



# Public cemeteries

IN THE TARARUA DISTRICT

2026/27

The Guide to Public Cemeteries in the Tararua District  
is revised and issued on 1 July annually.



# Contents

- 4 Public cemeteries in the Tararua District and services available
- 6 Description of options
- 7 Cemetery records
- 8 Fees and charges 2026/27
- 9 Commonly asked questions

# Public cemeteries in the Tararua District and services available

## **Mangatera Cemetery**

### **Cemetery Road, Dannevirke**

Lawn burials • Stillborn section  
Ashes lawn section • RSA section  
Memorial wall • Fairbrother Memorial  
Garden - Scattering of ashes

## **Woodville Lawn**

### **Pinfold Road, Woodville**

Lawn burials • Children's berm  
Stillborn section • Ashes lawn section  
Memorial wall

## **Norsewood Cemetery**

### **Odin Street, Norsewood**

Lawn burials • Ashes interment section  
RSA section • Columbarium memorial  
wall

## **Pongaroa Cemetery**

### **Urupa Road, Pongaroa**

Lawn burials • Ashes lawn section  
RSA section

## **Woodville RSA Cemetery**

### **State Highway 3, Woodville**

Lawn burials • Ashes lawn  
Returned servicepersons only

## **Mangatainoka Cemetery**

### **Cemetery Road, Pahiatua**

Lawn burials • Ashes lawn section  
RSA section • Columbarium wall

## **Eketāhuna Lawn Cemetery**

### **Marchant Street, Eketāhuna**

Lawn burials • Columbarium wall - full (no  
further plots available)  
Ashes lawn section

## **Ormondville Cemetery**

### **Louise Street, Ormondville**

Lawn burials • Ashes lawn section

## **Woodville Old Gorge Cemetery**

### **State Highway 3, Woodville**

The Old Gorge Cemetery is full, apart  
from reserved plots • Burials and ashes  
interments to existing plots only

## **Mangaoranga Cemetery**

### **Mangaoranga Road, Eketāhuna**

The Mangaoranga Cemetery is full apart  
from the RSA section and reserved plots



### **Alfredton Cemetery**

**Castle Hill Road, Alfredton**

Lawn burials • Ashes lawn section

### **Mangahao Cemetery**

**Ballance Road, Pahiatua**

Administered by the Mangahao Cemetery Trust

Lawn burials • Ashes lawn

### **Dannevirke Settlers Cemetery**

**Alexandra Street, Dannevirke**

The Dannevirke Settlers Cemetery is full. Ash interments for existing plots only

### **Matamau Cemetery**

**State Highway 2, Matamau**

The Matamau Cemetery is closed. No further interments.

## **Closed historic cemeteries and roadside memorials**

### **Alfredton Road Memorial**

**Alfredton Road, Eketāhuna**

### **Kumeroa Cemetery**

**Cemetery Road, Kumeroa**

### **Herbertville Cemetery**

**Seaview Road, Herbertville**

### **Newman Cemetery**

**State Highway 2, Newman**

### **Kaitawa Cemeter**

**Hinemoa Valley Road, Kaitawa**

### **Weber Cemetery**

**Weber Road, Weber**

# Description of options

- **Lawn burials**

This section is for anyone who wishes to be buried.  
Burial plots allow for up to two burials per plot.  
Burial plots will also allow for up to six ashes interments per plot.

- **Ashes lawn section**

This section provides smaller lawn plots for the interment of ashes or urns into the ground.  
Each Ashes Lawn plot will allow for up to two ashes interments.

- **RSA section**

Available to returned servicepersons and their spouses. These are designated areas for burials and ashes interments in some of our cemeteries.

- **Columbarium wall**

These walls provide niches for interment for ashes urns, with the installation of a memorial plaque required at the time of interment.

- **Memorial wall**

These walls provide a space for a memorial plaque to be installed in remembrance of a loved one, when they are laid to rest elsewhere.

- **Scattering ashes - Mangatera Cemetery only**

The Fairbrother Memorial Garden at Mangatera Cemetery allows for the scattering of ashes.



