



# The Researcher

Mar 2013 No. 72

I.S.S.N 1035 - 3534



What does this horse have  
to do with these men?

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<b>The Gympie Family History Society Inc.</b>
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PRESIDENT:	Margaret LONG
VICE-PRESIDENT:	Brien HUGHES
SECRETARY:	Bruce WOODSTOCK ph (0418 275 770)
TREASURER:	Lynnette FLEMING
LIBRARIAN:	Val THOMAS
PUBLICITY OFFICER:	Dianne WOODSTOCK (0419 224 628)
MEMBERSHIP:	Elaine JORGENSEN (acting is Di Woodstock)
RESEARCH OFFICER:	Faye KENNEDY email c/- gfh@spiderweb.com.au  when writing to the Society, please enclose a self addressed stamped envelope for your reply.
MAGAZINE EDITOR & CEMETERY CRAWL CO-ORDINATOR:	Dianne WOODSTOCK (0419 224 628) di@magicality.com.au
POSTAL ADDRESS:	P O Box 767, Gympie QLD 4570 Ph: 07 5482 8211 or phone secretary 0418 275 770
STREET ADDRESS:	downstairs at the Mary Valley Heritage Railway Station, Cnr Mellor & Chapple Sts, Gympie
CORRESPONDENCE:	All correspondence should be addressed to the Secretary: to gfh@spiderweb.com.au or P O Box 767 Gympie QLD 4570

MEMBERSHIP FEES:	Annual fees are: All due by 31st August each year Single Membership \$35 Family Membership \$45 (Two members of an immediate family residing at the one address) PRO RATA till 31st August 2013:		
	Dec to Feb	Mar to May	Jun to Aug
Single Membership	\$30	\$20	\$10
Family Membership	\$40	\$30	\$20
INFORMATION:	Views expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the Gympie Family History Society Inc.		
WEB PAGE:	www.gympiefhs.egympie.com		

**EDITOR'S COMMENT**

**Our newsletter is published March, July & November.**

Don't forget we are always looking for stories or maybe we can help you find who you are searching for : **di@magicality.com.au**

It makes the editor job so much more interesting. If you have anything for me, just put them in my tray at the History Rooms for me to include in future newsletters. Also if you have found a great website that may be of interest to others, share it.

PS—Don't forget if you would prefer to receive "The Researcher" by email—let me know and we are more than happy to do this as it is quicker—you can search for names easily and it saves us postage. - we will send it as a PDF file so it is smaller to download.

Di Woodstock

**NEW MEMBERS**

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome to our society:

Lynette James, Roslyn Rittmeyer, Sandra Kelly,  
Dalice Dahl and Coleen Blaikie

Also Debbie Herring has recently renewed her membership and is learning the hows and whys of helping others locate information in the library.

**LIBRARY HOURS**

Wednesday 9.30am to 2pm  
Friday 9.30am to 12pm  
Saturday 1pm to 4pm

**We take a moment to be thankful that  
we have a great office we can claim is ours.  
Other societies have either no office or a shared area and  
often either no library or it is very limited.  
We have a terrific library (over 2300 items on the shelves), not to  
mention the films and microfiche.**

**Thank you to all of the people over the years who have helped  
make this society what it is today—functioning and fun!**

Did you know..

Members over the years have been snipping and gluing the little Birth, Death and Marriage notices that appear in The Gympie Times over recent years. From the 1960's through until now. Also notices from the very early days of 1868 through to 1910 have been typed out.

**RESEARCH FEES**

Members           Free (when visiting personally to the rooms and doing your own research although we are happy to help guide you or if you are from interstate and are not able to do your own research)

Non Members    \$5 per visit to rooms (at our discretion)

Mail & Internet Inquiries

\$25.00 Australia

\$30.00 overseas

**For Research Requests:**

email c/- [gfhs@spiderweb.com.au](mailto:gfhs@spiderweb.com.au) or mail to: GFHS, P O Box 767, Gympie QLD 4570

**The Research Process Explained:**

You make your enquiry, we then look to see what information we can find quickly—then we contact you to see if you wish to proceed and advise of the fees.

