

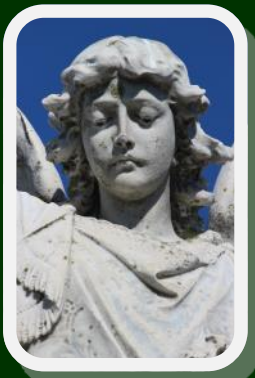


R.I.P.orter

April  
2021

*Evelyn Marsden (1883-1938)*

- Cemetery searches detailing the location of a grave of those interred can be shown on iCemetery. Download the FREE app now!
- Size of Cemetery 40 acres (or around 16.5 hectares).
- Over 90,000 interments in 50,000 grave sites.
- The Cemetery offers a service of grave planting sites with Gazania (prostrate ground cover with silver foliage and yellow flowers, as can be seen in banner). Contact the cemetery office if you are interested in this and other services, such as annual maintenance of allotments.
- Waverley Cemetery St Thomas Street, BRONTE NSW 2024 P: (02) 9083 8899 F: (02) 9665 4785 Email: cemetery@waverley.nsw.gov.au



**E**velyn Marsden (later married as Evelyn James) (15 October 1883 – 30 August 1938) was the only Australian female survivor of the sinking of RMS *Titanic* and was rescued in lifeboat 16.

She was the daughter of railway worker Walter Henry Marsden (Hoyleton Stationmaster in 1912) and Annie Bradshaw. Her birthplace of Stockyard Creek is about 80 km north of Adelaide, South Australia and is now ruins.

Evelyn, who previously worked on board the ship RMS *Olympic*, signed-on to RMS *Titanic* on 6 April 1912, and gave her address as 7 West Marlands Terrace, The Polygon, Southampton. She was 28 and single at the time and as a stewardess she was paid monthly wages of £3 10s. She assisted also as a nurse for the First Class passengers. There is mention of Evelyn in a letter by Mary Sloan to her sister on 27 April 1912, stating that they both were taken to Dr. Simpson's room for a little whiskey and water during the

disaster. Dr. Simpson then hurried away and was never seen by them again. Evelyn and Mary escaped on Boat 16 which was lowered at 1.35 a.m. from the Port side by 6th Officer Moody. This boat held about 40 people with no incidents recorded while loading. They were in this boat all night until RMS *Carpathia* picked them up, at about seven in the morning. George Robinson, the uncle of Evelyn Marsden was also noted as being aboard the *Titanic*.

As a youth, she learned to row a boat against the tides and currents of the Murray River while visiting a farm at Murray Bridge, South Australia. Evelyn worked as a Probationer Nurse at the Royal Adelaide Hospital (then known as the Adelaide Hospital) between 15 January and 11 November 1907. Her salary was twelve pounds per annum and she was given apartment rations, fuel, light, and a uniform. From 8 May 1907 to 5 June 1907, Evelyn went on sick leave with full pay



for about a month due to contracting gangrene of the finger whilst on duty. After the *Titanic* disaster she returned to that farm to thank the family for teaching her to row and handle a boat properly.

Following the *Titanic* tragedy she married Dr William Abel James, who had also worked for White Star Line. He studied as a medical student whilst living in two rooms at 22 Glenroy Street, Roath, Glamorgan, Wales according to the 1901 census. On her return to Australia she was heralded as a heroine, calling first at the Semaphore, South Australia anchorage on 2 November 1912, on board the White Star liner

Why not join the Friends of Waverley Cemetery?

the *Irishman*, on which her husband also served as ship's doctor, and so was subsequently bound to continue on to its final destination of Sydney, arriving 14 November, before disembarking on the 15th following a day's quarantine. Her husband took up residence as a doctor in South Australia and they moved into a new apartment in Ruthven Mansions on Pulteney Street. Later they moved to Wallaroo, South Australia, living and working there for 15 months before finally moving to Bondi, Sydney, where her husband continued work as a Doctor. Evelyn died on 30 August 1938, with her husband passing away soon after and they were both buried at Waverley Cemetery, Sydney. They had no children.

Their grave was unmarked until 5 October 2000, when a headstone was finally erected on their gravesite.

[Evelyn Marsden - Wikipedia](#)

### EASTER SUNDAY NOTICE

Each Easter Sunday there is a commemoration held at the Irish Memorial (Sydney 1798 Memorial). This year Easter Sunday falls on 4th April and the commemoration will commence at 3.00pm with the MC Mike Bailey. The flag party will march from the main gates just before commencement.

## Take a tour

**General History Tours  
A, B, C & D are held  
on Saturdays**

**03 April 09.00am Tour A  
10 April 10.00am Tour B  
17 April 09.00am Tour C  
24 April 09.00am Tour D**

**01 May 09.00am Tour A  
08 May 09.00am Tour B  
15 May 0.900am Tour C  
22 May 0.900am Tour D  
29 May 0.900am Tour A**

**Bookings for tours are essential.  
Book through Eventbrite  
Waverley Cemetery Tours**

**<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/waverley-cemetery-tours-tickets-35366776982>**



## Friends of Waverley Cemetery

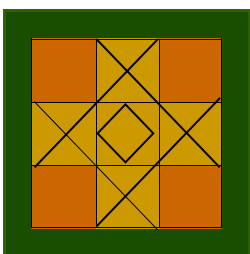
The Friends welcome new members **Karen Harcourt, Caroline Flematti, Louisa Fitzgerald and Kit Devine.**

**The next general meeting** of the Executive and Standing Committees of the Friends group will be held on **Saturday 10 April at 9.00am at the Cemetery.**

**The Friends of Waverley Cemetery** group has several projects currently underway and is looking for interested volunteers to assist with photography of monuments, research of individuals interred in the cemetery and weeding. If you have an interest in gardening then you might be just the person to join the Friends of Waverley **“Adopt a Grave”** initiative.

Volunteers with a specific skill set which they feel would be of assistance are encouraged to contact the group through its email which is **friendsofwaverleycemetery@gmail.com** with the view to becoming members and assisting FoWC group in its work.

To visit the FoWC Face Book Page which is updated every few days go to **<https://www.facebook.com/FoWCBronTE NSW2024/>**



*Gregory Ross*  
President/Secretary

