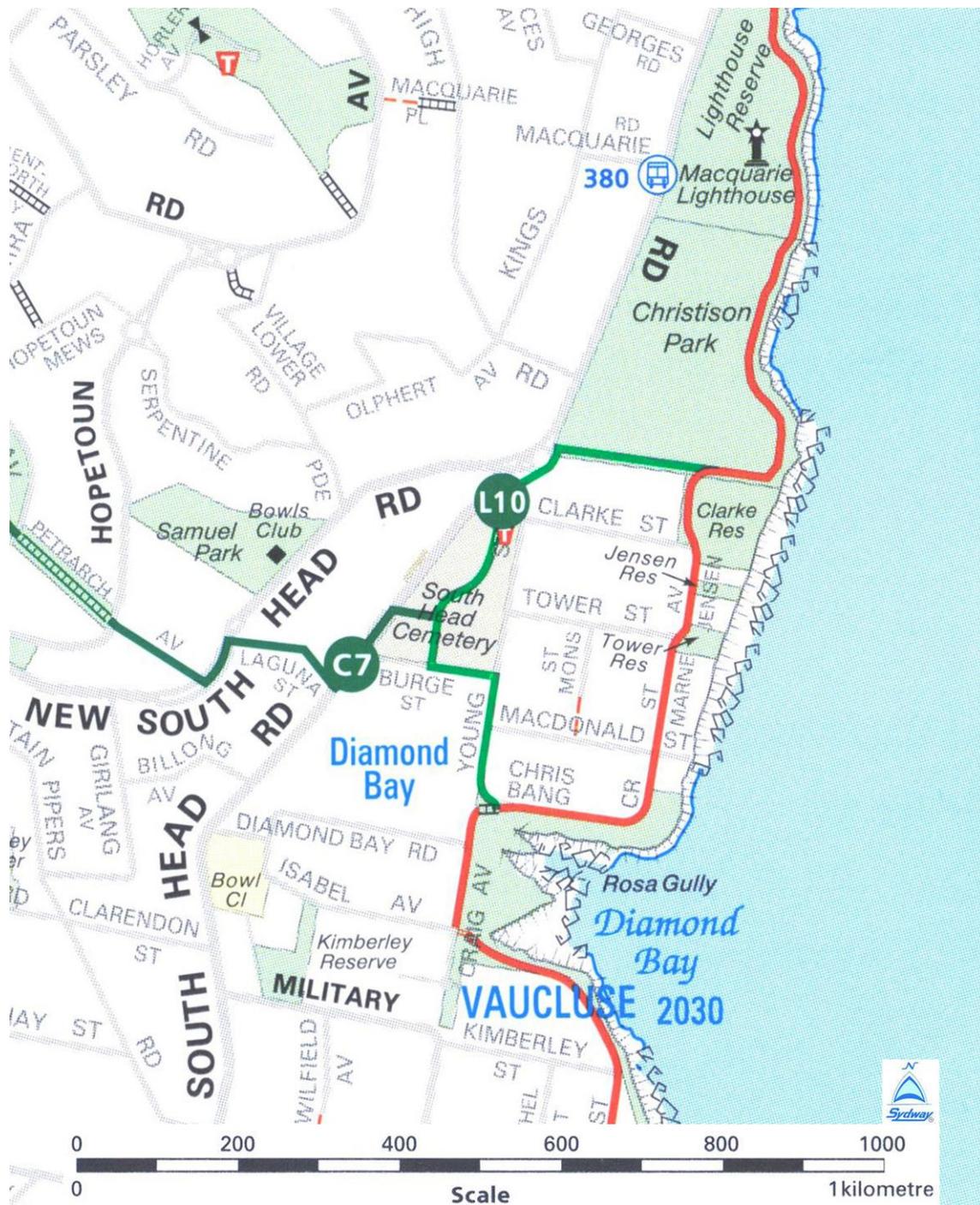


CIRCULAR QUAY TO SOUTH HEAD AND CLOVELLY LOOP WALK L10: SOUTH HEAD CEMETERY



- Main Walk:** ——— **Loop and Connecting Walks:** ———
- Distance:** 0.8km Clarke Res to Chris Bang Cres; 1.4km complete loop (return to Clarke Res.)
- Time:** 40 mins green route only; 55mins complete loop.
- Level:** Easy.
- Transport:** New and Old South Head Rd buses.
- Connects with:** Main Walk; Connection Walk C7 (Vaucluse).
- Facilities:**
Toilets: South Head Cemetery;
Picnic spots: Christison Park, Diamond Bay Reserve;
Shops or hotels: Junction of Old and New South Head Roads.

