

EXPLORE

THE HAWKESBURY

CEMETERIES

The Hawkesbury has a strong relationship with the past so when visiting, take time to explore some of the historic cemeteries located in the area. A unique destination, cemeteries reflect on the history and culture of this region. Cemeteries are not only a place to remember the departed they also have significant value to the surrounding district. From an historical viewpoint, cemeteries form part of our nation's heritage, and are a record of the community as well as the people who established and lived in this district. Cemeteries are also a tranquil place for visitors who wish to learn more about the Hawkesbury's vibrant past. Cemeteries document social and religious values, plus customs and the changing attitudes to death. Within the local cemeteries, some set amongst landscape settings which may not have altered for many years, are a range of intriguing headstone designs. Some of these are simple handcrafted stones with misspelt words whilst other monument examples have been carved by gifted stonemasons.

BACKGROUND HISTORY

Land grants were in progress at the Hawkesbury by 1794, only a few years after the First Fleet arrived in Sydney Cove in 1788, with European settlement first taking place along South Creek. Early burials in the district occurred along the riverbanks and on isolated private property. There is mention of an old burial ground at the Green Hills (now known as Windsor) somewhere along the banks of South Creek however the exact site is not identified and no markers have survived. A monument to the Old Burial Ground has been erected near the Fitzroy Bridge over South Creek and is accessible to the public from Bridge Street past the Jolly Frog Hotel.



From 1810 appropriate sites were set aside for burial grounds in the Hawkesbury. In the *Sydney Gazette* newspaper dated 18 May 1811, Governor Lachlan Macquarie ordered that the settlers *shall in a decent and becoming manner inter the deceased in the consecrated Grounds now assigned for that purpose in their respective Townships*. Burial grounds were established in the Five Macquarie Towns (Windsor, Richmond, Pitt Town, Wilberforce and Castlereagh) by 1811. The burial ground at Ebenezer was established in 1812 whilst the cemetery at Pitt Town was re-located in 1815. The first Catholic burial ground was allocated in Windsor in the early 1820s. The oldest known surviving headstone is that of the 11 year old John Howorth who was bitten by a snake and died in 1804. The stone **[pictured]** was originally located on the Howorth property on the banks of the Hawkesbury River at Wilberforce but was relocated in 1960 near the School House in the grounds of St Johns Anglican Church, Wilberforce.

A headstone may be the only recorded evidence of someone's life and can be a vital source of information for historians. It was not compulsory to register deaths in NSW until 1856 so cemetery transcriptions (information recorded from the headstone) and surviving church burial registers can often provide details that are not found in other sources (place of origin, cause of death). If a grave is unmarked or the headstone no longer survives, the exact location of a plot may never be known.

There are over 30 cemeteries located in the Hawkesbury, as well as numerous isolated headstones and private cemeteries. For those cemeteries located close to the local waterways it was not unusual for the coffin and mourners to be transported to the cemetery by boat. The headstones record the familiar names of pioneers as well as the unrecognised, who were often the backbone of the town. Read the poignant verses, the tragedies that affected individual families and the community in the 19th and 20th centuries, see the grand edifices as well as the more simple and humble monuments.



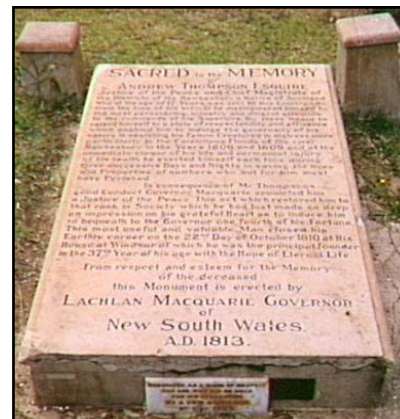
For further information call the Hawkesbury Visitor Information Centre (02) 4578 0233 or 1300 362 874 or visit www.hawkesburytourism.com.au. The Centre is at Ham Common (opp. Richmond RAAF Base), Hawkesbury Valley Way, CLARENDON NSW 2756. Open 7 days. Managed by Hawkesbury City Council.

