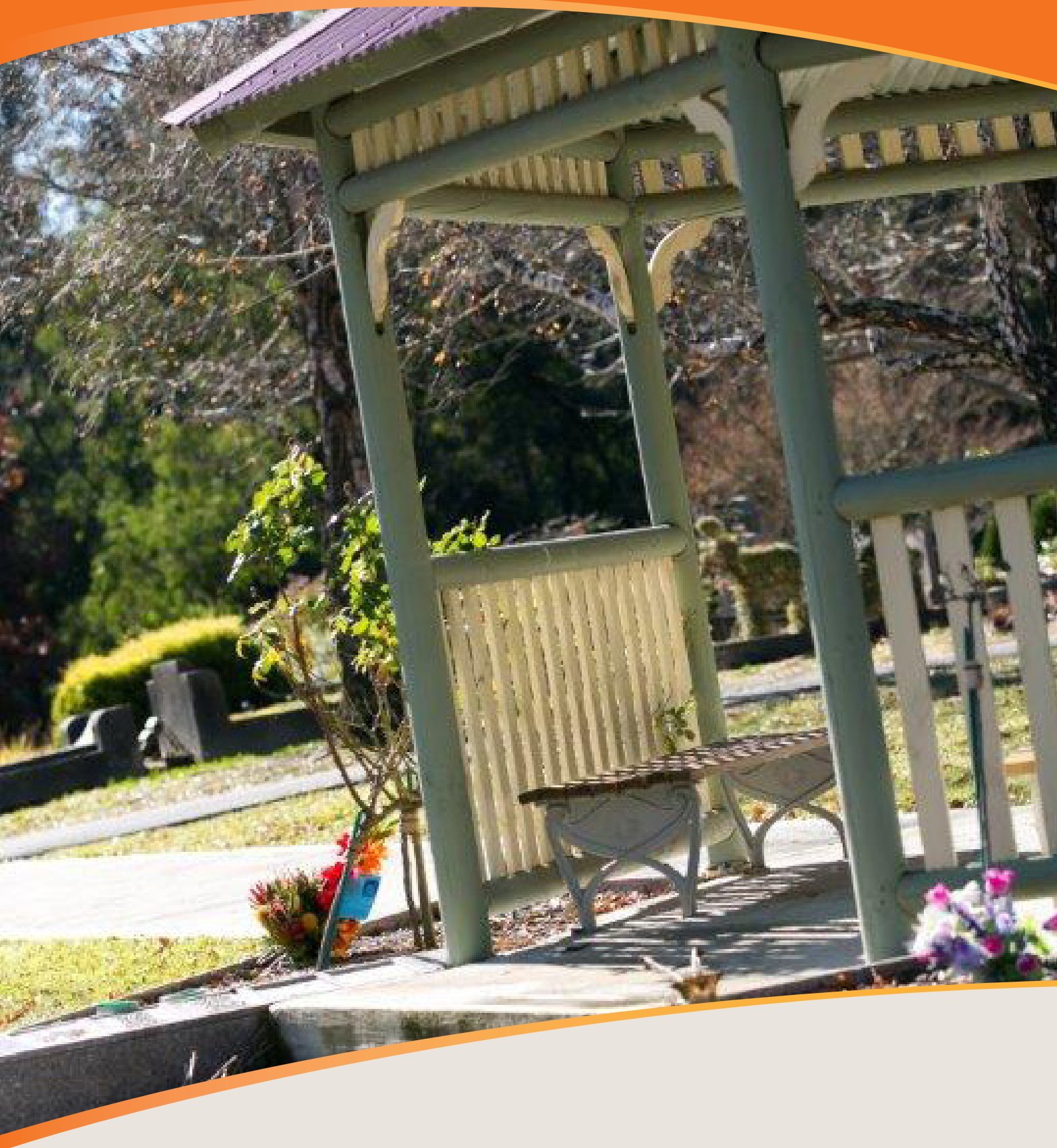


EMERALD CEMETERY

179 MACCLESFIELD ROAD, AVONSLEIGH, EMERALD, VIC 3058



The Greater Metropolitan
Cemeteries Trust
Lasting memories, peaceful places.



ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT:

During 2015/2016 The Greater Metropolitan Cemetery Trust (GMCT) developed a series of short histories as part of its obligations under the Public Records Act 1973. The documents focus on the administrative history of each cemetery, providing a range information which may be useful to researchers, including a brief historical overview, timeline and bibliography. GMCT gratefully acknowledges the work of Dr Jan Penney and Sarah Hurley in the development of this document.

