

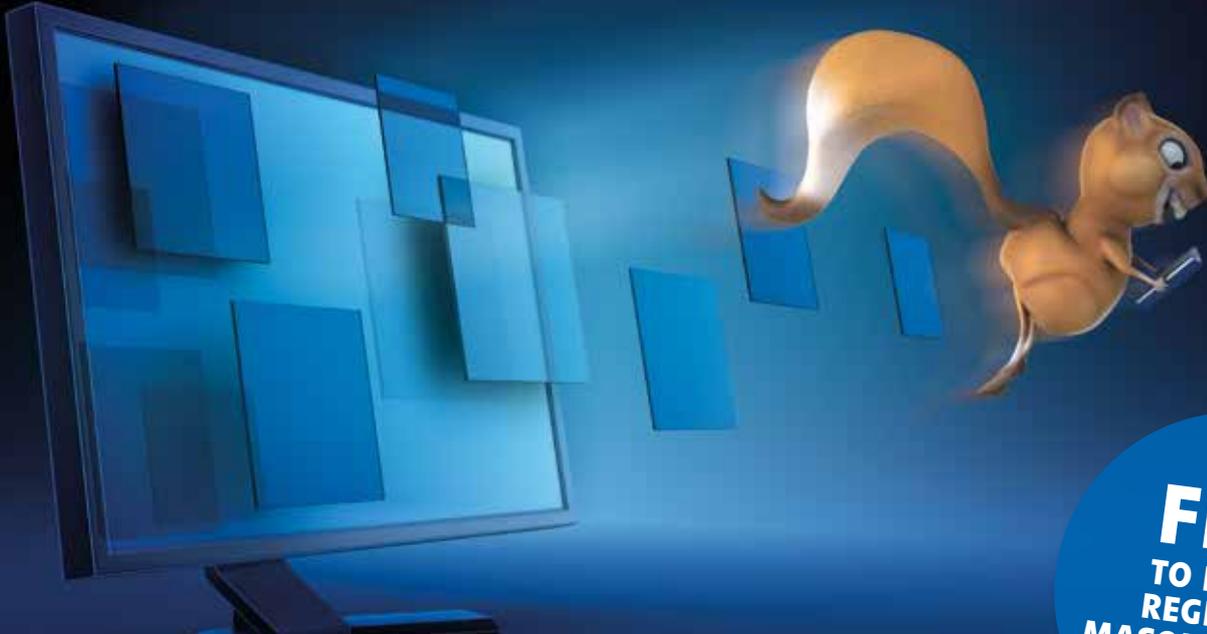
CELEBRATING

# BRAMM

10 YEARS

Winter Update 2015/2016

BRITISH REGISTER OF ACCREDITED MEMORIAL MASONS



*BS8415 sets the standard. The New Blue Book helps you achieve it.*

**FREE**  
TO BRAMM  
REGISTERED  
MASONS & BURIAL  
AUTHORITIES

# LAUNCHING THE NEW BLUE BOOK

**AVAILABLE AT THE BRAMM DOCUMENT DOWNLOAD CENTRE**

A revised edition of the BRAMM Blue Book is now available as a free download to all registered mason businesses, their fixers and burial authorities. Simply go to the BRAMM website ([www.bramm-uk.org](http://www.bramm-uk.org)), login and download it.

As an essential tool, The Blue Book should be carried and consulted when fixing memorials. The information provided is an excellent reference point and is intended to help achieve compliance with British Standard 8415 (BSI set the standard, the New Blue Book explains how to achieve it).

We are in the process of developing a smart-phone app which can be used to remotely access the new Blue Book whilst working on-site. This will reduce the need to print out multiple copies and will help ensure that everyone is referencing the latest edition. We will of course let you know as soon as this fabulous piece of technology is available. In the meantime, we encourage you to ensure all masons/fixers have a copy of the new Blue Book with them when working, so they have access to the information they need.

[www.bramm-uk.org](http://www.bramm-uk.org)

## SPOTLIGHT

In this issue we are including a small piece about a member of our Training and Assessing Team, Alan Lawrence.



