

# THE JOURNEY

Quick and Easy Searching  
A New Lease of Life  
for Mary MacKillop's Grave Site  
Why be Cremated at  
Mary Mother of Mercy Chapel



CATHOLIC  
CEMETERIES  
BOARD

 Catholic Cemeteries  
& Crematoria  
*Caring for families with dignity and respect*



## GREEN FOOTPRINTS: WATER SAVING PLAN IN ACTION

In 2007 a policy developed in response to drought, water restrictions and climate change was put into action. To create sufficient water for lawn and garden irrigation, Mary, Mother of Mercy Chapel and Crematorium was built with large underground holding tanks. Stormwater and waste water is collected from the surrounding buildings including the large paved areas.

Water is used to supply the cemetery's irrigation system for the gardens and verge lawns and other non-drinking uses, conserving a valuable resource. In conjunction with the professionally landscaped garden areas, recycling allows us to improve the overall presentation of burial grounds whilst maintaining our responsibilities to the local environment.

The savings each year are significant:

- The greywater system diverts 1,095,000 litres of wastewater from all amenities to three tanks.
- The stormwater system will capture an estimated 5,000,000 litres per annum.
- The stored water from these systems provides irrigation for 5,000 m sq and result in a saving of 1,040,000 litres of town water.

It demonstrates that an investment in sustainability is profitable for the community, our resources and the organisation.

## STAFF NOTICE BOARD

### *Welcome New Staff*

Ingo Zacharias – Accounts  
Brodie Douglas – Maintenance  
Dave Sirl – Maintenance  
Chris Davies – Maintenance  
Mark Gallagher – Maintenance

### *Farewells*

Russell Lester

## IN THE SPOTLIGHT ...

### A NEW LEASE OF LIFE FOR MACKILLOP'S GRAVE SITE

The Gore Hill Memorial Cemetery has been under the control of a Trust since its closure in 1974. During this time, the Trust has continued to provide strong support and guidance over the Cemetery. However, due to insufficient funding the Catholic Cemeteries Board (CCB) in consultation with the Trust will undertake restoration and conservation works. Given the historical significance of the grounds as the original burial place of Blessed Mary MacKillop, the Minister for Lands, The Hon Tony Kelly MLC, has addressed this issue, by granting a Licence to Catholic Cemeteries & Crematoria to undertake the maintenance and operation from March 2010.

The Catholic Cemeteries Board will now work to address the issues of

- Works of conservation
- Improvements and maintenance
- Manage Annual Care arrangements for burial and cremations
- Monumental works and restoration
- Facilitate religious ceremonies and burial commemorations
- Plan and erect burial memorialisation, immurements and rights of burial

- Conservation and maintenance of registers of burials and rights of burial, ensuring they are publicly available

Mary MacKillop will be canonized as our first Australian Saint on the 17th October 2010. A large increase in pilgrims is expected to visit the site after the October date, and with the consent of the Minister and the Catholic Church, a Heritage Architect has been engaged to improve the security of this gravesite and the neighbouring graves, where some of Mary MacKillop's contemporaries are located along with the Australian Jesuits.

'We need to ensure that adequate facilities are in place to ensure security and other provisions to the public are met such as parking and lights,' the Hon Tony Kelly said. 'The original grave site is an important historic site and this new agreement will enable the injection of funds to help maintain and preserve it and the surrounding cemetery for generations to come.'

Catholic Cemeteries are proud to be associated with this historic burial site and look forward to implementing a viable and sustainable cemetery management program for all to enjoy in the future.



## FAREWELL TO AN OLD FRIEND

Newly retired Russell Lester, affectionately known as 'the big fella' to all.

Russ commenced employment with the Catholic Cemeteries Board on February 21, 1989, working in the original old Catholic Cemetery known as Mortuary 1. In those days there was a crew specifically for the old ground maintenance. They worked out of the storage vault underneath St Michael the Archangel Chapel.

As Russell's illustrious career progressed, he became known as part of the 'digging crew'. This term changed with the times and is now referred to as cemetery maintenance.

In his final working years, Russell moved into the vehicle maintenance workshop where he performed various duties until his recent departure. After 21 years of dedicated service we wish Russell all the best in his retirement.

Good onya 'big fella'.

## did you know?

The difference between a 'eulogy' and 'speaking in remembrance of the dead'? A eulogy is a biography of the significant events in the life of the deceased. Words of remembrance is only a brief insight into the faith and values of the deceased.