WINDSOR, ST MATTHEWS ANGLICAN CEMETERY – Corner Moses Street & Greenway Crescent

Wander through the historic churchyard surrounding the acclaimed church designed by Francis Greenway. Established in 1810, this burial ground is the final resting place of many local pioneers, both convict and free.

At the front of the church stands the impressive McQuade Memorial which was constructed of Italian marble in 1883 and the circular columbarium which was established in the 1960s.

Look for some of the beautiful carvings and symbols on the headstones, the cause of death, evidence of occupation and places of origin. Keep an eye open for some of the simply carved monuments with inaccurate spellings reflecting the social and economic status of some of the early inhabitants compared to those more enterprising settlers with headstones that reflect their affluence at the time of their demise.



- Entrepreneur Andrew Thompson [1810] was the first interred in the new cemetery and his monument *From respect and esteem for the Memory of the deceased* was erected by Governor Lachlan Macquarie. The monument **[pictured]** must rate as one of the lengthiest verses on a headstone in any of the Hawkesbury cemeteries
- Rev. Henry Tarlton Stiles [1867] was the minister at St Matthews from 1833 until his death at the height of the great flood.
- Daniel Barnett [1823] was the first corpse taken into the body of St Matthews Church, according to the burial register. Barnett who arrived in 1788, was amongst the original 1794 settlers and his is the only grave of this group found in the cemetery.
- Magistrate and roadbuilder William Cox [1837], surgeon Dr Thomas Arndell [1821], Captain John Brabyn and Richard Fitzgerald [1840] are other noteworthy persons buried in the cemetery.
- Don't miss the elaborate vault containing members of the Tebbutt family, one of the largest in the cemetery with the remains of world renowned astronomer John Tebbutt [1916].
- A large number of First Fleeters are buried here including Robert Forrester [1827]; Edward Miles [1838]; Benjamin Cusley [1845] and Ann Bladdey [1820] who also was one of the first women to receive a land grant in the Hawkesbury in 1797. Well-known First Fleeter convicts Henry Kable [1846] and wife Susannah nee Holmes [1825] were one of five couples married in the first marriage service in the colony in 1788.
- There are members of the military, merchants, magistrates, boat-builders, clergy and traders.
- Tragedies are well-recorded in the cemetery including the death of George Spinks [1869] a turnkey at the Windsor Gaol. He was violently killed with an axe and his headstone reads: *His death was not in battle...but by a vile assassin*. Another tragic death was that of 11 year old Thomas Watkins [1853] from the Lower Hawkesbury. He died by blowing into a gun!
- Several migrants originating from China are buried in this cemetery however only one small headstone marks their presence. Inscribed in Chinese in memory of Fong Tim Bow [1929] a farmer from Pitt Town Bottoms, it is located at the rear of the cemetery.

WINDSOR PRESBYTERIAN CEMETERY – Corner Church & Bell Streets

Established by the late 1830s this cemetery is located opposite the Windsor Railway Station. It contains a number of families who migrated from Scotland. Members of the Dick family are buried here including Postmaster Robert Dick [1898] who was Windsor's first mayor, elected in 1871 and builder of the fine residence *Sunnybrae*; Rev. Mathew Adam [1863] Presbyterian minister from Scotland and relation to the Dicks; William Walker [1908] solicitor, author and long serving Member of Parliament along with his father George Walker [1883] who taught at the Presbyterian School in Windsor for 21 years. Thomas Cadell [1855] who established the large brewery on The Terrace was also buried here. Henrietta Johnston [1874] was visiting family in the Hawkesbury and died from burns received in a bushfire near Wilberforce. This was the same day that the Great Fire destroyed much of the business area in Windsor. Of note is Frederick Whirlpool [1899] who was awarded a Victory Cross in the Indian Mutiny. In 1861 he was presented the medal which was the first official VC presentation in Australia. Whirlpool ended up a recluse and is believed to be buried in an unmarked grave in the Windsor Presbyterian Cemetery.

