

Thinking of becoming a funeral celebrant?

Funeral Celebrancy is a rewarding and challenging occupation, and as many celebrants will tell you, it can be hard finding ongoing work. Like any business, it is vital to research your local market.

Some tips:

- **List the attributes of a good funeral celebrant.** Reflect on services you have attended and list the good and not so good points
- **Do market research.** Who is currently conducting funerals? Where are services generally held? What is the need in your local area?
- **Meet with Funeral Celebrants** – what are their experiences? (*Note - it is important to have a back up celebrant in case of emergency!*)
- **Meet with funeral directors** and discuss the industry
- Attend services
- **Research** cultural services
- **Talk with friends** who have organised funeral services for loved ones. What were their experiences? What can you learn from this?
- What **community support** is there for funeral celebrancy? *HINT!* Our association is a good start!
- **Internet search** Australian and international funeral trends
- **Locate resources** – Australian author Barry Young's *The Funeral Celebrant Handbook* is a good start.
- **What are your income expectations?** Is this viable given your local research?
- **Draft a budget and marketing plan.** Consider joining local celebrant/chamber of commerce networks.

FUNERAL CELEBRANCY TRAINING

There are numerous Funeral Celebrant training courses offered around Australia. We do not recommend or endorse any provider. Contact providers and ask for course details. Ask for the names of participants and speak with them about the course and their experiences. Our Association offers training providers with complimentary FCAA Forum attendance vouchers to give to students (valued at \$35).

RESOURCES FOR FUNERAL CELEBRANTS

The Funeral Celebrant's Handbook	Barry H Young
Saying Farewell to Those We Love	Barry H Young
Practical Handbook for Celebrant to Welcome, Celebrate & Farewell	Ruth Van Gramberg
What Kind of Funeral	Peter Erceg (WA)
Rest Assured – a Pathway & Interactive Guide to Your Eternal Rest	Beth Anderson
mary.beth@bigpond.com (2018 NSW)	
Funerals Without God	Jane Wynne Willson (British Humanist Association)
Rituals for Life, Love & Loss	Dorothy McRae-McMahon
In Memoriam	Edward Searl
Funeral Rites	Robert Larkin
Sweet Sorrow	Mark Wakely (ABC Books)
Creating Meaningful Funeral Experiences	Alan Wolfelt
Remembering Well	Sarah York
Dying to Know - Bringing Death to Life	Igniting Change
Grave Expectations	Sue Bailey & Carmen Flowers
Rest Assured – a NSW legal guide	Rosemary Long & Trudy Coffey
Coping with Grief	Mal McKissock



For Children

The Memory Garden set of 3 books that explore death and grief –
Natasha Samy & Westmead Children's Hospital, NSW

REGISTRATION

Funeral Celebrants are not registered or accredited by any regulator in Australia. However, as a Celebrant you are required to meet all applicable laws including Australian Consumer Law, privacy, copyright, discrimination and taxation to name a few.

This information is provided as a guide by the Funeral Celebrants Association Australia – 2019

Join our association for support, forums, newsletters, information and much more!

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