I invite all to come and visit us and our facilities to enjoy the surrounds and tranquillity that they offer. With our new café now open visits can be enjoyed with a freshly brewed cup of tea or coffee with lovely accompaniments. The lunch selections are superb too!

It was a proud day when the café, together with the new Condolence function centre, bright florist shop and our new Funeral Home were opened by the Hon. Tony Kelly, MLC on 23rd November, 2009. It was the fulfilment of another milestone in our plans to serve the people of the eastern suburbs and surrounds. We are working on more worthwhile projects, as you’ll read below.

We are especially proud that, now, the families we serve have a true choice in funereal care for their loved ones “all under the one roof”. Our professional, informed and understanding staff can guide families through all facets of what can be quite a stressful time for some. With proper information, and time to consider all options, including site visits to our many lovely locations, the task is made so much easier.

I, therefore, encourage all to come and see us, even if there is no decision yet to be made, and we can guide you and your family and friends through the many things that may be on your mind. We look forward to seeing you soon. Oh, and please don’t forget to visit our new, revamped website which provides you with much useful information about the Park and our wonderful facilities!

George H. Passas  FAICD, FCIS, FCPA  Chief Executive Officer

OFFICIAL OPENING


As explained by our Chairman, Mr John Morrison OAM, JP, “This is the culmination of much planning and forethought over a number of years. It brings to fruition two strategically important facilities”.

The Hon. Tony Kelly, MLC, Minister for Lands
Mr John Morrison OAM, JP, ESMP Chairman
George Passas, ESMP Chief Executive Officer
CCA 2010 AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE

ESMP's Memorial Park development also received recognition from the Cemeteries & Crematoria Association of NSW by receiving the CCA 2010 Award for Excellence.

Michael McMahon, President of the Cemeteries & Crematoria Association of NSW presenting the CCA 2010 Award for Excellence to George Passas, CEO. The Award was presented to ESMP in recognition of the opening of the condolence/café complex in conjunction with the funeral home. The latter is a first for a Crown Land Trust in NSW.

These projects were deemed to be innovative and progressive and the introduction of the funeral home augured the commencement of a new era for the conduct of funeral services by Trusts in general. The CEO and Trustees were similarly congratulated for the efforts in bringing such value-adding infrastructure to fruition.

EASTERN SUBURBS MEMORIAL CENTRE

The ESMP Memorial Centre incorporates three condolence room areas, an adjoining café and on-site flower shop and will provide the community with a convenient, modern, purpose-built facility. On the 2nd November 2009, the Master Builders Association awarded the ESMP Condolence Rooms building as the “Best Retail up to $20million”.

ESMP Condolence Centre

Our condolence rooms can be divided into three sound-proof sections to meet the diverse needs of all family gatherings of any size up to 300 people.

The Memorial Centre Management can arrange music and audio visual equipment, chairs, tables and other furnishings as required.

ESMP Cafe

Our new on-site café facilities provide a comfortable venue for friends and visitors to meet and relax while visiting the Park.

The cafe menu offers a wide selection of food and beverages, served in a relaxing indoor/outdoor setting and are also available for take-away.

Continued on page 3
The new ESMP Funeral Home is staffed by two very experienced consultants and provides families with modern and professional facilities, comprising a viewing room, two arrangement rooms, a chapel, hearse and mortuary services.

ESMP's Chairman, Mr John Morrison OAM, JP explained "that while this is not new to the private sector it is new to a Trust of our nature. Over the last decade or so the manner in which the community honours the loss of the life of a loved one has seen changes, both in manner of services and location. It has also seen changes in the structure of the Funeral Industry. This Trust, aware of these changes, realized it needed to progress its services to cope with these changes. The ESMP Funeral Home gives us, for those who wish it, the opportunity to service our clients with the entire Funeral arrangements – in simple terms – “A One Stop Shop”.

Steven Bragg and Fabienne Rovida

Fabienne and Steven are able to assist families from diverse cultural backgrounds and religious beliefs with their specific requirements.