WINDSOR CATHOLIC CEMETERY – Corner George Street & Hawkesbury Valley Way

One of the oldest Catholic cemeteries in the colony, the burial ground was established in the early 1820s. Of interest is the headstone for Catherine Eather [pictured] and her five children who tragically drowned in the 1867 flood, the highest on record (19.2m). Her sister-in-law with her five children also perished in the floodwaters. The earliest headstone is Patrick Cullen [1822] however the burial register notes he was re-interred in 1840, so he may have been moved from elsewhere. Other early headstones include John Pendergast [1833] whose family vault also records about 20 other family burials; Daniel Donnelly [1833]; Elizabeth Davis [1834] and James Doyle [1836] who donated the land for the Windsor Catholic Church. Other prominent persons include James Cunneen MLA [1889] who accidentally fell down the stairs and broke his neck; John James Fitzpatrick [1899] who was the Sub Inspector of Police and members of the prosperous McQuade family. Eliza Wilson [1874] was the only fatality from the Great Fire which destroyed much of George and Macquarie Street in Windsor. She was in her mid 70s and was unable to escape the blaze. Her grave is unmarked. Judith Croker [1839] was the wife of James, a Private in the 80th Regiment. Her inscription reads *An affectionate wife a kind Mother and a soldiers friend*. This is also the final resting place of a number of Irish born convicts and early immigrants.



RICHMOND CATHOLIC METHODIST LAWN CEMETERY – Corner Clarendon & Dight Streets

This was originally dedicated as a general cemetery in 1893, with individual denominations marked. Catholic burials are recorded in the Catholic Section from the early 1900s. In 1902 Archbishop Kelly blessed the cemetery at a special service onsite. Graves include those of the Hough and Lavender families as well as Father O'Brien [1915] Richmond's Parish priest whose grave is marked with a very impressive Celtic Cross. The Methodist denomination also had a dedicated area dating from the turn of the century. Irish born teacher Thomas Sullivan [1873] was originally buried at Londonderry but was later interred in the Methodist section of this cemetery and his son William Sullivan [1906] a bootmaker was Trustee for the Wesleyan Church and elected to the first Richmond Council in 1872. Other familiar names include the Biddle and Price families. A lawn cemetery was established from the 1960s and is now maintained by Hawkesbury City Council.

RICHMOND WAR CEMETERY – Dight Street (just past entrance to Lawn Cemetery)



The Richmond War Cemetery [pictured] commemorates servicemen and women who died during World War 2 and contains 25 burials. It includes the 8 RAAF personnel who were tragically killed when the Lockheed Hudson plane in which they were travelling, crashed in Richmond in December 1944.

RICHMOND PRESBYTERIAN CEMETERY – Jersey Street (at Bowman Street intersection)

This cemetery dates from the 1860s with a number of headstones recording the deaths of babies in the 1860s including the earliest, Elizabeth Perry [1863]. Several monuments record the Scottish roots of the deceased. The Bowman vault includes George Bowman [1878] who donated the land and funded the building of St Andrews Presbyterian Church (now Uniting) in 1845. Rev. James Cameron [1905] minister at St Andrews for nearly 50 years, was also twice the Moderator of the Presbyterian church in NSW and Phillip Charley [1937] who contributed considerably to the district are buried at the Richmond Presbyterian Cemetery. Charley made his fortune when silver and lead were discovered at Broken Hill and built a palatial home at Belmont at North Richmond now St John of God. William Bowman Douglass and Maurice Fergusson died from wounds at Gallipoli and are recorded on family headstones.

RICHMOND, ST PETERS CEMETERY – Windsor Street (100m W of Chapel Street intersection)

