

*R.L. Rea*  
*Funeral Directors*

*Create the Perfect Funeral for Your Loved One*



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Holiday Inn

Birmingham - Bromsgrove

## Celebration of Life...

... memorial teas, wakes and receptions

With years of experience at hosting such events, we are committed to ensuring that the arrangements do not add to the stress of losing a family member or a close friend.

We offer a variety of menus and refreshments for you to choose from and are happy to accommodate gatherings from 10 to 200 people.

Our experienced, professional staff recognise the importance of such events and will provide a sympathetic, discreet and efficient service for the bereaved family during this difficult time.

For further details please contact our Events Coordinator

**Holiday Inn Birmingham - Bromsgrove**

Kidderminster Road  
Bromsgrove  
B61 9AB

T: 0871 942 9142

E: [info@hi-birminghambromsgrove.co.uk](mailto:info@hi-birminghambromsgrove.co.uk)  
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## The Wildmoor Oak A warm welcome to all

Traditional British Classics • Authentic Caribbean Specialities • International Cuisine



The Wildmoor Oak offers the rustic charm of a country inn, set in a peaceful rural location.

We understand the passing of a loved one is a difficult time. We provide the reassurance of handling all your funeral reception requirements both professionally and with a caring approach.

Our flexible catering options are tailored to your needs and we can cater for small, private wakes or larger receptions, up to 130 people. Our al fresco terrace by the stream is available during the summer months.

The award winning Wildmoor Oak is the perfect setting to commemorate the life of a relative or friend. Please call to discuss your requirements: **0121 453 2696.**



Hot & Cold Buffet bookings - Tuesday to Friday, 12 noon - 3pm

The Wildmoor Oak Pub & Restaurant, Top Road, Wildmoor, Bromsgrove, B61 0RB  
0121 453 2696 Email: [enquiries@wildmoorok.com](mailto:enquiries@wildmoorok.com)

[www.wildmoorok.com](http://www.wildmoorok.com)

thebestofbromsgrove



# *R.L. Rea*

## *Funeral Directors Ltd.*

R.L.Rea Funeral Directors offer funeral services across Worcestershire and the West Midlands Region including: Bromsgrove, Redditch, Worcester, Birmingham and many more areas.

We offer a 24 hour service which includes collecting your loved one from their place of death to our premises where we will take great care of them until the day of the funeral.

We provide a choice of coffins for your selection and contact all the necessary individuals and organisations on your behalf to accommodate your requirements for the complete and personal funeral that you want.

If you require a private viewing (by appointment only) we can provide that and offer a selection of shrouds or alternatively you can choose to have your relative dressed in their own clothes.

On the day of the funeral we will meet at the agreed leaving point which is confirmed by letter. The funeral director will walk in front of the cortege from the house and again at the funeral venue. We provide bearers who will shoulder the coffin (exceptions may be made due to certain circumstances) into the service and out where applicable. If a limousine is used, the family will be returned to the destination of their choice.

Donations can be collected by us and handled to your requirements.

We can provide floral tributes from a high class florist called Jacqui of Eden Flowers, Bromsgrove who will visit you in the comfort of your own home if required.

Being a member of the National Association of Funeral Directors we are able to offer pre-arranged funeral plans with The Perfect Choice Funeral Trust which is a service operated by the NAFD Services Ltd.

Finally if you require a memorial headstone or tablet we will be happy to give you a personal quotation. We letter and fix the memorials ourselves.



## **Arranging the Funeral**

Our service begins when you contact us, whether by telephone or calling in personally and often extends way beyond the day of the funeral.

We will discuss the preliminary details, whereupon if your loved one has died at home or nursing home we will, with your permission gently remove them to our funeral home/private chapel with the doctor's consent whatever the time, day or night. The funeral arrangements can be finalised at our office, or at your home if you prefer.

In all aspects of the funeral arrangements we will advise on the procedures and legal requirements.

## **Cost and Charges**

Whilst arranging the funeral, we always advise on all costs and charges involved.

The funeral account itself is divided into two separate parts, the Funeral Director's costs and the Disbursements.

### **Funeral Director's Costs**

These include the provision of our service in making the funeral arrangements, arranging documentation and the conveyance of your loved one to our private chapel and the use of the same until the day of the funeral.

Relatives and friends may wish to visit the chapel to privately pay their last respects before the day of the funeral; we will only allow this with the permission of the family members, or person responsible for the funeral.

