



Success in National Competition.

A Bedale Cemetery has scooped a prize at the National Cemetery of the Year Awards.

The 'BRAMM Bereaved Community Award' Silver Prize was presented to the Joint Burial Committee, who manage St Gregory's Churchyard in Bedale.

This is a new category in the Cemetery of the Year Awards 2023 and is open to all Burial Authorities in the UK. Any Cemetery or Burial Ground who have completed any local initiative which has helped the bereaved in any way within the last 5 years are eligible to enter for this award.

Philip Potts of the Memorial Awareness Board said;

'There are many enterprising Cemeteries that are willing to make a special effort to help bereaved families and this category was designed to showcase some of the best examples and hopefully inspire other Burial Authorities'

Allyson Marr, the Clerk to the Joint Burial Committee said: *'With the cost of living becoming a real problem for so many, the Joint Burial Committee identified an unused area of land at St Gregory's Churchyard that could be used to create a new Garden of Rest, to scatter loved ones ashes. Following a successful application for grant funding to The Rector and Four and Twenty Charity, the project to convert the area was completed in summer 2023. The Garden of Rest is situated next to the Memorial Wall, near to the car park. It is free for anyone to use and we hope that this will become an blessing and place of comfort for many years to come.'*



The Chairman of the Joint Burial Committee, Richard Corner, said: *'We are all extremely pleased to be recognised with this national award, it acknowledges that we go the extra mile to help and support the bereaved'*.

The Cemetery of the Year Awards are supported and endorsed by the following leading industry Associations –

- ✓ Memorial Awareness Board (MAB)
- ✓ Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management (ICCM)
- ✓ The Federation of Burial and Cremation Authorities (FBCA)
- ✓ The Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC)
- ✓ British Register of Accredited Memorial Masons (BRAMM)