The burial ground was selected by Governor Macquarie *on a very beautiful elevated bank* above Pughs Lagoon. It is believed that the 5 year old son of Richard Rouse, George [1809] who drowned, was one of the first persons buried in the Richmond cemetery although the site was not officially marked out and consecrated until 1811. Before 1856 there were over 800 burials in this cemetery including First Fleeter convicts Joseph McAulding, Elias and Mary Bishop, Robert Williams, Catherine Smith and Robert Nunn. Thomas Spencer [1821] was a Marine who arrived on the *Scarborough* in 1788. Second Fleeters include James Nugent, Ann Cheshire, James Jones and William Alsop. Murder victims buried in the cemetery include Edward Pugh [1815] and Thomas Cheshire [1824]. The beautiful angel on the Hordern monument **[pictured]** is beautifully carved and is a feature in this historic cemetery. Other notables include Benjamin Richards [1898] who built the Riverstone Meatworks; Surveyor George Matcham Pitt [1912] who built *Sunnyside* at North Richmond and Andrew Town [1890] famous stud-breeder and owner of *Hobartville*. This cemetery abounds with extraordinary epitaphs, warnings from the deceased, long laments and the unpretentious verse on baby Sophia Thurston [1825] headstone *Weep not for me, my parents dear, I am not dead but sleeping here*. The painful end of Robert Smith [1824] is recorded on his headstone, *Affliction sore long time I bore, Physicians were in vain, Till death did...free me from my pain*. Convict Margaret Catchpole [1819] who worked for the Faithfull, Rouse and Dight families is buried in an unmarked grave.



MACDONALD VALLEY and ST ALBANS

The Macdonald Valley retains a surprising number of historic cemeteries which record the relationship between the pioneering families from this area. Despite there being more than a dozen known sites the majority of these are on private property and cannot be accessed. St Judes Anglican Church in Central Macdonald can be seen from the road and the cemetery is located adjacent to the church. Built in the 1870s, the original church was replaced by the current structure in 1918 with only four headstones surviving. Other private cemeteries include Our Lady of Loretto Cemetery at Upper Macdonald and St Josephs Catholic Cemetery near Books Ferry adjacent to the church ruins. There are approximately 20-30 monuments situated in this cemetery including headstones for members of the Ambrose, Whalan, Daniels and Hearne families. Due to the remoteness of the Macdonald Valley there are also a number of lone graves and family burial grounds situated on private property. A number of these are recorded online with images, on the 'Cemetery Register' located on the 'Hawkesbury on the Net' website. The public may enter the St Albans New General Cemetery, Macdonald General Cemetery and St Albans Old General Cemetery which are managed by Hawkesbury City Council. The Macdonald Valley Historic Cemeteries Driving Trail brochure is available on Council's website www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au



MACDONALD RIVER, GENERAL CEMETERY – Settlers Road

Also known as Jurds Cemetery, this small burial ground is about 2.5km south of Wrights Creek and consists of 12 graves. It was dedicated in 1871 and has a remarkable range of traditional grave plantings and forged ironwork **[pictured]**. The headstone of Henry Morris [1879] who died after a fall from his horse is located in this cemetery as well as Macdonald Valley families such as the Books, Rose and Thompson.

ST ALBANS, OLD CEMETERY – Settlers Road

The earliest cemetery in the Macdonald Valley was established in the late 1820s. By 1833 it was fenced with known burials dating from 1837. The cemetery was located on the Macdonald River and was badly affected by early floods with some sections being totally washed away. A new site (New General) was selected in the late 1860s however the old cemetery was still in use up until 1924. First Fleeter, William Douglas [1838] and Methodist preacher John Joseph Walker [1856] are buried here, as are members of some of the well-known Macdonald Valley families such as Sternbeck, Bailey, Jurd and Thompson. See the poignant headstone of five year old Joseph Sternbeck [1875] who drowned *beneath McDonald's stream*. The site was also known as Settlers Cemetery and suffered vandalism and neglect during the 20th century but is better maintained these days.

ST ALBANS, NEW GENERAL CEMETERY – 168 Wollombi Road

Dedicated in 1869 this was established as a replacement of the flood ravaged Old General Cemetery. Headstones in this cemetery date from the 1880s and it is still in use today. Descendants of pioneering families such as the Bailey, Fernance and Thompson are buried in this cemetery.

UPPER COLO CEMETERY – Comleroy Road

This Anglican cemetery dates from the 1830s and contains the graves of a number of Colo pioneers including members of the following families: Blundell, Hulbert, Simmons and Ward. Convict Thomas Roker Gosper [1847] who arrived on the *Surprise* in 1790 and his wife Mary Anne nee Hipwell [1837] settled in the Colo district and are buried in this cemetery. Of particular interest are the Gill monuments with their naïve and unusual carvings. One young child Charlot Gill [1842] was killed by a falling tree.

