

# Professional Embalmers' Association of Ireland



## Setting Embalming Standards

**Ireland is still far behind other European countries and other developed countries around the globe when it comes to laws and regulations relating to the funeral industry. In the contrary, our funeral tradition is far richer if not equally as rich as most of these countries. It is our unique tradition that makes us Irish and it is because of this tradition that we, the funeral sector, exists.**

The funeral services and embalming practice has evolved in so many ways for the past twenty years. The value of our services cannot be denied of the vitality of the role it plays in the grieving and healing process after the tragedy of losing a loved-one. But is the value of this role completely understood or being practised by everyone involved in the funeral industry? The Irish legislation at the moment does not seem to be giving us borders and directions relating to the industry. So due of the lack of legislation in the funeral sector in Ireland, a small group of dedicated Embalmers, who saw the dire need of standardisation of the embalming practice, had convened and initiated a fully Irish association for Embalmers that would dedicate and promote an embalming standard that is set to equal if not exceed the standards of other countries and organisations globally.

The Professional Embalmers' Association of Ireland (PEAI) is an organisation based in Ireland representing professional embalming practitioners. The PEA I actively represents the Irish Embalmers at the European level. PEA I believes in the importance of having an Irish organisation which can independently represent Irish embalmers and that members will have their own voice in Europe and internationally. The PEA I also provides continuous support in training and education and also has a very helpful and effective practical work support system for members.

It is the aim of the PEA I that professional embalming standards within Ireland be raised and maintained at a level that is worthy of international recognition. The main driving force behind it all is the genuine understanding and themselves and the bereaved families whose lives are

being touched in so many ways by the passing away of their loved-ones.

The PEA I is gaining more interest from both the 'traditional & experienced' embalmers and even from young aspiring professionals. In the previous year, PEA I awarded new full membership certificates to the to nearly 30 members! This is certainly a huge breakthrough for the PEA I and the embalming practice in Ireland.

The PEA I is not an 'exclusive' organisation but is open to all professional embalmers and practising embalmers who wish to adopt and promote the PEA I standards of embalming practice here in Ireland and abroad.

If you are interested in joining the Professional Embalmers' Association of Ireland and be a part of a growing professional embalming practice and organisation feel free to contact Martina Burns, PEA I Secretary at 0863 845 446 / email: martinakburns@hotmail.com or David McGowan, PEA I Chairperson at 0872 437 063 email: mcgowand@eircom.net.  
[www.professionalembalmers.ie](http://www.professionalembalmers.ie)

### **PEAI General Meeting**

The Professional Embalmers' Association of Ireland would like to invite all its members to come to our upcoming General Meeting to be held in Maldrón Hotel, Oranmore, Galway on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2014. Registration will start at 9:30am. We will be having an educational seminar in the afternoon. Dr Elizabeth Brosnan, Endocrinologist (Mayo General Hospital) will be talking about "Infectious Diseases-Contamination and Prevention." We will also be joined by our members from the United States.

Details of the meeting agenda and programme for the day are available for download in our website [www.professionalembalmers.ie/category/events](http://www.professionalembalmers.ie/category/events). Members may request for information via email <info@professionalembalmers.ie or secretary@professionalembalmers.ie>