Cemeteries are controlled by a Trust appointed by the Governor in Council on the recommendation of the responsible Minister. The Greater Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust is a Class A Trust and a body corporate with perpetual succession established by the Governor in Council pursuant to regulations under the *Cemeteries Act 1958* and updated within the *Cemeteries and Crematoria Act 2003*. The Trust is responsible for the maintenance of the cemetery, the handling of funds and the erection of monuments. Core services include internment in graves, internment in mausolea, internment of cremated remains, cremations, venue hire, hospitality, memorialisation, perpetual maintenance, archival cemetery and genealogical records and community events.

From 1864 to August 1873 The Commissioner of Public Works and the Public Works Department were responsible for cemeteries including the appointment of Trustees and fees charged (VRG28). From 1873 to 1888 The Commissioner of Crown Lands and Survey and the Department of Crown Lands and Survey were responsible (VG18). In 1888 the Chief Secretary and his Department (VRG26) were in control of cemeteries, but in 1890 the Minister for Health and the Department of Public Health (VRG39) become responsible under the Public Health Act 1889 – 53 (Vic No:1044).¹ In 1944 the new Ministry of Health Act (1943) and the Cemeteries Act 1944 (5025) saw the Minister for Health and the Department of Health become the responsible entity.² On 1 January 2015 the Department of Health and Human Services was formed, integrating the Department of Health and the Department of Human Services Sport and Recreation.

In 2002 the government initiated a Report on the financial viability of Cemetery Trusts which raised a number of concerns over the viability, financial management and governance of some cemeteries.³ In 2004 The Department of Human Services was advised of concerns related to probity at some cemeteries and the Auditor General completed a review which was reported to Parliament in May 2005.⁴ As a result the Minister for Health requested the Auditor General to widen the Review to include all major cemeteries⁵ Government then initiated a review of the major cemetery trusts under section 50 of the Public Services Act (relating largely to the governance and effectiveness of the cemetery sector as a whole) which was undertaken by the State Services Authority and tabled in Parliament in June 2007.⁶

In July 2008 the State Government announced reforms to the fourteen major metropolitan and regional Cemetery Trusts that report to Parliament.⁷ Two major metropolitan Trusts were created, the Southern Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust, and the Greater Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust, three regional Class A Trusts and five other Trusts. Another major review of the five Class A Trusts was completed in May 2013 to ensure that the reforms were proceeding smoothly.⁸

Greater Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust was formed in 2010 and assumed responsibility for twenty cemetery sites.⁹

Emerald (Nangana, Macclesfield) Cemetery is administered by the State Government through an independent Trust Board, the Greater Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust, Class A, established in 2010.¹⁰

Macclesfield Cemetery is a small, 2 hectare, cemetery surrounded by bush in a transitional state with little room for future burials. There are extensive plantings throughout, often forming part of the memorials on graves. Relatively few headstones survive from the earliest stage in the cemetery's history; however there is an extraordinary range of memorials using an unusual range of materials and designs. Many of these memorials appear to be home-made, reflecting a level of personal and community involvement that is quite uncommon. The plan of the cemetery is symmetrical, with a central entry, circular garden area and four narrow roadways dividing the cemetery into compartments.

Land, 5 acres, was set aside for Nangana Cemetery in 1883.¹¹ The area had first been settled in 1858 by gold prospectors but the rush was short lived and once land was surveyed and sold in the late 1870s small landholders and timber getters began to settle the area. Land had already been set aside for a school in 1879 and the first church established at nearby Avonsleigh.¹² The first Trustees to Nangana Cemetery were appointed on 3 March 1883, Carl A Nobelius (later a prominent nurseryman and businessman); Thomas Collis, Edwin Hunt, George Charman and James Slade.¹³

Carl Axel Nobelius, a nurseryman and business leader, moved permanently to Emerald in 1892 and established the world famous Nobelius Nursery as well as remaining a cemetery Trustee for many years.¹⁴ It would appear that a road was put through the original land designated as cemetery land in 1892 and the land on the eastern side of Macclesfield Road was then Gazetted as cemetery land.¹⁵ It is unclear if the land on the western side ever held burials.¹⁶

The first scale of fees recorded that burials cost one pound and grave digging also cost one pound.¹⁷ There were 12 burials recorded between 1883-1893 in the eastern section.¹⁸ Nangana Cemetery Regulations published in 1894 included the forbidding of picking flowers, smoking or bringing a dog into the cemetery as well as the opening hours and other administrative notices.¹⁹

Annual accounts tabled in parliament over the next years show a steady but low burial rate.²⁰ The copied Burial Register typed lists seems to show first burial date of 9 December of William Stuart but there would have been other earlier burials given the accounts tabled.²¹ Another source states a different earliest recorded burial that of Eugene Abel, aged 74 on 14 November 1899.²²

