

## **Independent Funeral Celebrant**

Speaking on behalf of funeral celebrants, I would just like to highlight that in these difficult times when attendance at a funeral service is severely restricted – and each Gloucestershire crematorium has its own restrictions in place – it is still possible for us to work with families to help find ways to create a farewell, even if they cannot be physically present. I am still ‘meeting’ with families via Facetime, Skype, WhatsApp, Zoom – and good old phone calls so that we can chat and plan.

Thinking of the funeral - the committal for burial or cremation - families may choose a webcast service to allow people further afield to watch, or even a completely virtual service hosted by me using a platform such as Zoom. We are exploring special things to do at the time of the service (light a candle, go out in the garden, read a special poem). Many of the families I am helping at the moment are doing this – and also putting energy into planning a wonderful memorial and celebration of life later on, and this is also something I – and other celebrants – can help with.

I’m happy to chat with anyone – professional or family - who would like to know more.

With all best wishes,  
Marie

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