

From: s 47F on behalf of "s 47E
Sent: 26/03/2026 1:52:10 PM
To: "s 47E
dva.gov.au>
Subject: Dept response - s 47F (Claremont RSL Sub Branch) - WW1 Graves
Karrakatta Cemetery [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Attachments: scanS 47F _2026-03-26-09-12-31.pdf
Categories: s 47F

Hi team,

Please draft a response from DVA.

Thanks

Regards,

s 47F

Senior Departmental Liaison Officer

Office of Hon Matt Keogh MP
Minister for Veterans' Affairs and Defence Personnel
M:s 47F | Minister@dva.gov.au



I acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land and acknowledge their elders past and present.

From: Keogh, Matt (MP) <Matt.Keogh.MP@aph.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 26 March 2026 12:51 PM
To: s 47E @dva.gov.au>
Subject: FW: WW1 Graves Karrakatta Cemetery.

Kind Regards

s 47F | **Community Support Officer**
Office of Hon Matt Keogh MP | Federal Member for Burt
Minister for Veterans' Affairs and Defence Personnel

Unit 2, 2808 Albany Highway, Kelmscott (Goolamrup, Whadjuk region, Noongar boodja)

T: (08) 9390 0180 | E: matt.keogh.mp@aph.gov.au

www.mattkeogh.com | fb.com/KeoghMatthew | [@mattkeogh](https://twitter.com/mattkeogh)



From: ^{s 47F} @r2rservices.com.au
Sent: Thursday, 26 March 2026 9:41 AM
To: Keogh, Matt (MP) <Matt.Keogh.MP@aph.gov.au>
Subject: WW1 Graves Karrakatta Cemetery.

Dear Minister Keogh,

Please find attached a letter regarding the War Graves at Karrakatta Cemetery.

Regards,



s 47F

Claremont RSL Sub-Branch

PO Box 2068 SUBIACO

WA 6904

Mobile: **s 47F**

Email: **s 47F** @sb.rslwa.org.au

Lest we forget 



Australian Government
Department of Veterans' Affairs

DIRECTOR WAR GRAVES
OFFICE OF AUSTRALIAN WAR GRAVES

Ref: MC26-001371

s 47F

Claremont RSL Sub-Branch
PO Box 268
SUBIACO WA 6904

s 47F

Dear s 47F ,

Thank you for your correspondence of 26 March 2026 to the Minister for Veterans' Affairs, the Hon Matt Keogh MP, regarding Karrakatta Cemetery. The Minister has asked me to reply on his behalf. My apologies for the delay in responding.

I acknowledge the concerns raised in your correspondence and your ongoing advocacy on behalf of affected families. The Office of Australian War Graves (OAWG) recognises the importance of commemoration and the significance of these matters for families and the broader veteran community. I also acknowledge the strength of feeling in relation to these matters and the impact they may have had on families and ex-service organisations.

OAWG fulfils the Australian Government's commemoration responsibilities through established legislative frameworks. Matters relating to burial tenure, reuse of graves and associated notification processes are governed by state legislation and are the responsibility of the relevant cemetery authority. In Western Australia, in the case of the Karrakatta Cemetery, this is the Metropolitan Cemeteries Board (MCB). Where burial tenure is not maintained, cemetery authorities may reclaim burial sites in accordance with applicable legislation.

OAWG is working closely with the MCB in relation to the Karrakatta Reinstatement Program. Previous OAWG leadership indicated a commitment to reinstatement at Karrakatta, and that position remains. OAWG is committed to progressing reinstatement in a manner that appropriately recognises the service of the veterans concerned and is consistent with the current legislative, policy and operational framework.

The key issue under consideration is the form that reinstatement may take. Decisions regarding reinstatement and commemoration must be assessed within the current legislative, policy and operational framework. This includes consideration of relevant legal settings and the respective roles and responsibilities for tenure and commemoration. OAWG is also engaging with state and territory governments to support a more consistent approach to these matters across jurisdictions. Consistent with this, like-for-like reinstatement may not be achievable in all cases. I note the views expressed in your correspondence regarding reinstatement and related matters, and these are being considered as part of OAWG's ongoing assessment.

Your request for further investigation, including an independent inquiry, is noted. OAWG will continue to engage constructively, as appropriate, in any relevant processes.

It is important to note that no final decision has been made regarding the form of reinstatement in individual cases, and matters remain subject to ongoing assessment. OAWG will continue to work with the MCB to review affected sites and progress outcomes that are lawful, respectful and capable of consistent application. I intend to visit Perth in September and I would welcome the opportunity to meet with you again then if convenient.

Thank you for taking the time to write.

Yours sincerely,

s 47F

Wade Stothart AO DSC CSC

24 July 2026

From: s 47F
To: s 47F
Subject: RE: Destruction of official war graves [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Wednesday, 11 March 2026 10:03:50 AM
Attachments: [image008.png](#)
[image009.png](#)
[image010.png](#)
[image011.png](#)
[image012.png](#)
[image013.png](#)
[image014.png](#)
[image015.png](#)
[image016.png](#)
[image017.png](#)
[image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[IMG-2760.JPG](#)
[IMG-2762.JPG](#)
[IMG-2764.JPG](#)
[IMG-2765.JPG](#)
[IMG-2766.JPG](#)
[IMG-2767.JPG](#)
[IMG-2768.JPG](#)
[IMG-2769.JPG](#)

Hi s 47F

The CHS has not been destroyed and is in place where the remains of s 47F . The commemoration has just had its yearly maintenance completed and is respectfully placed in this area. Over the next few months the WA team will be repainting the infill to this CHS and others in this area.

