

Annual Conference & Trade Exhibition

Official Conference Program

Sunday 14 September	
7am-2pm	Trade booth build
12pm-4pm	Exhibitor bump-in
12.00pm-3:30pm	Bridge climb option
2.00pm	Hotel check-in open
4:00pm	Open registration
5.00pm - 8.00 pm	Networking event & Trade Exhibition
	Free night

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Monday 15 September	
8am	Coffee/tea and trade show
9:00am	Official Welcome Minister Stephen Kamper MP
9:35am	Sponsor Update - Arrow Bronze
9:45am	John Adams (UK)- Beyond the Silence: A Global Call to Care
10:30am	Australian Funeral Directors Association update – President Asha Dooley
10:45am	Phoenix Foundry Excellence Award and sponsor update
11:00am	Sponsor update - Facultatieve Technologies Australia
11:10am	Lunch and Trade show
12:00pm	Bus pick and travel to Macarthur Memorial Park
1:30pm	Tour of Macarthur Park , including talks and presentation on its development, history and how it is managed.
4:30pm	Bus pick up and travel back to Hotel / CBD
6.00pm	Free night



Australasian
Cemeteries &
Crematoria
Association

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Tuesday 16 September	
8am	Coffee/tea and Trade show
9:00am	Welcome
9:10am	Sponsor Update - Plotbox Sponsor Update - Final Touch Australia
9:25am	Services and Creative Skills Australia – update on initiatives to improve and update training and qualifications in this sector
9:45am	Office of Australian War Graves
10:00am	Sponsor Update - Final Touch Australia
10:05am	Morning Tea and Trade show
10:30am	Wayne Middleton – Reliance Risk Strengthening Safety During Change: WHS Lessons from the MMP Amalgamation
11:05am	Sponsor Update – Orthometals
	Sponsor Update – Worsell & Co
11:20am	Update Australasian Safety Advisory Committee
11:30am	James Wood – CNB Safe – “This does not happen to me” living with a life changing workplace injury
12:30pm	National funeral Directors Association Update – TBC
12:40pm	Funeral Directors Association of New Zealand – Andrew Malcom
12:50pm	Sponsor Update - Fu Shou Yuan
1:00pm	Lunch and Trade show
2:00pm	Breakout Session 1 – see below
3:30pm	Breakout Session 2 – see Below
Evening	Official Conference Dinner – Sofitel Wentworth Dress code - Evening wear

Wednesday 17 September	
7:00am	Meet in lobby for optional Botanic Gardens walk
7:15 am	Optional Royal Botanic Garden tour- Join us for a guided tour behind the scenes of Australia's oldest botanical Garden. *Limited numbers so pre-registration required
8:00am	Trade show with Tea and coffee
9:15am	Welcome by ACCA and the Australian death studies society
9:35am	Cemeteries and Crematoria NSW - Update on the important regulation work undertaken by CCNSW
10:10am	Dr Maiken Ueland and team – Learn about The Australian Facility for Taphonomic Experimental Research (AFTER) which is a pioneering body donation center providing valuable research into how humans decompose in Australian conditions.
11:10am	Morning tea and Trade show
11:40am	Breakout Session 1 - see below
12:25pm	Breakout Session 2 – see below
1:10pm	Lunch and Trade show
2:00pm	Sponsor booth prize announcements
2:15pm	Dr Lauren Breen - Annual Lecture ADSS - Imagining A World That Recognises, Validates, and Supports Young People's Grief
3:15pm	Jason Clark – Leading figure in innovation, leadership and Change
4:15pm	Wrap up and 2026 Venue Announcement

Breakout Sessions

Room		Tuesday 16 September
1	2:00pm	Good Mourning – Sal and Im are back with a hands-on, practical workshop designed to help staff better understand today's grieving clients and create safe, meaningful interactions across all stages of the client journey. Proudly sponsored by Final Touch Australia, this popular session will be offered twice to ensure all delegates have the opportunity to attend
2	2:00pm	Tony Nicholls – Good Talent Media - Join former journalist and PR expert Tony Nicholls for a dynamic session on building a strong public profile while protecting your organisation's reputation. Gain practical tools to craft compelling brand stories, manage media relationships, and respond confidently in times of crisis.
3	2:00pm	Relationship Australia Victoria - Luke Pepperell - Keeping Your Staff and Workplace Safe – Supporting Psychological Wellbeing in the Workplace- please note this is a 2 hr. workshop
1	3:30pm	Good Mourning – Sal and Im are back with a hands-on, practical workshop designed to help staff better understand today's grieving clients and create safe, meaningful interactions across all stages of the client journey. Proudly sponsored by Final Touch Australia, this popular session will be offered twice to ensure all delegates have the opportunity to attend
2	3:30pm	Colin Wilson – Key Business Advisors - TBC

Room		Wednesday 17 September
1	11:40am	Death Tech TBC
2	11:40am	Tim Cook – Russell Investments - Diagnosing the Health of Your Investment Portfolio How well is your investment portfolio supporting your organisation's long-term success?
3	11:40am	Services and Creative Skills Australia – Workshop- Invite Only
1	12:25pm	Professor Alex Broome – the Social life of Death -experiences of death, dying and bereavement amidst rapid social, economic and political transformation
2	12:25pm	Andrew Hoyne – Founder of Hoyne, a globally recognised consultancy specialising in placemaking and property will share how new thinking around product and place, can help cemetery leaders adapt, innovate, and lead the next era of remembrance
3	12:25pm	Emission Technical Committee Meeting

**Please be aware that there may be last-minute changes to speakers, timing, and other aspects of the program that are beyond our control. Any updates to the program will be communicated promptly.*

EXHIBITORS

