

Lest We Forget

Well done to everyone who took part in the Remembrance Window displays. It is always so nice to see all the unique ideas and your hard work is appreciated. Photographs of all the windows can be seen on pages 2 and 3.

Congratulations to Nikki at Ilkeston who's Remembrance Window has won £100 for the Ilkeston Royal British Legion.



Poppy Run



Oliver from Generation Six got involved in the Remembrance Day action by completing a Poppy Run. At the time of writing he had raised £500. Many thanks to everyone who sponsored him.

It is with great sadness we report that two members of our work community have died:

Joan Spurr, née Lymn

&

James 'Jim' Oliver

Jackie and Peter have written a few words about Joan and Jim, which can be read on page five.

Remembrance Window Entries



*Top: West Bridgford, Covid HQ
AKA Chlöe's House, Spondon.*

*Middle: The Craftsmen in
Stone and Nottingham with
Banksy inspired poppies.*

*Bottom: Ollerton (complete
with Poppies supplied by
Forest View Primary School
and uniform from The Royal
Engineers Band), Hucknall.*





*Top: Osmaston (*please see below) and Ruddington making up for it's lack of window!*



Bottom: Bulwell

Armistice Day at St. Leonard's

by Kirby Cranshaw

I was honoured to attend the Armistice Day service at St. Leonard's Church in Wollaton. Conducted by Reverend Canon Tim Pullen and supported by Steve Wakeling, I was made to feel very welcome and sensed they were pleased I had joined them. Under current circumstances it was understandably brief and attended by only a few Wollaton residents, but it was nonetheless poignant and respectful. We observed two minutes silence by the War memorial in the church grounds and completed the Act of Remembrance in prayer. I was proud to represent A.W. Lymn The Family Funeral Service and it was lovely to feel part of the community. I'm looking forward to being able to attend more local events and become more actively involved in Wollaton life when normality resumes.

***The window at Osmaston Park has been decorated with winning posters created by the children of Ashwood Spencer Academy.**

For the past few years Mark has judged the competition with four winners getting a £25 voucher and their artwork displayed in the window. Well done to one of this years winners, Avarie who is pictured with her prize and poster.



Armistice Day
11th November



St Leonard's Wollaton

We have had a number of photographs sent in for possible 'Caption Competitions', so thought it best to include them all!



Don't tell Michelle!



Richard in camouflage!



Neil looking a little muddy!



Our Bulwell Team were keen to test out the new e-scooters which have been appearing across Nottingham.



David taking a break on possibly the smallest chair ever!



In Loving Memory

JOAN SPURR (née LYMN)

1922 – 2020



Joan and Sheila

We are sad to announce the death, on 14th November 2020, of Joan Spurr née Lymn.

Auntie Joan was the daughter of Harold (HP) and Isabel Lymn (Bella) and granddaughter of A W Lymn. Joan was born “over the shop” on Bath Street in 1922 as the second child of Harold and Bella. Sadly their first born, Kenneth, died in infancy very soon after Joan was born. Two further children followed with Douglas in 1925 (died 1984) and Sheila “our mum” thereafter but Joan was always the big sister.

Joan married Dennis Spurr at the beginning of WW2 and they had a long and fulfilling life together producing five children John, Elaine, Christopher, Deborah and Carol. For many years Joan and Dennis owned and ran a Spar shop and a greengrocery/flower shop, County Florist on Carlton Hill in which all their girls were involved. This was eventually sold and the three girls relocated to the old police station on Robin Hood Street when we established City Flowers.

Joan was surrounded by a loving and devoted family with eight grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren. Her final years were spent in a care home where she was happy and well cared for. She was immensely and quite rightly proud of the Lymn heritage never missing the opportunity to remind staff that she was “Harold Lymn’s daughter”.

She will be buried next to her beloved Dennis at Burton Joyce Cemetery, after a long and very fulfilling life.

God bless you Joan.

Jackie Lymn Rose

JAMES ‘JIM’ OLIVER

1948 – 2020



Jim during his time with us, 2020.

In Remembrance of Jim Oliver who passed away on the 24th October 2020.

Jim was only at Lymns for a short time at the start of 2020, working mainly out of the Derby and Cotmanhay funeral homes.

He was a great supporter of the Royal British Legion where at this time of year he could be seen selling poppies for them.

Jim could always be found at the Legion on a Friday, where he used to enjoy a game of pool with the other members and had his favourite tippie of whiskey.

