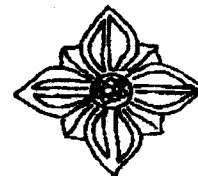


CEMETERY CONVERSATIONS

The Newsletter of the Friends of St Kilda Cemetery Inc

Reg No: A0038728J



Issue 9

August 2002

After attending a fascinating Full Moon Tour courtesy, of Friends of St. Kilda Cemetery we have decided to take on the task of the Newsletter. So your new editors are Sherryn Danaher and Debbie Williams, and we look forward to keeping The Friends informed of all the group's activities. We are eager to receive your stories and photographs related to the St Kilda Cemetery. We thank Susan Hudson for her valuable contribution in the past.

The Full Moon Tour

It was a cold, crisp autumn night; a perfectly clear sky except for the big full moon. An absolute must for the sixty five people who had gathered at St. Kilda Cemetery for the Full Moon Tour. We were warmly greeted by the ghostly skeleton of youthful James Morris who kindly offered us champagne. A quick drink and we were on our way. Cemetery leaders Geoff Austin and John Hawker began their tours at opposite ends of the cemetery until we collided halfway – fortunately there were no injuries. Our leader Geoff steered us down the path to James Kelly's grave – the founder of the Melbourne Metropolitan Fire Brigade. A large hint was evident in the railings of fire hoses and decorations of picks and helmets. As if on cue, a bat flew across the night sky adding to the atmosphere.

The spirit of Albert Jacka appeared in the mortal body of Keith Dudley who regaled us with his tales of World War 1His ghostly face lit by our torches. We continued along the uneven path, to the grave of the Stone sisters, who asked a shilling from every woman in Victoria, thereby, raising enough money to found the Queen Victoria Hospital. We all watched out for the family of foxes, but they stayed hidden for the night. We knew they were quietly keeping us company.

An eerie way to spend a Saturday evening, but highly entertaining, informative and original.

"Nation Builders"

"Nation Builders – Great Lives and Stories from St Kilda General Cemetery" was successfully launched by the Member for Melbourne Ports, the Hon. Michael Danby MP at a function at the cemetery in December, 2001. Also participating in this launch was the General Manager of The Necropolis, Mr. Russ Allison as well as the Prime Minister, the Right Honourable Alfred Deakin (played by Meyer Eidelson). Copies of "Nation Builders" may be purchased at any of our tours or activities or by ordering directly by telephone on 9531 6832.

CREMATION MEMORIAL

St Kilda Cemetery

Choose a memorial rose position or wall niche and you create a lasting focus for remembrance forever.

**The NECROPOLIS
SPRINGVALE**



Service & Care Always

PO Box 1159 RMDC Clayton Vic 3169

Congratulations

We'd like to extend our congratulations to our Secretary Geoff Austin on his recent marriage to Jenny.

Whilst on their honeymoon, we have it on good authority that while Jenny was enjoying the pleasures of shopping in Hong Kong, Geoff was seen skulking around the island's Cemetery. We wish them all the best for the future.



Join the Friends.

An invitation is extended to join the Friends of St. Kilda Cemetery if you are not already a paid up member. Annual membership is a modest \$10.00 per annum, and includes the following benefits;

- A waiver or reduction in cost of tours and activities in 2002
- A discount on the price of "Nation builders" (reduced from \$15.00 to \$10.00)
- Continued receipt of this newsletter
- A say in the running of the organization
- Membership through to 30th June 2003
- The knowledge that your contribution is directly assisting the work of the Friends

Mailing List

Over 200 people receive this newsletter and postage cost is therefore quite significant. In order that you continue to receive this newsletter, we ask that you consider joining the Friends by completing the enclosed membership application form if you are already not a member. Unfortunately, due to financial constraints this is the last time that we are able to send this newsletter, unless you are a financial member.

Wanted – Stories, Photographs.

The Friends are constantly looking for interesting stories and historical photographs of the cemetery for use on tours and in publications. If you have any interesting stories and any photographs (which can be copied and returned) please contact Pearl Donald on 9531 6832.

Diary Dates for 2002

Sunday 25th August 2002 Annual General Meeting & A slide tour of European Cemeteries.

Notice is given that the Annual General Meeting will be held at West St. Kilda RSL, 23 Loch Street. W. St. Kilda (members only) followed by at 4.30p.m. A slide tour of the fabulous Novadevichy Cemetery Moscow and The Zentralfridhof (Central Cemetery) in Vienna. Novadevichy Cemetery is the resting place of Nikita Khrushchchev, Anton Chekhov, Andrei Gromyko and Raisa Gorbachev. Ludwig von Beethoven, Franz Schubert and the Strauss family are buried in Vienna. Pre-bookings are essential. Contact 9531 6832 to confirm your attendance. Cost is \$5.00 per adult. Members of the Friends of St. Kilda Cemetery and children (under 18) are free.

Sunday 27th October, 2002 at 2.00pm Horticultural Tour

Join horticulturist and Committee Member John Hawker for this tour which focuses on gardeners, botanists and the horticultural features of St. Kilda Cemetery. Cost \$5.00 for adults. Members and children free.

Sunday 24th November, 2002 at 2.00pm Notable Women.

Join the Friends on this tour which focuses on notable women buries in St. Kilda Cemetery and the contributions that they have made to the community and the nation. Cost \$5.00 Adults. Members and children free.

Friends of St. Kilda Cemetery Office Bearers and Contacts

President:	Freda Erlich
Vic President:	Kay Rowan
Treasurer:	John Hulskamp
Secretary	Geoff Austin
Committee Member	Pearl Donald
Committee Member	John Hawker

Websites www.vicnet.net.au/~foskc/ www.foskc.org.au

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