

The Institute of Civil Funerals is celebrating its 10th Anniversary

A Civil Funeral is a funeral driven by the wishes, beliefs and values of the deceased and their family, not by the beliefs or ideology of the person conducting the funeral. It sits between a religious service and a humanist funeral.

On the Saturday 19 July, the Institute held a special Best Practice Day for its members.

The event – held on one of the hottest days of the year – was hosted by Christine Ogden, Chair of the Institute, and included a ‘birthday’ speech from IoCF founder and President Anne Barber, with celebration cake and fizz included.

Anne took the opportunity to reflect on all the IOCF has achieved since its foundation in 2004.

She said: “The increase in civil funerals in the past 10 years has been phenomenal and there is no doubt that the professionalism and dedication of IoCF members has played a huge part in making this happen.

“Members include former teachers, policemen, actors, registrars, servicemen and funeral directors. Together they now conduct nearly 7,000 funeral services annually, with bookings up another 20 per cent already in the first half of 2014.

“IoCF celebrants undertake rigorous accredited training and also commit to continuing professional development and assessment. The ‘Birthday’ Best Practice Day was a prime

example of how IoCF members meet up regularly to support each other and share their skills.”

This very special celebration closed with a congratulatory ‘Happy Birthday’ toast from Christine.

In November, the Institute will hold its Annual Conference for members – its biggest event of the year – in Birmingham.



Christine Ogden, Chair of the Institute Council of Management and the 10th Birthday Cake