He had a great interest in the war, in particular Lancaster Bombers which he had numerous pictures of these around his home.

Jim was a great fan of Elvis Presley and enjoyed attending tributes to him. He also liked to holiday in Tenerife and would always go to a Elvis bar to enjoy the music.

Jim leaves behind Kath, his wife for over 50 years. Two daughters and four grandchildren.

He was a true gentleman and will be sadly missed by everyone who knew him.

Peter Parks



Client comments collected during September and October 2020

After each funeral we send a questionnaire out with our invoice. There is a section 'Were there any aspects of the funeral directors' service that you particularly liked?', The comments from the most recent are here, in regular font. The initials at the end of each comment relate to the funeral arranger and the funeral director, for example EN/JLR was arranged by Ellie and conducted by Jackie.

Any comments in *italics* are from letters received.

Online reviews are also available at www.funeralguide.co.uk/funeral-directors and www.facebook.com/pg/awlymn/reviews/

Drivers

Excellent – 109
Good – 5
Satisfactory – 0

City Flowers

Excellent – 53
Good – 2
Satisfactory – 0

Arnold

Very accommodating to my plans which were a bit different to normal – excellent – Thank you. RK/RK

Very personal service. All questions answered promptly, very respectful. RK/RK

It was my first time to organise a funeral and I didn't know how, and Ellie from Arnold made it so easy for me I can't thank her enough, they are all lovely people. EN/RK

They are very polite and courteous. They speak very sensitive round my feeling and they are knowledgeable of what they do. RK/RK

The helpfulness and flexibility of all staff in the light of Covid restrictions. EN/LJC

Beeston

All good. GB/DMC

The care and compassion and the professionalism and organisational skills of the staff. DMC/DMC

Choice of Celebrant. GB/NLR

Very professional service. DMC/DMC

Impressed by all staff. GB/JK

Bingham

Well organised. DTL/MLR

The funeral directors' got out my mum's funeral so I could see what my father had chosen it helped, also an enquiry from my brother was handled with care. DTL/DTL

Dear Nigel, Thank you for looking after us on Friday and please pass our thanks to Rob and the rest of the staff. We managed to give my Mum a fitting send off – albeit not in the way we would normally do so.

Bulwell

Friendly & understanding, gave me time to speak when emotional. KLN/TK

The compassion and professionalism of the whole team was excellent and made the day easier. KLN/TK

Friendly service. KLN/TK

I just think their whole approach helps make the unbearable a little more bearable. DD/JRC

Carlton

Sensitive and professional. NMR/NMR

General kind regard to family. JF/NMR

Both Joyce & Mark the funeral director were excellent, as were all staff. JF/NMR

Professional yet person centred. Never felt under pressure to rush decisions. JF/JK

Mark has been the funeral director at six of our family's funerals. He is always friendly reliable & thoroughly professional. JF/NMR

Very caring and understanding and dealt with on a personal level. MJC/RK

All arrangements were made via telephone because of virus it was first class service. JF/JLR

Going out of their way to give us the service we wanted. JF/NMR

Everything was excellent I could not have asked for anything better. Thank you. JF/NLR

Hi Mark, Thanks for the care and professionalism by the team last Wednesday.

Clifton

Professionalism. JMW/JMW

Joanna Widdowson was amazing. JMW/JLR

Dear Joanna, thank you so much for looking after my dad and me. I felt truly cared for, and I knew you looked after him. The day couldn't have gone any better. You are a special wonderful and kind person. A Mary Poppins that makes things goes well. Thank you again and I wish you well in the future. Be Happy, Best Wishes.



Good morning, Diane and Joanna, I just wanted to thank you both for all your help in arranging a beautiful,

professional and respectful service for my mum on Thursday. The floral tribute (made up of my mum's favourite flowers) were absolutely beautiful! Please pass on my thanks to the florists. Thank you both once again.

Cotmanhay

Attention to detail, sympathetic, understanding, kind and lots more Michelle, Mick and Wayne outstanding at their job – credit to the company. MNI/MS

The courteous that they all showed my husband when the curtains closed around him, they all bowed to him which was gratefully received by everyone they all said what a great compliment to pay to him. Send my congratulations to all staff at the Cotmanhay Branch, well done everyone. MNI/MS

Thank you to everyone. The service from start to finish was excellent. You did my dad proud. Thank you again.

