

NAFD AGM & Conference 2024 heads to Royal Windsor



NAFD Conference & AGM

In 2024, NAFD Conference and Annual General Meeting heads to historic Old Windsor, in Royal Berkshire, for three days of discussion, education, entertainment and Association business.

Join us at the De Vere Beaumont Estate to discuss issues critical to the future of funeral service, hear about the progress, campaigns and plans of the Association on behalf of its members – and mark the culmination of the Presidential year for 2023-24 NAFD President Barry Pritchard – in the company of colleagues and friends from across the profession. Join as one with our wider membership at an informal social event on Thursday, before Association business gets underway on Friday morning at the Annual General Meeting. Conference attendees are then warmly invited to join the annual *Celebration of Success* as the NAFD's Class of 2022-23 receive their Arranging & Administration Certificates or their Funeral Directing Diplomas, during a very special ceremony, on the afternoon of Friday 10 May.



Join the National Association of Funeral Directors from Thursday 09 – Sunday 12 May 2024, for an unparalleled weekend of business, networking and entertainment.



Renowned for his love of music, theatre and wonderful food, NAFD President Barry Pritchard has curated a Conference weekend to remember for guests, with a welcome evening offering mouth-watering street food, a cabaret evening packed full of musical, theatre and entertainment acts, stunning cuisine from one of Windsor's finest banqueting venues and plenty of surprises in store.

Booking is now open for Conference, much earlier than normal, to give delegates plenty of opportunity to plan their Conference weekend. A wide range of packages and options are available, including upgrading to deluxe rooms and suites, a choice of opting into the full three-day Conference package with one simple click, or selecting events individually, and payment by instalments via direct debit.

In FDM each month, we will be revealing news of Conference speakers, entertainment and special guests – more to be revealed soon!

Booking is now open!

Secure your tickets and accommodation for Conference 2024. A range of packages and options are available, including paying by instalments via direct debit.

www.nafd.org.uk/annual_conference





Our Conference venue: The Beaumont Estate, Old Windsor

The setting for NAFD Conference 2024 involves a very British tale of democracy, royalty, education, and religion.



The Beaumont Estate is an 18th-century mansion, set in 42 acres of parkland grounds with a majestic, sweeping, manicured drive. Just three miles from the town of Royal Windsor, the original house was built for Lord Weymouth, but it was its time as a public school, from 1854 - 1967, that saw most of the estate's architectural developments.

On arrival, take in the distinctly British aesthetic and atmosphere of the Old School on your way to the estate's luxurious bedrooms and suites. A wealth of these original features remain intact, but a multi-million-pound refurbishment has added 21st-century style and comfort, and technology too.

Outside, 42 acres of grounds complete with natural ponds and specially-commissioned sculptures create a relaxing space for Conference guests to explore, all set close to the River Thames.

The estate's luxuriously appointed rooms and suites combine the latest technologies with modern, sophisticated style, with some commanding stunning views across the estate, guaranteeing attendees plenty of opportunities to relax and unwind inbetween Conference sessions and social events.



NAFD Conference Programme

Thursday 09 May 2024

Evening

Welcome to Conference

Hosted by NAFD President Barry Pritchard, members of NAFD and graduating students are invited to join friends and colleagues for mouth-watering street food at the Beaumont Estate to get Conference weekend underway.

Friday 10 May 2024

Morning

Registration and time to explore the exhibition

Official NAFD Conference opening and Service of Invocation

Annual General Meeting (NAFD members only)

Democracy in action, the 2024 AGM will explore the key issues affecting the funeral profession and report back on twelve months of Association business, campaigns and activities on behalf of members – and seek member input into future plans.

Afternoon

Lunch and time to explore the exhibition

Celebration of Success graduation event

After the hard work and examinations are over, NAFD's Class of 2022-23 will receive their awards and celebrate their achievements with family, friends and Conference guests from across the NAFD and beyond.

Networking

Evening

Cabaret Evening

Relax and enjoy great food, the company of friends and a spectacular showcase of musical and entertainment talent through the decades of the NAFD's 120 years of history.

Saturday 11 May 2024

Morning

Education sessions

Curated by the NAFD Board of Education, Saturday begins with a range of innovative, inspiring and thought-provoking speakers covering a wide range of topics essential to funeral professionals.

Afternoon

Lunch and time to explore the exhibition

An opportunity to socialise, network and enjoy some leisure time.

Evening

President's Banquet

The sparkling highlight of NAFD Conference, a black tie celebration of the President's year in office, complete with all of the NAFD's traditions and customs – and some special surprises too! Dinner and dancing until the early hours.

Sunday 12 May 2024

Morning

Installation of Officers for 2024-25

The passing of the baton from one President to the next. At the close of NAFD Conference weekend, we welcome the new NAFD President and Officers with the traditional installation ceremony and valedictory address.



Celebrating success – at Conference!

NAFD graduation will be held on Friday 10 May 2024

NAFD graduating students are invited to book their place at the **2024 Celebration of Success** graduation event, which will take place during **NAFD Conference 2024** at the De Vere Beaumont Estate, the Conference venue, on the afternoon of **Friday 10 May**. The celebrations will continue into the evening with a drinks and canape reception, before a cabaret showcase packed with exciting musical, theatre and entertainment acts.

NAFD Conference is set to be packed with thought-provoking sessions, plenty of networking opportunities and fantastic social events. NAFD President Barry Pritchard warmly welcomes students, together with their tutors, families and friends, to spend the weekend at NAFD Conference – taking part in the education sessions, business debates and social events of the weekend, as well as marking the completion of their studies at a very special graduation event.

Barry said: “*Celebrating Success* is the culmination of such a huge amount of hard work on the part of the students and their tutors, helping to continue the high levels of professional conduct within our profession. In its own right, it is a very special event in the NAFD calendar.



NAFD
Conference & AGM



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“I am passionate about education and so, as the focus of my Presidential year is on bringing people together, I wanted to include students in my Conference weekend, as well as giving them an opportunity to mark their academic achievements – and it is fitting that our Conference venue is a former schoolhouse once known as the ‘Catholic Eton’.

“Conference, as members will know, offers so many fantastic education and networking opportunities that will support students in their wider professional development. It is my sincere hope that, from the cohort of students who will graduate on the day, we will one day see a future NAFD President.



“We are working hard to create a fantastic weekend for the students that makes them feel, quite rightly, the centre of the NAFD’s attention following the completion of their studies, and I look forward to welcoming them all to Windsor in May next year.”

A wide range of packages and options are available, including upgrading to deluxe rooms and suites, a choice of opting into the full three-day Conference package with one simple click, or selecting events individually, and payment by instalments via direct debit. Students can also choose to arrange their own accommodation separately, with Windsor and nearby Egham offering a wide range of options.