

“It has been so busy and we have spoken with thousands of people in the funeral sector who didn't know our service existed.”

Cherished Gowns



THE GREATEST SHOW!

NFE 2019 RATED A HUGE SUCCESS BY EXHIBITORS AND VISITORS ALIKE

There's almost no-one that hasn't borrowed a line or two from *The Greatest Showman*, Hugh Jackman's exuberant 2017 film portrayal of PT Barnum - and the National Funeral Exhibition (NFE) is no exception. NFE 2019 may not have had a ringmaster or big top but, to quote a famous lyric from the film, NFE 2019 certainly offered "everything you ever want; everything you ever need," for anyone that is part of the funeral profession.

It was, without doubt, the NFE's greatest show to date. A record-breaking 4,500 attendees packed into halls 1 and 2 at Stoneleigh Park across the weekend, to visit more than 200 exhibitors and attend a fully-booked three-day seminar programme.

Visitors from 20 different nations, from China to Denmark, Thailand to the Netherlands, joined the UK funeral profession to check out the latest inspiring and innovative developments. Suppliers as diverse as vehicle fleets, coffins, caskets, professional equipment suppliers, printing

and stationery companies, online memorial services, charities and business advisory firms, created bold and eye-catching stands, demonstrated equipment, products and skills and provided refreshments for thirsty visitors - from latte-making baristas, to a full service bar with beer taps!

The number of visitors - both domestic and international - was up on both 2015 and 2017, with international thanatology organisation, FIAT-IFTA, bringing a large delegation to the show and the Church of England also sending members of the clergy, as well as a diverse range of UK

“Great day spending time with my team at the NFE, meeting suppliers bringing innovation to the market.”

Neville Funerals





“Wonderful to visit the National Funeral Exhibition this weekend. Lots of new products and services on offer to continually improve the service we provide for our families.”

HARP Funeral Services

NFE

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National Association of Funeral Directors



“As a Dutch company we were pleasantly surprised to be making new contacts from outside the UK, in particular the Chinese and French markets. All in all it was a big success for us. We have already reserved our space for 2021.”

Memorial Trees

funeral business owners and employees. A group of Danish funeral directors also made the trip and spent time not only at NFE, but also visiting A Pargetter & Son in Coventry for a tour.

Speaking on the last day of the show, NAFD President David Barrington said: “It’s been a fantastic weekend. I’ve met people from all over the world and the exhibitors surpassed themselves with the quality and innovation of their stands, products and services. Amazing!

“On behalf of the NAFD, I would like to thank the sponsors, whose support of the show helps us to make it as vibrant and inspiring as possible for visitors, our speakers - who packed out the seminar theatre for every session of the exhibition; the exhibitors for trusting NFE to support the development of their businesses, the NFE Committee for its leadership during the past two years and last. but certainly not least, the amazing team of staff and stewards who were on the go all weekend making sure the whole event ran like clockwork.”

The road to Stoneleigh in 2021...

Within two days of the show closing, more than 35% of stands for NFE 2021 had been reserved and the number continues to climb with many exhibitors taking new or larger positions for the next show.

Any exhibitors who wish to secure their preferred space now, or for further information, please contact show manager Jane Lawrence on 0121 711 1343 ext 1009, or by email to jane@nafd.org.uk to discuss your needs.



“It’s a very good show with high quality visitors who know what they want. It’s been a really busy three days and we’re delighted with the way it has gone.”

Funeral Products







“ Once again, NFE proved to be a fantastic event at which to showcase new products and new partnerships. NFE is an incredibly important event for us.”

JC Atkinson & Son

SUPERSTAR STAFF AND STEWARDS

Throughout the weekend, exhibitors and visitors were supported by a team of NAFD staff and stewards who worked tirelessly to answer questions, fix issues, run errands, look after the seminar theatre or ticket desk and generally make sure the show ran like clockwork.

The stewards were all funeral directors and arrangers who are studying for - or were recently awarded - an NAFD qualification, while the NAFD staff came from the team at National Office, supported by experienced event staff.

The NAFD is indebted to Radcliffe Funeral Service, Hilliers Funeral Service and Pipers Funeral Service which gave James Schofield, Kyle Daley and Chris Snailham time off work to be part of the stewarding team. They were joined by brothers Daniel and Jack Kelly, who took annual leave and gave up their weekend to be stewards for the show.

Said Daniel Kelly: “I think the best way to describe the weekend was rewarding, although it was intense helping to keep everything running smoothly and

making sure the exhibitors were well looked after (it’s amazing how your body copes with doing 25,000+ steps!). It has really made me feel so privileged that I was able to spend the weekend with such hardworking and compassionate people.

“I also found that having the CMA speak at the exhibition was a real talking point for everyone involved. There was a lot of interest in the recommendations they would make and how they would work with the NAFD to create a more transparent environment for bereaved people.”

His brother Jack added: “I thoroughly enjoyed the weekend of the exhibition and felt privileged to be asked to help out with the day-to-day running of the event. The event was a great success and the exhibitors and their products were fascinating to learn about. It showed me how lucky the industry is to have such caring, committed members that all strive to provide the best possible care and service to the clients who call on us.”



The National Funeral Exhibition 2019 is organised by NAFD Ventures Limited, which is wholly owned by the National Association of Funeral Directors.

NFE 2019 SPONSORS

The National Association of Funeral Directors would like to thank the following sponsors for their generosity in supporting the National Funeral Exhibition 2019:-