At Clark Street, leave the **Main Walk** and turn right and walk to and enter South Head Cemetery near the junction with the South Head Roads. Directions within the cemetery are incorporated into the following text. Leave the cemetery at the south end into Burge and Young Streets, following the latter down to Diamond Bay Reserve where the **Main Walk** is rejoined. Alternatively, cross Old South Head Road to begin **Connecting Walk C7**.

Less than two hectares in area and partly lined by Canary Island Palms and Norfolk Island Pines, this compact, well-cared-for cemetery contains the remains of some interesting souls. It was established late in the 1840s although the first burial was not until 1859, and it was administered by a private trust until 1941.

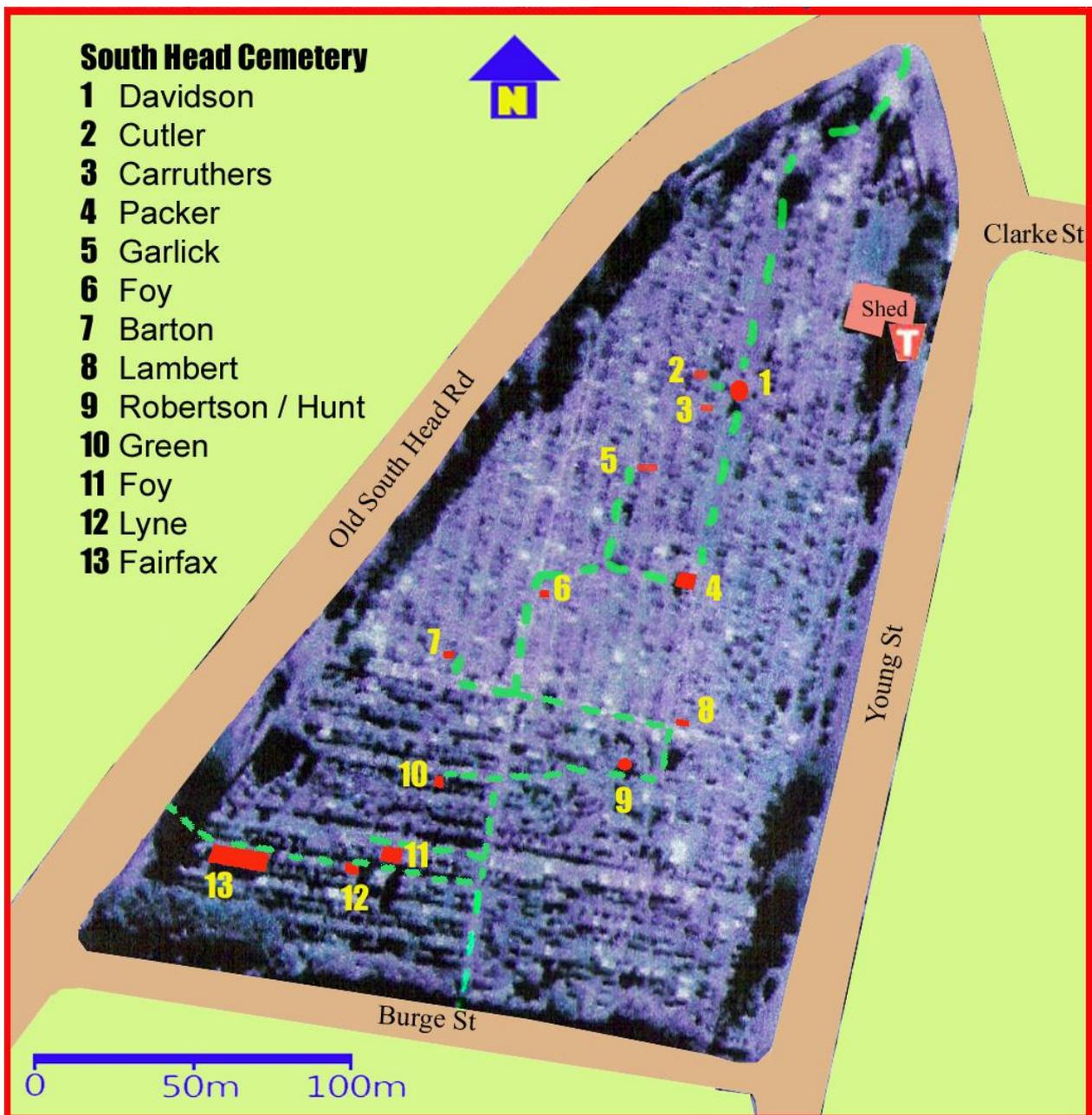
Starting from the South Head Roads junction entrance, walk two rows to the right and then move down what was a central walkway. The addition of more recent ground level headstones may not make this as obvious as it once was – but the avenue takes a few steps to the right before hooking left down the middle of the cemetery. There are some interesting graves near the entrance but the centerpiece of the central avenue, perhaps 100m down, is the dominant Celtic Cross raised by public subscription for **Sir Walter Davidson** (1859-1923), who died in office while Governor of NSW. Sir Walter, whose life began and was largely spent in far-flung posts of the then still great British Empire, presided with impeccable constitutional impartiality over one of the most remarkable days in NSW politics. On December 20, 1921, Labor Premier James Dooley's government was defeated in the Legislative Assembly and resigned. Davidson, following constitutional procedure and precedent, refused to dissolve Parliament and appointed Opposition Leader, Sir George Fuller as Premier. Seven hours later Fuller was defeated in the House. He also sought a dissolution, but as Dooley clearly now again had a majority, Davidson refused. Fuller resigned and Dooley was sworn back in again. Three changes of government in a little over seven hours.