They can arrange each funeral to the particular needs of each family, sensitive to the difficulties of making decisions in what can be an especially emotional and challenging period in the lives of most people.
SERVING THE PAST, THE PRESENT AND THE FUTURE

Eastern Suburbs Memorial Park is a place that belongs to the community, for the community, which we hold in trust and provide services to the community for past, current and future generations.

The past …

Eastern Suburbs Memorial Park had its beginnings in the 1880’s as a result of members of the Botany community who set about lobbying the State Government for the acquisition of appropriate land for cemetery purposes. The first part of the cemetery was gazetted in 1888 and subsequently named Botany Cemetery. Whilst it was in the Randwick Municipality, the site overlooked the Bay and road access was mainly through Botany.

The first interment was 1893 and notably, within the grounds is the Pioneer Memorial Park. This is a heritage listed landmark of NSW where memorials of early pioneers and prominent citizens of the colony of New South Wales, still stand today.

Over the years, the Trustees progressively increased the Park to its current size to meet the needs of a rapidly growing population. The most recent expansion was in 1996 on the western side of Military Road which was previously part of the former Bunnerong Power House site.

1938 saw the opening of the crematorium which now accounts for 68% of our activity. The advent of the Crematorium saw the creation of the Eastern Suburbs Crematorium Trust. This trust functions with the Botany Cemetery Trust as two trusts under the banner of the Eastern Suburbs Memorial Park.

The current …

Throughout the past ten years the Park has seen unprecedented refurbishment and additional development to enhance its environment and services. This has progressed substantially in the past five years and has included:

- Refurbishing and modernising the chapels
- Installing new state of the art cremators
- Providing additional car parking areas
- Upgrading and reworking of Military Road for a better environment, parking and traffic movement in conjunction with Randwick Council
- Introducing a new Jewish area
- Creating award-winning garden settings and pond areas
- Extending the fencing on the western side of Military Road
- Building a new road to service corteges, Garden of Loving Memories and adjacent areas
- Constructing new grounds staff amenities
- Completing upgrades of large equipment and storage facilities
- Official opening of the ESMP Memorial Centre and the ESMP Funeral Home
- Introducing an on-line Web Casting Service.

The future …

Work has already begun on the development of an Asian Memorial Area to the south west of the Administration Building. The expansion of our Crypts and Vaults area north of the car park is now getting closer to commencement of construction. Another project involving an extensive drainage system including water retention tanks is necessary on the western perimeter. The commencement of this scheme is getting closer after agreement with neighbouring landholders and necessary authorities.

The big question that faces us and the community is the necessity to obtain additional land for burial purposes. On current trends our cemetery only has a life of another 14-16 years for first interments. To our surrounding communities this is of great concern. Our Eastern Suburbs and surrounding demographic has a very high percentage of faiths and cultures that only permit, or generally only subscribe to, burial.

To this end, after a long period of consultation with the various communities, a fair and reasonable submission has been presented to the Government to acquire a portion of adjacent crown land which was originally deemed suitable for cemetery purposes. This process is ongoing.
WEB CASTING … A NEW INTERNET OPTION

An example of ESMP embracing the future is our new on-line Web Casting service. This exciting new feature enables friends and families to hear and watch a funeral service being held in one of ESMP’s chapels on the Internet.

It meets the needs of our transient and global community, particularly those people who may be Interstate, overseas or simply not able to attend the service for any number of reasons. They can now participate in the service celebrating the loss of their loved one, whereas previously, this may not have been possible.

The technology is easy to use. It requires a computer with a broadband internet connection with access to the new ESMP Web site. Our customer service team can arrange the Web Streaming service for each family using pre-arranged access codes which will link to the family’s service.