# Cemetery records



**Cemetery records are available online and can be searched at:**  
[www.tararua.govt.nz](http://www.tararua.govt.nz)

Our cemetery records include:

- Name of deceased
- Date of death
- Date of interment
- Cemetery
- Block and plot number

# Fees and charges 2026/27

## Burials

Adult	\$1,840.00
Saturdays (all day Saturday – additional to interment charges as above)	\$900.00
Sundays and public holidays (all day Sunday and public holidays – additional to interment charges as above)	\$1,800.00
Returned servicepersons in servicemen’s plot area or in lawn where no servicemen’s area exists	no charge
Out of district additional fee (for persons not resident nor ratepayers in the district)	\$2,052.00
Child (2–14 years)	\$515.00
Child under 2 years (including stillborn and neonatal)	\$255.00
Exhumation and/or re-interment	actual cost

## Ashes

Ashes and urns interred in the ground	\$235.00
Saturdays (all day Saturday – additional to interment charges as above)	\$115.00
Sundays and public holidays (all day Sunday and public holidays – additional to interment charges as above)	\$230.00
Scattering of ashes in cemetery area - Mangatera Cemetery only (using Council or Council contract staff, no charge otherwise)	actual cost
Ashes interred in Collumbarium walls	\$50.00



## Cemetery plots

Adult - new plot at time of interment	\$1,440.00
District wide plot reservation fee (maximum of one adjoining plot at the time of interment)	\$1,440.00 per plot
District wide plot reservation fee (maximum of two plots)	\$2,800.00
Returned servicepersons in servicemen's plot area or in lawn where no servicemen's area exists	no charge
Ashes plot (lawn)	\$410.00
Columbarium wall niche	\$360.00
Memorial wall plaque site	\$82.00
Child (2–14 years) burial	\$513.00
Child under 2 years (including stillborn and neonatal) burial	\$256.00

## Miscellaneous

Permit to erect memorials	\$82.00
Plot cancellation (reserved plots)	\$205.00 per plot
Transfer of burial rights	\$164.00
Manual records search (per entry, per hour)	\$164.00 + actual cost (if any - e.g. travel to cemetery)
Breaking concrete	actual cost
Resoiling old removed concrete plots	actual cost per plot
Kerbing resoiled old concrete plots	actual cost per plot

# Commonly asked questions

## **Can I scatter ashes in a public cemetery?**

Ashes may only be scattered at the Fairbrother Memorial Garden at the Mangatera Cemetery in Dannevirke.

## **Who looks after the headstones and memorials?**

The upkeep of headstones and memorials is the responsibility of the next of kin, or those who hold the Burial Rights for the plot.

## **Can I reserve a plot?**

Yes, you can. The full cost of the plot must be paid in full at the time the plot is reserved.

## **Can we transfer a reserved plot(s) to other people or family if we no longer require them?**

Yes, you can. The Council will need a letter from you stating who you are wanting the plot to go to, and also the exclusive right of burial will need to be returned and a new one issued. Please note, there is a fee for this service.

## **How many coffins can be buried in a single plot?**

Burial plots allow for up to two burials.

## **How many ashes can be interred in a burial plot?**

Burial plots allow for up to six ashes interments.

## **Can I choose a plot?**

Yes, we can help you select a plot in most cemeteries.



### **What do I need to do to put up a headstone or memorial?**

A permit is required from Tararua District Council prior to the erection of any monument, memorial, headstone, foundation, or any other structure. The permit application is usually completed by the monumental mason.

### **Can we dig the grave?**

No. Under current regulations, only Council staff or contractors are authorised to prepare plots for interments to take place.

### **Can we fill the grave?**

In most cases this is possible but is cemetery dependant.

### **Can we hold a service on the weekend?**

Yes - additional Saturday, Sunday, and public holiday fees apply.

### **Can we bury a body without a coffin?**

Interring a body without a coffin is not permitted.

### **Do you have a natural burial area?**

No, we do not provide an area for natural burials. The nearest burial site to Tararua is the Clareville Natural Cemetery, in Carterton.

### **Can I bury my pet in the cemetery?**

No, animals cannot be buried in our cemeteries.

### **Can I be buried in a plot owned by someone else?**

Yes, you can, as long as we have a copy of their written permission.

### **Can I place ornaments and decorations on the headstone?**

Yes, decorations placed on the headstone are permitted.

### **Can I place ornaments and decorations on the grave?**

Temporarily, yes, fresh flowers, large flower arrangements and small decorations can be left on the soil of a new grave immediately after burial. Maintenance staff will remove these flowers and decorations once they begin to deteriorate or when the grave is levelled.

### **Can I create a border or enclosure over the grave?**

No, permanent grave decorations are not permitted on the lawn in Tararua District cemeteries. Permanent decorations are a hazard to visitors and cemetery contractors, and will affect the safety of future burials.

### **Can I donate a tree or seat for placement in the cemetery?**

With design and location approval from Council, a memorial tree or seat may be permitted, providing all installation and maintenance costs are met by the family.



**For any enquiries, please email**  
**[cemeteries@tararudc.govt.nz](mailto:cemeteries@tararudc.govt.nz)**