Based in the West Midlands, Alan has been a jobbing memorial mason for over 40 years. Like many who join small, family run memorial masonry firms, he started at the bottom by making tea, fetching sandwiches, digging graves, etc. before being allowed to slowly work his way through the various practical skills and job knowledge requirements that must be mastered to make a competent and well-rounded memorial mason.

Fast forward to 2003 when BRAMM was still in its developmental pre-launch stage ~ Alan was one of the original group NAMM Members involved in the initial creation of BRAMM and has been part of it ever since.

During our conversation Alan said: *"I've always had an interest in putting something back into the trade that has given me such a varied, interesting and fulfilling career. In my case, the 'put back' is mostly through the process of training and assessing. I began to get involved in training, albeit on an informal 'in-house' basis, about 30 years ago. However, in 2003 I was part of a small group of memorial masons who put themselves forward as possible Assessors for the embryonic 'BRAMM Scheme' as it was then known. Fortunately, I was successful and, like everything these days, you had to achieve an appropriate formal Assessor qualification. This I did in 2004 and eventually went on to also achieve my 'Internal Verifier' qualification a couple of years later which I feel, together, give me a more realistic overview of the whole process and its requirements."*

## THE BRAMM A1 ASSESSOR OPPORTUNITY

We are looking for applicants for the role of A1 Assessor to play a vital role in assessing all those seeking to gain a BRAMM Fixer Licence. This is an excellent opportunity as full training will be provided for candidates with appropriate experience and who show real interest, enthusiasm and commitment.

**For more information call the BRAMM office on 01452 346741**

## LATEST STATS

Approved Registered Businesses = 738  
Licensed Fixers = 798  
Registered Burial Authorities = 166



Please note that an archive of digital (PDF format) BRAMM newsletters is available on the website.

## TRAINING AND TEST DATES

A number of training and test dates are being organised for the year ahead and will be listed once confirmed on the website. Please visit [www.bramm-uk.org](http://www.bramm-uk.org) to keep up-to-date.



## ON-GOING TRAINING (CPD)

Continuous Personal Development must be undertaken by fixers to maintain standards and retain the BRAMM Fixer Licence. Fixers must complete one training course during each five year period. After five years, as the licence renewal date approaches, an appropriate training certificate must be sent to the BRAMM office along with a £25 admin fee and a new licence will be issued. This allows the fixer to continue working in BRAMM registered burial grounds for another 5 years. The approved training subjects are:

- First Aid (appointed person) Manual Handling
- Health & Safety – A Construction Skills Certification Scheme
- Kerb Fixing
- Plaque Fixing
- Cleaning Lawn Headstone Granite/Stone
- Cleaning Kerbset Granite/Stone
- Re-Fix Lawn Headstone
- Re-Fix Kerbset
- Fix Monolith
- Fix Bookset
- Height Work
- Inspection & Testing of Memorials
- Working Below Ground and in Confined Spaces



We provide training opportunities around the country that fixers can attend to achieve this requirement free of charge (see website for training events). Alternatively, courses are provided by NAMM, Local Authorities, colleges and many other independent bodies. Before committing to a course, please check with us that the provider of the training is BRAMM approved.

In-house training is another way of achieving successful completion of these subjects. A company would need to send the BRAMM Board an outline of the training they intend to carry out, together with the name, qualifications and relevant experience of the trainer.

Other training subjects may be approved by BRAMM. If you wish to gain (or offer) training in another suitable subject, please contact BRAMM for approval.



**Certa**  
National Awarding  
Organisation & Access  
Validating Agency

**BRAMM**  
**INSTALLATION OF  
LAWN MEMORIALS  
LEVEL 2**

A two day training course designed to enable fixer-masons to work in compliance with British Standard 8415

- Helps gain your BRAMM Fixer Licence
- Learn to work in compliance with BS8415  
Day 1: Training assessment theory day  
Day 2: Practical assessment day
- Utilises *The Blue Book* as a reference aid
- Unit Credit Value 3
- Comparable to the NVQ Level 2 Memorial Fixers Unit
- Quality controlled by Certa
- Developed in conjunction with BRAMM

**£295<sup>+</sup> VAT**  
COSTED ON A NOT-FOR-PROFIT BASIS

For more information call BRAMM on 01452 346741

## HAVE YOU RECENTLY INVESTED IN NEW VEHICLES, MOVED PREMISES OR REPLACED BROKEN GLASS?

If you need BRAMM stickers for new vehicles or to place on showroom/ workshop glass windows and doors (perhaps you've replaced glass that once displayed your original BRAMM sticker), then please contact the office and we will send you more stickers free of charge. Visually highlighting your registration with BRAMM to customers and burial authorities in this manner immediately provides professional credibility through brand association, helping you win more business by providing confidence to potential customers... it all helps build and strengthen your reputation.



