

MARGAM JOINT CREMATORIUM COMMITTEE

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT AND REGISTRAR

22 March 2019

Matter for Information

Wards Affected: All Wards

50th Anniversary of opening of Margam Crematorium

Purpose of the Report

1. To update Members on the programme of events to acknowledge the 50th anniversary of the opening of Margam Crematorium

Background

2. Members will be aware that the Margam Crematorium was officially opened on the 25th April 1969 by the then Secretary of State for Wales George Thomas MP.
3. Members will also note that the Margam Crematorium has now become a Grade II listed building included for its special architectural and historic interest as a fine example of a post-war crematorium, which was a new building type of the twentieth century. The building is especially imaginative and creative in responding to the design challenges of the building type, with a plan and layout that skilfully handles the circulation of users through the building and separates its functions, and with a simplicity of design and detail that helps to create a sense of spirituality appropriate to its purpose.
4. Members resolved at the last meeting of the Margam Crematorium that a programme of events to acknowledge the same be held in 2019 and some form of permanent memorial be acquired.
5. The following events therefore will take place:
 - (a) the holding of an ecumenical service to be held at 5pm on Thursday 25th April 2019, which will see contributions from all

faiths/non faiths who undertake services at Margam Crematorium with readings by local clergy of different denominations. Confirmed attendees at present include regional Assembly Members and local civic dignitaries. The service will be led by Reverend Robert Bowden, who is perhaps the most longstanding officiator of funerals at Margam Crematorium. The Guest Choir will be Afanté Ladies Choir.

- (b) a brochure/booklet be prepared and published on the history of the Crematorium over the last 50 years. A member of the Cremation Society of Great Britain, Dr Hilary Granger, some years ago prepared a paper and presented it to the FBCA/CSGB conference on Crematoria of the 60's and 70's and featured Margam in the paper. Dr Granger will be working on this document from April onwards, with the aim of publication in early Summer.
- (c) the unveiling of an anniversary plaque on the 25th April 2019 commemorating the 50th anniversary at the Margam Crematorium, in a style similar to that produced on the opening of the Margam Crematorium in 1969.

Equality Impact Assessment

- 7. There are no equality impacts associated with this report.

Financial Impact

- 8. The cost associated for the programme of events (as detailed in the report to members on the 7th December 2018) are included in budget for the 2019/2020 financial year.

Workforce Impacts

- 9. There are no workforce impacts associated with this report.

Legal Impacts

- 10. There are no legal impacts associated with this report.

Consultation

- 11. There is no requirement under the Constitution for external consultation on this item.

Recommendations

12. That members note the event programme to acknowledge the 50th anniversary of the opening of Margam Crematorium.

Reasons for Proposed Decision

13. To acknowledge the milestone of the 50th anniversary of the opening of Margam Crematorium

List of Background Papers

14. Report of the Superintendent Registrar of the 7th December 2018 (50th Anniversary of opening of Margam Crematorium)

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