In 1900 the narrow gauge railway from Belgrave reached nearby Gembrook from Upper Ferntree Gully (now Puffing Billy Tourist Railway) and was used primarily to transport timber from the steep slopes and move soft fruit and berries to market. The rail line also opened the area up for tourism allowing visitors to travel into the hills and the first of many guesthouses opened the following year.²³

A year later Emerald Railway Station opened and the township moved to be closer to the railway station and police station, schools and churches became established there.²⁴ Nobelius Nursery erected large packing sheds along the rail line to allow for plant exports to be railed and then shipped overseas. By 1903 the Nursery was exporting over 1 million trees a year to many countries and was the largest nursery in the southern hemisphere and the largest employer in the area.²⁵

The local council, Shire of Ferntree Gully, was intimately linked to the cemetery and to the Trust being the entity to call a public notice of a meeting to elect Trustees to the Macclesfield Cemetery Trust.²⁶ The Trust meetings were often reported in the local papers under the aegis of the Shire of Ferntree Gully Shire Minutes of meetings. Although the cemetery remained open from 1894-1912 there is no record of correspondence from Nangana Cemetery Trust over those years at the Health Commission.²⁷

In 1912 Shire of Ferntree Gully (not the Trustees) wrote to the Board of Public Health asking for the name to be changed from Nangana Cemetery to Emerald Cemetery “as the name is only a parish name and has no significance” and the name change was approved and Gazetted.²⁸ In fact the names of Nangana, Emerald and Macclesfield cemetery were used interchangeably over the full life of the cemetery.²⁹

The cemetery had benefited from the long association with the Nobelius nursery family and this was cemented when Gus Ryberg, a prominent local nurseryman, former employee of Nobelius Nursery and community member of Swedish descent, joined the Trust as Honorary Secretary. He was a Trustee and Secretary for 47 years until 1997 and very instrumental in the maintenance and plantings at the cemetery. He noted that the cemetery was not properly surveyed, even though maps existed, and graves had often been dug in the incorrect location making new grave sites hard to identify.³⁰ This remained an issue for many years and continues to be a problem.

Many cemetery trusts struggled to find new members and undertake what was becoming an area under constant government scrutiny with several Reviews underway and in 2008 the Emerald Cemetery Trust approached Lilydale Cemeteries Trust to request that Lilydale take over the running of Emerald Cemetery and submissions were then put to Department of Health.³¹ The following year, 2009, the Emerald Cemetery Trust was abolished and management transferred to Lilydale Memorial Park and Cemeteries Trust under a management arrangement although not everyone agreed with this decision.³²

In 2010 the government decided to establish the Greater Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust as a Class A Trust under an amendment to the Act (2003) to manage one Trust after the consolidation of eight existing cemetery trusts into one. These include locations in Altona, Williamstown, Anderson’s Creek, Fawkner, Keilor, Lilydale, Preston, Templestowe and Wyndham. Greater Metropolitan Cemetery Trust was granted responsibility for all Lilydale cemeteries, including Emerald Cemetery.³³

FUNCTIONS:

EMERALD (NANGANA, MACCLESFIELD) CEMETERY PROVIDES INTERMENT, MEMORIALISATION AND COMMEMORATION SERVICES TO THE PUBLIC. EMERALD (NANGANA, MACCLESFIELD) CEMETERY HAS NO RECOGNISED COMMONWEALTH WAR GRAVES ON SITE.

PARLIAMENTARY ACTS AND BILLS RELATING TO CEMETERIES

- 1850 An Act for the Establishment and Regulation by Trustees of a General Cemetery Near the City of Melbourne - 1850 NSW 14, No: 19
- 1854 An Act for the Establishment and Management of Cemeteries in the Colony of Victoria 17 Vic, No: 12 (1854)
- 1864 An Act to Consolidate and Amend the Laws relating to Cemeteries - 27 Vic No: 201 20, April, 1864; “The Cemeteries Statute 1864”
- 1867 An act to Amend the Laws Relating to or Affecting Public Health - 31 Victoria No. 310
- 1880 The Cemeteries Statute Amendment Act 1880 - 44 Victoria No. 677
- 1889 The Public Health Act 1889 - 53 Victoria No. 1044 - section 14
- 1890 Cemeteries Act 1890, 10 July 1890, an Act to Consolidate the Laws relating to Cemeteries - 54 Vic No. 107; in operation on the 1 August, 1890
- 1903 Cremation Act 1903 - Act No. 1876
- 1904 Northern Suburbs Cemetery Act - 30 November 1904 No. 1952
- 1905 Amendment to the Act, No.3098
- 1909 Cemetery Act No. 2218
- 1915 Cemetery Act No. 2626
- 1928 Cemetery Act No. 3652
- 1930 Cemetery Act No. 3982

