



Celebrating
60 YEARS


CEMETERIES
& CREMATORIA
ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA



1965 - 2025



The Foundation of the Cemeteries & Crematoria Association of Victoria

On 18 May 1965, a group of Cemetery and Crematoria Managers came together with the aim of forming an Association that would provide understanding, assistance, discussion and alliance for the Cemetery and Crematoria Industry in Victoria. Brought together by W J MacGill, from the New Melbourne Cemetery Fawkner, the newly formed Association outlined its goals of maintaining ethical industry standards, assisting members, providing a channel for co-operation and understanding between members and promoting service to the public.

The initial vision and goals of those founding members has provided the basis for the underlying objectives and purpose of the Cemeteries & Crematoria Association of Victoria (CCAV) today.

FOUNDING MEMBERS - MAY 1965

Mr W J MacGill
New Melbourne Cemetery, Fawkner

Mr K Neville
The Necropolis Trust

Mr C W Sidway
Western Suburbs Memorial Park

Mr R Walker
Brighton General Cemetery

Mr P Wolf
Cheltenham Public Cemetery Trust

Mr J R Billan
Coburg General Cemetery

Mr M S Brennan
Melbourne General Cemetery

Mrs M Brown
Boroondara Cemetery

Mr F W E Phelps
Box Hill Cemetery Trust

PAST PRESIDENTS 1965 - 2025

YEAR	NAME	YEAR	NAME
1965	W J MacGill	1983	W Shears
1966	W J MacGill	1984	G MacGill
1967	W J MacGill K D Neville	1985	G MacGill
1968	K D Neville	1986	A B O'Connor
1969	K D Neville C W Sidway	1987	A B O'Connor
1970	C W Sidway H J Crowhurst	1988	G Fagg
1971	H J Crowhurst	1989	I Keith
1973	H J Crowhurst	1990	I Keith
1973 - 1979	Unavailable	1991	I Roddick
1980	G Lumsden	1992	I Roddick
1981	G Lumsden	1993	M Tucker
1982	W Shears	1994	M Tucker

PAST PRESIDENTS 1965 - 2025

YEAR	NAME	YEAR	NAME
1995	A B O'Connor	2001	P Bachelor
1996	B Macumber	2002	P Bachelor
1997	B Macumber	2003	J Gilbertson
1998	M Godfrey	2004	J Shaw
1999	P Tocknell	2005	J Shaw
2000	P Tocknell	2006	B O'Connor

PAST PRESIDENTS 1965 - 2025

YEAR	NAME	YEAR	NAME
2007	B O'Connor	2016	F de Groot
2008	D Thomas	2017	D Crowe
2009	D Thomas	2018	D Crowe J Voce
2010	G Solomano	2019	J Voce
2011	R Shell	2020	J Voce
2012	F de Groot	2021	A De Jong
2013	F de Groot	2022	A De Jong
2014	B O'Connor	2023	A De Jong
2015	B O'Connor	2024	R Luscombe

History over the Years

YEAR	OFFICE BEARERS	COMMITTEE	HIGHLIGHTS
1965 & 1966	W J MacGill (Chairman) C W Sidway (Secretary) K D Neville (Treasurer) J Coyle (Auditor)	M S Brennan R Walker P Woff	Cemetery advisory council reformed The constitution and bylaws of the association were adopted Log of claims and lawn cemetery cost issues are discussed
1967 & 1968	K D Neville (Chairman) C W Sidway (Secretary) H J Crowhurst (Treasurer) J Coyle (Auditor)	M S Brennan F W Allan H Ferguson	Industrial unrest leads to stop-work meetings at Western Suburbs Memorial Park.
1969	C W Sidway (Chairman)		Wage Board issues are discussed
1970 & 1971	H J Crowhurst (President) C W Sidway (Secretary & Treasurer) I Mountford (Public Relations)		Resignation of the Chairman and Secretary in June 1970 due to lack of involvement by members. Stonemason allege in The Herald newspaper that Cemeteries take commissions
1972	H J Crowhurst (President) C W Sidway (Secretary & Treasurer) I Mountford (Public Relations) J Coyle (Auditor)	L Thomas	Issue of burial ground space shortage in metropolitan areas is discussed.
1973	The minutes at the AGM do not refer to the election of officer bearers		Undertakers Assistants and Cemeteries Employees Union requests a hearing in support of wage increases.

