



Unite  
against  
COVID-19



Welcome to the November 2021 edition of from “The Lectern” brought to you by The Lychway Funeral Directors.

Spring has sprung and along with that the farmers are busy with all the good things spring brings. Christmas is not far away (where has this year gone to?).

Be careful in the rural areas as heavy machinery now start to mix with normal traffic. These tractors and harvesters are huge to pass. They will pull over so be patient. This will go on over the next few months whilst cultivation in readiness for seasonal planting takes place and then there's hay making – busy times!

The current Covid-19 level 2 lockdown upon us all we would like to remind you that Lychway team are available to respond to your needs during this time. During this time face coverings are mandatory for all our staff and you, our families, when you visit our place; as well as signing in on the Covid App.

The new strain of Covid Delta brings new challenges. I am sure that the government know what they are doing with the new rules we have to work with. Although there are some who disagree with Jacinda and her team.

The Lychway team are available to you at any time during Covid -10 lockdown

## Covid

Funerals and tangihanga at Alert Level 2

At Alert Level 2, there are limits on the number of people who can attend a funeral, tangihanga, Up to 100 people can attend a funeral or tangihanga both indoors and outdoors.

This applies to funerals and tangihanga held at:

- funeral homes
- maraes
- churches, mosques and other faith-based places of worship
- hired venues or facilities
- private dwellings.

You do not need to wear a face covering when attending a funeral or tangihanga but we encourage you to wear one, if possible.

Do not attend a funeral, tangihanga or religious gathering if you are feeling unwell. Stay home and call your doctor or Healthline on 0800 358 5453 for advice on getting a test.

We recommend avoiding physical contact such as harirū, hongis, kissing and hugging except if you:

- live with them
- are whānau
- are close friends.

This may be a challenging time for you and your family. If you ever feel you are not coping, it is important to talk with a health professional.

For support if you need to talk, you can call or text 1737. It is free, anytime, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to talk with a trained counsellor.

### **What to do when someone dies**

Someone in your family or close to you has died and nothing can soften the shock and emotional distress you feel. "What do I do now?" is often the first question asked.

As hard as it is, the first thing is not to panic or get over stressed with worry, although this is easier said than done. In the first instance you may find it easier to make contact with any one of our team at The Lychway, (06) 3578143 and allow us to take a lot of the pressure from you and do what needs to be done on your behalf.

We are available to you 24 hours a day, every day of the year, and we ask you to call us and allow us to assist you and guide you through the process.

### **Funeral services**

Our funeral directors will continue working during Alert Level 2. They will be able to guide you on the best options for your situation, which may include:

- livestreaming services on social media, or videoing them for later viewing
- holding the funeral or tangi after the Covid restrictions ease
- holding a memorial service later, when restrictions on gatherings are lifted and it is safe to do so.

If you need to travel into or out of a region at the current covid levels for a funeral or tangihanga you will need to apply for an exemption. There are strict restrictions in place for travel between regions. Ask about seeking a travel exemption. They are not mandatory rather given on a case-by-case basis.

## **Recently the Funeral Directors Association have started an awareness campaign heading**



What does this mean to you?

We come across all too often where a loved one has not prepared for their departure and thus leave those left behind with lots of questions and sometimes uncertainty. Nobody really wants that, so we want to say to you, Take the time to talk ...

To us? Definitely.

To your loved ones – most definitely.

About the things that matter to you and what you want as a last fare well.

The old adage of "just put me in a box and throw me away" doesn't cut it anymore.

There is a video on youtube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uGhOLTKxn74&t=53s> where a daughter tells her story. Its worth the listen.

Call us today for a no obligation chat so you can give your family the simple yet meaningful gift that you took the time to talk



Glenn Davies

Glenn is a funeral director/embalmer and has over 15 years' experience within the funeral industry.

Glenn is passionate about his chosen career and takes great pride in caring for the bereaved families he looks after. He also believes it is important to allow relatives and friends to spend unlimited time saying goodbye to their loved one before the service takes place. In his spare time, Glenn enjoys a bit of fishing with his son Matt and spending time with his partner Racheal.



## **Burn outs**

It seems that in this day and age that a section of the younger generation and sometimes not so younger generation are bent on showing what they think is a mark of respect of the deceased by doing a burn out either on the road outside a funeral home, at the cemetery, and brashly in the funeral home carpark. In my opinion this action is not welcome at any funeral for any reason. And some of the families that have experienced this action are aghast that this section of our community think it's the thing to do. This practice must stop! Not only at our place, but wherever. Its not funny, nor is it a mark of respect for the deceased. As a funeral director, and when this has happens no matter how much we plead for it not to, we have to appease the family and deal with the outfall with neighbours and having to live with the scars on the road way. So to those that may read this and say fair enough – save your money that you would spend on tyres and make a donation to a worthy charity instead.

## **Cortege and opposing traffic**

Once upon a time long ago it was common courtesy and a mark of common respect not to pass a funeral cortege or cut in on one. I remember living in Wanganui during the late 70's that opposing traffic would put their lights on and pullover and stop until the first handful of care (the family) has passed before continuing. That practice I believe still happens occasionally. Sometimes when I car is passing a cortege and they come in behind the hearse the driver looks embarrassed and not sure what to do – to you I say stay behind the cortege for that short amount of delay and show some respect without embarrassing yourself. Even stop and allow the cortege to travel legally unimpeded across and main intersection or enter a busy roadway.