



ABOUT THIS SELF-GUIDED TOUR

Let the gravestones at Broken Hill Cemetery help you understand more about the City of Broken Hill.

The **Broken Hill – Our City** tour takes you through to some of the burial sites which illustrate the cultural diversity and remarkable history of the city.

What was the Picnic Train Massacre? Why was Broken Hill's death rate from epidemics twice the State's average? Learn more about the different people and events that have helped to shape the City you see today.

Other tours in this series include: 'Broken Hill – Our People' and 'We are the Miners'.



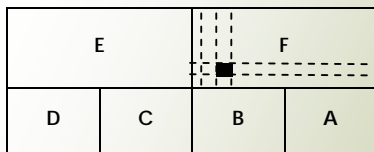
LOCATING A GRAVE

In order to locate a specific grave, it is important to understand the layout of the cemetery.

Broken Hill Cemetery is broken into a number of sections based on religious denominations, such as Independent, Catholic, Jewish or General. Each section is then divided into blocks (eg. A, B or C) and each grave has a row and grave number (note that some graves do not have a row number).

For example, the location of the grave Independent F: Row 2 Grave 3 is as follows:

INDEPENDENT SECTION



MORE INFORMATION

Broken Hill City Council

Administrative Centre

Cnr Blende and Sulphide Street

Opening Hours: 8am – 5pm (Mon – Fri)

Phone: (08) 8080 2290

Emergency Only: 0409 785 423

Broken Hill City Library

A wide range of resources are available for the family history researcher at the library.

Blende Street

Phone: (08) 8088 3317 for opening hours

Email: admin@bhlibrary.org.au

Broken Hill Cemetery is a very special place for the people of Broken Hill. All visitors are requested to observe all signs and directions and respect the rights and needs of other visitors.