Derby

Drivers were excellent. Coffin plaque & grave marker were unexpected. KK/KH

Julia was wonderful – warm yet extremely professional. I knew we were in good hands. KK/JRC

The perfect mix of professional and friendly nothing is too much trouble, Lymns' read their customers well. KK/KH

Hucknall

Catherine was the most sweet person and very understanding and very easy to talk to. CAB/CAB

Ilkeston

Nicky was very helpful and understanding very professional! NAA/KH

Very pleasant. He made you feel at ease. NAA/MS

Everything was done with grace. NAA/MS

Littleover

We could not have asked for anything more from you, you did everything we asked and went above and beyond for us. KH/MC

Very professional. DB/MS

Flowers displayed on hearse. DB/KH

Long Eaton

Louise was very helpful in giving my mum the basic funeral which is affordable and was compassionate in all aspects. LJC/LJC

Louise was just amazing, really made the whole process personal to us. TAR/LJC

Staff were wonderful especially on the day of the funeral. TAR/MS

The dove was lovely for an outdoor ceremony. LJC/LJC

Checking every detail & how husband was coping etc. TAR/DMC

Mansfield

I loved the respect shown by walking in front of the hearse – class. DCC/DCC

Kindness and consideration shown was exceptional. TC/AA

Everything was just perfect and caring on this sad occasion. TC/AA

Mansfield Woodhouse

Overall friendliness of all staff. Chapel of Rest Mansfield Woodhouse beautiful. SB/RK

Extremely professional. SB/JWB

Named flower vase for the grave. SB/JWB

Always being advised, what was happening, what would be happening, didn't feel the need to worry about anything. SB/JWB

Explain when needed to make things a lot more understanding. SB/AA

Very professional. SB/AA

Stacey was very friendly & made the process easier. SB/JWB

Used husband's records to help mum have some funeral. SB/AA

Carried out in very professional manner. SB/JWB

Friendly. SB/DCC

Without reservation. The service was completed to the family's wishes

and exceeded all our expectations. Every aspect dignified, calm, honest and open. Especially appreciated professional guidance in discussion about the funeral ceremony. Above all we felt encouraged to honour our mum in the most perfect way. Completely covered all aspects of the service and after-care and advice very reassuring. JWB/JWB

All good. SB/SB

Nottingham

Very, very professional with a personal service as if they were part of the family. JLR/JLR

Nothing was too much trouble for them, Kevin went out his way with the help also Richard, he also did his mother's service in February this year. KDB/KDB

Everything went smoothly, according to plan. MJC/MJC

We liked the service wasn't rushed. We enjoyed the doves and knowing a little about them. The car journey was relaxed and a nice conversation was had. Feather from the doves was a nice touch. MR/MLR

Very personal service given by all staff, nothing was too much trouble. MR/MLR

Attention to detail and total professionalism. MR/RK

Ollerton

Respect shown during initial procession. CJO/CJO

The respect & professionalism shown by staff throughout. CJO/CJO

The communication was excellent, and a very professional calming influence. CJO/AA

Special mention of thanks for attitude, treatment, service etc. by Colum O'Shea, couldn't have asked for more. CJO/CJO

All very good. CJO/CJO

Staff were very courteous and respectful. DD/CJO

Radcliffe on Trent

Personal service was a priority. No question went unanswered and on the day the children were spoken to

appropriately. JK/JK

Very friendly & helpful. LJS/JLR

I wanted to say what an excellent job Lymns did this morning with the funeral, the team are so professional, caring and thoughtful so please pass on my thanks from Wysall church.

Dear Jane, we thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your warmth, patience and availability during our recent event. You've been an angel throughout; your calm demeanour and reassurance helped me make pivotal decisions. You were the professional at the same time, sensitive, caring, warm, genuine and accommodated our personal and traditional needs. I value your great virtues not only in your role as the expert but importantly for being a human element to the arrangements. I know Dad was looking down on you in appreciation and thanking you for taking good care of his daughters during the time of immeasurable pain and distress.

Rainworth

I found Wendy at Rainworth very helpful and supportive her empathic approach was greatly appreciated. WEW/JWB

Advice to grandsons to be included by walking before the coffin. WEW/DCC

Ruddington

We gave Dad a good send off today. Thanks to everyone. The neighbours who paid their respects, those who waved along the route to church, the crowd outside the church and everyone who came to the service and the burial ground. COVID-19 made it more difficult but you all made it a special day.

I'd also like to say a big thank you to my friend Rob Lippitt who did an amazing job as funeral director and all of the team at Lymns.

Shirebrook

Felt that all our needs were done with lots of care and consideration.