## THE BENEFITS OF REGISTRATION

At just £99 + VAT per year, plus an additional £10 + VAT per branch, BRAMM Registration represents the most cost effective way for memorial mason businesses to present themselves with credibility in their marketplace, demonstrating a real commitment to high standards and continuous development. Other benefits include:

### One set of registration paperwork

BRAMM registration means you have access to all BRAMM registered burial sites avoiding the palaver of applying to multiple, individual local authority registration schemes.

### Free On-going Training

Keeping masons/fixers up-to-date with the latest techniques, broadening knowledge and improving skills.

### A community connection

Regular BRAMM newsletters keep you up-to-date with developments in the industry and offer advice and guidance on many technical issues.

### Cross industry representation

The BRAMM board has a fair and equal representation of Memorial Masons and the leading industry organisations ICCM, FBCA and SLCC. This means you and your views are fairly represented during decision making, enabling you to have a say and influence over the future of your industry.

### Involvement with British Standards

BRAMM has representation on the British Standards board, so again, you have a voice in important issues that will ultimately affect your working practice.

### Business promotion

All registered businesses appear on the online BRAMM Register (with a business web page upgrade available). The BRAMM website received 1714 hits in December 2015.

To register your business, email: [bramm@bramm-uk.org](mailto:bramm@bramm-uk.org)



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# BRAMM

10 YEARS

BRAMM, Kestrel Court, Waterwells Drive, Waterwells Business Park, Quedgeley, Gloucester GL2 2AT  
Telephone 01452 346741 Facsimile 01452 886961 Email [bramm@bramm-uk.org](mailto:bramm@bramm-uk.org) Web [www.bramm-uk.org](http://www.bramm-uk.org)

The BRAMM office is open 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday



HAVE YOU UPDATED YOUR ADDRESS BOOK WITH OUR NEW CONTACT DETAILS (SEE ABOVE)?



## LOCAL AUTHORITY SEMINARS 2016

EDINBURGH : 27<sup>th</sup> Jan 2016

LONDON : 10<sup>th</sup> Feb 2016

GLOUCESTER : 16<sup>th</sup> Feb 2016

These half-day seminars are for cemetery management who aim to achieve the highest safety standards for memorial construction.

Whether you are registered with BRAMM or not, we will provide a sound understanding of our free services designed to create safer cemeteries. For more information visit the website and to book your place, email [bramm@bramm-uk.org](mailto:bramm@bramm-uk.org)

LOCAL AUTHORITY INTEREST

## DON'T LET BOGUS FIXERS SLIP UNDER YOUR RADAR

### SIMPLY CHECK THE CREDENTIALS OF BRAMM REGISTERED BUSINESSES, AND THEIR FIXERS, ON OUR WEBSITE, 24/7

The BRAMM scheme helps to ensure only qualified, competent and insured masons/fixers operate in your burial ground. The system works well, but we can't stop masons who are not registered claiming they are, or just quietly trying to slip under the radar without you noticing. For this reason, burial authorities must check the credentials of all businesses and fixers at the point of application. This way, if an incident arises, you can be sure the necessary insurance and support is in place.

We recommend, as a matter of procedure when assessing Memorial Approval Forms, you simply login to the BRAMM website and check the credentials as part of your process. We've ensured the website is easy to use to make this task simple and convenient for you. Please help us make BRAMM effective by playing your role.

**BRAMM-UK.ORG**

Note: All registered masons/fixers are issued with a BRAMM ID card and should present this when working in your burial ground.

LOCAL AUTHORITY INTEREST