WISEMANS FERRY CEMETERY – Singleton Road (about 3km along from Wisemans Ferry)

This locality was originally known as Lower Portland Head with a burial ground in existence from the mid 1820s. The cemetery is also known as Laughtondale. Interred in this cemetery is Peter Hibbs [1847] who sailed with Captain James Cook to Australia in 1770 and again with Captain Arthur Phillip in the First Fleet. Other noteworthy headstones include the young boy Leslie Berry [1901] who was bitten by an adder and the beautifully carved monument of Sarah Greentree [1877], John Laughton [1901] and boatbuilder William Henry McKay [1905] complete with propeller adornment. Pioneering families include the Douglass, Books, Chaseling, Rose and Leet families. This is also the final resting place of prominent local inhabitant Solomon Wiseman [1838] a wealthy emancipist, who ran the local inn and constructed Cobham Hall which is now the hotel. Another of his activities was the operation of the ferry across the Hawkesbury River and for this, the locality bears his name.

NORTH RICHMOND, ST PHILLIPS CEMETERY – Bells Line of Road (200m past Crooked Lane)

Established in association with the adjacent St Phillips Anglican Church (now a private residence) the cemetery dates from the 1860s. One of the earliest headstones records the death of Elizabeth Wisbey [1864]. Other interesting headstones include Naby Box Khan a hawker who originally came from India [1898] and brothers John and Henry Winter [1873] who drowned whilst swimming in the Hawkesbury River. Nearly 30 members of the Shepherd family are interred in this cemetery.

KURRAJONG

There are several cemeteries located in Kurrajong. Heading into the village on **Bells Line of Road** and on the left is **St Gregorys Catholic Cemetery** which dates from the 1840s and adjoins the church which was built in 1904, replacing an earlier building. The earliest surviving headstone is that of Phillip Butcher [1845] who died aged 14. There are over 40 members of the McMahon family including John McMahon [1873] and Mary [1875] who migrated from Ireland in 1839. Charles Lary [1854] whose headstone reveals his origins *Charles Lary is my Name, Ireland is my Nation, Wexford is my Native Place*. On the other side of the village, on **Grose Vale Road** is **St Stephens Cemetery** surrounding the Anglican Church of the same name. The cemetery was established in the 1870s. The first minister of the church was Rev. George Middleton and two of his infant daughters are buried here. Members of the Hawkins family, timber-getters in the district are also buried on this site as well as emancipated convict Samuel Hurst [1886] who was the District Constable in the 1820s. The **Wesleyan-Methodist Cemetery** on Comleroy Road, Kurrajong is on private property although it can be seen from the road.

KURRAJONG HEIGHTS – Bells Line of Road

Further up the hill from Kurrajong there are two more cemeteries. **St Davids Cemetery** on the **corner of Bells Line of Road and Douglas Road**, began around the time the Presbyterian (now Uniting) Church was built in the 1860s. Early headstones include members of the Peck family as well as original settlers, ex-convict Joseph Douglass [1865] and his wife Mary Orr Burgess [1857]. These graves were originally located opposite Lochiel but were moved to St Davids at a later date when the cemetery was established. There is a small graveyard with several headstones at **St James Anglican Church**, on the **corner of Bells Line of Road and Queen Street**. The earliest headstone dates from the 1890s. A poignant monument records the deaths of the Diggins children Cecilia, Fay and Dorothy and their mother Cecilia in the 1930s.

McGRATHS HILL METHODIST CEMETERY – Corner Charles & High Streets

The Wesleyan Burial Ground Trust was established in the 1850s. A number of headstones pre-date 1850 including William Robinson [1839] and Richard Dyer [1842] and either were present prior to the established of the Trust or erected at a later date. The headstone of Rebecca Cavanaugh [1851] could be the oldest headstone at this site. Several Windsor businessmen including William Dean [1882] a draper, William Beard [1880] shopkeeper, John Galloway [1894] tailor and saddler Tobias Husband [1872] as well as Rev. Peter Turner [1873] who had been a missionary in Samoa are also interred here.