JP/AA

Treated us with Dignity and helped with every aspect. JP/AA

Jacqueline Potter had excellent skills in dealing with me. JP/AA

Friendly & professional manner.

Andrew did a first-rate job throughout. Jackie was also very helpful & professional. AA/AA

Spondon

Fiona Hall at the Spondon Branch was outstanding from when Mum and I first went in to after the cremation and ashes collection, so good, so helpful. FH / Direct Cremation

Always very friendly and helpful.

Nothing was too much trouble. FH/KH

Fiona Hall is outstanding! As with other staff. FH/KH

Dear Sirs/Madam, Further comments of service received. I found A.W. Lynn from start to finish outstanding Fiona Hall was excellent, very professional and accommodating I was made to feel at ease from the start! The service under such stringent times went amazing and has been the talk of our area for some time. A full page tribute was also in our local paper & online. My husband always praised Lymns as "the best" and my goodness they were flawless. My other high recommendation was the funeral leader Mr Hall on the day he was outstanding, Lymns made a very sad day a memorial one, on behalf of my family Thank you so much.

Stapleford

Everybody was very friendly and helpful. The celebrant Nick Sharp was excellent. TSR/RK

Tracey Sweeting-Rowe was the most caring and considerate person at such a hard time. TSR/JRC

The deceased was a fun person and the whole service reflected that, not a horrible morbid affair. The Celebrant was excellent. TSR/MS

Michelle, Just a line to say thank-you for everything during the past few weeks. The day and service itself went very well and Kirby was superb! You being involved made the whole thing very special for those of us involved in organising it.

She will certainly be a huge loss in my life after 30 years and her funeral going so well helped as I feel we did all we could for her right until the end.

Sutton

Constantly updated on proceedings.

KLH/JWB

They went out of their way to make sure everything was just what I wanted. AA/AA

West Bridgford

Very professional. AMB/JLR

Andrew – just a quick note to say how pleased we were with the funeral arrangements yesterday. Everything worked well "without a hitch". Please pass our thanks on to Jackie Lynn Rose for her direction. It's all down to excellent attention-to-detail (and experience!). I was surprised and very happy with the top-of-the-range Rolls Royce. I'm sure he would have been pleased.

Wollaton

The coffin was partially out when we stopped outside the deceased house for a few mins. Thoughtful and kind gesture this was. GB/NLR

Dear Kirby, I just wanted to say thank you for assistance in arranging my mum's funeral. Your kindness and respect were very much appreciated. I would particularly like to thank you for finding Kerry to lead the service - she was perfect for mum. Thank you - you are doing a wonderful job.

Civil Celebrants

Hi Richard, Just a small note to thank you for doing such an excellent job yesterday. I had lots of conversations with mates etc. who also remarked

how great you were, sincere, hugely respectful, kind and caring with just the right mix of humorous and serious delivery. Your kind glances at myself, my daughter, my dad and the rest of the audience weren't missed. You honestly made it as beautiful a send off as we could. It must be one of the hardest jobs there is.

Good morning Richard, I just want to say thank you so very much for all of your support. As a family, we have felt supported by you every step of the way. My mum would like you to know that because of the way you officiated the service, it wasn't as difficult an experience as she was worried it would be. I have received messages from friends and family who were unable to attend, who felt fully included by you via the webcast.

The Craftsmen in Stone

Hi Mary just want to say a big thank you .mums vase is beautiful will just finish off lovely. Thank you for all your time - much appreciated

To Mary and all your team. Thank you for everything you have done for us. We all appreciate all your hard work and dedication. Lots of hugs.

Hi Mary, Just a little note of thanks from us both. Today we have visited the grave for the first time since June and were delighted to see such a wonderful headstone. We were both very, very happy with everything about it. The overall effect of all the little extras we requested has made the headstone into a work of art so please give our thanks to everyone involved. Hope you are well and take care and stay safe.

Could Do Better

Communication between offices poor.

Music mis-timed.

We are pleased to be the new kit sponsor for Nottingham Forest U10 girls. Pete Jeffrey's god-daughter Lily (pictured right), was on holiday for the team photo. We hope they can back to playing games soon!



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where every day counts

LIGHT UP A LIFE

Join us in remembering loved ones this Christmas

You are warmly invited to our online Light Up A Life ceremony on Sunday 6 December at 5pm

You can also dedicate a light on our Christmas tree in memory of a friend or relative

treetops.org.uk/lights

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In the press...