NEW ESMP WEB SITE

We invite you to visit our new Eastern Suburbs Website, www.esmp.net.au. The new site is much easier to use and provides visitors with the latest ESMP information, photographs and services. It features the following:

- The new on-line Web casting of chapel services (discussed above).
- Images and descriptions of suitable places to memorialise within the Park. These show our award winning formal gardens and our natural bush setting areas.
- Information, contact numbers and down-loadable PDF brochures of the new ESMP Funeral Home, Condolence Rooms, Café and Florist.
- Maps showing the Park’s location, access roads and bus routes.
- Site map showing the key areas within the Park.
- Updated “Today’s Services” and ESMP’s events calendar.
- Name search functionality of people interred or memorialised in the Park
- Down-loadable newsletters, PDF brochures and Annual Reports
CAPE BANKS FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY 25TH ANNIVERSARY PROJECT

The Cape Banks Family History Society Inc. is celebrating their 25th Anniversary with an important community project to digitise the records from some 54,000 headstones. The ESMP Trustees and Management offer the Society their full encouragement and support.

The Society initially transcribed these records into a book form over an eight year period between 1986 and 1994. This anniversary project seeks to make them “Future Proof” in a more secure and manageable electronic format than the current paper-based publication.

The Cape Banks Family History Society is to be congratulated for taking this initiative on their 25th Anniversary and for the considerable contribution they have made to the Park and to our community over many years for the benefit of Sydney’s current and future generations.

Their work has been extensive and has included transcribing monuments in the Pioneer Park as a Bicentennial Project in 1986. A permanent photographic record of these headstones was also created by Cape Banks Family History Society members June and Warwick Adams. An album containing these photographs is on permanent loan the ESMP.

The Cape Banks Family History Society web site address is www.capebanks.org.au

ESMP WELCOMES FATHER MATTHEW THEKKEDATH

Father Matthew Thekkedath is taking over from long serving Father Simari as the Priest for the Catholic Parish of St Agnes. We also extend our best wishes to Father Simari in his retirement.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE VOGEL FAMILY!

All of the management and staff at ESMP would like to congratulate John and Jocelyn Vogel on the birth of their delightful baby boy Nathanael.
ASSISTANCE TO ARRANGERS

ESMP’s customer service team welcomes Funeral Directors to ask for assistance with the following:

- Booking the new on-line Web Casting service.
- Organising Audio/Visual equipment
- ESMP staff (if required)
- Testing of PowerPoint presentations prior to the day of the service.
- Arrangement of DVD keepsakes.
- Viewings and witnessing.

CONTACT INFORMATION

- Appointments for families wanting to choose the grave site of their loved one can be made by calling ESMP on 9661 5655.
- Condolence room, florist and café enquiries and bookings can be arranged by phoning Eastern Suburbs Memorial Centre on 9661 8865
- Clergy and celebrants are welcome to call 9661 5655 to make appointments to familiarise themselves with our chapel facilities.
- Funeral Service enquiries can be made by contacting our Funeral Home Consultants on 9694 9494

2010 MASS TIMES FOR THE SOUTH CHAPEL

- May 8th at 11am
- September 11th at 11am
- November 13th at 11am

SPECIAL SERVICES

- Father’s Day Service: Sunday September 5th at 10am.
- Christmas Service: December Wednesday 15th at 6pm

Please note that these are conducted in the South Chapel

Eastern Suburbs Memorial Park
Post Address / Administration & Cemetery Office
12 Military Road Matraville, NSW 2036
T | (02) 9661 5655
F | (02) 9311 3654
E | enquiries@esmp.net.au

Funeral Home
61 Military Road Matraville, NSW 2036
T | (02) 9694 9494
F | (02) 9694 9495
E | funeralhome@esmp.net.au

Eastern Suburbs Memorial Centre
49 Military Road Matraville, NSW 2036
T | (02) 9661 8865
F | (02) 9661 8952
E | admin@esmc.net.au

Crematorium Office
At the Crematorium between the West and South Chapels
T | (02) 9661 5655
F | (02) 9311 3654
E | enquiries@esmp.net.au

Parking
A public parking facility is available to the left of Crematorium entrance.

Gate Opening Times
Gates open at 6.30 am.
Cemetery gates close at 6pm.
Main Crematorium gate closes at 8pm.