PITT TOWN – Old Cemetery, Old Pitt Town Road and General Cemetery, Old Stock Route Road

There are several surviving cemeteries located in the Pitt Town area, with the **Old Cemetery** the earliest. Pioneer families include Hobbs, Horton, Mitchell and Stubbs. Some of the older monuments record details on blacksmith Robert Wright [1835], Daniel Jurd [1833], five year old Elizabeth Fleming [1825] and Mary Payton [1837]. Ann Smallwood [1838] aged 32 was a young mother when she died and her headstone reads *Farewell dear friends, seven Babes adieu*. Also interred here is Eva Alice Greenfield [1941] who was a well known midwife in the district. **Pitt Town General Cemetery** has been operating since the 1900s. Members of the Hanckel and Weise family are buried within including German born Johann Friedrich Wilhelm Wiese [1913] who died from exertion trying to free his horse and cart which were stuck in the creek. There are also several monuments in the churchyards of **Scots Uniting Church** and **St James Anglican**.

EBENEZER CEMETERY – Coromandel Road

The cemetery surrounds the churchyard at historic Ebenezer Church **[pictured below]** which was built in 1809, the oldest existing church in Australia. The records of the earliest burials have sadly been lost however the oldest surviving headstone belongs to Sarah Gilkerson [1813] a three week old baby. Original pioneers buried in this beautiful spot include Captain John and Elizabeth Grono, George and Mary Hall, James and Susannah Mein and John Turnbull. Sailor Robert Mackenzie [1825] was marooned on a sealing expedition in New Zealand and eventually rescued by John Grono in 1813. Mackenzie went on and married Grono's daughter. The verse reflects Mackenzie's maritime career *Through blustery Gales and roling Waves...I have a Harbour here below. Now at Anchor here I lie, With many of my Fleet*. Keep an eye open for footstones as opposed to headstones, placed at the foot of a grave, which usually provide the initials and the year of death of the deceased. Morning and afternoon teas are available at the Schoolhouse daily, contact (02) 4579-9350. There is also a picnic area adjacent and a pleasant walk along the Swallow Rock Reach Walking Trail with majestic views of the Hawkesbury River.



LOWER PORTLAND – General Cemetery, 896 West Portland Road

Located 9km from the King Road turnoff this cemetery was established at the turn of the century. This site is the final resting place for descendants of the families such as the Blundell, Herps, Jones, Leet, Metherell and Mitchell, associated with the river.

LOWER PORTLAND – Half Moon Farm Cemetery, at end of Upper Half Moon Road



Established on Half Moon Reach on the Hawkesbury River this was more than likely the site of the chapel built by the Catholics and established by the 1840s. Known as St Rose of Lima, the church was washed away by floods in the mid 19th century. Half Moon Farm Cemetery [pictured] is a modest little burial ground which features monuments with *unusual designs and naive scripts*. Early headstones include James Pendergast [1830] aged 5 weeks and Hugh Whalen [1839]. Conservation works were undertaken in the 1990s and the site fenced for protection from animals. Permission is required to the site which is kept locked. Contact Hawkesbury City Council (02) 4560 4444 to organise a key to access the site.

SACKVILLE REACH CEMETERY – Tizzana Road (1km NE from Sackville Road turnoff)

This cemetery is located close to the Hawkesbury River, up the road from the Sackville Ferry on Sackville Road. One of the earliest burials is baby Emma Tuckerman [1827] who is buried in the family vault. There are several First Fleeters in this cemetery including Anne Huxley nee Forbes [1851]. Cemeteries record some of the calamities that occurred in the district including Isaac Woods [1917] a 20 year old who was fatally injured in a motorcycle accident near Clarendon and Richard Wall who accidentally drowned with his daughters Martha Ann and Rachel Jane [1881]. Their headstone commemorates one of the many tragic drownings associated with the local rivers and creeks. Elizabeth Ridge [1835] was a young girl who died in the flush of youth. The verse on her headstone reads, *This fair flower scarce blossomed for day, Short was the bloom and speedy the decay*. A number of aboriginal people are buried in this cemetery including members of the Barber family and Martha Everingham [1926] who was reported in the burial register to be the *last of the full blood tribe*. Of note is the monument in the grounds that marks the site of the original church (St Thomas) which was washed away in the great flood of 1867. It was rebuilt further up the road on higher ground.

