



Issue 8 - Jan/Feb 2008  
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## NEWS

### Remains of Ronald Ryan to be exhumed at Pentridge

The remains of Ronald Ryan, the last prisoner to be hanged in Australia, have been exhumed from the grounds of the former Pentridge Prison.

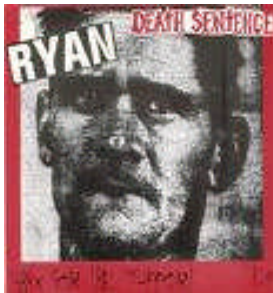
An excavation team began work this morning to find the remains on the eastern boundary of the prison in Coburg. A marquee was erected around the grave site.

Former prison chaplain, Father Peter Norden, oversaw the excavation.

Ryan's remains are to be taken to the Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine to be formally identified through DNA testing.

Fr Norden said that on behalf of Ryan's three daughters and their families, Ryan's remains would be buried at a private gathering.

Anthony Dowsley  
December 21, 2007 Herald Sun



## FOBKC Calendar of Upcoming Events

### DON'T MISS THESE!

#### Wed 27th February

**FOBKC Talk (E.Hore)**  
Two Cemeteries in Italy  
8pm, free!

#### Wed 26th March

**FOBKC Talk (R.Pearce)**  
Eliza Welch  
8pm, free!  
Kew Bapt. Church Hall

For further details about these activities, contact us via address and phone numbers below.

#### **From The Herald 4th August 1933, p.1**

##### **'Mystery Car Smash at Kew'**

'Complete mystery veils the accident at Kew yesterday when a sedan car driven by Mr Elton Williams, 25, engineer, of Adeney Avenue, Kew, crashed into the brick wall of the Kew Cemetery.

The car was severely damaged by fire and Williams was picked up unconscious 40 yards from the smash. How Williams came to be on the roadway 40 yards from the smash is a mystery.

*'Dad told me that the fireman thought he was dead and threw him up on the truck. On the way to the morgue Dad regained consciousness and was taken to the hospital.'*

*Story provided by Wendy Ellis (nee Williams)*



Photo: T.Michael

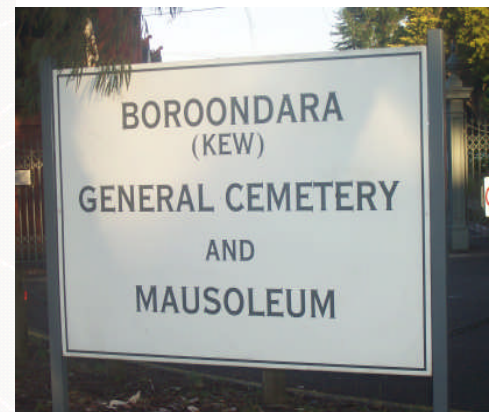
### WHAT'S IN A NAME?

We all know our cemetery by the name **Boroondara Cemetery** or **Kew Cemetery**.

Did you know officially it is currently recognised by Department of Human Services as the "Boroondara Public Cemetery" and "Boroondara Cemetery Trust".

Until perhaps a few years ago it was the "Boroondara General Cemetery". Kew was included on the front gate sign erected 7 or 8 years ago (see below) because many people commonly called it the 'Kew Cemetery' for easy recognition.

Source: Interview by Tony Michael with Charles Harkin - Head of Cemetery Trustees



**FRIENDS OF  
BOROONDARA (KEW)  
CEMETERY INC.**  
(A0049045R)

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**FRIENDS OF  
BOROONDARA (KEW)  
CEMETERY INC.**

Meetings are held at:  
Kew Baptist Church Hall  
20 Highbury Grove, Kew  
4th Wednesday of the month  
(Excl. Dec and Jan)

8pm  
GENERAL PUBLIC  
INVITED



**Ann Sargent and Rev Nathaniel Turner**

**By C. Shaw**

Ann Sargent Turner (married Rev John Harcourt) and one son, the Rev Josiah George Turner, are buried in Wesleyan section 'A' at Boroondara cemetery.

