ABOUT US

Rookwood Memorial Gardens and Crematorium was opened in 1925 and was the first crematorium in New South Wales. It was designed by Frank Bloomfield in the Mediterranean Tuscany Style. Rookwood Memorial Gardens and Crematorium is part of the Rookwood Necropolis located in Sydney’s West.

Rookwood Memorial Gardens and Crematorium is a place of history, beauty and tranquillity, where families from all around Sydney come to remember, commemorate and celebrate the lives of loved ones over many generations. It is a sacred place where people come to reflect and re-unite with their memories of family and friends.

Our picturesque gardens are maintained by the dedicated and skilful work of our staff. The landscaped gardens create peace and privacy, cherished by family and visitors.

We have three historic and charming chapels, each creating a unique and respected place to celebrate the life of a loved one.

Our Family Service Advisors are available to organise a time with you to tour our gardens and discuss the various memorial options available. Memorials are a way of remembering the unique statement of a person’s life.

They will also assist in searching our records for family and friends of older generations and help you locate their memorial.
Rookwood Memorial Gardens and Crematorium offers a wide range of memorials, including many affordable options. Information on our product range is available. You can have peace of mind knowing the memorial you purchase today will be as beautiful tomorrow and in decades to come. The gardens are perpetually cared for by our specialist garden team. That is our commitment to service.

We understand memories are forever and we are dedicated to providing a sanctuary where thoughts can flourish in a tranquil environment – the simplicity of a rose garden, private Individual rockery, unique personalised granite circles, culturally designed CAM or the classic elegance of the polished granite wall niche where one’s cremated remains can be placed. We offer a wide variety of memorial options that will suit the families’ needs. We want to make sure your loved one is cared for now and into the future.

Our offices are open from:
Monday to Friday: 8.30am to 5.00pm
Saturday: 9.00am to 4.00pm
Sunday: Office is closed
Our Facilities

We have three charming and historic chapels, each one providing a respectful and fitting environment to hold a funeral service.

Our heritage chapels are an ideal setting for the most memorable of tributes. Whether you are planning an intimate memorial or large service, the beautiful chapels at Rookwood Memorial Gardens and crematorium can accommodate a variety of needs.

All chapels have the latest audio visual technology so you can display the pictures, presentations, videos and play the music that will mean so much to you and your family and ensure the memorial service can be tailored to reflect the life of the individual. Electronic keyboards are also available in each chapel for the accompaniment of vocalists or the playing of traditional hymns.
THE WEST CHAPEL

The West Chapel seats approximately 60 people on chairs and has standing room for another 25 people. The chapel is air conditioned with audio visual facilities. The audio visual presentation can be viewed in the chapel on two 70” Plasma TV screens and outside on an external 55” Plasma TV screen. Services can be video recorded for memory sake or for family members who could not be present.

THE SOUTH CHAPEL

The South Chapel can seat approximately 120 people on pews which includes a mezzanine level. For larger services the South Chapel can be extended through into the columbarium where there is additional seating for 50 people on chairs and further standing room. The chapel is air conditioned with audio visual facilities. The audio visual presentation can be view in the chapel on one 70” Plasma TV screens and outside on an external 55” Plasma TV screen. Services can be video recorded for memory sake or for family members who could not be present.
EAST CHAPEL

Our original East Chapel has a view into the gardens over the catafalque. It can seat approximately 70 people on pews. For larger services the East Chapel can be extended through into the foyer and columbarium where there is additional seating for 50 people on chairs and further standing room. The chapel is air conditioned with audio visual facilities. The audio visual presentation can be viewed in the chapel on two 55” Plasma TV screens and outside on an external 55” Plasma TV screen. Services can be video recorded for memory sake or for family members who could not be present.

COLUMBARIUM

The Columbarium can seat approximately 50 people on chairs and further standing. This adjoining room can be booked in conjunction with either a service in the East or South Chapel as additional capacity for family and friends attending a service. It has a direct audio visual link to either chapel. The Columbarium is air conditioned. The audio visual presentation can be viewed in the columbarium on one 55” Plasma TV screen with additional speakers for audio.
A memorial offers the reassurance that what began in the past will continue into the future. Losing a loved one has a great emotional impact on us. When dealing with loss, many and varied issues can arise. One of the most fundamental is how to keep the memory alive beyond the funeral service.

A memorial is a place that can be visited as often as one feels the need. They are a reminder of times shared together. Families, friends and colleagues want to be able to visit when they need to. A memorial is a very powerful place of reflection, bringing comfort to individuals at times when the challenges in life become overwhelming. They are an everlasting place of remembrance in tribute to the life of a loved one and provide a very important genealogical record for future generations.

As Rookwood Memorial Garden and Crematorium was designed and intended for cremated remains only, we unfortunately do not provide burial memorials. Rookwood Memorial Gardens and Crematorium has sister parks around the Greater Sydney region that are able to offer burial memorials. These Parks are:

- Castlebrook Memorial Park
- Forest Lawn Memorial Park
- Pinegrove Memorial Park

There is a large range of memorial options to select from here at Rookwood Memorial Gardens and Crematorium. You can arrange a time to discuss these with one of our Family Service Advisors at your convenience.
CREMATION ASH MONUMENTS (CAM)

Cultural design that honours your loved ones

Located at one of the highest points within Rookwood Necropolis Cemetery. We have constructed all our CAM sites to face east. The monuments are made of polished granite and come in a variety of colours and designs. The cremated remains are entombed in the memorial for safe keeping. A personalised inscription is gilded in gold leaf on the headstone face.

