



# The final farewell

*A new Buxton business is helping families to cope with the death of a much-loved pet*

**F**OR animal lovers, the death of a pet is the death of a loved one, with all the grief and sense of loss that brings.

Buxton couple Tony and Lesley Welling know how it feels, having both lost their pets in the last two years. Now they have launched a pet funeral service that they believe would have helped them to cope better with the deaths.

"My border collie, Ben, was 15 when he died two years ago, shortly after Lesley lost her two cats, Fluffy and Howard," says Tony. "You build up a really strong bond over the years and it's a traumatic end when you have to call in the vet.

"We thought for a long time that there was a real need in the area for a funeral service that would enable people to say a proper farewell to their pets."

Tony planned the launch of High Peak Pet Funeral Services during his final years as a sergeant with Derbyshire police. The business was launched soon after his retirement in August.

The service is the only one in north Derbyshire that is a member of the

Association of Private Pet Cemeteries and Crematoria – a UK organisation that sets standards for the pet bereavement industry. All members have to work to a strict code of practice.

Based at Harpur Hill Business Park, High Peak Pet Funeral Services has a purpose-built centre catering for the individual cremation of pets.

***"There was a real need for a funeral service that would enable people to say a proper farewell to their pets"***

"We will collect pets from the vets or, if people prefer, we can visit them at home with the vet so that their pet can be put to sleep in a stress-free, familiar environment. We then transport them, in pet beds, to our premises in our hearse," says Tony.

"Alternatively, people can bring their pet to us by prior appointment. We have a farewell room where they can spend some time in peaceful and private surroundings. It means a great deal for people to be able to

say goodbye to their pets in a quiet and dignified manner."

He adds: "All our animals are cremated individually and the ashes returned to their owners together with a certificate. Clients can choose from a wide range of caskets or other tributes to contain their pets' ashes."

Owners are welcome to visit High Peak Pet Funeral Services' premises by appointment to satisfy themselves that the facilities are suitable for their needs. Tony says: "If an owner does lose a pet, they should contact us directly if they wish to use our services, as the vet will not automatically do so."

He says the new service has been welcomed by families as far away as Derby: "I have been sent a number of testimonials from pet owners who say we have really helped them to come to terms with the loss of a dear friend and companion," says Tony ■

High Peak Pet Funeral Services  
34a Cedar Avenue, Harpur Hill,  
Buxton SK17 9JL  
Tel: 0800 093 2367  
[www.hppfs.co.uk](http://www.hppfs.co.uk)

High Peak Pet  
Funeral Services