### **Care Of Your Loved One**

The care of your loved one is very important to us and you can be assured that we give them our best care and attention whilst they are with us, whether you choose to visit them or not.

## **Hearse and Limousine**

The hearse with chauffeur and four or six bearers is also an essential part of the procession. Unless requested otherwise, we page the coffin and hearse at all times. This reflects our past traditions which we believe are the ultimate in reverence and respect.

Limousines are charged for separately. This ensures that the family is not charged for something they may not require. The charge for limousines is fully inclusive to cover transport from the address at which your family requires to leave from, through to wake venue or family home, within a limited distance. Each limousine is chauffeur driven and will normally carry up to seven mourners.

## **Disbursements**

Disbursements are fees that we pay on behalf of the family, i.e. Doctor's Fees (where appropriate), Crematorium/Cemetery Fees and Parochial Fees etc.

Our verbal estimate will detail the approximate cost of any disbursements. However, you will appreciate that we will have no direct control over these charges, and they could therefore be subject to slight variations.

## **Doctor's Fees and Cremation Forms**

No one can be cremated until the the cause of death is defined. Two independent doctors complete medical certificates before a cremation can take place.

These certificates must be paid for and are listed under disbursements on our estimate and account. The cremation certificates are not required when the death is referred to the coroner; hence there will be no charge, but possibly a short delay.

## Help with funeral costs

The following information should be treated as general guidance. For more information please contact the Department for Work & Pensions.

### Who is entitled to help?

You may receive help if there is not enough money to pay for the funeral and you are responsible for making the funeral arrangements. You may qualify if you or your partner are receiving certain benefits.

Check what amount of money is available from:-

1. The estate of the person who has died, such as money from bank and building society accounts.
2. Insurance policies, Funeral Plan or charities, lump sum payments made by pension scheme or relatives, (either yours or the person who has died).
3. Any savings you have in the bank or building society, National Savings (including certificates or premium bonds) or in cash.

Savings may be in your name or the name of your partner.

The social fund may make a contribution towards the cost of a simple funeral within the United Kingdom. This includes;

- Bringing the person home if he or she has died away from home within the United Kingdom
- The Death Certificate
- A basic coffin
- The hearse and appropriate bearers.
- Flowers from the person who is arranging the funeral
- Contribution towards the Funeral Director's fees.
- Chaplain and organist fee
- Cemetery or Crematorium
- Doctor's Fees

# LADYBIRD INN

In this very difficult time you will be guaranteed that the ladybird Inn will offer you a warm and relaxing venue for you your family and friends to come together and celebrate your loved ones passing.



We have a private room for hire or you can have exclusivity of the lounge bar both offering you a family atmosphere.



We cater for small to large parties and have a number of set menu options including a Traditional cream tea but we are flexible and will cater for your requests and budget.



We offer a bill back account so the cost of the wake can be sent to your Funeral Director.

Please contact Kate for further details.



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[www.dodfordinn.co.uk](http://www.dodfordinn.co.uk)

# What you need to know in times of bereavement

## If death occurs at home

As soon as possible, inform the Doctor that the death has occurred. He or she may write out the Medical Certificate of Death.

## When death occurs in hospital

When death happens in hospital the procedure is very similar. Apply to the hospital for the Medical Certificate of Death and not to your family Doctor.

## The Coroner

In cases where the death has been reported to the coroner the procedure is somewhat different. The coroner and his officers are working in your interests. A Doctor will not issue a medical certificate of death, this will be sent by the Coroner to the Registrar's Office in the district where the death has occurred.

# How to Register a Death

## Who can register?

1. A relative.
2. A person present at the death.
3. The person arranging the funeral.

## Documents Required

1. Medical Certificate of Death.
2. Medical Card if available.
3. Birth Certificate if available.

## Information required to register

1. Date and place of death.
2. Full name of your loved one (maiden name if applicable).
3. Date and place of birth.
4. Occupation and home address.
5. If married full name and occupation of surviving spouse or partner.

## People you may need to contact

Your local registrar will give you details of the *Tell Us Once* service which allows you to report a death to most government organisations in one go.

There are lots of practical things that have to be dealt with when someone passes away and it can be difficult to think of them all. We have tried to list

as many as possible to help but we may not have covered everything.

Taking advice from a legal specialist offering Will Advice and Probate Services could help steer you through legal complexities and offer practical solutions and support tailored to your needs.

