

# All you ever wanted to know about Grants

...but were afraid to ask



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Metropolitan Cemeteries Board



METROPOLITAN  
CEMETERIES BOARD



Fremantle | Guildford | Karrakatta | Midland | Pinnaroo Valley Memorial Park | Rockingham Regional Memorial Park

# Cemetery



**WHAT'S A GRANT?**

**32**

**DO WE HAVE TO?**

**6**

**I DON'T GET IT**

**18**

**I DON'T GET IT**

**5**

**25 YEARS IS SILLY**

**12**

**MCB MADE US DO IT**

**8**

# What's a Grant of Right of Burial?

- **Cemeteries Act 1986,**
- **PART V - MANAGEMENT OF CEMETERIES**
- ***Division 2 - Rights of burial , Section 25. Grant of right of burial***
- (1) A Board may grant to a person for a term of 25 years the right of burial in a specified area of a cemetery and the right to place a memorial on that area.
- (2) Where the holder for the time being of a grant of a right of burial applies to the Board for the renewal of the grant the Board **shall** renew the grant for a further term of 25 years.
- (3) A right of burial granted under this section shall be subject to such conditions as may be prescribed by local law or by-law.
- (4) A right of burial granted under the *Cemeteries Act 1897* or renewed under subsection (2) may, if the Board and the holder for the time being of the grant agree, be renewed from time to time for a further term not exceeding 25 years in the case of any one renewal.
- *[Section 25 amended by No. 14 of 1996 s. 4.]*



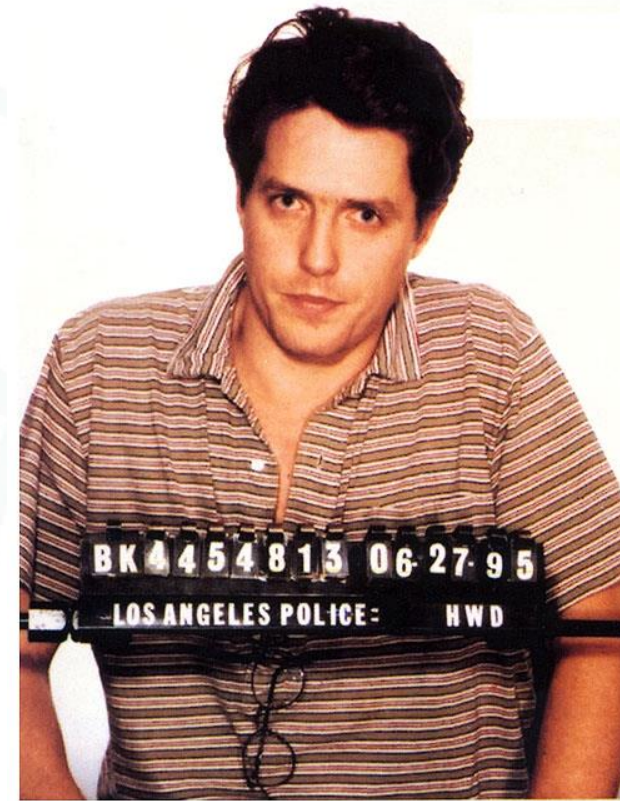
# What's a Grant of Right of Burial?

- *The MCB By-laws on rights of burial are lengthy, but an extract includes:*
- **Metropolitan Cemeteries Board By-law 1992**
- **PART III – RIGHTS OF BURIAL**
- 8. Rights of a holder *substituted 19/1/968.*
- (1) Subject to this By-law, to the prior approval of the Board and to the terms and conditions (if any) imposed by the Board, a grant confers on the holder, during the term of the grant, an exclusive right to bury one or more dead bodies, or the ashes of one or more dead bodies in the grave specified in the grant; and to carry out monumental works on the grave specified in the grant.
- (2) The Board, in its absolute discretion, may determine from time to time the number of dead bodies or ashes which may be placed in a grave.
- (3) The Board or an Authorised Officer may request a holder to produce the grant before the exercise of any of the rights referred to in sub-clause (1) and the holder shall forthwith comply with that request.

