

MEDIA RELEASE

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Research your family history online

Family history enthusiasts with links to the Gladstone Region are now able to search local cemeteries online, via Council's website, to find where their ancestors are buried.

Gladstone Regional Council has completed work on this searching facility as part of a massive project to develop a new cemetery management system and map all known graves.

Gladstone Region Mayor Matt Burnett said the new system allowed for lodging and managing cemetery applications online for Funeral Directors and the public.

"There is also a new feature allowing families to research their loved ones that have been interred in a cemetery within the region.

"This includes a link taking the user to the plot in the mapping system and photographs of the actual headstones or plaques in the cemetery," Councillor Burnett said.

Cr Rick Hansen said staff had created this new system over the past 12 months, but were still interested in gathering more information about local cemeteries and gravesites.

"They would like to hear from anyone who is happy to share historic cemetery maps, photos or other documents that may add to the online resource," he said.

There may be private cemeteries and grave sites tucked away on private property or in small towns that were once thriving, that could provide invaluable information.

A total of 11,333 plots were mapped in less than six months for this project and there are just under 12,000 deceased person records in the new system.

Residents who think they have something of interest to share should contact Council's Parks and Environment team on (07) 4977 6899.

The new cemetery online services and family history search facility is at www.gladstone.qld.gov.au/grcemeteries