

The Infants' Butterfly Garden, created for the memorialisation of children up to six years of age, is a whimsical place with windmills, riverstones and other unique forms of memorials.

At Karrakatta, there is plenty of scope for personalising a garden memorial. Families can request special garden features, such as statues and birdbaths and ornamental rocks.

The Metropolitan Cemeteries Board also caters for sections of the community with particular needs. In 2003 a Medical Science Memorial Garden was created for the commemoration of people who have donated their mortal remains to the School of Anatomy and Human Biology at the University of Western Australia.

A memorial can be created soon after the funeral or many years later. In many, but not all instances, ashes are placed with the memorial.

Cemetery Renewal

To ensure that Karrakatta can continue to offer burial services for the community, the Metropolitan Cemeteries Board has commenced a visionary process known as cemetery renewal. In areas designated for renewal, the pathways between existing graves are developed to create new gravesites and memorial locations. No human remains are disturbed. All headstones are photographed and their inscriptions recorded for historical records.



All renewal work is undertaken only after assessment by a committee of historians and genealogists and after lengthy consultation with the community. Only areas where the majority of Grants of Right of Burial have expired are considered for cemetery renewal.

Cemetery renewal will ensure that burial land will be available at Karrakatta for generations to come.

CEMETERY VISITOR INFORMATION

Office Hours

8.30 am to 5.00 pm weekdays, Saturdays 8.00 am to 12 noon

Cemetery Hours

The Cemetery grounds are open to the public between sunrise and sunset.

Karrakatta's main entrance is off Railway Road, Karrakatta, opposite Karrakatta train station.

During the week vehicles may also enter/exit from Smyth Road, Government Road and Broome Street.

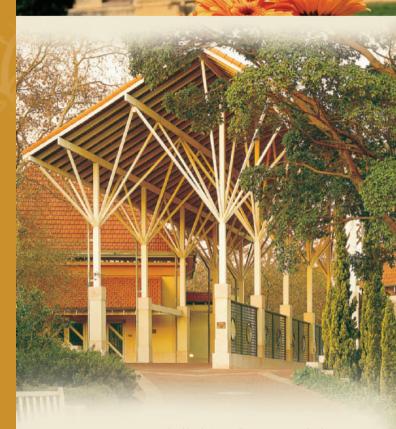
Research and Explore

Our website has comprehensive information about all of our cemeteries. Visit www.mcb.wa.gov.au for maps and an online name search facility.

CONTACT DETAILS

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KARRAKATTA CEMETERY

Rich with heritage...caring for precious memories







Cemetery

Guildford Cemetery



Midland Cemetery



Memorial Park







With an area of 98 hectares, Karrakatta is the largest public cemetery in Western Australia.

The history of Karrakatta mirrors that of the State itself. Many prominent people and State founders are buried or memorialised at Karrakatta. The cemetery is also the final resting place of hundreds of thousands of Western Australians citizens.

Karrakatta attracts over a million visitors a year – not only funeral-goers but genealogists, tourists, families and friends of the deceased who continue to visit and pay their respects.

Many people associate Karrakatta with the stately rows of cypress trees that grace the gardens near the main entrance. However, Karrakatta is a cemetery of enormous variety, with many types of burial areas – denominational and non-denominational – and beautifully landscaped memorial gardens. The gardens are diverse in style, from manicured rose gardens to lush glades with exotic plant species, to the imaginative Infants' Butterfly Garden.

With a crematorium, three indoor chapels, an outdoor chapel and a stately mausoleum, Karrakatta provides the community with a comprehensive range of funeral and bereavement services.

FUNERAL SERVICES

Funeral Protocol

There is to be a maximum of five cars in the funeral cortege – the hearse and four other cars.

The funeral cortege will arrive at the main driveway where it will wait until the scheduled time. Mourners can wait at the "waiting house" (near the Café) and then follow on foot behind the cars and proceed to the place of interment. For those people who may find it difficult to walk to the burial site, parking may be available close to the site. Wheelchairs are available on request. Client Services staff may be contacted for more details.

Burials

There are denominational areas representing 37 religious or ethnic groups. Depending on the burial area selected, families may select from a range of monumental options, including monuments, kerb borders, headstones and statues. There are also a number of general non-denominational lawn areas.

Other special areas include a children's burial area, family estates (which can accommodate up to six gravesites each) and a new Heritage Grove area offering interment and headstone packages for people wishing to pre-purchase their burial arrangements, or arrange a burial with monumental work included.

An outdoor Garden Chapel is located next to the Karrakatta chapel complex. This chapel provides a secluded open-air place for a funeral service prior to a burial. Seating and market umbrellas can be provided in this area for the comfort of mourners. The Garden Chapel may be secured for at-need burial services or pre-paid burial packages.

Burial services may also have webcasting, catering, an indoor or garden service by taking advantage of our chapel facilities before or after the burial.

Cremation

The chapel and crematorium complex at Karrakatta offers three indoor chapels. The Dench accommodates 20 people seated or 60 standing, with room for another 50 under a covered foyer. The Brown can hold 36 seated and 104 standing with room for another 100 under a covered outer area. The Norfolk, the largest of the chapels, has room for 96 seated, 144 standing and another 250 under cover outside.

Each chapel also has an adjacent condolence lounge for post-funeral hospitality. A Garden Chapel, which includes shade and seating, offers an alternative setting for outdoor funeral services, particularly during the warmer months.

Audiovisual equipment is available to enhance services with music, video recordings and still images.

The Norfolk Chapel is also equipped with state-of-the-art webcasting equipment, enabling funeral services to be transmitted over the Internet, simultaneously or for up to 30 days after.

Mausoleum

First opened in 1995, Karrakatta Mausoleum is the first mausoleum to be built in Western Australia. It is widely regarded as one of the finest garden crypt mausoleums in the world.

Karrakatta Mausoleum meets the needs of community groups who prefer the option of above-ground entombment as an alternative to burial or cremation.

CATERING

Karrakatta Café is open seven days a week during daylight hours. Café staff will also provide catering in the condolence lounges for post-funeral hospitality.

MEMORIALS

Within Karrakatta Cemetery there are many memorial gardens and features, from ground and wall niches to trees, bushes, benches and sundials.