Over the history of the monumental works, as it is in a renewed area, the style of monumental works would of change to fit into the area and the MOU at the time and therefore the style could of changed to a lawn concrete base. There is not enough room to demolish and replace with a full grave.

Please note that there are different styles of monumental works across Australia, For instance in the Perth War Cemetery each of these headstones don't have full grave covers and people work over the top of the remains. This is no different to this style of monument.

On another note if s 47F is looking up War Dead graves in Karrakatta renewal areas there are a few that have been replace with a Dutchstool and BP. Throughout the renewal areas this isn't the only grave like this and BPs. On a quick search there are over 100 graves that have had a change to fit in with the lawn style renewal areas or were lawn style in the first place. s 47F found this newspaper article from 1948 <https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/257023804> - Details info re: concrete infill of graves (protests from RSL). So these graves may have been lawn style monuments in the first place.

In ANOC there are 7 CHS L CB and 5 BP L CB. Attached are photos of other CHS L CB.



DENOMINATIONS			CEMETERY	
Anglican	Greek Orthodox	Presbyterian	Renewed	Approaching Renewal
Baptist	Jewish	Roman Catholic	Historical	Conditions Apply
Church of Christ	Lawn Areas	Various		
General	Macedonian Orthodox	Wesleyan		

s 47F | **State Operations Manager**

Western Australia | Office of Australian War Graves

Department of Veterans' Affairs

Tel **s 47F** Mobile **s 47F**

s 47F @dva.gov.au

www.dva.gov.au



From: War.Graves <WarGraves@dva.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 11 March 2026 5:35 AM

To: **s 47F** @dva.gov.au

Subject: FW: Destruction of official war graves [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hey ^{s 47}

Do you have any information on the below? There are no notes on WGS concerning the below.

Thank you

Kind regards

s 47F I Team Leader

Office of Australian War Graves

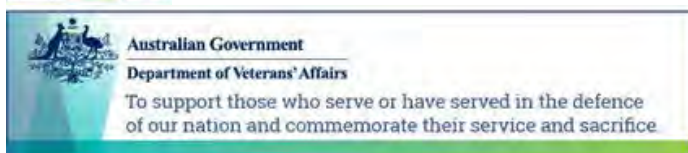
Veteran Family and Stakeholder Experience Group

Department of Veterans' Affairs

Tel **s 47F**

@dva.gov.au

www.dva.gov.au



For what they have done, this we will do.

From: **s 47F**

Sent: Tuesday, 10 March 2026 8:49 PM

To: War.Graves <WarGraves@dva.gov.au>

Subject: Destruction of official war graves

I understand that your office is responsible for the maintenance of official war graves, located both overseas and Australia, in perpetuity. Recently I went to find the war grave of **s 47F** AIF located in Karrakatta Cemetery Perth. **s 47F**

S 47F

Photos

exist of his headstone however it has been destroyed by the Metropolitan Cemeteries Board as part of their grave renewal program. Can you advise what authority the MCB has to destroy this grave given it falls under your office's jurisdiction? How can a war grave that is under your control in perpetuity be destroyed? Does this constitute destruction of Commonwealth property? Commonwealth legislation overrides State legislation so how can a state authority act in such a manner? If the grave has been illegally destroy which party is responsible for its replacement?

Your early reply is requested.

S 47F

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43
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19
OF



GLASS

NIGEL - DECEASED ON 23.8.2014
DEARLY LOVED HUSBAND OF
PENNY
Who shared the life and made it beautiful
NIGEL AND LOVED ONE DA
DAIR
AND TO
ARISTIDE, KIBBY AND ANTON
A MUCH LOVED GRANDAD

A Breath Away

Your love

Higher than the



If love



AL

13-7-1946

A LOVING

FATHER &

ARFELS
55

Also
EUPHIA WILLIAMS
WIFE OF THE ABOVE
AND FATHER MOTHER OF
ALEXANDER
DIED 4TH JANUARY 1930
AGED 70 YEARS
THEY WERE AT HOME

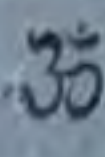

988 TROOPER
H.J. ALLPIKE
REMOUNT UNIT
MARCH 1920


Concrete slabs





IN LOVING MEMORY OF

 LIEUTENANT JOHN PATRICK "KIT" FOWLER 14.5.1941 - 27.8.2021 BORN TOWN OF THE OLD BOG ROAD CAPPAUGH CO. KILDARE, IRELAND MUCH LOVED HUSBAND, FATHER, GRANDFATHER, BROTHER, SON, UNCLE AND FRIEND DEARLY LOVED BY WIFE KITTY CHERISHED BY CHILDREN KAREN, DAVID AND DEBBE ADORED BY GRANDCHILDREN JAMES, DAVID KRISTINA, CAMBER AND KIT FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS	 DAVID JAMES "BOB" FOWLER 14.5.1941 - 27.8.2021 HIS GENEROSITY KNOW NO LIMITS WE MISS HIS LIGHT IN OUR LIVES MUCH LOVED FATHER, SON, BROTHER, UNCLE, HUSBAND AND FRIEND DEARLY MISSED BY MOTHER KITTY CHERISHED BY SON DAVID KRISTINA AND ANACHA
--	--

326
FOWLER


104 PRIVATE
C.E. NEWTON
44th BATTALION
26th FEBRUARY 1921

HIS DUTY NOBLY DONE
WE ARE PERFECT PEACE

also
ASHLEY MARY
NEWTON
DIED 21st JULY 1970
AGED 89 YEARS
R.I.P.

47
FOWLER



1955 WARRANT OFFICER

CHARLES CLARKE

A.N. & M.E.F.

16TH OCTOBER 1920



IN LOVING MEMORY OF
OUR DEAR HUSBAND AND FATHER
AGED 35 YEARS