Welcome to the April 2016 newsletter

Vale John Hulskamp, Treasurer to Friends of St Kilda Cemetery Inc

The Friends of St Kilda Cemetery were saddened at the sudden death of our longstanding Treasurer John Hulskamp on 29 January 2016. John had been a committee member and supporter of the Friends since the group’s inception 18 years ago and his contribution will be much missed. All our sympathies are with Tanya and family and John’s many friends.

Call for Volunteers to assist us

WE HAVE SEVERAL SPOTS TO FILL ON COMMITTEE AND WOULD LOVE TO HAVE YOU JOIN US. We need assistance in preparing the newsletter, putting together a new Facebook page, organizing and assisting on tours and many other interesting and challenging things.

Cemeteries are a significant part of our community – history, art and sculpture, architecture, social significance, family history, and horticulture, are all found there, and much more...

Tours and their planning are enjoyable and interesting...and research work can be very gratifying...we would love your input and assistance.
Commemoration service for Albert Jacka VC, MC and Bar

The annual Albert Jacka Commemoration Ceremony, St Kilda Cemetery, was held on Sunday 17 January 2016 at 2.00pm. This service was organized by the City of Port Phillip. Flowers were laid on the grave by Elizabeth Hore, Vice President on behalf of Friends of St Kilda Cemetery.

Photo: Some wonderful costumes at Albert Jacka Commemoration Service, Sunday 17 January 2016, held at St Kilda Cemetery

Recent Tour Highlights

Artists Buried at St Kilda Cemetery Tour, Sunday 28 February 2016. Eleven people attended our first tour for the year visiting the graves of Sybil Craig, Hugh Ramsay, Joseph Panton, and Alfred Felton amongst others. As always this was a bright colourful tour enjoyed by all. We assisted Diane Nicholas in finding the graves of the Fetherston family, many of whom are buried at the cemetery.

Notable and Notorious Women Tour, Sunday 3 April 2016. 35 people joined us for one of our most successful tours through the cemetery, led by Mary Reid and Elizabeth Hore. A magic day, visiting the graves of Tilly Aston, Dame Mabel Brooks, Gertrude Johnson, Christina MacPherson, amongst many others. Once again we assisted those looking for family graves.
Contributions to our Newsletter are welcomed

We thank Chris McQuellin for his contribution of this article on Sir John Charles Hoad to our April 2016 newsletter.

Would you like to write an article (small or large) for the Newsletter? The Secretary/Newsletter editor would love to hear from you. Any contribution should be emailed as a Word document to the Secretary info@foskc.org and will be attributed when published. Please help us make our newsletter interesting and varied.

Image Hoad portrait: The Commonwealth Military Journal 1911-1914

Colonel John Charles Hoad.
Boer War illustration

Featured Article - Sir John Charles Hoad contributed by Chris McQuellin

The Major General
Sir John Charles Hoad. (1856-1911)

St Kilda Cemetery - Location: Presbyterian, Compartment B, Grave 0396A

This article is about the early history of Major General Sir John Hoad KCMG.

My interest in John Hoad came about when I read a speech where it was mentioned him being an old Albury boy. As a member of the Albury & District Historical Society the story of an Albury boy becoming the first Australian born Chief of Army is of historical interest in both local and national military terms as previous Chief’s of Army were British.

As part of the research project, I came to Melbourne to visit the St Kilda Cemetery in order to locate and photograph Hoad’s grave, but even with the reference, I found it impossible to locate as it is unmarked. Fortunately by chance a member of the Friends of St Kilda Cemetery was in the grounds and he kindly led me to the grave site.

Almost nothing has been recorded of Hoad’s early life and I have attempted to fill in the gaps of this part of his life. The Hoad history as presented on the FOSKC website is very good and contains his
John Hoad was born in January 1856 at Goulburn in the Southern Highlands of New South Wales. The NSW BDM register records that the family had four children, namely Anne, John, George and William. Younger brother George E (2yrs) died at Goulburn in 1860.

The family came to Albury in Southern New South Wales sometime in the period 1860/1861.

Family life was obviously quite difficult in Albury as John Hoad is recorded as saying his mother was buried in the Albury Cemetery and other records indicate, besides brother George’s death, his younger brother William being adopted out to the Sarson Family on their dairy farm in Lavington (Just to Albury’s North). Catherine Kearney’s/Hoad death in 1862 has yet to be verified, but the NSW BDM records that George Hoad remarried in 1863 to Hannah Vick at Albury.

