

Interment of Ashes

at King Edward Memorial Hospital's
Memorial Garden

PASTORAL CARE SERVICES



Pastoral Care Services

Interment of Ashes Service

The Interment of Ashes Service is a service to inter the ashes of stillborn babies up to 28 weeks of gestational life.

The service is a broad-based ritual offered monthly by Pastoral Care Services at King Edward Memorial Hospital (KEMH).

It is a ritual that marks a transition, acknowledges an emotional connection and completes the physical separation through incorporating babies' ashes into a special garden dedicated to this memory.

The next Interment of Ashes service will be held in the Memorial Garden at 12.30pm on

Thursday

The Memorial Garden is situated on the corner of Barker and Railway Roads in Subiaco (next to the WA Medical Museum).

The service commences at 12.30pm and will take approximately 30 minutes.

As there is very limited shelter in the garden we suggest you come prepared for seasonal weather conditions. You are very welcome to bring family and friends, including children.

It is our practice to read out the names of all whose ashes are to be interred, however to do this we require your consent.

If you have given your baby a first name (whether or not it is required by law) and you would like to have it read out at the service, please ensure that you have informed Pastoral Care Services prior to the day.

To do this, or if you have any questions please contact the department on (08) 9340 1036 (direct) or (08) 9340 2222 and request a chaplain to be paged.

Following the service, the names of all whose ashes have been interred will be entered into the Memorial Garden register maintained within the Pastoral Care Department.

Our babies remembered

We recognise this may be a very painful and confronting time for you which words cannot adequately describe. However, it is the experience of many parents and families that this service has been a significant event in the journey of healing memories.

Some of their comments are reflected below:

“Such a tiny life, such a huge impact.”

“What is part of us for however long, is us, and will forever be.”

“I don’t believe that time heals, but that with the passage of time we have found ways to adjust to our new reality. I’ll never forget my baby - his memory is part of me.”

“We are richer by far to have known you for a moment than to never have known you at all.”

I will never forget you (Is 49:15)

“To us you will exist in the flowers, in the trees and all things of nature God has given to us.”

“You were all expectation, you became all memory.”

“Not long on this earth but always in our hearts.”

The KEMH Memorial Garden has special significance for a great many bereaved families and is maintained as a garden sanctuary rather than as a cemetery. For these reasons we do not allow individual memorials, plaques or fixtures to be added, however you may like to bring flowers to place on the interment site at the conclusion of the service, or at any other time in the future.

Disclaimer: The advice and information contained herein is provided in good faith as a public service. However the accuracy of any statements made is not guaranteed and it is the responsibility of readers to make their own enquiries as to the accuracy, currency and appropriateness of any information or advice provided. Liability for any act or omission occurring in reliance on this document or for any loss, damage or injury occurring as a consequence of such act or omission is expressly disclaimed.

Compiled by: Pastoral Care Services

Produced by: Women and Newborn Health Service

Website: <http://wnhs.health.wa.gov.au>

© January 2006 WNHS 0385 Rev 3

Reviewed September 2012

This information is available in
alternative formats upon request

WOMEN AND NEWBORN HEALTH SERVICE

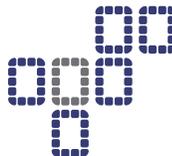
King Edward Memorial Hospital

374 Bagot Road Subiaco WA 6008

Telephone: (08) 9340 2222



Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **Health**



Delivering a Healthy WA