

LIFE EVENTS DIARY

The Life Events Diary is free online software which can radically streamline administration for baptisms, weddings, banns and funerals. The Life Events Diary helps churches build and develop lasting relationships with contacts through life event services



WELCOME TO Using technology to support funeral ministry

Sandra Millar, Jane Natrass,
Jeremy Brooks and Tom Pearson

The webinar will start at 11:00

While you wait, take time to book your place on a Life Events Diary webinar at:
lifeeventsdiary.org/webinars

Upcoming webinars:

26th May 2020

3rd June 2020

17th June 2020

All run from 14:30 to 15:00

Funerals and technology :

Welcome to this webinar

11.00 – 12.00am Friday 22nd May 2020

Sandra Millar, Head of Life Events
Jeremy Brooks, Oxford Diocese
Jane Nattrass, Newcastle Diocese
Tom Pearson, Technical consultant

What we will cover:

- ▣ Before the funeral
- ▣ The funeral
- ▣ Afterwards
- ▣ Practicalities
- ▣ Questions



People:

- ▣ In 2018 the CofE conducted 127,550 funerals
- ▣ Total deaths in 2018: 514,000
Average: 1400 per day
- ▣ April 2020: highest ever number of deaths
80% are aged 65 and over



Impact:

- ▣ **Close contacts:** People we talk and plan with
Time, listening, sharing, shaping, caring
- ▣ **Wide contacts:** people who attend funerals
experience, awareness, memory



Purpose: what is a funeral for?

- ▣ To dispose of the body
- ▣ To say goodbye
- ▣ To mark the grieving process *“you let go”*
- ▣ To celebrate/ give thanks for a life
- ▣ To comfort the bereaved
- ▣ To give hope for the future
- ▣ Thinking [a bit] about life after death



Purpose: a Christian funeral?

- ▣ To commend the person to the loving mercy of God
 - ▣ To reflect on the Gospel
 - ▣ To remember our own mortality
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- ▣ How can we find different ways to do these things?
 - ▣ Where does technology help?



Before the funeral:

- ▣ Relationship - contact
 - ▣ Care – old and new
 - ▣ Communication – websites and more
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- ▣ With families
 - ▣ With funeral directors



The funeral:

Using social media/technology

- ▣ Recording
- ▣ Live-streaming
- ▣ Virtual gatherings
- ▣ Online resources



The funeral:

Taking part at home:
reflection
Light-a-candle

Making memories
Planning next steps



After the funeral:

Being relational – build contact

Being intentional – special dates

Being invitational – keep in touch



Everyone's ministry :

Enable other

Enhance skills online

Discover new tools

Planning next steps



Tell people:

- ▣ Families
- ▣ Funeral directors
- ▣ Wider public/local community
local media



Questions