John Hoad went to the National School in central Albury (Established: 1850), and played junior cricket here - a sport he enjoyed. (In June 1910, Hoad recounted part of his early life in an Albury Drill Hall address.). By August of 1864 his father was advertising the lease of his Townsend Street Albury Bakery. (John was still only eight years old.)

Further records indicate John was still in Albury as a young man (without close family support it seems) as the editor of the Albury Banner newspaper records him as being on his staff for a short period before becoming a trainee school teacher.

The death of his father George Hoad at Wangaratta on Thursday 10 September 1874 was recorded in the Ovens and Murray Advertiser.

Besides working at Albury ‘Banner’ newspaper and becoming a trainee teacher, the first record of John Hoad in Victoria was his appointment (January 1878) into the Victorian Education Department system as a teacher at SS 1948 - The Mt Ochtertyre State School near Gooramadda in Victoria’s North East. (Gooramadda is about 30 kilometers N/E of Wodonga on the Victorian side of the River Murray). He was then to remain teaching in the Wangaratta district until on 30 August 1883, the Ovens and Murray Advertiser reported on his transfer to the St Kilda district in Melbourne. Of Note: Hoad was also a Lieutenant in the Wangaratta Fire Brigade (1880). It was in Melbourne that his military career was to progress rapidly.

Before leaving Wangaratta, John Hoad married Sarah Sennetts in 1881. Lady Hoad was to live until 1938, where she passed away in a Waverley (Sydney) rest home at the age of 83.
Hoad’s later life is recorded in a good and concise biography by Warren Perry and published in the Australian Dictionary of Biography Vol. 9 1983 plus Online Edition, Canberra 2006, ISSN 1833-7538. I commend readers to refer to this publication or its online version at: http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/hoad-sir-john-charles-6686

General Hoad died on 6 October 1911 and his funeral was on 8 October. The military funeral was carried out with all the honours due to a Chief of the General Staff. About 2000 troops at arms paraded at Victoria Barracks and then marched to his home in Toorak Road and then to the St Kilda Cemetery for a full military burial. It is however with some sadness that one has to report on and view the current state of his unmarked and deteriorating grave.

I have recently written (2015) to His Excellency General the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC (Retd) about the state of the Major General’s grave in the St Kilda Cemetery.

However the reply indicated that he was unable to assist and that attention be directed to the Department of Defence or Department of Veterans affairs.

One would hope that with some persistence a grant or other funding could be arranged for grave reparations and appropriate signage and or identification for the first Australian to be Chief of Army.

Chris McQuellin 2016
COME AND HEAR MORE ABOUT HOAD, ANZACS AND OTHERS WHO FOUGHT FOR AUSTRALIA ON OUR ANZAC DAY TOUR
2.00PM ON MONDAY 25 APRIL 2016

A CALL FROM THE DARDANELLES

ENLIST NOW

WW1 Recruitment poster.

Future Tours and events

PLEASE NOTE: The Trust has provided portable toilets in the Cemetery for use during tours until such time as toilets are repaired.

Anzac Day Tour, Monday 25 April 2016 at 2.00pm, Coo-ee-Won’t YOU come and join us! Led by Elizabeth Hore.

Law Week Tour, “What a Way to Go? Unusual Deaths and a History of the Melbourne Morgue”, Saturday 21 May at 2.00pm. Led by Elizabeth Hore

No tour in June

July talk...Elizabeth Hore, Vice President, is speaking at Emerald Hill Library at 10.00am on Saturday 16 July, topic St Kilda and Boroondara Kew Cemeteries...Sculpture, Beauty and History. All welcome to attend.

Tour bookings: Email info@foskc.org or tel: 9531 6832

Other news and Committee News

Considering a drive in lovely Autumn weather? Why not visit a beautiful country heritage cemetery? Beechworth, Ballarat (Old and New), and Bendigo Cemeteries are fascinating early gold town cemeteries filled with history.


Committee news

NEW TREASURER: ROBIN DOUGLAS...we co-opted and welcomed our new Treasurer, Robin Douglas to committee at meeting held on 7 March 2016 and thank him for his kind offer to volunteer for this position with the Friends. Welcome, Robin...I am sure we will enjoy working together.

Become a member of the Friends...

PLEASE COME AND JOIN US...

Membership costs $15, includes free tours throughout the year and newsletter. Email info@foskc.org for a membership form.

LAW WEEK 2016, VICTORIAN LAW FOUNDATION

www.victorialawfoundation.org.au

Join the Friends on our Law Week 2016 Tour, St Kilda Cemetery,

What a Way to Go! Unusual Deaths

Saturday 21 May 2016 at 2.00pm

St Kilda Cemetery is located on the corner of Dandenong Road and Hotham Street, ST KILDA EAST