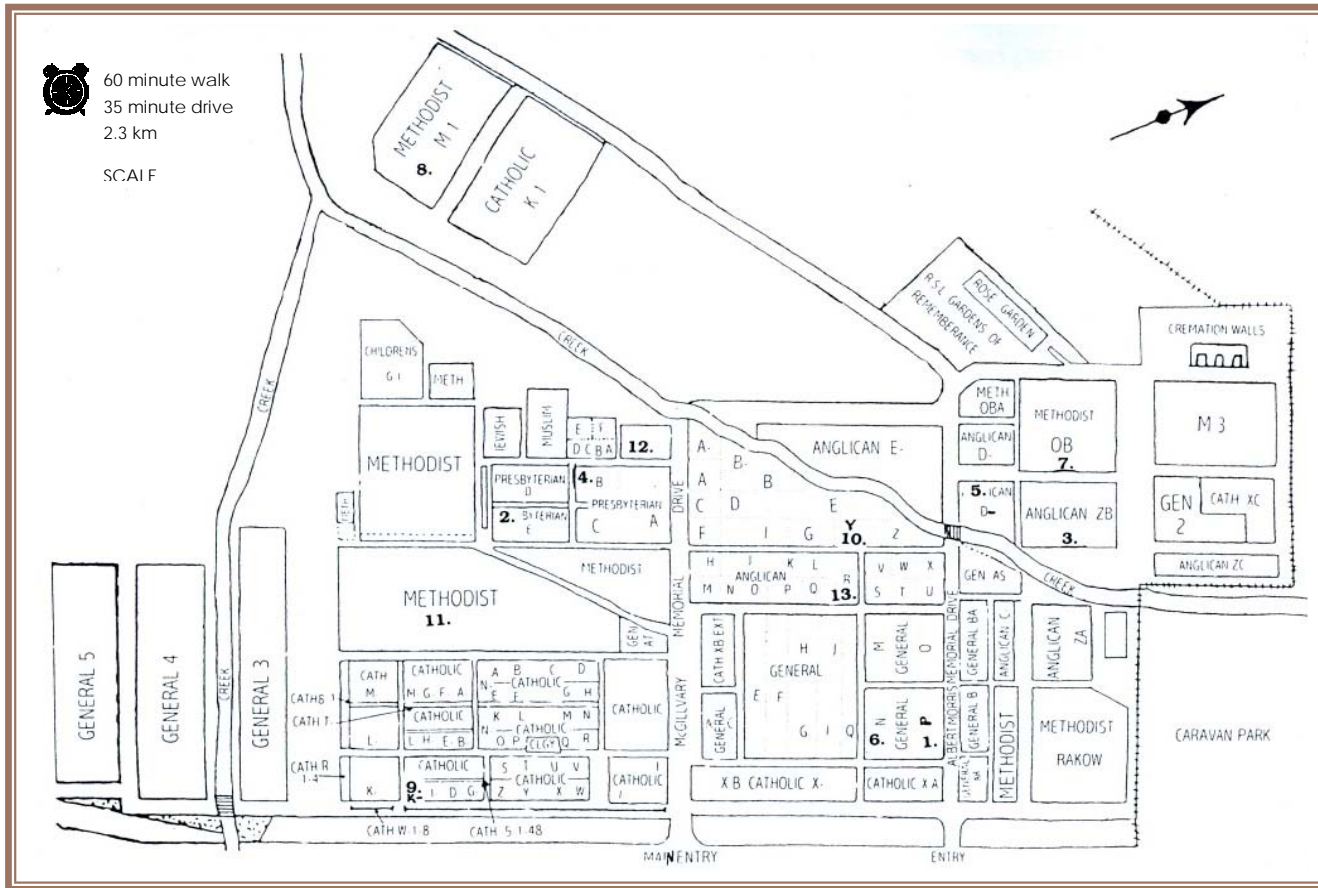




Broken Hill

C E M E T E R Y

Cemeteries are an important part of every city's heritage. Dedicated in 1889, the Broken Hill Cemetery on Rakow Street provides a valuable record of the diversity of Broken Hill's early mining community and a valuable insight into the development of Broken Hill and the surrounding region.

B R O K E N H I L L
- O U R C I T Y -



 60 minute walk
 35 minute drive
 2.3 km
 SCAIF



SITES OF INTEREST

1. Percival (Percy) Brookfield (1875-1921)
General P: Grave 232
2. Alma Cowie (1898-1915)
General N: Grave 41
3. Cicero John Tully (Date of Internment: 10 June 1888)
Anglican R: Grave 230
4. Juliette Windeyer Idriess (1861-1908)
Anglican Y: Grave 47
5. Earliest Marked Death (1884-1884)
Independent: Row 6 Grave 9 & 10
6. Muslim Graves (Unknown)
Western corner of Muslim Section
7. Richard Louis Dias (1863-1895)
Jewish: Row 4 Grave 2
8. Children's Memorial
Children's Memorial Garden
9. Kevin Charles (Pro) Hart (1928-2006)
General 5: Row 7 Grave 22
10. Catholic Clergy (1890s-1950s)
Main Catholic Section

START: INTERPRETATION CENTRE



STOP 1: PERCY BROOKFIELD & ALMA COWIE

Percy Brookfield was an early socialist who began work as a miner before being elected as a Member of Parliament for Sturt. He fought for worker's rights and was a leading activist. This memorial was erected by public subscription and the words on the monument are testament to his character and his politics.

Alma Cowie was the youngest victim of the Picnic Train Massacre where four people died and seven more were injured. Regarded as the only outbreak of war hostilities on Australian soil, the incident began when two local men of Turkish origin shot at a trainload of picnickers on their way to New Year celebrations.



STOP 2: TULLY & IDRIESS

Cicero Tully is Broken Hill's first known interment. His grave is typical of the 1920s and 1930s, incorporating a concrete surround with a Hooper's Foundry grave fence. The wire cage on the grave reflects the harsh arid conditions and is required to protect the graves from local pests.

Mother of the famous author Ion Idriess, *Juliette Idriess* was killed by a typhoid epidemic. In the early years of settlement, Broken Hill's death rate from epidemics was twice the State's average due to the harsh conditions of life and general lack of sanitation and knowledge of basic hygiene measures.



STOP 3: THE OLDEST MARKED GRAVE, MUSLIM GRAVES & RICHARD LOUIS DIAS

This headstone marks the *earliest death* in the cemetery. Note that the deaths of the two other children are within days of one another and are most likely a result of illness. The headstone was erected by Fraser & Draysey, well known monumental masons from Adelaide.

These two brick graves follow the *Muslim* burial custom where the body is buried without a coffin and the deceased faces Makkah – the holiest city in Islam (roughly west-north-west in Australia). Muslims believe that the body should return to the soil naturally and that burials should take place as soon as possible after death.

The mining industry in Broken Hill attracted many migrant workers. *Richard Dias* was a Jewish citizen working at the BHP mine. He

suffered terrible injuries and died on the way to the hospital when a truck ran back into the bottom of the open cut where he was working and struck him.



STOP 4: CHILDREN'S MEMORIAL GARDEN

Dedicated in 1998 by the citizens of Broken Hill, the Children's Memorial Garden was built by volunteers and various organisations within Broken Hill. It is the only section in the cemetery established just for children.



STOP 5: KEVIN CHARLES (PRO) HART

Broken Hill is the home to a number of popular artists including Samuel Byrne and *Pro Hart*. Both artists are ex-miners with art work exhibited worldwide. Pro Hart acquired the nickname Pro(fessor) for his wide general knowledge while working in the mines.



STOP 7: CATHOLIC CLERGY

This striking group of graves is readily identifiable with the black crosses set on marble plinths. Situated in the oldest Catholic section of the cemetery, this special burial area is for members of the Catholic Clergy.