We offer three types of CAMS.

1. Heritage – It has a personal garden that surrounds a Large CAM
2. Large – A tall backed CAM that sits high on the site
3. Medium – Ornately designed.

Each of the above CAM’s are sold for up to four placements of cremated remains.

GRANITE CIRCLE

A unique personal estate garden

Granite circles are meticulously placed through-out the garden areas. They are made in a variety of polished and unpolished granite. An urn with the cremated remains is placed within the garden. There are two sizes of granite circles:

1. Small Granite Circles – Two placements
2. Large Granite Circles – Four placements

There is the option of either a pillar or granite base on which to place the plaques. The cast bronze plaque can either be individual, double or a Book of Life. A bronze ash container is placed in the ground to preserve the cremated remains.
ROSE GARDENS

For when only a rose can say how you feel about your loved one

The rose gardens are established throughout the grounds of the memorial garden, they may feature either a standard or shrub rose. Knowing that in the years to come your loved one will always have a flower on site can be very comforting.

Rose Garden positions are usually for two memorial placements that are marked by either a granite pillar or base, on which bronze plaques are placed. The cast bronze plaque can either be individual, double or a Book of Life. A bronze ash container is placed in the ground to preserve the cremated remains.

INDIVIDUAL ROCKERY GARDENS

A private personal garden for reflection and remembrance

Individual gardens provide a place for the family to pay their respects in a more private setting. The separate gardens are linked so they look continuous but at the same time providing a personal space.

These gardens can be made from bush rock, unpolished granite or sandstone.

These gardens usually are for two memorial placements. A bronze family name plaque is also placed on the headstone to mark the site and a granite base is placed in the garden on which an individual bronze plaque is placed. The cast bronze plaque can either be individual, double or a Book of Life. A bronze ash container is placed in the ground to preserve the cremated remains.
Their name shall be forever remembered
A place to inscribe the story of a life lived, a place of remembering those we have lost. A bronze plaque is placed as a legacy to remember a loved one whose ashes have been scattered or rest elsewhere. It is a memorial only option for families who want somewhere to visit and reflect.

POLISHED GRANITE WALL

Classic elegance of a traditional memorial
Our polished granite walls are a refined solid lasting option to keep the cremated remains of your loved one safe. The Niche is designed to fit all the cremated remains. A large cremation plaque is used to cover the niche opening. The large plaque allows for a photo and inscription. A bronze ash container is placed in the wall to preserve the cremated remains. Every Niche can only have one placement of cremated remains.

GRANITE SCATTER BOOK

Their name shall be forever remembered
A place to inscribe the story of a life lived, a place of remembering those we have lost. A bronze plaque is placed as a legacy to remember a loved one whose ashes have been scattered or rest elsewhere. It is a memorial only option for families who want somewhere to visit and reflect.
PREARRANGING YOUR MEMORIAL

Organising a memorial in advance can bring a lot of comfort and certainty in a very difficult time for your family.

Prearranging a memorial is done for a few reasons:

• It ensures specific instructions will be carried out and you get a say in your final resting place

• Relieves loved ones from making such a personal decision at what can be a very emotional time

• The price of a memorial is locked in – you pay at today’s prices and avoid any increase

• It takes the financial burden away from your loved ones

• You can pay the memorial off on terms over time with no interest or accounting fees

• It also allows for future family placements to be secured

For more information on these or other memorial options, or to arrange a tour of our grounds and gather information on prearranging, speak to one of our Family Service Advisors.
COPING WITH GRIEF
STARTING THE HEALING PROCESS

It is best not to put a time frame on the whole experience of grief. This creates unrealistic expectations and doesn’t allow for individual differences.

Some tips for facing this change in your life include:

• Talk about it – it will help let it sink in
• Look after yourself – eat, drink, sleep, get fresh air and try to avoid alcohol and sedatives
• Ask for help – don’t think you have to cope on your own
• Understand your friends – they can be impatient so tell them what you feel and share your grief
• Stay positive in your thoughts
• Accept that loss is a part of life
• Be aware of advice givers – don’t allow people to entice you into replacing or avoiding your grief – e.g. going on holidays or buying a car
• Be prepared for ups and downs – memories sparked by birthdays, anniversaries etc can bring you down.

You need to find a reassuring way to remember the person – such as visiting their permanent memorial.

Our staff keep updated with what the experts say and we collect resource materials and can provide these free of charge.

Further information about coping with grief or helping people experiencing grief can be found online at MyGriefAssist.com.au
Rookwood Memorial Gardens and Crematorium
Memorial Avenue, Rookwood NSW 2141

Opening times

Park Gate: Sunrise to Sunset, 7 days a week.
Office: 8:30 am to 5:00 pm Monday to Friday and from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm on Saturdays.

Phone (02) 9746 8945
rookwoodcrem.com.au