## Organisations and businesses

Car Insurance - if the policy is in the name of your loved one any additional drivers named on the policy are no longer insured once the policy holder has passed away so make sure the documentation is changed to reflect the new situation.

Social services/district nurses - if there is equipment belonging to either of these it must be returned.  
Hospital and/or family doctor - any outstanding appointments will need to be cancelled.

## Employer or professional association

**Inland Revenue Social Security** - form 344/BD8 needs to be completed to cancel any direct payments into your loved one's bank account. This white certificate is provided by the Registrar of Deaths.

**Local council** - cancel any housing/rate benefits and council tax.

**Utilities** - gas, electric, water, telephone and cable companies.

**Bereavement Register** - Stop junk mail being sent.

**Credit and store cards** - cancel cards and settle accounts.

**Banks and building societies** - accounts need to be closed and any joint accounts need to be amended. Any debit cards should be returned or destroyed. Cancel any investments, insurances and pension policies.

**Premium bonds** are not transferable, the Post Office will issue you with a form that needs to be sent to the Bonds and Stocks Office. For further advice we suggest that you consult an independent financial adviser or accountant.

## Certificates From The Registrar

- Green Certificate for the Funeral Director
- Copies of entry of death for bank, insurance and solicitors
- Certificate of Registration of Death (Form BD8) - needed if the person was getting a state pension or benefits.

## How to obtain probate

### What is probate?

When someone dies somebody has to deal with their estate (money, property, and possessions) by collecting the assets, paying any debts and distributing the estate to those entitled.

The Probate Registry issues the document which is called a GRANT OF REPRESENTATION.

There are three types of grant

1. Probate issued to one or more of the executors named in the will.
2. Letters of Administration (with will) issued when there is a will, but no executor named or unable to deal with the estate
3. Letters of administration issued when the your loved one has not made a will or it is not valid

## Consult a Solicitor

In most circumstances, it is advisable for you to consult a solicitor both to relieve you of many worries and to take control of wills, problems of intestacy, outstanding debts, grants and letters of administration. A solicitor could save you a great deal of unnecessary trouble and eventually save you money. If it is known that a will was made, it is important that the contents be ascertained as soon as possible after death as it may contain instructions regarding the funeral arrangements.

A will may be among personal papers or with a bank or solicitor for safe keeping. If a solicitor has been consulted by your loved one in the recent past it is important that you contact them without delay.

## Ministers, Priests or Celebrants

We will contact your chosen officiant.

## Donations to Charity

If donations are requested in lieu of flowers we will accept and list donations on your behalf and forward them in due course to the charity of your choice, who will acknowledge your kind gesture.



Thomas Horton LLP  
SOLICITORS

## Here when... you need us

During a difficult and emotional time, Thomas Horton LLP Solicitors will provide an experienced and caring team who are able to help with Grants of Probate, problems of intestacy, outstanding debts and general estate administration amongst other services.

Please call us on **01527 871641** and ask to speak to a member of the Probate Team.

[www.thomashorton.co.uk](http://www.thomashorton.co.uk)

Offices in **Barnst Green,**  
**Bromsgrove and Worcester**



## Floral Tributes

Bereavement is such a sensitive time when family and friends experience a wide range of emotions. On these occasions, the timeless beauty of flowers provides a unique opportunity to express these feelings and bring comfort. From loosely styled, natural arrangements to a more formal tribute or a single flower, the emotive language of flowers is boundless.

## Catering

We can advise you on venues or companies who will be able to assist you with your catering needs, including function rooms, hotels, public houses, restaurants and caterers, many of whom are featured in this guide.

## Service Stationery

We produce personalised orders of service. We liaise with the officiant regarding the content.

We will work with the family to produce a front cover which can be personalised with a photograph or illustration bearing some significance to the deceased. The back page is an ideal opportunity to extend an open invitation to join the family at the return venue for refreshments, to publish a small acknowledgement and to publish any details concerning requests for charitable donations.

Please be assured that we will always produce a proof for the family to approve before going to print.

## Cremated Remains

It is not always easy to realise the emotional benefit that is gained after the funeral by having somewhere to go, a place that you and your family can visit, knowing that your loved one is there.

Today most cemeteries and crematoria are administered by local councils and offer facilities of small graves that can be purchased solely for cremated remains and marked with a memorial stone. The cremation gardens are of a communal nature.