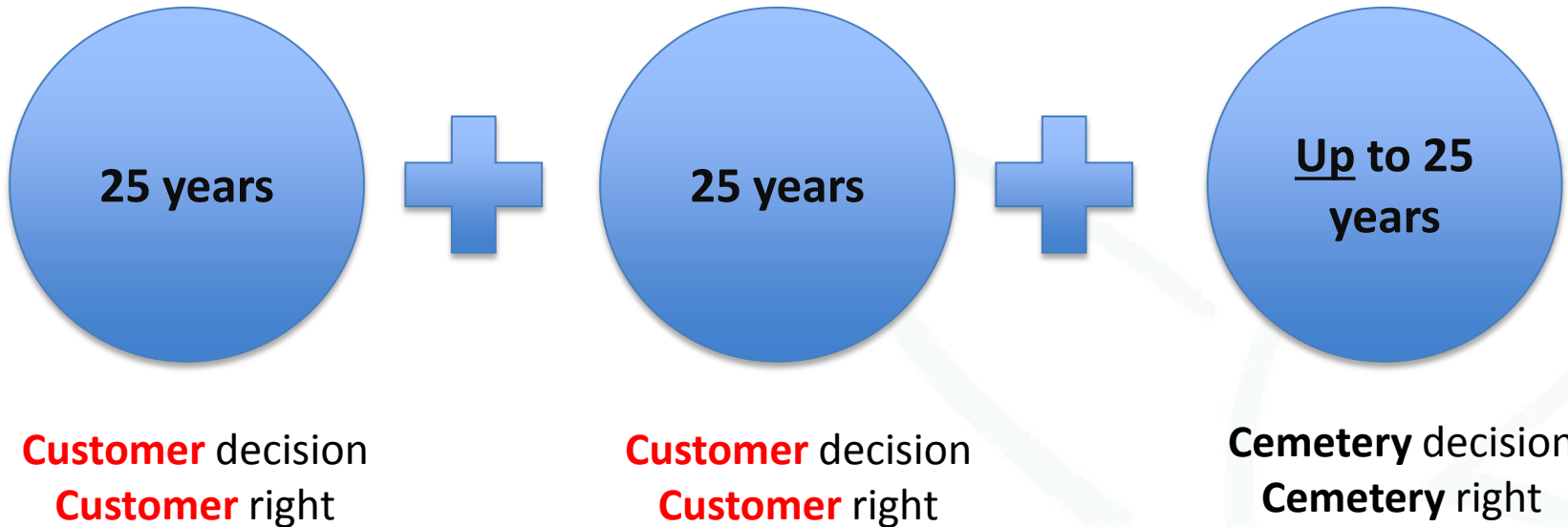


# What's a Grant....in English?

- It gives the grant holder the right to use that particular grave for 25 years
- They can bury someone, place ashes and place a memorial or monument.
- Grant holder has the right to purchase another 25 years if they wish.
- After 50 years, it's up to the cemetery to decide whether they will allow up to another 25 years to be purchased.



# How long does it last?



# What do you get with a grant?

The grantee can:

- Bury one or more bodies in the grave
- Bury ashes in the grave
- Place monumental work on the grave



# What else can you do with a grant?

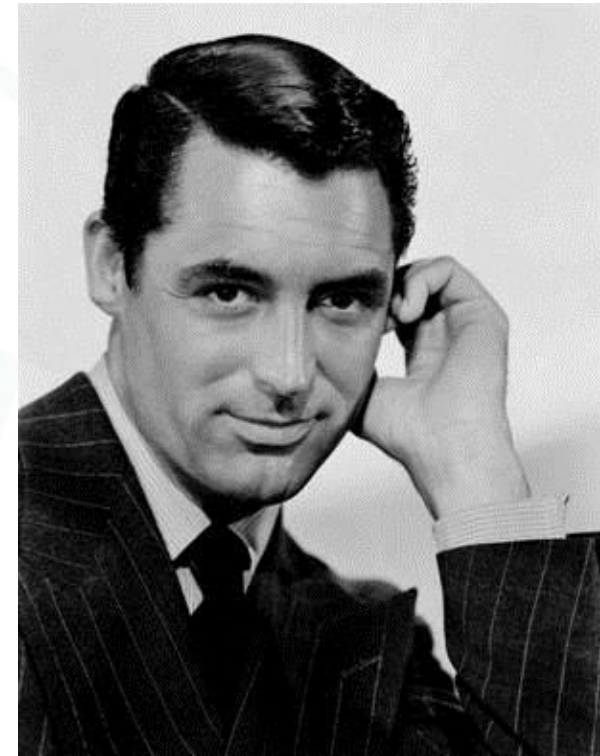
The grantee can:

- Leave it to someone in their will
- Transfer it to someone else



# What's a good way for us do the right thing?

- Refer to the Cemeteries Act 1986
- Refer to your local By-Laws
- Ask people to show you the grant before they do anything with the grave



My nan had a contract with the cemetery back in 1967 for a 99 year grant, hasn't the government/MCB/nasty cemetery people broken the contract?

You're joking – you mean it doesn't last forever....so they will dig you up ?

How many deceased can be interred in one grave?  
Or how many ashes?

Can I sell my grant on Ebay or Gumtree or in the paper?



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I don't reckon my brother /aunt/ uncle/ cousin/blue heeler should own the grant - how can I change this?

Can I leave my grant to someone in my will?

I haven't used that grant and you're saying it's expired?

Ooh! Can I get my money back ?

You said my grant entitles me to bury up to 3 deceased...can one of the deceased be my dog because I love my dog and would like him to be buried with me if I die first...even though the logistics of this defy human reasoning and animal welfare considerations... )



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Do we have to issue a grant?

My Board/boss wants me to change the timeframes on the grants – what do I do?

What would it take to change it back to grants are forever?

We don't agree with the whole 25 years thing, can't we just issue the grant in perpetuity?



We have heaps of room so why have grants if we are never going to reclaim the land?

Why did the MCB make this silly rule about 25 years?

A family wants to bury their loved one on their property – can they do this ...and do they need a grant ?

We have a lot of old headstones in a state of disrepair, some downright dangerous – can we remove them ?  
Who owns the headstones ?



**Cemetery**



**ANY**

**32**

**MORE**

**6**

**QUESTIONS**

**18**

**YOU**

**5**

**WANT**

**12**

**TO**

**4**

**ASK?**

**8**