History over the Years

YEAR	OFFICE BEARERS	COMMITTEE	HIGHLIGHTS
1974 - 1979	After extensive research the committee was unable to locate any meeting minutes or information for the years 1974-1979.		According to meeting records from individual Cemeteries, one of the major issues discussed during this period was the potential formation of a separate association for cemetery trustees. A separate association was never formed, but the issue of trustee involvement was highlighted.
1980	G Lumsden (President) W Shears (Vice President) G MacGill (Secretary) N Allen (Treasurer)		
1981	G Lumsden (President) W Shears (Vice President) G MacGill (Secretary) B Gales (Asst. Secretary) N Allen (Treasurer)	M Carroll J Thomas J Shannon	Monuments and Monumental Masons cause concern to some Cemeteries. Wage Board and Log of Claims are discussed.
1982	W Shears (President) I Mountford (Vice President & Secretary) N Allen (Treasurer)	G MacGill J Thomas J Shannon	Wage Board agrees to a 38 hour work week The association now has 38 members
1983	W Shears (President) G MacGill (Vice President) J Thomas (Secretary) B Gales (Minute Secretary) N Allen (Treasurer)	G Lumsden I Roddick	Draft copy of the new Cemeteries Act is written, copies are distributed for comment. Standardisation of fees is considered.

History over the Years

YEAR	OFFICE BEARERS	COMMITTEE	HIGHLIGHTS
1984	G. MacGill (President) J. Shannon (Vice President) D. Partington (Secretary) B. Gales (Minute Secretary) N Allen (Treasurer)	I. Roddick W. Shears	The role of the Association is reviewed and the aim is stated as: To continue to provide industry knowledge and to extend member services and increase membership
1985	G MacGill (President) A B O'Connor (Vice President) I Keith (Secretary) B Gales (Minute Secretary) G Lumsden (Asst. Secretary) N Allen (Treasurer)	I Roddick W Shears	John Coyle and Jack Thomas are both made life members of the Association Gippsland Crematorium opened
1986 & 1987	A B O'Connor (President) I Roddick (Vice President) I.Keith (Secretary & Treasurer)	G MacGill W Shears	DHS allocates funds for a new cemetery in Lilydale Trustees are invited to attend the Annual General Meeting for the first time in order to raise awareness of the types of business discussed at CCAV meetings and to give trustees the chance to meet with their colleagues from other Cemeteries
1988	G Fagg (President) I Roddick (Vice President) I Keith (Secretary & Treasurer)	G MacGill W Shears	DHS proceeds with 25 land purchases for Cemeteries in Victoria Geelong Crematorium opened, 19 May 1988
1989	I Keith (President) I Roddick (Vice President) A B O'Connor (Secretary & Treasurer)	G MacGill W Shears	CCAV continues to lobby for urgent amendments to the Cemeteries Act of 1958

History over the Years

YEAR	OFFICE BEARERS	COMMITTEE	HIGHLIGHTS
1990	I Keith (President) I Roddick (Vice President) A B O'Connor (Secretary & Treasurer)	W Shears G MacGill M Tucker	Revision of the Rules for incorporation is adopted by members and approved by the Office of Corporate Affairs
1991 & 1992	I Roddick (President) A B O'Connor (Vice President) M Tucker (Secretary) G Fagg (Treasurer)	I Keith W Shears G MacGill	Bendigo Crematorium opens in November CCAV opposes the introduction of mausoleums in Victoria until a satisfactory limit is placed on the relative tenure
1993	M Tucker (President) A B O'Connor (Vice-President) B Sloan (Secretary) G Fagg (Treasurer)	D Beames S Bond B Woodhead	The Regulatory Impact Statement for Mausolea is being finalised
1994	M Tucker (President) A B O'Connor (Vice-President) B.Sloan (Secretary) D Beames (Treasurer)	B Taylor R Walker B Woodhead	Industry faces threat from private memorials being allowed in church grounds and private operators wishing to enter the industry
1995	A B O'Connor (President) B Sloan (Secretary) D Beames (Treasurer)	B Taylor R Walker B Woodhead	14 Cemeteries are placed under the Financial Management Act Lilydale Crematorium officially opens on 27 May 1995
1996	B Macumber (President) I Roddick (Vice-President) R Walker (Secretary) D Beames (Treasurer)	M Godfrey G MacGill B Woodhead	CCAV has a combined meeting at Coonawarra with the Cemetery Association of South Australia

