



At Bewley & Merrett, we understand that making funeral arrangements can be a difficult task at an emotional time. We will support you through each step, answering your questions and ensuring all wishes are respected at every stage.

1 CALL US

After the death occurs, whether at home, or in a hospital, hospice or nursing home, a medical certificate of cause of death will be issued by a doctor and we can bring the deceased into our care. (Only when a Coroner is involved is there a chance of delay).

We advise all families to contact us immediately after the death. From your first phonecall, our experienced, caring staff will be available 24 hours a day to guide and advise you on how to proceed.

You must register the death within five days of receiving the medical certificate, and we can help with this and all other legal requirements.

2 MEET US

We can meet with you at either our quiet, comfortable premises or at your home to begin making arrangements. We will work closely with you to understand how best to pay tribute to the deceased, and what kind of funeral is desired by the family.

Early questions will include:

- Whether it will be a burial or cremation
- Whether it will be religious or non-religious (we arrange funerals for all religions and cultures)
- Whether it will be traditional or alternative, or combine elements of both
- Is eco friendliness a consideration?
- When you would like the funeral to take place
- Did the deceased leave instructions, a plan, or any specific wishes?

Remember that you can spend as much time as you wish to with your loved one before the funeral at our chapels of rest/visitation rooms.

3 ALLOW US TO HANDLE THE DETAILS

Arranging the funeral provides the opportunity to create a unique farewell to the deceased. We will spend time helping you plan every aspect with great care.

Considerations may include:

- Choosing a coffin: natural, traditional, picture or bespoke
- Choosing a casket/urn
- Dressing the deceased
- Transport for the day of the funeral
- Floral tributes
- Where donations will go
- Writing and organising the publication of a memorial notice
- The choice of music or poetry for the service
- Designing a photography montage for the service
- Helping the family prepare a eulogy
- Printing service stationery
- Organising a video link/recording for people who cannot be at the funeral
- Suggesting venues and catering for after the service
- Choosing memorial masonry

We will provide full confirmation of all the chosen arrangements prior to the funeral, together with an itemised estimate of the costs.

4 REMEMBER, WE'RE STILL HERE IF YOU NEED US

Families can be distracted from their grief, temporarily, by the need to make funeral arrangements, and sometimes feel rather flat when the day of the funeral has passed.

We can recommend help, support and resources designed especially for people who have suffered bereavement or an unexpected death. Reach out and stay connected, even when you think you would rather withdraw.

We can also help you to plan your own funeral. If, having made arrangements for a loved one, you would like to express your own wishes in advance and remove the financial burden from your family, we can make that happen.