

**MELODY MAKER:** The grave of bandsman James Northcott.

was knighted in recognition of his service.

Sir John died in 1932.

A striking grave belonging to James Northcott bears musical notes.

Born in 1836 in Devonshire, Mr Northcott permanently settled in the Bendigo district in 1860.

Mr Northcott was best known in the region as a bandsman.

Greta said that in 1871, Mr Northcott was presented with a silver cornet in recognition of his services as a musician by the citizens of Bendigo.

Greta then pointed out another significant grave.

"This grave is in memory of William Francis and Richard Francis, they were founders of the Beehive store in the gold rush days," she said.

Another grave, Peter Hoey Finn, tells the story of another significant Bendigo monument.

"He came to Australia during the

goldfields and had a store in Long Gully which burnt down," she said.

"He then went back to his trade as a mason and he carved the granite bowl of Alexandra Fountain."

Greta said there had been some 60,000 internments in the monumental section of the Bendigo Cemetery since the first recorded burial in 1854.

"You've got to consider in some graves there can be up to six people," she said.

Greta pointed to Elizabeth Watson's grave, and mentioned she was the only woman known to have died in a mining accident.

"Her husband was operating mining machinery and she went in, but because they had the long dresses, her dress got caught in the winding chain and she was caught up, wound through in the chain and killed in 1863.

"Death is very sad but it comes to us all."

The Bendigo Cemetery is de-



**BENEVOLENT:** Anne Caudle, in wh

nominal design because the location of burials once depended on one's religion.

Cemetery tours at Bendigo, White Hills, Eaglehawk and Kangaroo Flat are being held during the summer months, as part of Summer in the Parks program.

Greta said people were mainly interested in the town's history, as well as their own family history.

"It's estimated one in seven families in Australia is touched by a link in Bendigo," she said.

■ For more information on the cemetery tours, phone the Bendigo Cemeteries Trust on 5446 1566.