- 1931 Cemetery Act No. 4046
- 1944 Cemeteries Act No. 5025
- 1958 Cemeteries Act 1958 No. 6217
- 1970 Cemeteries Act 1970 (Coburg Public Cemetery)
- 1971 Cemeteries Act 1971, *Cemeteries* (Fawkner Crematorium and Memorial Park Act, Cemeteries Act 1958-Sect. 86)
- 1994 Cemeteries Act 1958, Rules and Regulations, Mausolea Approval
- 1995 Cemeteries (Incorporation of Trusts) Regulations, Version 010, Ser. No. 137, 14 May 1998
- 2003 The Cemeteries and Crematoria Act 2003 (initiated in August, 2003)
- 2005 Cemeteries and Crematoria Regulations No. 76/2005 (current)
- 2010 Amendment to the Cemeteries Act (2003) Cemeteries and Crematoria Act 2003, Ver. 20 80/2003 1 March 2010, creation of Greater Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust
- 2015 Cemeteries and Crematoria Regulations, Version 001, Ser. No.59, 27 June 2015

REVIEWS OF CEMETERIES UNDER THE ACT

- 2002 Department of Human Services, *Evaluation of the Financial Viability of Victoria's Cemetery Trusts and the Development of Fee Models*, (2002) prepared by RSM Bird Cameron, Melbourne (online)
- 2005 Auditor General Victoria, (May 2005) *Results of Special Reviews and Other Investigations, Cheltenham and Regional Cemeteries Trust, Review of Expenditure and Related Matters*
- 2006 Auditor General, (July 2006) *Review of Major Public Cemeteries*
- 2006 Department of Human Services, *Costing Study for Cemeteries and Crematoria*, (2006) prepared by Pitcher Partners, Melbourne (online)
- 2007 State Services Authority for the Auditor General, (2007) *Review of Cemetery Trusts*, State Services Authority Interim Report April 2007, Final Report June 2007
- 2013 Department of Health and Human Services, *Review of the Governance and Management of the Class A Cemetery Trusts* (2013), Melbourne

Emerald Cemetery Timeline

- 1858 Area named Emerald after a prospector named Jack Emerald was murdered there in 1858 although other accounts state it was named after Irish prospectors from Emerald Isle. The alluvial gold diggings were centered on the Emerald Creek and other nearby creeks³⁴
- 1859 September – gold diggings officially declared³⁵
- 1859 Emerald Town Reserve was surveyed and approved³⁶
- 1860 Rudimentary township began around the gold diggings but miners also worked in the timber and eucalyptus industries³⁷
- 1870s Farming began in the rich soil, hilly districts but was mostly only small allotments and transport of crops was difficult in the mountainous area³⁸
- 1876 Joseph Bosisto established in eucalyptus distillery in the Emerald Macclesfield area using existing eucalyptus trees and temporary stills³⁹
- 1877 Land from the northern section of Emerald was subdivided into 20 acre holdings and the rail line from Oakleigh to Bunyip was opened allowing produce to get to more markets and encouraging more small landholders to farm⁴⁰
- 1879 Land set aside for Nagana School⁴¹
- 1879 First church in the area was erected, Church of Christ at Avonsleigh⁴²
- 1879 First school in Emerald area No 2001, established at Avonsleigh⁴³
- 1882 12 January – notice of death of Otto Victor Nobelius aged 3 months recorded on the Nobelius Memorial, Emerald Cemetery but as three children died in infancy he may not have been buried there⁴⁴
- 1883 9 February – original Nangana Cemetery site of 5 acres Gazetted⁴⁵
- 1883 Land sales included the block beside the proposed cemetery offered for 2 pound per acre but the land was not easily sold and remained advertised for the next few weeks⁴⁶
- 1882 Carl Axel Nobelius probably acquired land around this time as he was named as a Cemetery Trustee the following year although other sources state he did not purchase land until later in the 1880s. For many years he worked in city nurseries and rode the train and then bike many miles to clear his land each weekend⁴⁷

