

### Fascinating tours and talks

Springvale Botanical Cemetery conducts a variety of complimentary walking and bus tours, which offer an historical and botanical experience that is second to none.

Our resident historian is also available to conduct fascinating talks on a variety of cemetery related topics, depending on your interests.

For further information on our tours and talks, please contact us on **(03) 8558 8278** or email [celestina.sagazio@smct.org.au](mailto:celestina.sagazio@smct.org.au)

### More information

For assistance with information regarding burial sites and memorial locations please contact us on:

**(03) 8558 8278** or email [sbc@smct.org.au](mailto:sbc@smct.org.au) or visit our website at [www.sbc.smct.org.au](http://www.sbc.smct.org.au)

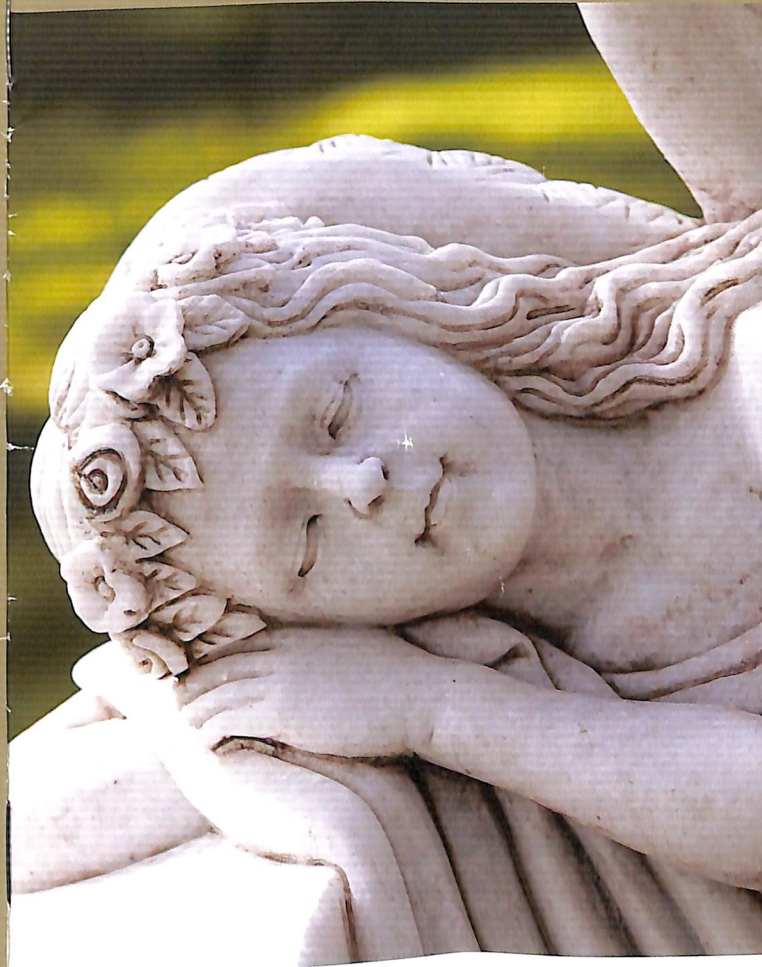


**SPRINGVALE**  
BOTANICAL CEMETERY

Honouring and celebrating life

## The Who's Who of Springvale Botanical Cemetery

Your guide to notable interments  
and historic sites.



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# Springvale Botanical Cemetery

## notable interments and historic sites

Springvale Botanical Cemetery, formerly the Necropolis, was established in 1901 and opened in 1902. It is arguably Australia's most beautiful cemetery. The total site spans 169 hectares (422 acres). The cemetery was unique in adopting a formal original plan based on the Union Jack. It was predominately a Christian burial ground in the early years. The first burial took place in the Church of England section on 20 March 1902. The deceased was Clarence Reardon, who was only 7 months old when he succumbed to whooping cough. The early trustees lobbied hard for the establishment of a railway line to their cemetery. The railway line operated from 1904 until 1950 and formally closed in 1951. This was the only branch railway line and station within a cemetery in Victoria. The cemetery struggled in its first thirty years of operation principally because of poor finances, its remote site and the inadequate and poorly patronised railway services.

Broad acres and an unusually efficient and economic internal water-supply system were vital in the development of the cemetery. The growing popularity of cremation from the 1930s and improved cremation infrastructure solved the cemetery's early financial problems. Springvale provided Victoria's first regular cremation facilities within two years of cremation being officially authorised by State legislation of 1903. The first legal cremation service, involving Edward Davies, a retired customs officer, occurred at Springvale on 13 April 1905. To meet the increase in demand, a new oil-fired crematorium with adjacent Boyd Chapel was built in 1936 and expanded in 1941. This was a turning point in the history of the Springvale Botanical Cemetery and helped put it on its way to becoming the leader in cremation facilities in Australia and significant in world terms by 1970. In 1991 the current world-class crematorium was constructed.

