A photo-story/fact sheet resource set that introduces students to the symbolism of other cultural groups, and fraternal organisations we see in heritage cemeteries and the meanings they held for Victorians that are often hidden from us today.
The primary symbol of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows is the three links in a chain. The Odd Fellows are also known as the three-link fraternity. The links represent Friendship, Love and Truth and the letters F, L and T can sometimes be included within the links of the chain on a cemetery memorial.

The I.O.O.F. is an offshoot of the Odd Fellows, which was formed in the 1700s in England as a working class social and benevolent society. Death care, including funerals was one of the major benefits of Odd Fellows membership.
The primary symbol of the Freemasons is the square and compass, said to represent the interaction of mind and matter and refer to the progression from the material to the intellectual to the spiritual.

Freemasonry's primary purpose is charitable work within a local or wider community, individual moral upright, belief in a God, and promotion of friendship.

There are symbols for various degrees of knowledge attained within the Masonic Order that you may see on headstones of freemasons. The three Ts joined at the base within a triangle is a symbol for a Royal Arch Mason.
The Loyal Order Orange Lodge is an Irish protestant fraternity that commemorates William of Orange, the Dutch prince who became King of England, Scotland, and Ireland in 1688. The order has had a long history of involvement in Irish troubles since its beginning in 1795.

The headstone and the LOL poster both feature an arch with a number of items visible through the arch that are similar. Notable are the ladders, skull and crossbones, and candles.
Jewish Symbols

1. The Star of David is a symbol of divine protection and is probably the most well known of all Jewish symbols.

2. This sign is found on most Jewish headstones. It is Hebrew for “Here Lies”.

3. The ewer or the pitcher signifies a Levite, a person who was responsible for cleaning the hands of the temple priest before a religious service. Levites were also musicians and singers.
Dead man’s Penny

- These commemorative medals along with colour scrolls and a letter from King George V were presented to the next of kin of the men and woman who were killed in action during the First World War.

- This brass medal was commonly known as the “dead man’s penny” and was occasionally inserted into the family memorial as this example in Timaru.

- Each medal included the individuals name.