

#### Friends of Waverley Cemeteries (Volunteers)



MAY 2022

## Signor Edoardo Majeroni

 Cemetery searches detailing the location of a grave of those interred in Waverley Cemetery and South Head General Cemetery can be found on the website.

- Waverley Cemeteries 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 Waverley Cemeteries office if you are interested in this and other services, such as annual maintenance of allotments.
- Waverley Cemeteries office is at the corner of Trafalgar Street and St Thomas Street, BRONTE NSW 2024
- P: (02) 9083 8899 F: (02) 9665 4785 Email: cemetery@waverley. nsw.gov.au



Signor Edoardo Majeroni and his wife, presented stage performances in theatres across Australia in 1876 and the 1880s.

Majeroni led an exciting life on and off stage eventually becoming one of Australia's best known 19th century actors. He was born in Milan in 1840, where he studied to become a civil engineer. But all this changed in 1850 when war broke out between Italy and Austria, and he took up arms and volunteered as a private soldier in the artillery brigade commanded by General Mezzacapo.

After two month's hard service, which included gallant conduct under fire at the battles of Magenta and Solferino he returned to private life, not as an engineer but as a stage actor. In doing so he was the second in his family to tread the floorboards as his older brother was already an actor of some note.

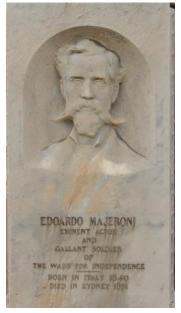
In 1860 war broke out again and Edoardo was one of the first to enrol in the band of *redshirts* organised by Garibaldi to fight against Austria. Again, he took part in numerous engagements and won the Cross of Honour for his bravery. After the battle of Sadowah in 1866 the Italian and Prussian alliance gained the upper hand and at the end of the war Majeroni again returned to his acting

career with a company organised by Madame Ristori. Soon after this he married Ristori's niece Giulia Tessero and in 1874 the company began a world tour.

Working with this group the couple travelled the globe playing in Brazil, Buenos Aires, the West Indies, The United States, New Zealand and Australia. They arrived in Australia in 1876 and performed at six different locations: Sydney, Melbourne, Sandurst, Ballarat, Geelong and Adelaide. In Sydney Edoardo and his wife won over the Australian audience with their performance in a play called 'The Old Corporal' which was staged at the Theatre Royal on the 24th of April 1876.

After this they travelled to New York to open their own production company but during the winter Majeroni fell so ill, there were worries about whether he would survive. His wife continued to have success on the stage but Edoardo's continued ill health led to their return to Australia in 1882, in the hope that the climate would improve his health.

This appears to have had some impact for in September 1882 they opened at the Bijou with their first performance *Jealousy*. This was followed by *Camille* and *Marie*Antoinette at the Opera

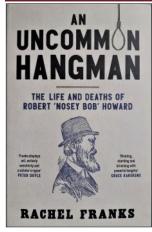


House.

In 1886 they took over the management of the Bijou theatre, but after a series of performances found themselves in debt and had to give it up. To try and recoup their losses they travelled to India and China in 1889 but Edoardo fell ill again, and Giulia lost her voice.

As a result, they were forced to return to Sydney, both in such poor health they were unable to return to the stage. In October 1891 Signor Edoardo Majeroni died in Sydney.

On the 8th of August 1903 Giulia died and was buried at Waverley Cemetery, where Edoardo had been buried 12 years earlier. Page 2 MAY 2022



"Robert 'Nosey Bob' Howard used to be a household name. Today the noseless hangman who sparked fear and fascination everywhere he went is largely forgotten, yet Howard is vital to understanding attitudes towards capital punishment in Australia.....

This dramatic tale of life, death and radical social change is told through the sixty-one men and one woman who met Nosey Bob, under the worst possible conditions when he served as New South Wales executioner

between 1876 and 1904." **Nosey Bob is interred in Waverley**Cemetery. The book has just been released and is available on line and in bookstores; published by NewSouth @ \$34.99.

#### The Cemetery By The Sea in Waverley NSW - YouTube

If you haven't yet seen this outstanding video of 'The Cemetery by the Sea', which had its first public viewing recently, grab a cup of tea and sit and enjoy for the next 20 minutes. [Hover your mouse over the hyperlink, hold Control and Click and you will transported to the cliffs above Bronte!]

### Take a tour

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

07 May 09.00am A (Doug)

14 May 09.00am B (Greg)

21 May 09.00am C (David)

28 May 09.00am D (Andrew)

04 Jun 09.00am A (Doug)

11 Jun 10.00am B (Greg)

18 Jun 09.00am C (David)

25 Jun 09.00am D (Andrew)

Bookings for tours are essential.

Book through Eventbrite for

Waverley Cemetery's Saturday

Tours

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



# Friends of Waverley Cemeteries

The next meeting of the Executive and Standing Committees of the Friends of Waverley Cemeteries (FoWC) will be held on Saturday 11 June 2022 at 9.00am.

The various standing Sub-Committees are Tours, Media, Cemetery Events, Photography, South Head Cemetery, Fundraising & Grants, Research, and Weeding (including "Adopt a Grave").

As indicated by the number of various standing Sub-Committees, **The Friends of Waverley Cemeteries** group has several projects currently underway and is in need of additional volunteers.

If you would like to be of assistance you are encouraged to contact the group through its email which is **friendsofwaverleycemetery@gmail.com** 

The FoWC is looking to expand its range of tours and so tour leaders will be required.

To visit the FoWC Face Book Page which is updated every few days, go to

https://www.facebook.com/FoWCBronteNSW2024



If you are interested in taking a midweek tour please email and we will attempt to accommodate your request.

Gregory Ross
President/Secretary

