

Issue 11 - July/August (electronic)
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News:

Neptune Memorial Reef

14 metres beneath the ocean's surface lies a cemetery with gates, pathways, plaques and even benches.

The Neptune Memorial Reef, Florida which opened last autumn, is seen by its creators as a perfect final resting spot for those who loved the sea. They hope the reef will one day cover .5 hectares (16 acres) and have room for 125,000 remains. "This is simply as good as it gets," said Gary Levine, a diver who conceived the reef and is now a shareholder in the company that owns it.

The Neptune Memorial Reef is located in open waters three miles off the coast of Key Biscayne, Miami USA which means any certified diver can visit. The artificial reef's first phase allows for about 850 remains.

The ashes are mixed with cement designed for underwater use and fitted into a mould, which a diver then places and secures into the reef. A copper and bronze plaque is installed with the person's name, date of birth and death. There is also a line for a message.

Artist Kim Brandell, who designed the reef, said he was given no parameters in the reef's designs, which grew as they waited three years for permits. The structures are 90% cement.

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

(A0049045R)

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NOTICE OF AGM

24th September 2008

Kew Baptist Church Hall
20 Highbury Grove, Kew
8pm

Helen D. Harris OAM has kindly agreed to speak at our AGM on 24 September 2008. Her topic is Helen Hart (1842-1908); public lecturer; feminist; suffragette. Helen Hart was buried in an unmarked grave at the cemetery 100 years ago this year, having died on 16 July 1908 (Church of England, Section C, Grave No. 3138).

It is also the 150th commemoration this year of women obtaining the vote in Victoria.



The argument over women's rights in Victoria, Australia, was lampooned in this *Melbourne Punch* cartoon of 1887.

**FOBKC Calendar of
Upcoming Events**

**23rd JULY: Committee Meeting
Only**

Saturday 26th July

150 years of Football Tour

2pm at the Cemetery

Sunday 23rd August 2pm

Doctors Disease and Death

Tour focusing on those who died of medical 'misadventure'

Wednesday 27th August

Talk: **Edward Cole** of the famous *Cole's Funny Picture Book*.

8pm: Kew Baptist Church Hall

Free!

Sunday 14th September 2pm

Stars of Stage and Screen

Tour focusing on actors, musicians and theatre entrepreneurs, such as George Coppin and Nellie Stewart and the less well-known such as Edmund Duggan and Ada Forbes.

Cost of tours = \$15 (Includes refreshments). Members of Friends of Boroondara (Kew) Cemetery = \$8!)

**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



From page 1

"I designed it to be a divers' location. I am hoping and planning it be the most dived location on the planet. As a diver swims down the pathways of the reef there will be themed areas, like dancing or sports. If it's music I might have concrete or metal musical instruments," Brandell said. "Nothing is going to be in words to describe these features. It will be sculptural elements."

The cost of a placement starts at \$US995 and can go up to \$US6,495. Hutslar said the reef is designed to last for ever and engineered to withstand the harshest hurricane that has hit Florida in the past 100 years.

Keith Mille, an environmental specialist with Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission, said he was impressed with the engineering concepts for the reef and the environment it creates for divers (see photo below).

Copyright : Guardian Newspapers Limited Monday May 12 2008 .
The Guardian

Supplied by T.Michael

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2008/may/12/conservation.usa>

From: The Argus, Wednesday September 4, 1895

" The trustees of the Boroondara Cemetery are becoming so wealthy that some of the Kew councillors are anxious to assess them for rates. At the meeting of the Kew Council last night Councillor Cody moved that a valuation be placed on the cemetery, as he desired the legality of the course to be tested. The trustees, he said, were competing with outside firms for certain classes of work, and offering to do it at low rates, and he did not see why bodies – corporate bodies, presumably – with £10,000 or £15,000 to credit, should not pay something towards the roads cut up by the traffic they encouraged. The majority of the Council was, however, against Councillor Cody. "

Supplied by J. Torpey

EVELYN AUGUSTA CONYERS (1870-1944)

Conyers was born in New Zealand and migrated to Victoria in 1890s. She trained as a nurse at the Children's Hospital and (Royal) Melbourne Hospital. In 1904 she became foundation matron of the Infectious Diseases Hospital at Fairfield. Conyers joined the Australian Army Nursing Service as a sister in 1903. She joined the Australian Imperial Force in 1914, and as a senior sister, went to the 1st Australian General Hospital in Egypt . Conyers was later appointed matron-in-chief of the Australian Army Nursing Service on 12 December and as such was then responsible for all Australian Army nurses except those in India and Greece.

Conyers returned to Victoria in 1918, and to her private hospital. in 1916 she had been awarded the Order of the Royal Red Cross (1st Class) . She was appointed O.B.E. in January 1919, C.B.E. in March. In 1921 she was awarded the Florence Nightingale medal an award which honours those qualified nurses who have distinguished themselves in times of peace or war by exceptional courage and devotion to the wounded, sick or disabled.

She was buried with full military honours at the Cemetery in 1944.

Source:

www.adb.online.anu.edu.au;
www.womenaustralia.info

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



Neptune Memorial Reef, Florida