

בריזבן חברה קדישא

BRISBANE CHEVRA KADISHA Inc

Established 1922

<https://bck.net.au/>

ABN 82 519 437 431

WHY YOU SHOULD PLAN AHEAD

The cost of a funeral can become a major burden if not anticipated. Funeral costs paid by the family or estate are significant, and can total up to \$11,000 at the time of the funeral, with further outlays for the monument. Funeral costs include a component to help cover Tahara, Chapel and other Brisbane Chevra Kadisha (BCK) costs. While this component is reduced for members (5 years continuous), overall costs remain high as can be seen in the table below.

In the Brisbane Jewish Community, funerals are coordinated by BCK and supported by George Hartnett Metropolitan Funerals (GHMF), Kelvin Grove. Funerals are held at Jewish section 4C in the Brisbane City Council's Mt Gravatt Cemetery – at our dedicated Chapel and at the graveside.

Pre-planning can help to spread and reduce funeral costs. Burial plots can be pre-purchased at the Mt Gravatt Cemetery office (by appointment and with BCK pre-authorisation). Funerals can be pre-paid. The Guardian Funeral Plan available through GHMF (and embraced by the Australian industry) provides for fixed prepayment at today's prices regardless of when the funeral is held.

FUNERAL FEES (as at January 2022; all fees paid to GHMF in the first instance)

GHMF Professional Fees	\$3,212	
Jewish Casket	\$1,490	
Cemetery Fee* (single plot)	\$4,174	*Payable to GHMF unless previously reserved / paid through the Mt Gravatt Cemetery Office
Cemetery Fee (additional sand)	\$ 223	
Officiating Minister	\$ 300	
Press Notice	\$ 385	Approximate cost
Death Certificate	\$ 55	
BCK Fee* (including Tahara)	\$1,500	Member BCK or Shul: discounted to \$1,000 Member BCK and Shul: discounted to \$800
TOTAL FUNERAL COSTS		PLUS: Where there is no existing monument a monument bond of \$2,000 is also payable (there may already be a monument in the case of a second burial in a joint or deep grave). Bond is refundable following monument completion / payment either to the estate, family or to Jones & Travers (MMS Memorials).
Non-members (neither BCK nor Synagogue)	\$11,339	
Members (of both BCK and a Synagogue)	\$10,639	

STONEMASON FEES

Mt Gravatt 4C is a **monumental cemetery** governed by Brisbane City Council and Brisbane Chevra Kadisha rules. Many stonemasons are authorised to operate in Council cemeteries. However, BCK has worked closely with Jones & Travers (part of MMS Memorials) for decades. This ongoing relationship facilitates accuracy (eg with Hebrew inscriptions), quick response, consistency, high quality and fair pricing. Unfortunately, the Covid 19 pandemic has caused materials supply issues and this has resulted in increased freight times and charges. These increases in freight and logistics charges have flowed through into the cost of monuments.

Monument costs (approximate) - Jones & Travers (MMS Memorials):

Full Granite Single Monument*	\$10,000	Less \$2,000 bond (if pre-paid / see above)
Full Granite Double Monument*	\$15,500	Less \$2,000 bond (if pre-paid / see above)

*BCK monuments are now full granite ie both headstone and ledgers (platform over the grave). Granite is the most effective material for tombstones and high concrete costs make granite the best option for ledgers.

The Brisbane Chevra Kadisha is run by volunteers who:

- Meet with the family
- Coordinate with George Hartnett Metropolitan Funerals
- Conduct the Tahara
- Supervise the funeral and burial and oversee arrangements for monuments
- Coordinate with Mt Gravatt cemetery (and Toowong cemetery when required)
- Maintain the Jewish Chapel and Martyrs' Memorial
- Oversee property, equipment and volunteers including appropriate insurances.

Please support the Brisbane Chevra Kadisha by: Annual membership, donations & bequests, planning for the future, making your wishes known, ensuring details of your Jewish name and heritage are known.