

# Mears Family Funerals

Independent Funeral Directors



## A Guide to Our Funeral Services

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## A Family Tradition ...

Welcome to our local family-owned independent funeral directors, where we understand that saying goodbye to a loved one is a deeply personal and emotional experience. We are honoured to be trusted with the responsibility of providing compassionate and professional funeral services to our community during their time of need.

### Four Generations of Service and Experience

Funeral directing has been a Mears family tradition for generations. Both my grandfathers were renowned London Funeral Directors, one based in Westminster and the other in and around the Clapham area. Both of my parents were also in the profession, owning and operating Mears & Cotterill Funeral Directors in Wandsworth prior to their retirement. Now, my son Peter, my nephew Chris and I are keeping it in the family through Mears Family Funerals.

**Right:**  
Northcote Road,  
Clapham Junction  
in the 1920s.

**Far right:** Steven's  
grandfather  
bearing at a  
funeral in the  
1930s.



 **Mears Family Funerals**  
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At Mears Family Funerals we are more than just a business; we are a family dedicated to supporting families with the utmost care, respect, and attention to detail. We understand that every individual is unique, and we strive to create personalised and meaningful farewell ceremonies that reflect the life and personality of your loved one.

My knowledgeable and compassionate team is here to guide you through every step of the funeral planning process. We believe in taking the time to listen to your wishes, preferences, and needs, ensuring that we fulfil your family's specific requests. Whether you choose a traditional funeral service, a cremation ceremony, or a memorial gathering, we are here to provide you with the support and guidance you require.

As a local independent funeral home, we are proud to be an integral part of our community. We have built strong relationships with local clergy, crematoriums and cemeteries, and other service providers, allowing us to facilitate all necessary arrangements seamlessly. Our goal is to alleviate the burden, providing you with peace of mind and the space to grieve and remember your loved one.

In addition to our professional expertise, we believe in the importance of affordability and transparency. We offer a range of funeral options to suit various budgets,

ensuring that everyone can access dignified and meaningful services without financial strain.

Our commitment to transparent pricing means that you will know exactly what to expect, with no hidden costs or surprises.

At Mears Family Funerals, we recognise that grief does not end with the funeral service. We offer ongoing support and resources to help you navigate the grieving process, connecting you with local support groups and counselling services. We understand that healing takes time, and we are here to walk alongside you every step of the way.

Thank you for considering Mears Family Funerals during this difficult time. My team and I stand ready to serve you, your family and the memory of your loved one. We are here to honour your loved one's life, celebrate their legacy, and provide comfort and support to you and your family. Please reach out to us for any questions or assistance you may need.

## Steven Mears

Steven Mears DipFD  
Founder & Group CEO



Mears Family Funerals has twelve branches located throughout south-east London, Buckinghamshire and Hampshire.





## Our Services

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We understand that no two lives are the same, which is why every funeral is completely individual too. We are here to provide you with all the help and support you may need, from arranging the funeral, through to the service and the days and months that follow.

Arrangements can be made at one of our local High Street branches, or if you prefer, we are happy to visit you in your own home to discuss arrangements. Alternatively, we can talk over the phone or via a video call at a date and time that is convenient for you. You can schedule an arrangement appointment at the branch of your choice on our website - [www.mearsfamilyfunerals.co.uk](http://www.mearsfamilyfunerals.co.uk)

When arranging a funeral, we will talk things through with you thoroughly to make sure that you are comfortable with everything, down to the smallest detail. If your loved one left behind specific instructions in a will or pre-paid funeral plan, then we will work with you to respect their wishes. We fully appreciate the importance of this day to you, family members and friends. That is why we are committed to making the service both meaningful and memorable.