- 1883 3 March – First Trustees to Nangana Cemetery were appointed; Carl A Nobelius (later a prominent nurseryman and businessman); Thomas Collis, Edwin Hunt, George Charman and James Slade⁴⁸
- 1889 23 May - The Scoresby Ward of the Shire of Berwick, including Scoresby, Fern Tree Gully, Clematis, parts of Emerald and Avonsleigh was severed from Berwick and became the Shire of Fern Tree Gully⁴⁹
- 1891 23 November – notice of death of Clifford Stanley Nobelius aged 7 months recorded on the Nobelius Memorial, Emerald Cemetery but as three children died in infancy he may not have been buried there⁵⁰
- 1892 Report from the Ferntree Gully Shire council meeting noted correspondence received from the Secretary of the Public Health Department about a road through the Nagana cemetery (no other information)⁵¹
- 1892 Carl Axel Nobelius moved permanently to Emerald and established the world famous Nobelius Nursery as well as remaining a cemetery Trustee for many years⁵²
- 1893 11 February – public meeting called by Shire of Ferntree Gully to appoint Trustees and to seek information about the early cemetery⁵³
- 1893 25 February – letter to Board of Public Health by Secretary of Emerald Cemetery Mr Collis, asking for assistance to build a fence around the cemetery, to clear trees and to survey the cemetery⁵⁴
- 1893 A road was put through the middle of the original 5 acre cemetery and Gazettal No 1 was revoked and Gazettal No. 2 on 17 March was made where the cemetery now stands on the eastern side of Macclesfield Road⁵⁵
- 1893 17 March – next notice notifying that the cemetery land of 5 acres has been withdrawn from sale and reserved for cemetery purposes⁵⁶
- 1893 14 April – cemetery land revoked from temporary reservation status⁵⁷
- 1893 19 April – local paper reported in the Ferntree Gully Shire Council Minutes of meeting that the Trustees of Nangana Cemetery were C.A. Nobelius, T. Collis, E. Hunt, G. Charman and J. Slade⁵⁸
- 1893 12 burials recorded between 1883-1893 in the eastern section⁵⁹
- 1894 18 May – Nangana Cemetery Scale of Fees published for the first time⁶⁰
- 1894 15 June – Nangana Cemetery Regulations published for the first time and included the forbidding of picking flowers, smoking or bringing a dog into the cemetery as well as the opening hours and other administrative notices⁶¹
- 1894 Annual accounts of the Nangana Cemetery Trust for year 1894 tabled in the Gazette in 1896⁶²
- 1895 Annual accounts of the Nangana Cemetery Trust for year of 1895 tables in the Gazette in 1896 showing income of 5 pound 7 shilling and 4 pence, up from 3 pound 112 shilling and 6 pence the year before⁶³
- 1896 Annual accounts of the Nangana Cemetery Trust tabled and show an income increase as annual income now 10 pounds 6 shilling and 10 pence halfpenny⁶⁴
- 1897 Annual accounts of the Nangana Cemetery Trust show an income of 10 pound 3 shilling and 11 pence for the year of 1897⁶⁵
- 1897 Select Committee Considering Railways investigated the possibility of building a narrow gauge line from Emerald to connect with other lines and Nobelius gave evidence that this would open up the area for soft fruit and berry growers to be able to reach markets. By this time Nobelius was growing some 50 different varieties of strawberry alone⁶⁶
- 1898 25 November – John Broderick names as Trustee in place of G.P. Charman who had left the district⁶⁷
- 1898 Burial Register typed lists seems to show first burial date of 9 December of William Stuart but there would have been other earlier burials⁶⁸
- 1898 Annual Accounts show equal income and expenditure of 7 pound, 3 shilling and 7 pence⁶⁹
- 1898 First permanent store in Emerald was opened by David Andrews and it also served as the post office⁷⁰
- 1899 Annual accounts of the Nangana Cemetery Trust tabled in Gazette⁷¹
- 1899 14 November – earliest recorded burial that of Eugene Abel, aged 74 although there would have been earlier burials in the older part of the cemetery prior to this date⁷²
- 1899 22 December - Emerald Post Office⁷³
- 1900 Narrow gauge railway from Belgrave reached nearby Gembrook from Upper Ferntree Gully (now Puffing Billy Tourist Railway) and was used primarily to transport timber from the steep slopes and soft fruit and berries to market. The rail line also opened the area up for tourism and settlement allowing visitors to travel into the hills and the first of many guesthouses opened the following year⁷⁴

