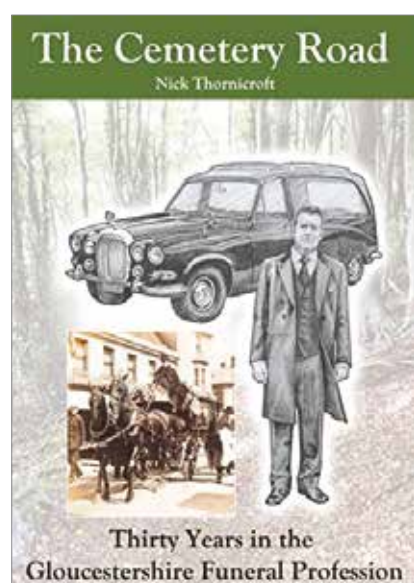


BOOK STALL

*THE CEMETERY ROAD:
THIRTY YEARS IN THE GLOUCESTERSHIRE FUNERAL PROFESSION*
BY NICK THORNICROFT

“Passing acquaintances may not always be able to remember your name, but they can invariably recall what you do for a living”.



During 1985, just months before his 18th birthday, Nick Thornicroft joined the Gloucestershire funeral profession, which was still steeped in Victorian traditions and expectations. Over the next three decades he witnessed a colossal change in people's attitudes and requirements following bereavement, and how professionals in the trade had to adapt over the years to the new innovations and choices.

Nick has had a unique insight into the undertaking profession, working as a pall bearer, hearse and limousine driver, funeral director, crematorium technician and chapel attendant, and more recently as a humanist funeral celebrant.

The Cemetery Road takes a look at many of Nick's experiences, as well as highlighting the customs, traditions and misconceptions he has encountered in the funeral profession. Whilst not a job Nick ever envisaged doing, he found the lure of the job too fascinating and satisfying to leave, resulting in thirty years spent working in Gloucestershire and many stories to share from across the region.

Nick's book shows a genuine respect for the dead, maintaining the dignity of those in the accounts he thoughtfully shares.

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