

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 outlays can total \$12,500 to \$14,500 at the time of the funeral, with further outlays for the monument typically during the following year. Funeral costs include a component to help cover Tahara, Chapel and other Brisbane Chevra Kadisha costs. While this component is reduced for members (5 years continuous), overall costs remain high as can be seen in the table further below.

In the Brisbane Jewish Community, funerals are coordinated by your Chevra Kadisha and supported by George Hartnett Metropolitan Funerals, Kelvin Grove. Funerals are held at Jewish section 4C at Brisbane City Council's Mt Gravatt Cemetery – at the Chevra Kadisha Chapel and at the graveside.

Pre-planning can help to spread and reduce funeral costs. Burial plots can be pre-purchased through Mt Gravatt Cemetery (with Brisbane Chevra Kadisha written pre-authorisation). Funerals can be pre-paid. The Guardian Funeral Plan, embraced by the Australian industry, and available through George Hartnett Metropolitan Funerals, Kelvin Grove, provides for prepayment fixed at today's prices regardless of when the funeral is held.

FUNERAL FEES (as at March 2024)

(Itemised fees below do not have GST added. Total cost does include GST. This mirrors the approach taken by GHMF in their paperwork)

GHMF Kelvin Grove Professional Fees	\$3,043	
Jewish Casket	\$2,245	
Cemetery Fee* (single plot)	\$4,034	*Payable to GHMF unless previously paid through the Mt Gravatt Cemetery Office
Cemetery Fee (additional sand)	\$ 215	
Officiating Minister	\$ 350	
Death Certificate	\$ 55	
BCK Fee* (including Tahara, Chapel use, funeral & burial coordination)	\$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)	\$11,442 = \$12,586 Incl GST	
Members (of both BCK and a Synagogue)	\$10,742 = \$11,816 Incl GST	

STONEMASON FEES

Mt Gravatt Jewish Section 4C is a **monumental cemetery** governed by Brisbane City Council and Brisbane Chevra Kadisha rules. While many stonemasons can operate in Council cemeteries, your Chevra Kadisha has worked closely with Jones & Travers (MMS Memorials) for decades. This relationship facilitates responsiveness, accuracy (eg Hebrew), consistency, quality and fair pricing. Unfortunately, Covid and Russia's war on Ukraine have resulted in increased freight times and charges and this has flowed through into higher monument costs.

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

Full Granite Single Monument*	\$11,000	Less \$2,000 bond (if pre-paid / see above)
Full Granite Double Monument*	\$17,000	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.