* Pegswood Village,  
Morpeth  
**Telephone: 01670 513660**

Blyth / Cramlington area

**H. Duckworth**

*Cramlington:* Front Street,  
Cramlington Village  
**Telephone: 01670 713218**

**Go As You Please  
Funerals**

*Cramlington:* 5 Front Street,  
Klondyke, Cramlington,  
NE23 6RF  
**Telephone: 01670 730303**

**John Grenfell & Son**

*Blyth:* 4 Sussex Street, Blyth  
**Telephone: 01670 355753**



**Peter Grenfell**

*Bedlington:* 15 Station  
Street, Bedlington Station  
**Telephone: 01670 821819**

**Melrose & Dennis**

*Seaton Delaval:* 159 Astley  
Road, Seaton Delaval  
**Telephone: 0191 2370482**

*Dudley:* 39 Market Street,  
Dudley

**Telephone: 0191 2500100**

**T Shields & Son**

*Blyth:* Carlton House,  
Wright Street, Blyth  
**Telephone: 01670 540004**

**Tom Woodhouse**

*Blyth:* 64 Park Road, Blyth  
**Telephone: 01670 352000**

Hexham / Ponteland / Prudhoe area

**All Seasons  
Independent Funeral  
Directors**

*Ponteland:* Donkins House  
Farm, Ponteland,  
NE20 9AN

**Telephone: 01661 825447**

**John Bardgett & Sons**

*Ponteland:* 32 Merton Way,  
Ponteland, NE20 9PX

**Telephone: 01661 822982**

**Batey's**

*Hexham:* Station Square,  
Station Road, Hexham

**Telephone: 01434 602266**

*Ponteland:*

**Telephone: 01661 823878**

**James Dickinson**

*Hexham:* Whinhaven,  
Gunnerton, Hexham

**Telephone: 01434 681594**

**Dodds of Hexham**

*Hexham:* Mitford House,  
41 Hencotes, Hexham

**Telephone: 01434 603362**

**John Watson**

*Haltwhistle:* 1 Scotsfield  
Terrace, Haltwhistle

**Telephone: 01434 320453**

**E. Walton**

*Hexham:* 11 North Terrace,  
Hexham

**Telephone: 01434 604804**

**Telephone: 01434 604361**

Co-operative Funeral Services

*Alnwick:* Fenkle Street,  
Alnwick

**Telephone: 01665 602328**

*Berwick:* Tweedside Lodge,  
9 Main Street, Berwick

**Telephone: 01289 307438**

*Bedlington:* 36-38 Front  
Street West, Bedlington

**Telephone: 01670 821111**

*Morpeth:* 16 Manchester  
Street, Morpeth

**Telephone: 01670 512277**



**Co-operative Funeral Services cont'd**

*Ashington:* Ashton House,  
26 Woodhorn Road,  
Ashington

**Telephone: 01670 812095**

*Cramlington:* Manor  
Cottage, Forum Way,  
Cramlington

**Telephone: 01670 712886**

*Amble:* Coquetdale  
Cottage, Queen Street, Amble

**Telephone: 01665 710437**

*Blyth:* Crofton House,  
81-87 Waterloo Road, Blyth

**Telephone: 01670 352880**

*Haltwhistle:* Park View,  
Westgate, Haltwhistle

**Telephone: 01434 321755**

*Prudhoe:* Victoria House,  
11 Front Street, Prudhoe

**Telephone: 01661 833078**

*Blaydon:* Bridge Street,  
Blaydon

**Telephone: 0191 4142925**

*Hexham:* Tynevale Lodge,  
Haugh Lane, Hexham

**Telephone: 01434 600119**





