

Flower and Ornament Procedure (Trinket Procedure)

Lismore Memorial Gardens, Crematorium and Cemeteries



FLOWER AND ORNAMENT PROCEDURE (TRINKET PROCEDURE)

The Lismore City Council Flower and Ornament Procedure (Trinket Procedure) was introduced in 2017.

The procedure is designed to ensure that all families can visit the cemeteries and reflect in an environment that is safe and tidy. It aims to provide guidelines that give families the ability to grieve in a way that they see fit but also enables the Lismore City Council to meet its caretaker role in the management of the cemetery grounds.

As a general rule, Lismore City Council welcomes the limited placement of fresh or artificial tributes at burial and memorial sites. We do not allow for the placement of glass or ceramic vases or receptacles, glass, china or pottery statues, living plants planted in the ground or pots, motion activated devices, solar lights or any lighting in standard burial or memorial areas. These items can be a safety hazard for visitors and staff alike.

Tributes should be placed within the receptacles (i.e. vases) that are provided at all sites or, where appropriate, within the vases built into traditional burial plot monumental work.

We ask that you take the time to review this document in its entirety and thank you in advance for considering the procedure when next visiting.

FRESH OR DRIED FLOWERS ARE PREFERRED

We welcome all floral tributes but respectfully request that visitors consider the placement of fresh or dried floral tributes within the cemeteries. A fresh tribute doesn't need to be an expensive formal floral arrangement; it can be something as simple as a flower taken from the home garden.

Artificial tributes are generally not able to be recycled and, as such, present an environmental issue. Fresh tributes will, over time, biodegrade. While we ask that you consider fresh tributes, we advise that the picking of flowers and plants throughout the grounds is prohibited.

PLEASE DON'T LITTER

When visiting, we ask your assistance in removing withered or weathered tributes and placing them within the rubbish bins at the Lismore Memorial Gardens or taken with you from East Lismore and Rural cemeteries. Please remove wrapping and rubber bands from floral arrangements before they are left as a tribute. Wrapping left on floral arrangements is a significant litter issue. Wrappings and rubber bands may also affect the wildlife that inhabit some of the cemeteries.

RESPECTING YOUR NEIGHBOUR

The placement of an excessive number of tributes can cause distress to other families within the same burial or memorial area.

Please be mindful of the tributes that encroach on neighbouring burial or memorial positions will be removed.

REMOVAL OF TRIBUTES

Lismore City Council staff, as part of their regular duties, remove tributes to perform routine maintenance and ensure the grounds are maintained to a standard that enables the entire community to visit cemeteries which are safe and tidy. Although a highly emotive task and one that Lismore City Council staff gain no satisfaction from performing, the practical reality is that all tributes will wither and weather. All tributes will, at some point, need to be removed. It is an unfortunate task but one that needs to be performed.

Items removed by Lismore City Council staff may be retrieved from the Lismore Memorial Gardens office. Lismore City Council reserves the right to dispose of items four weeks after being removed.

GENERAL TRINKET GUIDANCE

Vases and ornaments are permitted to be placed on graves as long as they are under 150 millimetres (15 centimetres) high and are located wholly within each plinth space. All trinkets and flowers need to be placed on the concrete plinth only. They must not protrude onto the cemetery lawn or the rose bed.

No motion activated devices are allowed in the Lawn Cemetery and no solar lights, or any other forms of lighting, are permitted in the lawn section of the Lismore Memorial Gardens.

Council staff will remove all artificial and dead flowers that have blown away from graves.

General Trinket guidance

- No living plants to be planted in the ground or garden or in a pot (fresh flowers are permitted)
- No glass, china, pottery
- No motion activated devices
- No solar lights or lighting of any kind

All unauthorised items including receptacles, string and garden lights, ornaments, containers and those listed above will be removed and held at Memorial Gardens for collection by the owner. Council will hold such items for a period of one month before disposing of them.

Any degraded trinkets and flowers will be removed by staff when they are broken or degraded to a point where they create amenity issues.

Council asks family and friends to be mindful of what items they place on a memorial site, especially if they are valuable or sentimental. Objects may be moved, vandalised or stolen. Storms, animals and falling limbs/branches may move items. All items are placed at the owner's risk.

Families may supply their own vases provided they are made of non-breakable material such as plastic, copper or stainless steel and have a spike on the base to stop them tipping over. Council does provide plastic vases with a spike on the bottom free of charge.



CONTACTS

For more information or bookings please visit our Corporate Centre at 43 Oliver Avenue, Goonellabah between 8.30am and 4.30pm Monday to Friday, or phone 02 6625 0500.

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