- 1900 Annual Accounts tabled in Gazette⁷⁵
- 1901 Emerald Railway Station opened and the township moved to be closer to the railway station and police station, schools and churches became established there⁷⁶
- 1903 Nobelius Nursery erected large packing sheds along the rail line to allow for plant exports to be railed and then shipped overseas. By 1903 the Nursery was exporting over 1 million trees a year to many countries and was the largest nursery in the southern hemisphere⁷⁷
- 1906 29 June - Ferntree Gully Shire Council Minutes reported a note from Mr J. T Borland, Secretary to the Nangana Cemetery Trust requesting a meeting to elect Trustees for the Nangana Cemetery Trust⁷⁸
- 1906 29 June - Macclesfield Cemetery – in public notice of a meeting to elect Trustees to the Macclesfield Cemetery Trust, meeting called by the Ferntree Gully Shire President⁷⁹
- 1908 20 March – letter from Mr Borland, Secretary of the Nangana Cemetery Trust, complained that an employee of the Ferntree Gully Council had blocked the cemetery entrance with an obstruction and he demanded it be removed⁸⁰
- 1908 Annual accounts of the Nangana Cemetery Trust tabled in Gazette⁸¹
- 1908 9 December – George Davey and John Walter Wright are nominated as Trustees in place of Edwin Hult and Peter Hultgren who had resigned⁸²
- 1909 Abstract of the annual accounts of the Nangana Cemetery Trust tabled in Gazette⁸³
- 1910 11 February – report under Macclesfield News in a local paper reported that the Nangana Cemetery has been carefully attended to over the past few years and that the five acres had all paths made and cleared, numbered tablets placed and that remaining funds would be spent on a water tank and a shelter shed. It also noted the resignation of the Secretary, Mr. J.T. Borland⁸⁴
- 1910 Abstract of the annual accounts of the Nangana Cemetery Trust tabled in Gazette⁸⁵
- 1911 Abstract of the annual accounts of the Nangana Cemetery Trust tabled in Gazette⁸⁶
- 1911 Plantation of Eucalyptus grown by Joseph Bosisto were planted to which encouraged other essential oil industries such lavender for essential oils and flax and the erection of permanent stills⁸⁷
- 1912 From 1894-1912 there is no record of correspondence from Nangana Cemetery Trust at the Health Commission⁸⁸
- 1912 Abstract of the annual accounts of the Nangana Cemetery Trust tabled in Gazette⁸⁹
- 1912 8 February – Shire of Ferntree Gully wrote to the Board of Public Health asking for the name to be changed from Nangana Cemetery to Emerald Cemetery “as the name is only a parish name and has no significance”⁹⁰
- 1912 8 March – change of name to Emerald Cemetery approved⁹¹
- 1912 12 April - Minutes of meeting of Ferntree Gully Council noted correspondence from Public Health Department that the name of Nangana Cemetery was to be altered to Emerald Cemetery⁹²
- 1912 3 May – Notice of a public meeting to elect a Trustee to the Nangana (now Emerald) Public Cemetery to be held in the Emerald Mechanics Institute Hall and signed by Tomas Dobson, Shire President, Shire of Ferntree Gully⁹³
- 1914 Nobelius Nursery held 2 million stock trees and exported to New Zealand, South Africa, India, Japan, Europe and South America using the narrow gauge rail line with annual shipments of 400,000 per annum to South Africa alone, making the nursery the largest employer in the district and training many other local nurserymen⁹⁴
- 1916 Funeral notice re a young boy, Ernest Bell, noted that his remains would proceed from Flinders Street Station on the 8.52 am train to Emerald Cemetery arriving about noon⁹⁵
- 1926 July - Secretary Mr Davey wrote to the Board of Public Health asking for a grant to repair fencing⁹⁶
- 1926 December – Mr A.V. Nobelius wrote to Board of Public Health thanking them for the grant⁹⁷
- 1927 June – Mr A.V. Nobelius wrote to Board of Public Health reporting the fencing had cost 50 pound 15 shilling and 5 pence⁹⁸
- 1927 Funeral of Mathew Kirkpatrick at Nangana Cemetery⁹⁹
- 1934 Electricity reached Emerald¹⁰⁰
- 1945 Bushfires throughout the Ranges caused considerable damage to Emerald area¹⁰¹
- 1950 Gus Ryberg, a prominent local nurseryman and community member of Swedish descent, joined the Trust as Honorary Secretary and was a Trustee and Secretary for 47 years until 1997. He was very instrumental in the maintenance and plantings at the cemetery¹⁰²
- 1953 Rail line was closed by a land slip and this cut off the area from a form of easy transport¹⁰³