The memorial rose gardens, with their 29,500 roses of over 300 varieties, are the largest in Australia.

- 1 Aaron Treve 'Tommy' Woodcock (1905-1985) Phar Lap's Strapper Cassia, Wall AQ, Niche 5
- 2 William Harold Ponsford (1900-1991) Australian Cricketer Genista, Garden 3, Bed 11, Rose 13
- 3 Charles William 'Bud' Tingwell (1923-2009) Actor Fuchsia, Garden 2, Bed 26, Position 43
- 4 John William Alexander Jackson (1897-1959) Victoria Cross Recipient, Boronia, Wall K, Niche 395
- 5 Sir Albert Arthur Dunstan (1882-1950) Premier Pittosporum, Tree 14
- 6 JA Boyd Chapel Built 1936
- 7 Renowden Chapel Built 1941
- 8 James Rogers (1873-1961) Victoria Cross Recipient, Renowden, Room 3, Section E, Niche 11
- 9 Grevillea Memorial Garden (established 1937) First rose garden in the cemetery
- 10 Wilson Chapel Built 1963
- 11 Blair Chapel Built 1971
- 12 Plaque on rock – words by British Prime Minister William Gladstone cnr Main Drive and 2nd Avenue
- 13 William Dunstan (1895-1957) Victoria Cross Recipient Banksia, Wall D, Niche 507
- 14 Lawrence Dominic McCarthy (1892-1975) Victoria Cross Recipient, Banksia, Wall G, Niche 81
- 15 Arthur Edward 'Scobie' Breasley (1914-2006) Jockey Gardenia, Garden 1, Tree 146
- 16 Gary Michael Silk (1964-1998) Murdered Policeman Diosma, Garden 1, Rose 63(west) (near Rose Bed 51)
- 17 Francis (Frank) Daniel Crean (1916-2008) Deputy Prime Minister Diosma, Garden 1, Rose Bed 77
- 18 Rocco Surace Mausoleum (above-ground burials) Built 1997-1998

- 19** Luciano Rossetti Mausoleum (above-ground burials)  
Built 2005
- 20** William Maldon Woodfull (1897-1965) Australian Cricket  
Captain & Schoolteacher Acacia, Garden 5, Tree 102
- 21** Sir John McEwen (1900-1980) Prime Minister Brind,  
Bed 17, Rose 1
- 22** Bunya-bunya pine tree (planted 1902) Causarina Lawn 1
- 23** Bunya-bunya pine tree (planted 1902) Luculia
- 24** Site of Former Railway Station (opened 1904 and closed  
1951) Eucalypt
- 25** Victoria Cross Memorial Commemorates Victoria Cross  
recipients cnr 6th Avenue and North Drive
- 26** Australian War Graves (first burials in 1942) and Victorian  
Garden of Remembrance North Drive and 2nd Road
- 27** World-class Crematorium Opened 1991
- 28** Song He Yuan Asian section opened in 2003
- 29** Walter Reginald Hume (1873-1943) Inventor & Entrepreneur  
Presbyterian, Compartment B, Section 13, Grave 11
- 30** James Arthur Boyd (1867-1941) Politician & Necropolis  
Trustee Presbyterian B, Section 14, Grave 24
- 31** Thomas Simmons (1853-1924) Foundation Necropolis  
Chairman of Trustees Presbyterian, Compartment B,  
Section 14, Grave 40
- 32** Thomas George Allen (1861-1929) Necropolis Trustee  
Presbyterian, Compartment B, Section 14, Grave 46
- 33** Robert Cuthbert Grieve (1889-1957) Victoria Cross Recipient  
Presbyterian, Compartment C, Section 15, Grave 28
- 34** Sir Billy Mackie Snedden (1926-1987) Politician & Speaker  
Presbyterian, Compartment C, Section 14, Grave 4
- 35** Sir Albert Victor Jennings (1896-1993) Builder Church of  
England, Compartment R, Section 25, Grave 48
- 36** Kevin O'Neill (1941-1997) Society Florist Church of England,  
Compartment R, Section 9, Grave 11
- 37** Ethel Tracy Attiwill (1877-1942) WWI Nursing Sister & Army  
Matron-in-Chief Church of England, Compartment R,  
Section 15, Grave 31
- 38** Ladislaus Sylvester Kossak (1828-1918) Mounted Policeman  
at Eureka Stockade Rebellion Church of England,  
Compartment R, Section 16, Grave 14
- 39** Red River Gum About 400 years old A.C. Downard Lawn
- 40** Site of base of the terminal overhead-wiring mast from the  
electrified railway line (installed 1922) A.C. Downard Lawn
- 41** Douglas Joseph Ashton (1918-2011) and Phyllis Ashton  
(1918-2000) Circus Proprietors Alex T. Gardner Headstone  
Lawn, Row 9, Grave 35
- 42** Edward Davies (1820?-1905) Retired Public Servant.  
First person to be cremated in this cemetery Church of  
England, Compartment A, Section 7, Grave 10
- 43** Police Memorial Established 1999 to honour police  
officers who died or were killed in the line of duty  
A.T. Gardner Headstone Lawn
- 44** First Burial Site Clarence Reardon (1902) A baby who died  
of whooping cough Church of England, Compartment A,  
Section 21, Grave 44
- 45** William Amiss Sailor (1879-1905) Church of England,  
Compartment A, Section 20, Grave 43
- 46** Charles Hansen (1863?-1905) Seaman Church of England,  
Compartment A, Section 19, Grave 43
- 47** Julia Rachel Rapke (1886- 1957) One of the first Female  
Magistrates in Victoria Jewish, Compartment E, Section 2,  
Grave 2
- 48** Trevor George Rapke (1909-1978) County Court Judge  
Jewish, Compartment E, Section 2, Grave 4
- 49** Metahar House (Built 1940-1941) Used to prepare bodies  
for burial Jewish, Compartment E
- 50** Former American War Cemetery (Burials of 1942-45 have  
been exhumed) Thomas Simmons Memorial Lawn
- 51** Richard Kelliher (1910-1963) Victoria Cross Recipient  
Thomas Simmons Memorial Lawn, Row DC, Grave 20

