

The background features abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of green, ranging from light lime to dark forest green. These shapes are primarily located on the left and right sides of the page, framing the central white area where the text is placed.

## **THE HISTORY AND EVOLUTION OF ELECTRIC CREMATORS IN THE UK**

**By Lee Snashfold**

“The modern electric cremation furnace is absolutely reliable and can be depended upon for continuity of service. It gives smokeless combustion, complete absence of smell, quietness in operation and generally lends itself to the aesthetic requirements of cremation”.

“The first patents on electrically-heated cremation furnaces were taken out in the United States. At that time, the designs were based chiefly on purely electro-technical and economic considerations, and for this reason never found a practical application. The Cremation Association (Feuerbestattungs-Genossenschaft) of Biel (Switzerland) took the initiative of building an electrically heated cremation furnace in 1928/29 and a contract was drawn up between the said Association and Brown Boveri in 1932 covering the building of this furnace. Thus, the first electrically-heated cremation furnace in the world was put into service at Biel in the year 1933.”



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We shall be pleased to offer first-hand advice, based on actual practice, covering the widest range of industrial furnace application.

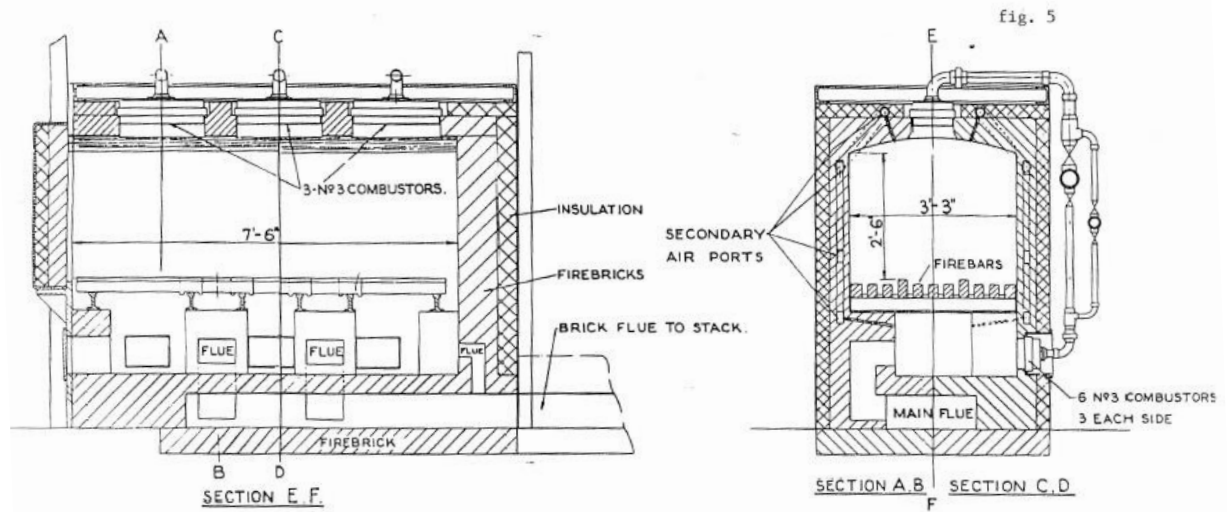
**BIRMINGHAM ELECTRIC FURNACES Ltd.  
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“There is, in the use of electricity for cremation an inherent “fitness for purpose” which is immediately apparent. The elimination of fuel with its unavoidable accompaniment of smoke and dirt is essentially in accordance with the sanctity of crematoria and the clean radiant heat of an electric furnace is undoubtably preferable to the idea of burning which is inseparable from the use of any other form of furnace.”

“My introduction to cremation was frightening with flames surging outwards from the doors of a Toisoul – Fradet Cremator”.

Leonard Evans 1959

# RADIANT HEAT



“The Lawnswood Cremator confirmed gas as the natural fuel for cremation”.



“Generally speaking the cremation industry’s experience of electric cremators has not been good. Whilst the principle of the process is sound, there seems to have been quite a few problems developing an efficient, reliable electric cremator which could complete a cremation in a reasonable time. Some of the crematoria that chose to install electric cremators have since reverted to conventional gas fired units, and recently the only other user of electric cremators in England, Mid Warwickshire Crematorium, has followed suit.”