Ann's grave contains a memorial plaque for the Rev Nathaniel Turner.

The Reverend Nathaniel Turner was born in Cheshire in 1793, orphaned at the age of 8, and then raised by various family members of differing Protestant persuasions.

Nathaniel joined the Wesleyan Church, and was a popular and eloquent preacher.

Over time he felt himself 'drawn towards the heathen', and in March 1820 he was

nominated for Missionary service.

In January 1822 Nathaniel Turner married Ann Sargent, and shortly after the couple set sail for the Wesleyan mission station in New Zealand.

However, due to Maori activities, the couple were delayed in Hobart, where in 1823 their first daughter, Ann Sargent Turner, was born; and Nathaniel helped lay the foundations of the Melville Street Church.

The ever growing Turner family spent the next 30 years serving the mission of the Wesleyan Church in Australia, New Zealand and Tonga. During this time Nathaniel Turner (and his family) had close encounters with cannibals in New Zealand, preached the first sermons in Tongan, and developed a lifetime friendship with the Tongan Royal family, and gained the admiration and support of Governor Arthur in Tasmania.

Finally Nathaniel and Ann Turner retired to Brisbane, and they are both buried at Toowong cemetery.

As a result of this family's travels the 10 surviving children settled across Australia and New Zealand, in Hobart, Sydney, Brisbane, Melbourne and Christchurch.



Photo: C. Shaw

**Bertram Mackennal Exhibition Retrospective**

**30 November 2007 to 24 February 2008**

**Ian Potter NGV Federation Square**

**Admission: free**

Bertram Mackennal (1863-1931) was the most successful Australian artist of his time, and is still arguably the best known of Australia's sculptors. Working mostly in Europe from 1882, Mackennal was influenced by Symbolist, Art Nouveau, and new Classicist tendencies as well as the British New Sculpture movement. Sculptors such as Alfred Gilbert and Auguste Rodin had a profound effect upon Mackennal, who was to establish an international reputation as a virtuoso modeller of mythological and allegorical nudes.

Throughout his career, Mackennal executed many private works and public monuments such as the Springthorpe monument at Boroondara (Kew) Cemetery (see below) and became a leading civic sculptor in Britain, running two studios in London at the height of his career. He was the first Australian to be elected an associate of the British Royal Academy, and the only Australian to be elected to full Royal Academy membership, and the first to be knighted. Although an expatriate, Mackennal maintained close links with Australia through civic and private commissions. The Bertram Mackennal exhibition brings together over 50 sculptures and maquettes



from public and private collections throughout Australia and overseas.

*Friends of Boroondara (Kew) Cemetery Inc. gratefully acknowledge the assistance of  
**Kew Baptist Church** in making their hall available for our meetings*

**Holland Loxton - Town Clerk & Secretary for the Borough of Kew (pre City of Kew) in the 1880s Died 13 March 1901 aged 63.**

**By T. Michael**

The earliest records of the Victorian Municipal Directories show that Holland Loxton in 1870 was the Town Clerk, Secretary Treasurer and Engineer for the Borough of Kew. The last time his name appeared in the Directory was in 1901 the same year as his death and at that time his role had changed to Town Clerk, Surveyor, Treasurer and Valuer still for the Borough of Kew. In 1901 he was living at 85 Gellibrand St (E side). His wife Annie died 20 March 1935 aged 75 and she is also buried with him.

Loxton and his wife can be found in C/E A section 0004 of the Cemetery.



Photos: T. Michael

**Congratulations to FOBKC**

FOBKC was awarded a Bendigo Bank Community Grant of \$2,000 towards a new edition of the history of Boroondara (Kew) Cemetery. It is envisaged that such a booklet will be finalised in time for the 150 years' celebration. The award was received in November, 2007.