



## Welcome from our CEO, Jane Grover

*Welcome to the spring edition of Life Magazine. As we settle into the season of new growth, I am filled with a new sense of optimism for the times ahead of us.*

*At this time of year, I see those around me become more open to inviting change - both big and small - into their life. It is a time of transformation, of inspiration and of renewal and I hope that you will be feeling the positive energy of this beautiful season. I also take the opportunity to thank you for your resilience, commitment and kindness through these last months. It has been a challenging time for every Victorian, but the thing that has surfaced time and time again through this is the way every person in our community has supported one another, done their bit for their greater good and stayed connected with those that matter most. Through the worst of it, we have seen the best in us.*

*I sincerely hope you enjoy this online edition of Life Magazine; a celebration of spring, joy, new beginnings and fresh blooms.*



### **Ring in spring: Six ways to get your garden spring-ready**

If your backyard is looking a little sad or tired after winter, now is the perfect time to get everything in shape again. Our very own SMCT Horticulture team has given us the inside scoop on how to prep your garden for spring. From disinfecting tools to stocking up on quality mulch, learn about the six things every gardening enthusiast should be doing right now to get their garden ready for some outdoor enjoyment.

[Click for your very own spring gardening checklist](#)



## Thinking of you: when all it takes is three words

The last few months have been difficult for everyone, but none more so than for our community at SMCT, that has had to carry the pain of loss and grief during such a difficult time. During a time when being physically present is limited, we wanted to do our bit to connect with our community and let them know they are always in our thoughts and in our heart, all while honouring the late Nadine Slattery, a beloved member of SMCT.

[Read more about this initiative here](#)



### Honouring the special men in our lives

No matter where you were this Father's Day, we wanted to ensure every member of our community could take a moment to remember the men and father figures in their life - those special men that for so many of us, played the role of our everyday heroes.

[Watch the full service](#)

### Celebrating our teachers

World Teacher's Day gave us the opportunity to reflect on our teachers, and the incredible contribution they make to the world. With many of us taking on the role of teacher this year, we've never been more grateful for the role that our teachers play in shaping the future.



[Honouring our teachers](#)



### Words of love

*'Writing my memories of mum was difficult but liberating. It helped me to shape my understanding of mum and to enjoy my memories as I wrote them down. As I leant into the pain of my remembering my mother before she was bedridden, I realised what a happy, full life she led'.*

Kate Cherry lost her mum at the start of the pandemic. In this distanced and restricted world, she found herself having to create a 'new way of healing that would reach across continents'. Read about the journey of remembrance that led her to create a wonderful book, filled with special moments and all those words that her mum loved so much.

[Read Kate's story here](#)

---

### **Come and grab a bite at Cafe Vita et flores**

As our cafés open their doors for seated service, our teams are busy creating seasonally inspired menus with new breakfast and lunchtime favourites. Come enjoy the warmer weather surrounded by acres of magnificent gardens. It's hard to

imagine a more beautiful spring café setting. [View our updated hours now.](#)



### **Our florist is open**

While our florist is now open to the public and welcomes in-store customers, our on-site florist at Springvale Botanical Cemetery continues to offer an immediate contactless 'call and collect' service from 9 am to 5 pm each day for those that prefer this option. Visit the [online store](#) to purchase the perfect spring arrangement today!



**Stay informed by visiting our [COVID-19 page](#)**

While the impacts of COVID-19 are continually evolving, our commitment to honouring and celebrating life continues to be our focus. We are working with

the latest advice from the Department of Health and Human Services to adapt our services and procedures to protect the health and wellbeing of our employees, partners and community.

With Victoria now entering into the Third Step towards COVID Normal, we are delighted to welcome you to enjoy our gardens and visit the resting place of loved ones. We remain committed to connecting our SMCT community by delivering online services and exploring ways to re-introduce beloved CCW activities.

Please visit [smct.org.au/blog/important-notice-covid-19](https://smct.org.au/blog/important-notice-covid-19) to stay up to date.

[More details here](#)



*Copyright © 2020 Southern Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust, All rights reserved.*

You are receiving this email because you have showed interest in receiving information regarding the Centre for Care & Wellbeing and are a valued member of The Southern Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust (SMCT) network and community. SMCT is a not-for-profit, community based organisation that cares for Bunurong and Cheltenham Memorial Parks, and Brighton General, Cheltenham Pioneer, Dandenong Community, Melbourne General, Sorrento, Springvale Botanical and St Kilda cemeteries.

**Southern Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust**

PO Box 1159  
Clayton, Vic 3169  
Australia

[Add us to your address book](#)

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