## Burial Memorials and Headstones

At the time of making the arrangements for a funeral, it is not always easy or necessary to determine what your future memorial requirements will be. In the case of existing memorials, it will probably be necessary to remove the headstone from the grave prior to the funeral.

When the funeral has taken place it can take some months, depending on the condition of the ground, before the grave will be ready to take the headstone or a new one. During this period of settlement, it is recommended where possible, that the Monumental Masons remove the memorial back to their yard for safe keeping. This also reduces costs in the longer term should the memorial require additional inscriptions.

## Take Care with That Final Gift

A memorial is not just a marker erected on a grave or to remind us of the name of your loved one; it is a lasting symbol of remembrance, a tribute to a life now ended and perhaps a final gift to someone dearly loved.

Choose a design and material to meet the regulations of the cemetery or churchyard and choose a suitable inscription. Remember perhaps a possible future inscription.

When comparing prices, make sure that the size, style of lettering and all fees have been included. Take extreme care and check thoroughly any inscription and spellings prior to the cutting, the layout is usually left up to the stonemason's expertise.



## Bereavement Support

Although our staff can offer you emotional support and practical advice following bereavement it is important to mention that they are not trained counsellors. They can offer support through their own life experiences and can impart knowledge and practicalities of how they have dealt with their own losses that hopefully can give help and comfort to you.

We would always advise you to speak to your G.P if the adjustment to losing your loved one is too painful and you feel you need some help.

They may refer you to a counselling service to help with the psychological and emotional trauma of a bereavement.



The poster features the Primrose Hospice logo in the top right corner, which includes a stylized yellow flower icon and the text 'primrose hospice centre of care'. The main title 'Bereavement Support' is in large green font. Below it, a paragraph explains the support offered to those with a GP in Redditch or Bromsgrove. A circular inset image shows hands clasped in support. A call to action asks for donations in lieu of flowers. At the bottom, there is a thank you message and contact information for the hospice.

**Primrose Hospice**  
**Bereavement Support**

If you are recently bereaved and have a GP in Redditch or Bromsgrove, Primrose Hospice can offer you support, guidance, advice and counselling. Our Family Support services are available to anyone of any age, not just Primrose patients and their families.

**PLEASE CALL 01527 889799 FOR MORE INFORMATION ON OUR BEREAVEMENT SERVICES**

*If you would like to make a donation in lieu of flowers or in memory of a loved one please call **01527 889796***

Primrose Hospice is a charity offering free care, advice and support to patients living with life threatening illnesses and their families. **Every year we must raise £1.6million** to provide our Day Hospice, Primrose at Home and Family Support services. **We rely on the generosity of the public as only 20% of this comes from the NHS.**

**Thank you for your support.**

Primrose Hospice Centre of Care, 31, Godwalds Road, Bromsgrove B60 3BW  
Registered Charity Number 700272 | T: 01527 889796 | F: 01527 837737  
E: info@primrosehospice.org | W: www.primrosehospice.org

# LOCAL REGISTER OFFICES

## Bromsgrove

School Drive  
Bromsgrove  
Worcestershire  
B60 1AY

Tel: 0845 603 2859

Fax: 01905 765355

Email: registeroffice@worcestershire.gov.uk

## Droitwich

Droitwich Library  
Victoria Square  
Droitwich Spa  
Worcestershire  
WR9 8DQ

Tel: 0845 603 2859

Fax: 01905 765355

Email: registeroffice@worcestershire.gov.uk

## Redditch

29 Easemore Road  
Redditch  
Worcestershire  
B98 8ER

Tel: 0845 603 2859

Fax: 01905 765355

Email: registeroffice@worcestershire.gov.uk

## Worcester

County Hall,  
Spetchley Road  
Worcester  
WR5 2NP

Tel: 0845 603 2859

Fax: 01905 765355

Email: registeroffice@worcestershire.gov.uk



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*Ewe & Lamb  
a pub with food!*

Organising an after funeral reception can add to stress and anxiety associated with losing a family member or perhaps close friend.

At The Ewe & Lamb we provide a choice of menus along with refreshments and are happy to accommodate virtually any size, large or small.

On the day itself, our staff members provide a discreet and sympathetic service for the bereaved friends and family and are also on hand throughout to assist in any way.

Hanbury Road • Bromsgrove • Worcestershire • B60 4DN

Telephone: 01527 871 929

Email: [info@eweandlambbromsgrove.com](mailto:info@eweandlambbromsgrove.com)



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