In the next row immediately to the right of Davidson's cross, towards Old South Head Road, lie two other former Government House occupants, **Sir Roden Cutler**, V.C. (1916 – 2002) and his first wife, Lady Helen Cutler (1923-1990). Sir Roden was the longest serving Governor of NSW (1966-81), an immensely respected figure who had won the Victoria Cross in Syria in 1941, at the same time losing a leg because of wounds.

Return to Sir Walter's Avenue. A couple of graves on, on the right hand side, is the grave of another leader of government in NSW, former Premier **Sir Joseph Carruthers** (Premier 1904-07). There are several other premiers and many political figures in the cemetery. The avenue has since been filled with smaller memorials, but its next major centerpiece, further south is the **Packer family tomb**. This includes Robert Clyde Packer (1879-1934), the family's original tough and controversial newspaperman. Editor or owner of several papers including the feisty *Smith's Weekly*, he became managing editor of Associated Newspapers. His son, the legendary Sir Frank (1906-74) – who lies here together with his wife, Gretel – launched the *Australian Women's Weekly* in 1933. Its phenomenal success enabled the creation of Australian Consolidated Press in 1936, and in 1955 the empire entered television with Channel 9. Sir Frank shared his father's enthusiasm for yachting, and undertook Australia's first challenges for the America's Cup with *Gretel I* and *II* in 1962 and 1970. Sir Frank's media empire, in turn, laid the foundation for the media and gambling empire of his son, Kerry (1937-2005). Australia's richest person at the time of his death, Kerry Packer broke ranks by being buried on his Scone property. The empire has moved on to son Jamie and changed shape.

From the right side of the Packer tomb turn up towards Old South Head Road, following the concrete path up to the second row, then follow this row right, back towards the entrance about 50m. On the right side, is the gravestone of racing driver, **Phil (Reginald Gordon) Garlick**, killed on the notorious Maroubra speedway in 1926, while driving his Avis racer, *Lucky Devil*, its tail bearing the ominous number '13'. Above his grave, Phil remains forever at the wheel.

Return to the uphill cement path and two more rows up, another concrete path crosses. Turn left on this. Almost immediately on the left is an autographed **Foy** family headstone - there are more Foy's later. Continue on to the next major 'cross path', turn right again (towards Old South Head Road) and turn into the second grassed row. Three graves in, on the left, is the headstone of Australia's first Prime Minister, **Sir Edmund Barton** (1849-1920). The genial Barton, who had been Speaker of the NSW Legislative Assembly in the 1880s, played a major role in bringing about the Federation of the Australian colonies. He resigned as Leader of the NSW Opposition in 1899 to lead the delegation taking the new Commonwealth Bill to the British Parliament, saw it through and on 1 January 1901, was sworn in as the new nation's first Prime Minister. In 1903 he left politics to become one of the first three judges of the new High Court of Australia.



Some distance downhill in the cemetery, ironically, is the grave of **Sir William Lyne** (1844-1913) (see Main Walk, Section 2), the NSW Premier who was actually the first person appointed to the position of Prime Minister by the first Governor-General, Lord Hopetoun, in December 1900. The newly arrived and ill Hopetoun was unaware that Lyne had too many political enemies amongst the other colonial politicians to put together a Ministry. On Christmas Eve, with the new Commonwealth only a week away and no government in sight, Hopetoun had to revoke Lyne's appointment and appoint Barton. Lyne did serve in the first Ministry, however, as the Federal Minister for Home Affairs.

Return (south) past the few graves to the concrete footpath and now turn left to follow it downhill about two-thirds of the way towards Young Street until the Packer tomb is in line some distance to the left. Opposite the Loschiava family tomb is the modest grave of distinguished Australian artist and sculptor, **George Lambert** (1870-1930). Lambert's death was hastened by the damage to his lungs caused by his last major work, the statue of writer Henry Lawson on Mrs Macquaries Road above Woolloomooloo Bay (see Main Walk, Section 1). The next goal here is just to the right (southwards again), a distinctive rusticated stone stump, not unlike a large beehive - perhaps supposed to resemble a Scottish cairn of stones - the last resting place of **Sir John Robertson** (1816-91). Three times Premier of NSW and sometime resident of both *Greycliffe* and *Clovelly*. Robertson's daughter, Margaret, married the eminent Russian scientist Nicholas de Mikluho-Maclay of the marine biology station above Camp Cove (see Main Walk, Section 3 for *Greycliffe*, *Clovelly* and the station). The interestingly named Dr Robertson Wentworth de Miklouho-Maclay, also commemorated here, was Robertson's great grandson.