As well as the funeral arrangements themselves, our services can include:

- Guidance on registering the death once you have the medical certificate
- Collating the medical and legal paperwork, together with other documentation, and submitting them to the relevant authorities
- Arranging announcements online and in newspapers in memory of your loved one
- Helping you organise a grave or resting place for cremated remains
- Arrange floral tributes
- Design and print Orders of Service and other funeral stationery
- Commission memorials, including full memorials, headstones and cremation plaques
- Introducing you to relevant specialists if you need help in an areas such as probate



# Funeral Arrangements

A funeral arrangement for your loved one will be unique and reflect their personality, interests and life experiences. Starting with the choice of coffin, English or American-style casket, our experienced funeral arrangers will guide you through the options that are available, enabling you to create a funeral service that truly celebrates the life of a loved one.

In addition to our essential services, you may wish to personalise the funeral with the addition of a Victorian horse-drawn carriage hearse, Orders of Service, limousines and floral tributes.

## Our Essential Services:

- Our professional services to arrange the funeral, including all necessary legal paperwork
- Collection of deceased (within 20 miles) during normal working hours
- Care of the deceased before the funeral
- A hearse, Funeral Director and attendant bearers for the funeral service
- Your choice of cortege starting point and route to funeral venue

## Bespoke Options:

- Your choice of coffin or casket
- Viewing and embalming
- Minister / celebrant's fee
- Limousine(s)
- Burial / cremation fees
- Additional services such as floral tributes, Orders of Service, Horse-drawn Hearse etc.

## Other Services

- International Repatriation
- Direct Cremation
- Exhumation



## Disbursements

These are the fees that we have to pay out to third parties such as cemeteries, crematoria, churches, clergy, organists and doctors. We clearly identify these items in our quotations and charge them at cost.

## Payment Terms

The funeral account is due for payment in full five (5) working days prior to the funeral, unless otherwise agreed by us in writing.

## Help with Fees

There are a number of Government schemes available to help those who have difficulty meeting the costs of a funeral. More information can be found at: [www.gov.uk/funeral-payments](http://www.gov.uk/funeral-payments)

We are also pleased to offer responsible and affordable payment plans through Funeral Safe.

Our funeral arrangers can provide you with more information or alternatively, visit: [www.funeralsafe.co.uk](http://www.funeralsafe.co.uk)





# Coffins, Caskets & Cremated Remains

## Coffins & Caskets

Mears Family Funerals is proud to offer a carefully curated range of coffins and caskets in a variety of styles and materials to help you celebrate the unique life of your loved one.

- Contemporary Coffins ..... from £1,550
- Traditional Coffins ..... from £775
- Natural Coffins ..... from £1,250
- Wood Caskets ..... from £2,600
- Metal Caskets ..... from £2,450

Please see our Coffins and Caskets brochures to view our full selection.



## Cremated Remains Urns & Caskets

Our range includes traditional wooden caskets, contemporary glass urns and natural fibre caskets as well as a large selection of scatter tubes.

- Wood Caskets ..... from £125
- Metal and Glass Urns ..... from £235
- Natural Caskets ..... from £145
- Scatter Tubes ..... £45 each

Please see our Urns brochure to view our full selection.



# Additional Services

Personalisation and choice is at the very heart of what we do. We can advise and guide you through the additional services to help you create a unique celebration of a loved one's life.

- Order of Service
- Funeral Stationery
- Alternative Vehicles
- Traditional Horse Drawn Hearse
- Floral Tributes
- Ashes into Glass
- Fingerprint Jewellery





# Memorials

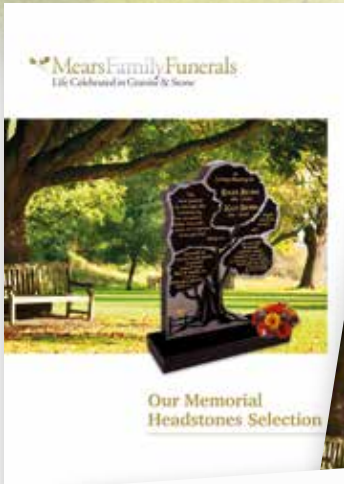
Memorial masonry is an age-old craft whose intrinsic skills and ability to produce memorials from scratch defines the true memorial mason.

