

Friends of Waverley Cemeteries (Volunteers)



WAVERLEY
CEMETERIES



NOVEMBER
2022

Harvey Sutton (1882-1963)

- 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



One of the joys of the Photographic Project is looking at various graves and finding surprises.

In Section 2, at can be found the Sutton Family grave. Harvey Sutton's obituary simply reads: **"Scholar, Physician and Teacher."**

But he was far more.

Quoting from the back cover of a book by Alistair Harvey-Sutton:

"Harvey Sutton, who commenced his medical career in Melbourne in 1902, was an early example of an Australian medical practitioner who devoted his career to the implementation of the new science of preventive medicine in the Australian society, both on a medical and community basis.

Throughout his career, from working with children in Australian State School medical services, to being a member of the Australian Medical Corps attached to the Light Horse in the Middle East, to the professional training of health care professionals and to his encouragement of members of the wider community to live by the ideal of *Mens sana*

in corpore sano – a sound mind in a sound body – Harvey Sutton devoted his life to promoting community health in its widest sense." (end of quote).

Sutton studied medicine at the University of Melbourne and then was awarded a Rhodes Scholarship in 1905. Sutton was a three-time Australian champion in middle distances running. Sutton was an Olympian, who competed at the 1908 Olympics in London. He served as a captain in the Australian Army Medical Corps during World War I, with the AIF in Egypt, Sinai, Palestine and Syria. Sutton co-commanded the No.7 Sanitary Section, Anzac Mounted Division, and Anzac Field Laboratory. He returned to London in 1917 to marry, but then was sent back to Egypt, where he was twice mentioned in dispatches, and was awarded an OBE in 1919. Sutton then joined the New South Wales Department of Public Instruction as principal medical officer.

He was an accomplished thrower of boomerangs and spears.

Sport had remained a passion



after he ceased competing: Sutton attended the inaugural meeting of the Australian Universities' Sports Association in 1920 and was to be active in its organization throughout his life. He would often appear at the university oval with stethoscope and stopwatch, eager to assess sporting performances.

Sutton had a particular interest in eugenic approaches to the moral and physical development of children. He believed that national development depended on state intervention in education and public health programs. He is quoted as having warned that Fascist states had done more than the democracies to create efficient populations.

Why not join the Friends of Waverley Cemeteries?



National Hygienist as Eugenicist and Educator: Sutton Delivering the Health Week Message Photo courtesy of Miss Patricia Harvey-Sutton.

"'God', he once wrote, 'marches on the side of the fittest battalions'". Sutton attributed nervous breakdowns, delinquency and divorce to unfitnes, and argued that 'Vitamins, sunshine, open-air life and exercise remove the cause of mental instability'. He was a eugenicist, at a time when that concept was more in line with normal thinking than today.

Quoting from the Australian Dictionary of Biography:

"In sundry papers—many delivered to the Australasian Association for the Advancement of Science and the Australasian Medical Congress—Sutton examined some of his central concerns: the prophylactic and diagnostic aspects of malaria, delinquency, feeble-mindedness, sanitation and the health needs of school children. A regular contributor to the Medical Journal of Australia and the Sydney University Medical Journal, he published his 1941 Livingstone lectures (sponsored by Camden College) as *Mental Health in Peace and War* (1942) and a textbook, *Lectures on Preventive Medicine*, in 1944.

Given his proclivity for collecting books, Sutton's room at the university grew wonderfully crowded. Yet, he was never a bookworm and practised what he preached when it came to lecturing and research, insisting on rest, good diet and regular exercise. For the tropical medicine school, he designed a sunken garden where he sometimes took classes, or encouraged performances of Greek and Elizabethan drama. He was convinced that the inhabitants of modern, industrial cities needed to rediscover a Greek sense of the unity of mind and body, and was fond of observing that the 'greatest Teacher of all time taught His disciples chiefly in the open air'.

Sutton died at his home in Rose Bay in 1963.

Take a tour

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

05 Nov 09:00am D (Doug)
 12 Nov 09:00am A (Greg)
 19 Nov 09:00am B (David)
 26 Nov 09:00am C (Andrew)
 03 Dec 09:00am A (Doug)
 10 Dec 10:00am B (Greg)
 17 Dec 09:00am C (David)
 24 Dec 09:00am D (Andrew)
 31 Dec 09:00am A (Maggie)

07 Jan 09:00am B (Doug)

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>



WAVERLEY
CEMETERIES

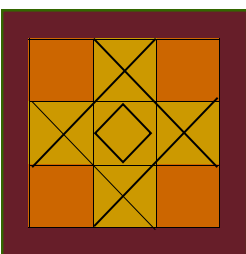
Friends of Waverley Cemeteries

The next meeting of the Friends of Waverley Cemeteries is scheduled for Saturday 10 December at 9:00am in the sheltered area near the cemetery gates. Tours will continue through December and January.

If you would like to become a Friend you are encouraged to contact the group through its email which is friendsofwaverleycemetery@gmail.com

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.



Doug Richards President/Secretary
 1st November 2022