Robertson's tomb was designed by J. Horbury Hunt (see Loop 7), an imaginative Canadian-born architect who left his mark particularly in charming buildings in the eastern suburbs. His imagination seems to have continued but the charm didn't when it came to designing gravestones. **John Horbury Hunt's** (1838-1904) own all but anonymous plot is nearly alongside Robertson's hive - a low brick industrial-looking mound. A small mosaic panel at one end 'signed' "JHH, 1895", the date referring not to Hunt's own death but to the design of it for his wife, Elizabeth, who was buried here before him.

From behind the beehive, walk between the gravestones directly towards Old South Head Road again. Cross the concrete path to continue along a grassy path 10 or so graves to the chained anchor on the left, which is the gravestone of **Captain James Green** and his brother (also a Captain). James Green captained and went down with the ill-fated *Dunbar* (see Main Walk, Sections 3 and 4) in 1857. He was cleared, posthumously, of blame at the enquiry into the disaster.

Downhill it is easy to see two gothic chapel-like mausoleums. Approach them via the main cement walkways. The first, for the **Francis Foy** family, is in reasonable condition but the adjacent **Smith family** mausoleum has been badly vandalized. Francis, son of Mark Foy, was born in Ireland but grew up in Melbourne. At 18 he ran away to sea and back to Ireland but returned to Melbourne, joining his father's drapery shop. He moved to Sydney in 1885 and set up Mark Foy's in Oxford Street, naming it in memory of late father. He opened an elegant new store near Hyde Park (corner of Elizabeth and Liverpool Streets) in 1908 modelled on Paris's Bon Marché. It became a Sydney institution, but Mark Foy's have gone and the building is now the Downing Court Centre. A flamboyant and amusing racing identity, Foy always went to the Melbourne Cup. In 1918, in ill health, he placed a 3:1 bet with a bookmaker that he would not return to Sydney alive. It was his last win. Francis Foy died on the Melbourne-Sydney express near Goulburn.

Alongside are other Foy relatives, including the Smiths, and added outside the Smith mausoleum is a wooden cross commemorating **Juanita Nielsen** (see Loop Walk L2) who disappeared in 1975 while opposing the redevelopment of Victoria Street in Kings Cross. Nielsen was - or would have been - an heiress to the Mark Foy's fortune.

Return to the downhill cement path and take the next grassy path downhill to the right, and walk along behind the Foy's. Just past them is the granite obelisk, on the left, of the afore-mentioned almost Prime-Minister **Sir William Lyne**, lacking in any detail about a nevertheless very significant public life.

A short way further along towards the arched stone gateway to Old South Head Road are more media barons. A simple Celtic cross on a grassed enclosure memorialises the **Fairfaxes**, of the *Sydney Morning Herald*. John Fairfax, who originally built up the *Herald*, is not here, but the next three generations (all knighted) are: son Sir James Reading Fairfax (1834-1919); his son Sir James Oswald (1863-1928); and, in turn, his son, Sir Warwick Oswald (1901-1987). All were directors and proprietors of John Fairfax Ltd and their diverse interests over the generations included business, yachting, motoring, the military, charities, farming, music, art, travel, philosophy, and play-writing. Golf was another enduring interest and Sir James Oswald died the classic golfer's death on the Royal Sydney Links at Rose Bay (see Connecting Walk C3).

Of course there are thousands more stories here, and random wandering will reveal many interesting graves.

Connection Walk C7 commences at Old South Head Road, after crossing to Laguna Street.

Loop Walk L10 leaves the cemetery at the Burge Street end, turning left then right into Young Street. At Chris Bang Crescent, steps lead down into Diamond Bay Reserve, reconnecting with the Main Walk.

To continue on the Main Walk, continue ahead (south). To return to the start of Loop Walk L10, turn left into Chris Bang Cres, then left at the end into Marne St and along it as it morphs into Jensen Av and back to the start of L10 at Clarke Res.

The return walk begins above Diamond Bay Res, with some quite dramatic cliff and gulley views up to and along the open space past the beginning of Marne St. The picket fence can be followed up one block to Macdonald before turning left and then right into Marne and then Jensen Avenue. The remaining walk has houses on both sides but a couple of house-block sized Reserves (Jensen and Tower) offer quiet little viewing spots of cliffs and ocean.