Jackie has been interviewed by Alan Clifford on BBC Radio Nottingham. She talked about local news stories and also how funerals were effected by Covid.

Nigel was pleased to speak to the Nottingham Post about his Grandfather's role in turning Victoria Baths into a mortuary during the 1918 Spanish Flu pandemic.
<https://www.nottinghampost.com/news/nottingham-news/dark-past-nottingham-leisure-centre-4723774>

We were also happy to be included in a recent Spanish article 'La mayor flota de Rolls-Royce fúnebres del mundo'
<https://www.expansion.com/fueradeserie/motor/2020/10/15/5f80892f468aeb5a038b4582.html>



Who knows if we will get any trade hires to Spain, there could a waiting list for drivers to work!

Alternative hearses



Kirby conducted her first funeral with the Routemaster and Louise welcomed Volkswagen Funerals to Long Eaton.

Light Up Purple

Matthew was approached by the family of his good friend Tony, to ask if we would consider lighting up our funeral homes in purple to raise awareness of Pancreatic Cancer.

Tony died at the age of 53, just eight weeks after his diagnosis and we were only too pleased to help and each home displayed a vase with purple lights.



Welcome to... Reid Mccutcheon



'I am happy to start work in the maintenance / building department and look forward to the future and the different kinds of work involved.

I am 21 years old and have worked in construction previously.'

Nigel Weaver



Nigel has started as a casual driver bearer at Nottingham.

And Congratulations to Trevor Royston at Mansfield Woodhouse on becoming a full time driver bearer.



100 Funeral Services Completed by Malcolm Barham

I never imagined when taking on a part time driving role that I would end up as a funeral celebrant.

I started my training in September 2019 and completed it in February 2020.

Taking a few months to set up, I started as a celebrant in May of this year.

I've undertaken additional training in child and baby funerals and recently passed a level four qualification in Advance tribute writing.

Remarkably, this month I will have taken my 100th Service. To say thank you and mark the booking of the 100th Service, I presented Kim and Tony with some wine.



Half Crown House

Following last months appeal for a name for our new Stapleford funeral home, we received 25 ideas, many of them focusing on the building's former life as a bank.

One suggestion came from Gill Huteson (from Serenity Memorials in Cleethorpes, who was Vice President of the National Association of Funeral Directors when Nigel was President). Her suggestion of George and Sheila's old house name 'Half Crown House' gained unanimous votes from the directors.



Nigel commented 'I like the name, I like the history and being a former bank I feel that it is appropriate'.

George and Sheila's former house (pictured above on the day of George's funeral) has been renamed by it's new owners and the original house sign, created by George has been returned to the Lynn Rose family. The intention is therefore to use the sign at the new funeral home.

The 'Best Practice of the Month Award' nomination is:

Jackie Lynn Rose has nominated Olivia Cotterill

I nominate Olivia for managing the mortuary and embalming theatre single handedly in an exemplary manner in Ralph's untimely absence.

And the winner is

****Olivia****



Retirement for Elaine Jones and David Crampton

The retirement of Elaine, or as I knew her as a child "Sandra", marks the end of an era as throughout the period from when I joined the company full time in 1979 until now there has always been the presence of one of the "Etches" family members.

Elaine's grandfather Tom Stacey originally worked for the Co-op Funeral Service in Nottingham and at about the time of his retirement his son-in-law, Ken Etches, was interviewed by my father George and joined our family company, followed shortly afterwards by Tom as a Casual. In those days Ken was my night call removal partner and he talked with such pride about his children and in particular his daughter Sandra. My family got to know her and I know that Ken was so proud when she joined our family company in Summer 1995.

Elaine quickly proved her ability and in order to gain experience she spent time at a number of our offices and in a number of capacities, and outside the family was one of the first females who, after qualifying and obtaining her Diploma, commenced conducting funerals from the Beeston Office. In the latter part of her employment she was based at Mansfield and has been a real asset to the firm. I appreciate that it has been a difficult time for her during this pandemic in 2020 but we would wish her, Rick and all the family every happiness in her retirement.

*Thank you
Nigel Lynn Rose*

After four years we are sad and sorry that David Crampton has retired from working as an A.W. Lynn casual driver. He was such a gent and no work was too great or small. He was always willing to help out wherever possible.

We will sadly miss his vegetables especially the tomatoes that he used to bring us. On behalf of all the drivers and everyone at A.W. Lynn Happy Retirement Dave and all the best.

*Thank you
Neville Carridice*

