

## INFORMATION SHEET

# Noraville Memorial Niche Gardens & Memorial Niche Wall

Thank you for your enquiry relating to Noraville Cemetery's Memorial Niche Gardens and Memorial Niche Wall. The Memorial Niche Gardens and Memorial Niche Wall offer alternatives to grave sites for the Placement of Funerary Ashes.

**What is a Niche?** A Niche refers to the place in the Memorial Niche Gardens or Memorial Niche Wall where the Ashes are placed.

**How Do I Select an Available Niche/Place in the Memorial Niche Gardens and Memorial Niche Wall?** A Niche can be selected and purchased by contacting Wyong Shire Council's Cemetery Administration Officer on 4350 5108. Alternatively, Council are able to allocate an available niche/place within the Memorial Niche Gardens or Memorial Niche Wall for you.

**What Application Forms Are There?** There are three Application Forms for the Memorial Niche Gardens and Memorial Niche Wall; Please complete the *Application for Right to Niche (Niche Purchase) – Memorial Niche Gardens or Memorial Niche Wall* to purchase a niche in the Memorial Niche Gardens or Memorial Niche Wall for future use. To place ashes in a pre-purchased niche, please complete an *Application for Burial Permit – Placement of Ashes (Memorial Niche Gardens or Memorial Niche Wall)* form and *Memorial Niche Gardens or Memorial Niche Wall Plaque Order Form*. For immediate use, please complete all three forms.

**What is a Right to a Niche?** A Right to a Niche is an exclusive right of entitlement to a niche in the Noraville Cemetery Memorial Niche Wall or Memorial Niche Garden which is granted by Council to a person or persons.

**How do people obtain a document confirming their ownership?** A Right to Niche letter is sent out to the owner(s) of the niche once payment is made and the application processed.

**Can a Right to Niche be transferred?** The Right to Niche may be transferred to another person or back to Council. Council will record any transfer upon satisfactory completion of an application and payment of the applicable fee. Council will only pay back the initial fee paid to the customer.

**How many Ashes can be placed?** Places in the Memorial Niche Gardens allow for placement of one set of ashes. Places in the Niche Wall only allow for placement of approximately half the ashes.

**Who places the ashes in the Memorial Niche Gardens or Memorial Niche Wall?** Ashes are placed by the Cemetery Officer every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month at an arranged time.

**What are the Fees Applicable?** The current fee for Purchase of a Niche in the Memorial Niche Gardens totals \$786.00. This fee includes placement of ashes and a bronze plaque. The current fee for purchase of a Niche in the Memorial Niche Wall is \$723.50. This includes placement of ashes by Council, and supply and installation of a Bronze Plaque with a single flower bud holder.

**Are there any ongoing Fees?** There are no ongoing fees applicable.

**Who Maintains the Memorial Niche Gardens and How Often?** Council maintain the Memorial Niche Gardens as part of the regular maintenance of Noraville Cemetery.

**What are the types of plants in the Memorial Niche Gardens?** The Memorial Niche Gardens are made up of Australian Native Plants; in Stages 1 and 2 these include Dwarf Banksia, Tuckeroo, Flax Lily, Gynea Lily, Woolly Grevillea, Brush Box, and Scaevola. In Stage 3 they include Dwarf Banksia, Tuckeroo, Flax Lily, Gazania, Woolly Grevillea, Club Rush, Callery Pear, Scaevola and Coastal Rosemary cultivar

**Can we place a flower bud (the same as the Niche Wall) in the Memorial Niche Gardens?** Placement of ornaments or other items (including floral tributes) is not permitted; Council will remove and dispose of any unauthorised items during routine maintenance visits.

**Who orders the plaques for the Memorial Niche Gardens and Wall?** Council orders all plaques. To place ashes in a pre-purchased niche/place or for immediate placement, a *Memorial Niche Gardens or Memorial Niche Wall Plaque Order Form* attached to the *Application for Burial Permit – Placement of Ashes*, is required to be completed, showing desired layout and wording for the plaque. The applicant will be asked to confirm the requested layout and wording for the plaque prior to it being ordered. A plaque can take up to 6 weeks to be made. Once the plaque is received by Council, the family will be advised. Additional Plaques can be ordered for an extra cost.

**How many lines of text can be included on a plaque?** A maximum of Ten (10) lines of text, with a maximum of 30 characters including spaces is recommended.

**What are the times Council places the ashes and plaques?** When the family is ready to place the ashes, they contact Council to have ashes placed. Council places ashes at an arranged time (every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month). Please note that Council does not hold ashes within its offices.

**Are there Reserved Plaques?** If ashes are not going to be placed in the niche in the near future, a “Reserved” plaque can be affixed by Council, at the request of the Grantee.



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