

# MEMBERSHIP FORM

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*Please forward subscription to:*

The Secretary  
Friends of Mays Hill Cemetery  
PO Box 361  
MERRYLANDS NSW 2160

Email:            [mayshillcemetery@yahoo.com.au](mailto:mayshillcemetery@yahoo.com.au)

Fee:                \$5.00

Donation:        \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total:            \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(Please make cheques payable to 'Friends of Mays Hill Cemetery')

Date:              .....



For information on Mays Hill Cemetery, please visit The Friends of Mays Hill Cemetery at [www.mayshillcemetery.org](http://www.mayshillcemetery.org)

or

contact  
[mayshillcemetery@yahoo.com.au](mailto:mayshillcemetery@yahoo.com.au)



THE FRIENDS OF



**MAYS HILL CEMETERY**

Corner Great Western Highway  
& Steele Street  
Parramatta



# Mays Hill Cemetery

The cemetery is located on land originally utilised as stables by the Lancers.

Mays Hill is two distinct cemeteries - one appropriated by the Presbyterians in 1839 and the other by the Baptists in 1849. Each were given one acre of land. They were situated outside the town boundaries of Parramatta with the land sloping away from the main settlement. Today it is located on the Great Western Highway, Mays Hill.

In its time, the cemetery has been known as The Western Road Cemetery, Mays Hill Baptist, Parramatta General, Presbyterian, Anglican or just Western Road.

Mays Hill is not a true pioneer cemetery, more a heritage cemetery comprising the first wave of free settlers - the people who built our district into what we have now.



There were originally seven cemeteries granted to the Parramatta area. Mays Hill is the only cemetery where 'wooden' surrounds still survive. Although dilapidated now, they can still be seen.

Notable residents are James Houison; the Ritchie family of Clyde Engineering fame; Alexander Johnson (lawn bowls); Sydney Evan Jones; Carl Freidrich Bruggmann (or Dr German Charlie); Edmund Mason (father of Parramatta Journalism and founder of Parramatta's first newspaper, the short lived Parramatta Chronicle); convicts; farmers; industrialists; shopkeepers; publicans. All people who made Parramatta and the surrounding districts what they are today.

On July 4, 1977, the trustees of the cemetery resigned and the Council became trustees at that time. Holroyd City Council initially spent funds to rebuild the Lych Gate, and to erect a new perimeter fence which is still standing today.

The cemetery was classified by the National Trust of Australia as being "of significance" in 1979.



Extensive vandalism occurred up to 1994. The Mayor at the time, Clr Stuart Graham, a family history enthusiast, formed the Friends of Mays Hill Cemetery in the same year and together we commenced the restoration program. Security systems were installed by Council and since then vandalism has ceased.

There are approximately 3,500 known burials in the cemetery and about 600 unbound or unmarked graves.

The principal vegetation found at the cemetery is native grass - *Aristida ramosa* and Heritage Roses.

The Friends of Mays Hill Cemetery hold regular tours of the Cemetery. Private Tours can be arranged. Please contact the Secretary.



While the Friends maintain comprehensive information on individuals and families buried at the Cemetery, they would also like you to share your family history and photos. We encourage all relatives to join our bi-monthly meetings.