WILBERFORCE CEMETERY – Clergy Road (off Old Sackville Road)

Wilberforce Cemetery is situated a short stroll from St Johns Church and Schoolhouse. Erected in 1820 it is the only surviving schoolhouse from the Macquarie era in the Hawkesbury. This cemetery, recently fenced, contains the monuments of many Hawkesbury pioneering families. First Fleeter Matthew Everingham [1817] the local constable drowned in the Hawkesbury River. His headstone reads *Farewell vain world I have had enough of thee...*

Others arriving on the First Fleet include Phillip Devine, William Field and Catharine Johnson (Moore) [1838] who was aged 17 when convicted. Other renowned Wilberforce pioneers buried within are Paul Bushell, John Cobcroft and wife Sarah Smith, Charles Cross and wife Rose Flood and Matthew Lock who all arrived in the Second Fleet. Other notables include Isabella Bushell [1883] who operated the Royal Exchange Hotel in Windsor, settler Thomas Rose [1833] who built Rose Cottage, the oldest timber house in Australia located in Wilberforce and William Cook [1838] who died as a result of a dray wheel *passing over his neck*. A number of the graves have retained their original wrought iron railings. There are some lovely carvings surviving in this cemetery including the cherub on one of the Turnbull headstone. The headstones in this cemetery record the many hardships endured by the early settlers including Sarah Reynolds [1826] Her headstone records *she is gon left me in Greif and nine Childern behind this*.



In the 1960s a number of cemeteries came under the control of Local Government authorities (Hawkesbury City Council) whilst some still remain under the authority of church groups such as Ebenezer, and the Anglican cemeteries in Windsor and Richmond.

GETTING THERE and FACILITIES

As the Hawkesbury district covers a wide area, access by car is recommended for easiest access. Some cemeteries are located walking distance from public transport, i.e. (trains) Windsor and Richmond. Buses also visit some outlying areas, check timetables www.131500.info Some cemeteries have toilet facilities, some are located near or adjacent to churches or parks with facilities, others have none.

RESPECT

Bear in mind when visiting that recent burials are still taking place in some cemeteries and take into consideration that people may be visiting to pay their respects to the dead, or mourn a loss.

CEMETERY CARE

Most importantly please understand that many headstones are quite old and may be in a fragile condition. The care of monuments requires the expertise of specialists and unskilled persons should not attempt to clean or restore a monument without first obtaining appropriate advice. Inexperienced efforts will often cause more harm. It is also necessary to obtain approval to undertake any work in a cemetery including conserving headstones or the addition of plaques. Contact Hawkesbury City Council for more information. T: (02) 4560-4444 or E: council@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au

FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH

For more information about family history research you are encouraged to visit the Hawkesbury City Library's Local Studies Collection. Here you will find a range of resources including cemetery inscriptions, church registers, newspapers, maps, family histories and other useful historical material. Details for the Library are as follows:

Hawkesbury Central Library
Deerubbin Centre
300 George Street
Windsor 2756
T: (02) 4560-4460
E: history@hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au
W: www.hawkesbury.nsw.gov.au

Opening hours are: Mon-Fri 9am-7pm, Sat 9am-1pm, Sun 2pm-5pm, closed Public Holidays.

Also check the '[Cemetery Register - Hawkesbury on the Net](http://www.cemetery.hawkesbury.net.au)' project at www.cemetery.hawkesbury.net.au where a number of local cemeteries have been transcribed. Images of headstones and location in cemetery plus other details are available to access online.



View of the Windsor Catholic Cemetery



For further information call the Hawkesbury Visitor Information Centre (02) 4578 0233 or 1300 362 874 or visit www.hawkesburytourism.com.au. The Centre is at Ham Common (opp. Richmond RAAF Base), Hawkesbury Valley Way, CLARENDON NSW 2756. Open 7 days. Managed by Hawkesbury City Council.