By entrusting us to help you memorialise your loved one, you can rest assured that our master craftsmen will create a memorial befitting their memory and which will endure for generations to come.

Our carefully curated range of memorials includes:

- Traditional memorials
- Headstones
- Churchyard memorials
- Cremation headstones
- Memorial tablets

Please see our memorial brochures to view our full selection.



## Planning Ahead

A funeral plan is an easy way to arrange the funeral you want in advance. A plan allows you to specify your wishes and pay for the funeral director's services included in your plan. As customers often tell us, that can bring peace of mind to you and your family.

A plan from Golden Charter also includes an allowance towards third party costs. These are essential, non-funeral director services such as the cremation or burial fees, plus the minister or officiant's fee to perform the service. The value of the allowance included in your plan may grow over time. There will only be more to pay at the time of the funeral if the third party costs exceed the allowance when you buy your plan, or if the costs increase by more than the growth of your plan.

At Mears Family Funerals, we work in partnership with Golden Charter to provide you with a simple way to plan ahead. As one of the UK's largest funeral plan providers<sup>1</sup>, Golden Charter has helped nearly one million people to plan ahead<sup>2</sup>, so we're completely confident in offering their plans to you.



Everyone has different needs when it comes to funeral planning, so we make sure the plans we offer are as flexible as possible. When you get in touch, we'll be happy to discuss your funeral requirements and tailor a plan to suit you. Rest assured a plan from Golden Charter is available to all UK residents, regardless of age or state of health.

**Would you like to know more information about how a Golden Charter funeral plan could work for you?**

We can provide you with all of the information you need to make an informed decision for you and your family, so get in touch today!

## Golden Charter

1. Based on a Golden Charter analysis and independent research of the funeral plan market size as at May 2024.
2. Correct at August 2024.

Mears Family Funerals is an appointed representative of Golden Charter Limited trading as Golden Charter Funeral Plans which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FRN: 965279).





## Environment-friendly Funerals and Carbon Offsetting

We are all now more conscious of the impact we are having on the environment and at Mears Family Funerals we are committed to reducing our carbon emissions and to become net zero by 2050.

The carbon emissions generated by the operation of our 12 branches are offset through Tree Nation's CO2 Neutral Team scheme. 26 trees are planted each month to offset activities such as electricity usage, office materials and the commute of the staff and nearly 4 tonnes of carbon emissions are offset each month.

In our endeavour to provide meaningful and sustainable farewell ceremonies, we have partnered with Tree Nation, a leading reforestation initiative, to offer our clients the opportunity to offset the carbon emissions generated by a funeral by planting trees in the UK.



For just £95, we will plant trees in the UK to offset 340kg of carbon emissions produced by the average hearse only funeral. We have calculated the carbon emissions generated by our private ambulance travelling up to 40 miles (14kg), our hybrid-powered hearse travelling up to 40 miles (9kg), and the emissions generated by the average UK cremation (180kg). The balance is used to offset the emissions generated by activities such as coffin manufacture and delivery, our Care Centre operations, funeral staff travel etc.

Additional trees can be purchased to offset the emissions of limousines if requested. The carbon emissions generated by family and friends attending the funeral can be offset with additional trees - clients can choose to gift them in memory of a loved one or invite family and friends to plant a tree in the Mears Family Funerals forest.

We can calculate the carbon emissions for your bespoke funeral arrangement on request.

Please join us in creating a lasting legacy that extends beyond our lifetime – one that nurtures both the memories of those we cherish and the natural world we hold dear.



## Notes

## Our Branches

### Aylesbury

01296 593121

### Beckenham

020 8650 1188

### Biggin Hill & Westerham

01959 573838

### Blackfen & Sidcup

020 8294 5600

### Bromley

020 8719 0917

### Catford & Sydenham

020 8719 0910

### Eltham

020 8859 6344

### Ladywell & Lewisham

020 8314 0995

### Orpington

01689 363001

### Southampton

023 8244 8728

### Walthamstow

020 8520 4999

### West Wickham

020 8777 0941



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