History over the Years

YEAR	OFFICE BEARERS	COMMITTEE	HIGHLIGHTS
1997	B Macumber (President) M Godfrey (Vice-President) R Walker (Secretary) B Sloan (Treasurer)	A B O'Connor I Roddick M Tucker	Meeting Procedure Guidelines are reviewed The Cemeteries Act 1958 is reviewed
1998	M Godfrey (President) J Gilbertson (Vice-President) R Walker (Secretary) D Beames (Treasurer)	B Macumber A B O'Connor I Roddick	CCAV delegation meets Mr Robert Doyle (Parliamentary Secretary), regarding the maintenance fund
1999	P Tockneil (President) R O'Callagan (Vice-President) R Walker (Secretary) B Sloan (Treasurer)	B Macumber A B O'Connor I Roddick	Review of the Cemeteries Act 1958 continues to move slowly, as a result CCAV engaged a lobbyist
2000	P Tocknell (President) P Bachelor (Vice-President) R Walker (Secretary) B Sloan (Treasurer)	B Macumber A B O'Connor R O'Callaghan	Spiritual Diversity Seminar and Hortskill courses are conducted.
2001	P Bachelor (President) P Tocknell (Vice-President) R Walker (Secretary) B Sloan (Treasurer)	D Beames B Macumber A B O'Connor	DHS Training package begins. Re-draft of Standardisation of Monumental Regulations consultative progress commences.
2002	P Bachelor (President) J Gilbertson (Vice-President) M Barnett (Secretary) B Sloan (Treasurer)	R Allison F Bridgewater R Walker	Monumental Regulations Guidelines are completed. Privacy Statement is developed.

History over the Years

YEAR	OFFICE BEARERS	COMMITTEE	HIGHLIGHTS
2003	J Gilbertson (President) R Allison (Vice-President) P Bachelor (Secretary) J Shaw (Treasurer)	F Bridgewater J Richardson D Thomas	Membership reaches 152. Certificate of Merit is developed and Ian Keith and Ian Roddick are inaugural recipients.
2004	J Shaw (President) R Allison (Vice-President) P Bachelor (Secretary) D Thomas (Treasurer)	F Bridgewater J Richardson G Solomano	Completion of DHS Training Project Trustee's Manual. Rules & Regulation of the Association updated.
2005	J Shaw (President) R Allison (Vice-President) J Richardson (Secretary) D Thomas (Treasurer)	F Bridgewater G Solomano	DHS implements the Cemeteries and Crematorium Act 2003 from 1 July. CCAV introduces Affiliate and Associate membership categories.
2006 & 2007	B O'Connor (President) D Thomas (Vice-President) J Richardson (Secretary) G Solomano (Treasurer)	F Bridgewater V Pridmore D Mitchell	Fawkner Crematorium & Memorial Park: 100 years of service. CCAV assisted the Government with Pandemic Planning guidelines. State Services review of the Victorian Cemetery sector.
2008	D Thomas (President) G Solomano (Vice-President) J Richardson (Secretary) D Mitchell (Treasurer)	F Bridgewater P Green D Walker	Change of Secretariat from ORB Management to PAMS.

History over the Years

YEAR	OFFICE BEARERS	COMMITTEE	HIGHLIGHTS
2009	D Thomas (President) G Solomano (Vice-President) J Richardson (Secretary) W Maguire (Treasurer)	P Green R Shell D Walker	CCAV and VMIA developed a Risk Management Framework Document
2010	G Solomano (President) R Shell (Vice-President) J Richardson (Secretary) D Walker (Treasurer)	I Broomfield D Brownscombe F de Groot	New reforms introduced, commencement of Class A & Class B Structure.
2011	R Shell (President) F de Groot (Vice-President) J Richardson (Secretary) C Thompson (Treasurer)	R Beasley I Broomfield D Brownscombe D Seymour	Change of Secretariat from PAMS to ACCA.
2012	F de Groot (President) I Broomfield (Vice-President) J Richardson (Secretary) C Thompson (Treasurer)	M Blyth D Broomfield P Moss-Holland	Holmesglen Tafe appointed as CCAV Training Facilitator. Asbestos was found to be present in old mastic glue used to adhere bronze plaques to niche walls. The CCAV Program of recycling of metals collected following cremation has been signed by all Victorian Crematoria, being the first State in Australia to recycle.
2013	F de Groot (President) B O'Connor (Vice-President) T Thompson (Secretary) C Thompson (Treasurer)	R Barnden M Blyth N Monson	Inaugural 'Excellence in Cemeteries' award - recipient Wendy Ohlsen, Creswick Cemetery Trust

