



FRIENDS of BOLTON STREET CEMETERY

INCORPORATED

PO BOX 12426, WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND

<http://www.boltoncemetery.org.nz>

A QUIZ FOR SCHOOLS AND YOUTH GROUPS

1. The Bolton St Cemetery was first opened as a cemetery in 1840, the same year that settlers arrived in Wellington. What was Bolton Street named after?
 - a) A ship that brought some of the settlers?
 - b) A town in England?
 - c) A Member of Parliament?

2. The cemetery extended right down the hillside to the town when it closed in 1892, but today the cemetery is divided into two separate areas. What is built through the middle?

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3. The footbridge connecting the upper and lower areas is called the Denis McGrath Bridge, named after a Wellington City Councilor. When was it built?
 - a) 1968
 - b) 1978
 - c) 1988

4. The statue on top of the grave of former Labour leader, Harry Holland, seems to be looking into the trees. Why do you think it is facing in that direction?

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5. Samuel Parnell worked as a carpenter and builder when he arrived in Wellington. He is remembered now as the man who created the “eight hour working day”. What argument did he use to explain why the working day should be only eight hours instead of ten or even more?

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6. The area set aside for the small Jewish community in Wellington to have their graves, is not far from where the former Prime Minister Dick Seddon was later buried. Why do you think this was considered at the time to be one of the worst places to have a grave?

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7. The Wakefield family played an important role in New Zealand's early colonial history. Edward Gibbon Wakefield and four of his brothers all came to New Zealand. How many of them are buried in the Memorial Park?

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8. Approximately how many bodies were placed in the vault underneath the Early Settlers Memorial Lawn (the common grave for their second burial)

- a) 1000
- b) 600
- c) 3700

9. Some trees in the Cemetery have grown very large. What kinds of damage to the graves do you think trees can cause? You may have seen several examples while walking around.

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10. There is a huge tree that is believed to have been planted in the cemetery by Bishop Selwyn, the first Anglican Bishop of Wellington. What kind of tree is this?

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11. Today we might guess that most people die from old age, heart attacks, cancer, or road accidents. In the Bolton St Cemetery, you see examples of quite different things that killed many young people especially, more than 100 years ago. Can you give some examples?

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12. Name three different materials used for headstones.

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13. Sketch one of your favourite headstones.

Teachers' answer sheet.

ANSWERS:

- 1 a)
2. The (Wellington Urban) Motorway.
3. b)
4. It used to have a view of the town and harbour.
5. Eight hours work, eight hours sleep, eight hours relaxation.
6. It was the longest distance from the town and up a steep hill.
7. Three.
8. c)
9. Fallen branches or trees break headstones and damage railings; Leaves and fallen branches rot wooden graves; Tree roots buckle gravesites.
10. Oak.
11. Drowning, fire, shark attack, fights over land, scarlet fever, diphtheria, earthquakes.
12. Stone, iron, granite, marble, sandstone, concrete and paua shells.