



Welcome to your newsletter

Welcome to the latest edition of Eric F. Box News, the newsletter compiled by some of the country's leading experts from the UK funeral industry.

In this edition we focus on Edward's visit to Italy, where he has been casting an interested eye over the funeral traditions of other European countries, whilst also gleaning some fresh ideas from TANEXPO 2010 in Bologna.

We've managed to solve Rev Patrick Senior's funeral biscuit conundrum and, if you think the UK's cold Winter weather has got the worse of you and left you with a few sniffles, then take heart and read about The Black Death which wiped out between 30 and 60% of Europe's population when it struck!

Wheatfields in Leeds falls under the spotlight in our hospice feature, and there are a few more interesting reads here and there. We hope you enjoy them. Please feel free to send in your comments.

Edward Richard Anderson

In the event of a death at any time of the day or night, contact us at:

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Box's jet off to world Funeral Expo

Edward Box is just back from TANEXPO 2010, the largest and most important European exhibition for the funeral and cemetery industry.

An international event

The event, which took place in Bologna's International Panorama at the end of last month, was attended by thousands of professionals from across Europe.

It's too soon to know exact visitor figures for this year but, two years ago, 16,000 professionals from 50 countries attended the event, which was housed across 25,000 sq metres of floor space. There were 208 exhibiting companies and even 40 journalists from across Europe descended on the venue.

Edward said: "It was the first time I had been and the sheer size of it was quite breathtaking. Clearly



there were thousands of people in attendance but, when you spread them across three huge exhibition halls, it was difficult to grasp just how many were there."

Edward said there were exhibitors from as far afield as Spain, France, Argentina, China, Russia and the USA.

Low profile for 'green funerals'

"The amazing thing about TANEXPO is that you learn so much about international funeral traditions". But he said he was amazed that so-called 'green funerals' seemed to have such a low profile at the exhibition.

"In the UK we have been aware, for so long, about environmentally

friendly coffins made out of wicker and bamboo and, of course, the whole green friendly funeral debate. However, the number of exhibitors promoting such products were in the minority, and their stands seemed almost quiet compared to more traditional companies.

"Overall we were very impressed by the quality of products and purchased some wooden cremated remains caskets which are used for the interment of cremated remains.

"The exhibition is only held every two years but it was a real eye opener and proved excellent in terms of keeping us informed about what is happening in the industry in other parts of the world. I would definitely go again," added Edward.

Spotlight on the Hospices

In this installment of our local hospice feature, we turn the spotlight on Sue Ryder Care - **Wheatfields Hospice**, which cares for people with life-limiting illnesses, their families and loved ones, both at the hospice and across the Leeds community.

The 18 bed facility, situated in Grove Road, Headingley, is a Specialist Palliative Care Unit, meaning that the quality of life of those living with, or affected by, a serious illness such as multiple sclerosis, motor neurone disease, dementia or Parkinson's disease, is enriched to the best possible standard.

But who was Sue Ryder?

Born in Yorkshire in 1923, Sue Ryder served with the Special Operations Executive during the Second World

War. The SOE was established in 1940 to promote and co-ordinate resistance activity in German occupied Europe.

Her life's mission became clear in the aftermath of the Second World War when she worked as a volunteer amongst displaced and stateless refugees on the continent of Europe. The first home opened by Sue Ryder was St Christopher's in Germany, designed as a haven

for the people she met in Europe, many of whom were survivors of concentration camps.

The first home to be built by Sue Ryder was in Konstancin in Poland, followed by homes in England.

Hours of care

Employing over 600 staff in our region, the hospice provides thousands of hours of care every week. Residential care is offered on both a short and long term basis, as many patients with neurological diseases need support for 10, 20 or even 30 years.

Helen Ankrett is Head of Care and you can get further information about the Leeds Hospice on the website at www.suerydercare.org/wheatfieldshospice or by telephoning 0113 278 7249.

