

# THE CHINESE IN BENDIGO

The Bendigo Chinese Association works in close harmony with the Trust and has accumulated a great deal of history and knowledge about Chinese burials in the Bendigo region.

The Golden Dragon Museum in Bridge Street, houses a wealth of artefacts and historical data as well, of course, as the world famous dragons.



• Bendigo's world famous dragon Sun Loong

The Bendigo Cemeteries Trust Volunteer Committee is the Trusts authorised committee for the conduct of displays, cemetery tours and research.

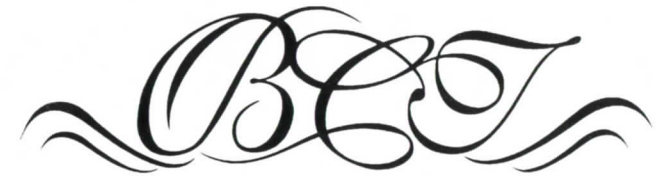
For research and all other queries regarding the Bendigo, Eaglehawk, Kangaroo Flat, White Hills or Axedale Public Cemeteries please contact the Bendigo Cemeteries Trust.

Telephone: (03) 5446 1566  
Facsimile: (03) 5446 9958  
Email: [bct@tpg.com.au](mailto:bct@tpg.com.au)

The Bendigo Cemeteries Trust Volunteers host regular displays and conduct guided tours at these cemeteries.

Self guided tour booklets are also available for sale for:

Eaglehawk Cemetery  
Bendigo Cemetery  
Kangaroo Flat Cemetery  
White Hills Cemetery  
German Settlers Bendigo Cemetery



BENDIGO CEMETERIES TRUST



## CHINESE BURIALS

### WHITE HILLS PUBLIC CEMETERY

Corner of Holdsworth Road and  
Plumridge Street, White Hills

# CHINESE BURIALS

The Chinese Burial site at the White Hills Public Cemetery is one of the most authentic original Chinese burial grounds in Australia.

Many of those buried were young at the time; aged in their late 20's to 30's. They came seeking gold and lived in extremely harsh conditions. Burials at this cemetery date from about 1854 and evidence of recognition is still prevalent by the placement of footstones.



The Chinese have very strong spiritual beliefs. The Chinese festival known as Ching Ming (Clear and Bright) is an occasion to pay homage to the dead and honour the family ancestors. It involves cleaning the graves, burning incense and making offerings. This occurs at the end of the second or beginning of the third moon of the lunar calendar.

The present site was initially towards the rear of the cemetery. It is now located just to the left of the main entrance.



• Chinese Footstones at the White Hills Cemetery (above & above left).



• Burning Tower at the White Hills Cemetery

The Burning Tower is used at funerals to burn offerings of paper clothing and money, and sometimes paper houses and cars so that the deceased would be provided for in the after life. The pathway which traverses the Chinese section at the White Hills was made in consultation with the Chinese.

Those who visit the area are asked to stay within the pathway and afford the site respect.