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Crematoria  
Association

ACCA Update  
CCAWA  
2026

# CORPORATE SPONSORS

## PLATINUM



## GOLD



## SILVER



## BRONZE



## GENERAL





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## Outline

- Legislation changes across Australia
- Shrouded cremations
- Pets in graves
- QLD LGA Cemetery Project
- Upcoming events

# Recent State legislation changes



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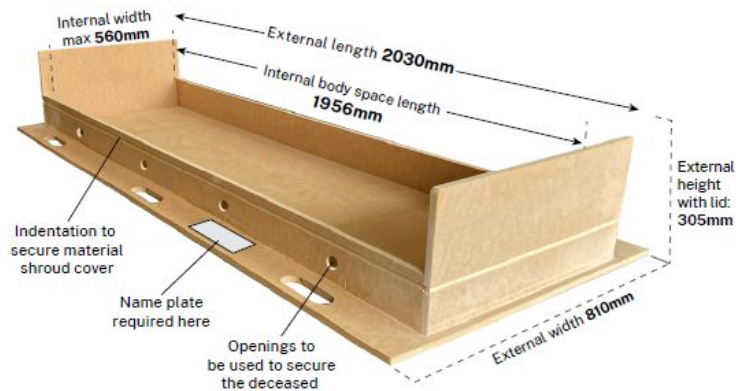
- **NSW Shroud only cremations**
- Simplify approval process with NSW health- small minority of people will choose and still up to Crematorium to accept
- Need to ensure wellbeing of staff as Cemetery Staff are not used to seeing bodies.
- Has been in operation in Victoria for a number of years-
- Geelong Cemetery Trust – 1 to 2 a month on average (less than 1% of cremations)



# Shrouded Cremations



## Important requirements



### Specifications for Shroud Bearer

Shroud Bearer must be made from timber to match the size above. It must have a timber cover for transportation as per the image (at right). Two name plates must be secured to the shroud bearer. One on the shroud bearer base as shown in the above photo. The second should be on the timber shroud cover.



To ensure safety, MMP reserves the right to decline a shrouded cremation if any of the following conditions are not met:

- Shroud bearer is damaged.
- Name plates are missing or not visible.
- There is any evidence of leakage, odour or unclean presentation.
- The shroud is torn, excessively soiled or unfit for presentation.
- The deceased weighs over 150kg or exceeds bearer size limitations.
- Delivery occurs outside approved hours (8:30am – 2pm).



# VIC and NSW

## Allowance of Animals in Graves

- NSW clarified its regulations while Victoria is updating its Act to allow animal remains to be placed into Graves
- Still up to local cemetery to approve if it allows this to happen- Vic Class A looking at allowing Cremated remains only
- Concerns on how it will work – does a large pet take up a burial spot if buried – i.e double grave.
- Animal welfare concerns- i.e. euthanasia of healthy animals just so they can be buried with owner.
- Concerns over public campaigns shaping policy with limited industry involvement



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# LGAQ Future of Cemeteries Report



The following issues have been raised:

- No Dedicated Legislation
- Future land availability
- Poor management
- Ageing cemeteries and perpetual maintenance
- Changing community attitudes and needs including environmental awareness
- Recommendation made to QLD State Government to address the above concerns- Voted on at LGAQ conference by LGA's October 2025

# LGAQ Future of Cemeteries Repc

## Recommendation made to QLD State Government

- Develop dedicated legislation
- Explore a “Regional” approach
- Consider different management models
- Rethink design and role of cemeteries
- Community Awareness
- Streamline approval process

# ACCA and Funerals Australia Lobbying for Essential Service designation

- Recognition by State and/ or Federal government of the importance of our role
- Essential service status - fuel permits if rationing, ability to move around during restrictions
- First responder/ last responder
- Be prepared for future issues : Covid, Natural disasters, Fuel crisis etc



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**ANNUAL CONFERENCE &  
TRADE EXHIBITION 2026**

**1 - 4 SEPTEMBER 2026**

**ROYAL PINES RESORT, GOLD COAST  
AUSTRALIA**

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