



The Port Macquarie-Hastings Cemetery Trail is a new publication by the Society and is supported by Port Macquarie-Hastings Council as a 2018 Bicentenary Project.

The 224-page full colour book contains notes about the history of each cemetery, maps to help you find all of them, date range for the known burials in each cemetery, as well as contemporary and historic photographs and many interesting stories about a random selection of the people buried in each cemetery.

The Cemetery Trail is divided geographically into six areas so that you can explore an area and find cemeteries close by –

- CBD (Allman Hill, Port Macquarie Historic Cemetery, St Thomas' Church)
- Inner West (Port Macquarie General, Innes Gardens)
- North (Telegraph Point, Rollands Plains)
- West (Wauchope, Crossroads, Beechwood)
- Outer West (Comboyne, Ellenborough)
- South (Laurieton, Kendall, Herons Creek)

The Cemetery Trail is a slight departure from our past Cemetery publications because, while it is still historically factual, it is not especially a family history book. It is written in a more informal way for a wider audience to make it easy for the reader to consult at their leisure.

Even though it is not a family history book as such; PMDFHS are a family history society, so of course, we love cemeteries! There are many 'taphophiles' amongst us. Cemeteries offer both a source of family information that may not be available elsewhere, while also providing a place of quiet contemplation. The Society members are not alone in this thinking. Cemeteries are increasingly popular destinations for photographers, students, historians, archaeologists and writers because they provide very touchable history and can silently reveal information about historic events, lifestyles, religious convictions, poetic interests as well as family history. You may even become a 'Tombstone Tourist'.

The diversity of our naturally beautiful areas and the pioneering spirit, the determination, the difficulties faced in settling many of these areas, is brought to life with the stories of a random selection of the people buried in each of our area's cemeteries. We are proud of those courageous pioneers and their descendants and love telling their stories. We would like to encourage readers, whether they are locals or visitors, to follow the Cemetery Trail around our naturally beautiful and diverse areas.

Our latest publication is priced at **\$30** (plus postage) and is available from members of PMDFHS on Tuesdays and Wednesdays 10am to 3pm at the Local Studies Room at the Library; at Port Macquarie Museum; Lighthouse Beach Post Office and other places to be decided.