- 1960 Gus Ryberg, Honorary Secretary, noted that the cemetery was not properly surveyed and graves had often been dug in the correct location making new grave sites hard to identify, a remaining issue today¹⁰⁴
- 1962 Narrow gauge rail line re-opened as the tourist railway, Puffing Billy¹⁰⁵
- 1966 Mains water made available to Emerald¹⁰⁶
- 1973 Cardinia Reservoir, which supplied water to Melbourne, opened and provided employment to many in the preceding years which encouraged local business¹⁰⁷
- 1983 Scale of Fees for Emerald Cemetery published in Gazette¹⁰⁸
- 1992 Robert Henry Adams nominated as Trustee of Emerald Cemetery¹⁰⁹
- 1993 I.W. Skinner nominated as Trustee of Emerald Cemetery¹¹⁰
- 1994 15 December - Cardinia Shire officially came into being on the December 15 at 4.00pm¹¹¹
- 1997 Scale of Fees for Emerald Public Cemetery published in Gazette and lists A. Latter, Kevin Hogan and G. Ryberg as Trustees¹¹²
- 1997 Gus Ryberg retired from Honorary Secretary of the Trust but remained a senior Trustee¹¹³
- 2000 Trustees were Alan Latter (Chair); Bob Adams, Ian Skinner, Ron Bevan, Kevin Hogan and Leanne Adams (Secretary)¹¹⁴
- 2000 15 November – death of Gus Ryberg who was a cemetery trustee for 47 years¹¹⁵
- 2002 Government commissioned a report on the viability of Cemetery Trusts which discovered that there were concerns over viability, financial management and governance at a number of cemetery trusts¹¹⁶
- 2004 The Department of Human Services was advised of concerns related to probity at the Cheltenham and Regional Cemeteries Trust which instigated a review by the Auditor General¹¹⁷
- 2005 Findings of Auditor General's Review were reported to Parliament in May 2005¹¹⁸
- 2005 Official letterhead of Emerald Cemetery lists cemetery name as also Macclesfield, Avonsleigh and Nangana¹¹⁹
- 2006 Following this Review The Auditor General completed a review of thirteen major Cemetery Trusts which was printed in July 2006 and raised a number of concerns over financial probity and governance issues¹²⁰
- 2007 July - Government then decided to initiate a larger review of the fourteen major cemetery trusts in the state resulting in an Interim Report in tabled in Parliament on July 2007¹²¹
- 2008 Emerald Cemetery Trust approached Lilydale Cemeteries Trust to request that Lilydale Cemetery Trust take over the running of Emerald Cemetery and submissions were then put to Department of Health¹²²
- 2008 July 2008, the State Government announced reforms to the 14 major metropolitan and regional Cemetery Trusts that report to Parliament under the Financial Management Act 1994¹²³
- 2009 1 July – Emerald Cemetery Trust abolished and management transferred to Lilydale Memorial Park and Cemeteries Trust under a management arrangement¹²⁴
- 2009 Installation of Rotunda and new chemical toilets¹²⁵
- 2010 Two major metropolitan Trusts were created as a result of the reviews, the Southern Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust and the Greater Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust plus three regional Class Trusts and five other Trusts¹²⁶
- 2010 1 March 2010 Establishment of Greater Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust as a Class A Trust under an amendment to the Act (2003) to manage one Trust after the consolidation of eight existing cemetery trusts into one. These include locations in Altona, Williamstown, Anderson's Creek, Fawkner, Keilor, Lilydale, Preston, Templestowe and Wyndham. Greater Metropolitan Cemetery Trust is granted responsibility for Lilydale cemeteries, including Healesville Cemetery.¹²⁷
- 2010 1 March- First meeting of the Greater Metropolitan Cemetery Trust¹²⁸
- 2011 Government releases a discussion paper "Victoria's Cemeteries and Crematoria: Options for Legislative Change"¹²⁹
- 2013 A review of the five Class A Trusts was completed in May 2013 to ensure that the reforms were proceeding smoothly. While some minor changes were recommended on the whole the government was satisfied the reforms had succeeded.¹³⁰
- 2015 New Regulations to the Cemetery and Crematoria Act released¹³¹

Emerald Cemetery Name Changes

Nangana/Macclesfield/Emerald names were all used interchangeably until very recently.

- 1883 Nangana Cemetery - site of 5 acres Gazetted 9 February¹³²
- 1883 Nangana Cemetery - Nangana Cemetery opened¹³³
- 1906 Macclesfield Cemetery – in public notice of a meeting to elect Trustees to the Macclesfield Cemetery Trust, meeting called by the Ferntree Gully Shire President¹³⁴
- 1911 Nangana Cemetery – Funeral notice of Mrs Nobelius, wife of prominent local nurseryman will be interred at Nangana Cemetery Emerald¹³⁵
- 1912 Emerald Cemetery - Minutes of meeting of Ferntree gully Council noted correspondence from Public Health Department that the name of Nangana Cemetery was to be altered to Emerald¹³⁶
- 1922 Nangana Cemetery Emerald– 2 January notice that prominent nurseryman Carl Axel Nobleius will be buried at Nangana Cemetery, Emerald¹³⁷
- 1932 Macclesfield Cemetery - 17 February – death notice for Mr Resuggan announced burial at Macclesfield Cemetery¹³⁸
- 1937 Macclesfield Cemetery - 17 May – death notice for Mr Beauchamp of Emerald announced his burial would be at Macclesfield Cemetery¹³⁹
- 1939 Macclesfield Cemetery - 17 October – funeral for Absalom Watson to be buried in Macclesfield Cemetery after service at Canterbury funeral parlour¹⁴⁰
- 1940 Nangana (Emerald) Cemetery – 14 May – funeral notice for Mr James Legg notes he will be buried in Nangana Cemetery (Emerald)¹⁴¹
- 1946 Macclesfield Cemetery - 7 August – funeral notice for Mr Spiller notes he is to be buried in Macclesfield Cemetery¹⁴²
- 1953 Macclesfield Cemetery - 30 July – notice for Mr Fleming notes he will be buried in Macclesfield Cemetery¹⁴³
- 1956 Macclesfield Cemetery - 1 October – funeral notice for Mr Addington notes he will be buried at Macclesfield Cemetery¹⁴⁴
- 1983 Emerald Public Cemetery – Scale of Fees for Emerald Cemetery published in Gazette¹⁴⁵
- 2005 Emerald Cemetery - Official letterhead of Emerald Cemetery lists cemetery name as also Macclesfield, Avonsleigh and Nangana¹⁴⁶