- 52 Elizabeth Britomarte James (1867-1943) WW1 Nurse and Political Reformer Joshua Jordan Lawn, Row AE, Grave 28
- 53 Percival Alan Pavey (1902-1991) Champion Rifle Shooter Presbyterian, Compartment N, Section 5, Grave 26
- 54 Darren Millane (1965-1991) Collingwood Footballer Presbyterian, Compartment O, Section 18, Grave 8
- 55 Garden of No Distant Place Established 1979
- 56 Benjamin James Ranaudo (1987-2009) Australian soldier killed in Afghanistan M.A.R. Synnot Lawn, Row CG, Grave 23
- 57 Steven Tynan (1966-1988) Murdered Policeman R.T.M. Pescott Lawn, Row BB, Grave 43
- 58 John Raymond 'Jack' Dyer (1913-2003) Richmond Footballer & Media Personality A.F. Alway Memorial Lawn, Row U, Grave 68
- 59 Edward John Francis Ryan (1890-1941) Victoria Cross Recipient, Roman Catholic, Compartment A, Section 19, Grave 5
- 60 First Cremation Site 13 April 1905 Henry Matthews Memorial Lawn
- 61 First Crematorium Site (1906-1933) Alfred Nicholas Memorial Gardens, Henry Matthews Memorial Lawn
- 62 Sir Zelman Cowen (1919-2011) Governor-General Jewish, Compartment A, Section 20, Grave 1
- 63 Dorothy Featherstone Porter (1954-2008) Poet Jewish Memorial Cemetery, Garden 2, Bed 55, Tree 3



After World War II there were great social changes and the cemetery adapted accordingly. Springvale pioneered the concept of public lawns in Victoria from the 1950s. Expansive public lawns, with their emphasis on simpler, egalitarian and efficient maintenance practices, gave Springvale a financial advantage over other cemeteries.

Notable interments include Governor-General Sir Zelman Cowen, Prime Minister Sir John McEwen, Premier Sir Albert Dunstan, Australian Rules footballers Jack Dyer and Darren Millane and Julia Rapke, one of the first female magistrates in Victoria.

Springvale is now a world-class, multicultural cemetery with many outstanding botanical and landscape features and excellent services.

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TO MONASH FREEWAY



- Notable Interments and Historic Sites
- In Memories We Live carousel
- Chapels - Follow Blue Line
- 🏠 Rotunda
- T Toilets
- 🏰 Archway
- 🚗 Car Parking Area
- F Drinking Water
- ☆ Notable Interments Board

TO MELBOURNE

TO DANDENONG

PRINCES HIGHWAY

EXIT ONLY

ENTRY ONLY