History over the Years

YEAR	OFFICE BEARERS	COMMITTEE	HIGHLIGHTS
2014	B O'Connor (President) N Monson (Vice-President) M Blyth (Secretary) C Thompson (Treasurer)	F de Groot T Thompson D Walker	Geelong Cemeteries Trust celebrates 175 years of Eastern Cemetery. Benalla Cemetery Trust celebrates 160 years.
2015	B O'Connor (President) F de Groot (Vice-President) M Blyth (Secretary) C Thompson (Treasurer)	N Monson T Thompson D Walker	The CCAV has delivered over 160 Lone Pine trees to Members throughout Victoria, to commemorate 100 years since the ANZAC Landings at Gallipoli. CCAV sponsor 5000 Poppies project - A Community Tribute of Respect and Remembrance
2016	F de Groot (President) D Crowe (Vice-President) M Blyth (Secretary) C Thompson (Treasurer)	N Cole T Thompson A De Jong	
2017	D Crowe (President) J Voce (Vice-President) N Cole (Secretary) W Ohlsen (Treasurer)	T Thompson B Bowers	Appointed Bronwyn Rowbotham as part time Executive Officer Developed the Strategic Plan 2017 -2020
2018	D Crowe (President) J Voce (Vice-President) N Cole (Secretary) R Vandelloo (Treasurer)	R Angus B Bowers J McCormack D Seymour	CCAV Annual Awards - Above and Beyond (for an Individual) Innovation Award (Team Project)

History over the Years

YEAR	OFFICE BEARERS	COMMITTEE	HIGHLIGHTS
2019	J Voce (President) N Cole (Vice-President & Secretary) R Vandelloo (Treasurer)	R Angus J McCormack B Koch M Lanyon	Participated in the DHHS Cemeteries Strategic Working Group Sponsorship survey was undertaken by Evergreen independent consultants
2020	J Voce (President) N Cole (Vice-President) J McCormack (Secretary) R Vandelloo (Treasurer)	M Lanyon R Angus B Koch	AGM was conducted remotely via Zoom A vote of members at the March meeting was take and the unanimous decision was to postpone the 2020 Annual Conference as a result of COVID -19 and to reschedule into 2021 Participated on the DHHS COVID -19 Working group meetings and provided up to date information to members in a rapidly changing environment
2021	A De Jong (President) Sheridan Misso (Vice-President) J McCormack (Secretary) M Lanyon (Treasurer)	R Angus B Koch B Clifton	AGM held via Zoom Secretariat services moved from ACCA to Rye Cemetery Trust Strategic Plan developed for 2021 - 2024 OVIC introduced the Protective Data Security Plan template, which CCAV assisted to refine

History over the Years

YEAR	OFFICE BEARERS	COMMITTEE	HIGHLIGHTS
2022	A De Jong (President) Vacant (Vice-President) J McCormack (Secretary) M Lanyon (Treasurer)	R Angus B Koch B Clifton L Slee K Johnson	Finalise agreement with Worksafe Victoria to develop a training program Safety in and around graves
2023	A De Jong (President) Vacant (Vice-President) K Johnson (Secretary) M Lanyon (Treasurer)	B Koch R Angus D Mazzini D Ramondetta	Combined AGM and Trade Show event Rye Cemetery Trust advised that they would cease providing Secretariat services in 2024
2024	R Luscombe (President) J Drew (Vice-President) K Johnson (Secretary) D Mazzini (Treasurer)	J Pritchard J Kelly D Ramondetta S Moses	Employed Norelle Cole as Executive Officer Launched Worksafe Training package Trade Show held at GMCT Lilydale



Rob Luscombe
President
2 Year term



Julia Drew
Vice President
2 Year term



Danielle Mazzini
Treasurer
1 Year to end of term



Karen Johnson
Secretary
1 Year to end of term



John Kelly
Board Member
2 Year term



Sally Moses
Board Member
2 Year term



Jordan Pritchard
Board Member
2 Year Term



Norelle Cole
Executive Officer



Executive Board
2024 - 2025



Damien Ramondetta
Board Member
2 Year term



Sally Moses
Board Member
2 Year term



Jordan Pritchard
Board Member
2 Year Term



Norelle Cole
Executive Officer



Board Member
Vacant
2 Year Term

We are better together!