- 2010 Greater Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust – Emerald Cemetery¹⁴⁷
- 2015 Macclesfield Cemetery - Death notice for local businessman Mr Phil Randall notes he will be buried in Macclesfield Cemetery¹⁴⁸
- 2015 Macclesfield Cemetery - 1 May – death notice for Mr Kuyper notes he will be buried at Emerald Macclesfield Cemetery¹⁴⁹

Coburg Cemetery Bibliography

ARCHIVES - PUBLIC RECORDS OFFICE

Public Records Office of Victoria: Emerald Cemetery: Department of Health File (incorporating material from Office of Crown Lands and Survey) 1850s – CEM 184-01 (1882-1895) and CEM 184-02 (1912-1985)

ARCHIVES – GREATER METROPOLITAN CEMETERIES TRUST

Loose material held at Fawkner Offices including original minute books, loose certificates, plans and photographs, burial records and annual reports among others documents

Greater Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust Annual Reports 2010 – 2015

Emerald Cemetery Site Plan n.d. (held at Lilydale Office)

Emerald Receipt books 2002 – 2008 (held at Lilydale Office)

Emerald Cemetery (also known as Nangana Cemetery) - Nangana Cemetery Application for interment 1998 – 2000 (held at Lilydale Office)

Emerald Application for Burial 1960 – 2008 (held at Lilydale Office)

Lilydale Cemeteries Trust, Annual Report, 2008-1009 (held at Lilydale Office)

Emerald Museum, Heritage Walk Leaflet 2015

ARCHIVES – HEALTH DEPARTMENT ARCHIVE

Files headed Emerald Cemetery, var including correspondence and Annual Reports to the Dept. of Health (note no correspondence between 1894-1912)

ARCHIVES – EMERALD AND DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND MUSEUM

Map, documents, correspondence, Minutes, burial notices, newspaper clippings, burial applications, instructions for graves all in one hanging file C4.C.17.3 (1899-2008)

MAP

Large line map with graves sites marked (1909)

DOCUMENTS

Burial Receipt Books, original and hand written, 1889-1926; 1927-1946; 1947-1979

Minutes (var) 2002; 2003

Burial records for Emerald and Gembrook Cemeteries taken from A.I.G.S records (typescript)

Emerald Cemetery Report (Glen Turnbull) (undated)

Nagana Rules and Regulations 5 June 1994

Abstract of Accounts (1961-1962)

Alphabetical Burial Register

Nangana Cemetery Burial Register (copy typescript) 1899-1979 by John Spencer (1979) checked against tombstones

Short history of Nangana Cemetery by Margaret McInnes (undated) marked Woorilla

Short history of Nangana Cemetery (undated) anon.

Newspapers and Articles

The Argus 1848-1957

The Age 1854

Reporter (Box Hill) 1889-1918

South Bourke and Mornington Journal 1889-1920

Government Gazettes

Government Gazette NSW, 1836-1850

Victoria Government Gazette, 1850-

Websites

Australian Dictionary of Biography, Online Edition, Copyright 2006-2015, updated continuously, published by Australian National University, <http://www.adb.online.anu.edu.au/biogs/A010146b.htm>

Resources, last updated 2015, published by The Greater Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust, <http://www.gmct.com.au/resources/>

Cemeteries and Crematoria Amendment Act 2009 (NO. 61 OF 2009) – Schedule 4, 'Victorian Numbered Acts', last updated 20 Aug 2015, published by Australasian Legal Information Institute, http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/vic/num_act/cacaa200961o2009348/sch4.html

**Lists those cemeteries which were incorporated into GMCT in 2009*

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