

## St.Margaret's Cemetery Annual Report AGM May 6,2026

2025 saw the deaths of long time Thetis Island residents all of whom had a long connection to the cemetery and Thetis Island-Den Kelsey, Marg Armstrong, Veronica Shelford, Charles and Marlene Fordham, Alan Chin and Henny Mook. St. Margaret's Cemetery is privileged to have been of service to these community members and their families.

The cemetery interred 5 cremation burials and our first natural burial. There were 6 natural burial plots reserved and 7 cremation plots reserved.

In 2025 the cemetery board finalized its plan to proceed with natural burials in the cemetery with the intention of phasing out all conventional casket burials by 2030. An application was made to Consumer Protection for the creation of 10 more natural burial plots in the cemetery (Block H) and 9 cremation plots. The application was successful. All maps and records have been updated to show the changes.

As of 2026 May-26

Cremation plots total=280 total; 69% reserved or used

Natural burials=35 plots total; 17% reserved or used

Conventional burial plots= 32 plots;81% reserved or used.

All plots for the burial of remains in a natural burial site are determined at the time of need.

The burial of remains in the natural burial plots will follow planned phases I, II, and III as indicated on the maps. This will allow for careful access of a machine for digging. The phases also allow for group restoration of vegetation instead of it being willy- nilly all over the place.

Over the last two years St. Margaret's Cemetery has been working with Capernwray Torchbearers on developing a portion of land adjacent to the cemetery on Capernwray property. The development plan was to create a zone along the property lines which would keep at bay the encroaching blackberries which have become a larger and larger problem especially for the undeveloped portion of the cemetery. This zone would also work to mitigate water flow which comes down from upland of the cemetery. After some research and discussion, it was agreed that a series of raingardens be put in the zone, an area of approximately 160 ft by 42 ft =5,760 sq ft.

Sharon Moloney was directed to find a contractor who would do the job from A-Z. That would entail clearing the area, taking away all debris for proper disposal, creating the rain gardens, and hauling in all materials (soil and stone) as needed.

Raincoast Earthworks came in a with a quote which met our budget and requirements. It included a second phase of plant restoration designed specifically for the raingardens.

Capernwray agreed to the project. In March of 2026 a limited Licence Agreement was signed between Capernwray Torchbearers, TIRRA (insurance and title holder) for the cemetery and St.Margarets Cemetery.

Work was scheduled to begin in April but due to a mechanical issue it has been delayed. (see report from Sharon and Suzanne)

Many thanks to David Reay for organizing our yearly clean up at the cemetery. There was a great turn out last June 1<sup>st</sup>. Much work was done. Stories told. We appreciate the care and interest David brings in not only organizing this work day but the spirit of community he initiates and fosters. We look forward to this year's clean up on May 9.

Many thanks to our secretary Janice Young for years of minute taking and recording. All that paper and hours in front of a computer.

Many thanks to Simone Luckham for taking care of business as treasurer. She makes it look simple.

Many thanks to Sharon Moloney who took the lead in finding Raincoast and getting this project off the ground. And for my general all-round person to call on for help and guidance cemetery wise.

Many thanks to Vicki Walker for her devotion to the care and maintenance of the entrance to the cemetery on St. Margaret's Lane.

Many thanks to Norm Kasting for keeping the grass cut.

Welcome to new board member Arlene Kasting.

And farewell to Sid Mawson who was responsible for maintenance at the cemetery. Thanks to Sid we have a shed and water storage.

The board has agreed to formally establish a "Friends of the Cemetery" group. This group would take care of some of the garden maintenance at the cemetery. By dividing up the work load among a number of people there would be no need to have one maintenance person doing the whole job. We have 5 people already committed. If you are interested in helping out contact:

[cemetery@thetisisland.net](mailto:cemetery@thetisisland.net)

The cemetery is reserving our clean up date for 2027. Mark your calendar Saturday May 15 2027.

Suzanne Sarioglu  
St. Margaret's Cemetery  
Chair

# ST. MARGARET'S CEMETERY

## Thetis Island

### BALANCE SHEET AS OF DECEMBER 31 2025

(With comparative figures for 2024)

<b>ASSETS</b>	<b>2025</b>	2024
Cash in bank account *	\$45,380.00	\$37,167.00
Expenditures on addition to Cemetery land	\$3,409.00	\$3,409.00
	<b>\$48,789.00</b>	<b>\$40,576.00</b>
<b>CAPITAL</b>		
Amount at beginning of year	\$40,576.00	\$37,102.00
Excess of revenues over expenses for the year	\$8,213.00	\$3,474.00
<b>Total capital</b>	<b>\$48,789.00</b>	<b>\$40,576.00</b>

St. Margaret's Cemetery is a registered charity for income tax purposes.

\*As previously noted, the St. Margaret's cemetery changed their banking to the Coastal Community Credit Union in Chemainus in June 2024

Simone Luckham, Treasurer St. Margaret's Cemetery Thetis Island, May 2025

# ST. MARGARET'S CEMETERY

## Thetis Island

### REVENUE AND EXPENSES AS OF DECEMBER 2025

(With comparative figures for 2024)

<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
Sales of grave and cremation spaces,	\$7,670.00	\$4,600.00
Donations	\$4,000.00	
Plot preparation costs	\$300.00	
Bank Interest,		\$1.00
Lives behind the headstones	\$75.00	\$40.00
Total Revenues	<u>\$12,045.00</u>	\$4,641.00
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Plot preparation costs	\$300.00	\$50.00
Grounds maintenance and sundry	\$867.00	\$175.00
Professional services	\$1,651.00	\$937.00
Donation refund	\$1,000.00	
e transfer txn fees (9x 1.50)	\$14.00	
Bank Service charges		\$5.00
Total expenses	<u>\$3,832.00</u>	\$1,167.00
Excess of revenues over expenses	<b>\$8,213.00</b>	\$3,474.00

St. Margaret's Cemetery is a registered charity for income tax purposes.

Simone Luckham, Treasurer St. Margaret's Cemetery Thetis Island, May 2026