If you do, we ask for \$25 (or \$30 overseas—to cover extra postage). Once payment is received, we then investigate either your specific queries or start at the beginning and check cemetery records, BDM registers, local registers, school registers, pedigree charts, some shipping, local history books, Gympie Times records, previous cemetery crawl presentations, previous research requests, mining, electoral rolls and so the list goes on.

We hold a lot of various local registers and cuttings and basic items you would find in a local history library. We also have access to the internet and can often suggest websites and ways of searching that you may not have thought of.

We do many hours of ongoing research and then either email the information to you as we go, or mail packets to you so you have the hard copies. We then also keep the information we have researched for you on file and it is then available to future people who may be researching your names too. Many times we have put people in touch with other searchers of their own trees.

Our research people do so much more work than you would realise to help you in your search for information. Please feel confident that everything possible is done by our volunteers to supply you with any relevant information we may have in our library.

The funds raised from your payments for our research, assist us with obtaining further records and to produce books and CD's for easy access of family details in Gympie and the surrounds.

Payment can be by either cheque sent to our P O Box as above or direct deposit into our Bank account is another option for those who feel comfortable with the method. Details of our bank account are available on request. We ask that you confirm by email to [gfhs@spiderweb.com.au](mailto:gfhs@spiderweb.com.au). if possible when you have made the payment. Then we can allocate your payment and get on with the research!

**Our research officer is Faye Kennedy.**

**General Meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at the Gympie Family History Society rooms in Gympie at 9.30am.**

**All members are more than welcome to attend and in fact are encouraged so you can participate as well.**

**Our meetings are fun and now, thanks to receiving the last grant, we have new (preloved) comfy padded chairs to encourage people to stay awhile. (also occasionally food)**

### **Presidents report March 2013 meeting:**

Our clean-up day went well, quite a good roll-up, thank you to those who helped in any way.

Getting back into everyday routine again has found Val and I going through the Library. Quite a lot has to be sorted out with some wrong indexing, and some turning up where they are not supposed to be. We will get there in the end!

Elaine has not been very well, so has to take some time off her duties for a while. We all hope she is on the improve soon.

Lyn has some family issues at present time, so hope all goes well with Wes and his procedure in Brisbane, and also hoping her other family crises settle down.

I would like to thank Di for her production of the Pioneer book. What was started by Faye was then added to with a lot more info by Di, and took many hours to complete. Also we had to contend with our photocopier not working at that time. Di has made our life easier going through library books by doing our list in numerical order – we can now whiz through them, thanks Di. Woody is keeping up with everything and our new computers are being put to good use. Faye as usual is keeping up with research as our money earner.

That's it folks, thanks, Margaret.

### **Interested in Scotland?**

We recently collected these 37 folders from the Caloundra Family History Society as they had finished with them. We thought we would have a look and see what they were about. A gentleman has spent many hours researching Scottish castles and churches and has files full of them, all in order. If you are in the Gympie surrounds and are interested in having a look, please come and do so as we will then be forwarding them onto another society who wanted them as well.



## Our Fresh clean rooms on show.

The Committee decided that we should herald in 2013 with a long overdue de-cluttering of our Society rooms. So all were invited to come and lend a hand and lots of people turned up on the hottest day on January to sweep clean.

Old curtains came down and windows washed, furniture moved about, computers relocated and more working space created. Noticeboards cleared off, old pictures taken off the walls and replaced with new ones and everything sparkled.

The storeroom was completely emptied out and some very archaic computers and printers were taken to the tip. New plastic boxes were used to house documents to be kept for future and old journals from other societies cleared out.

New curtains up, new (2nd hand) comfortable chairs replaced old ones, old files sorted and either kept or removed, old long things found—some things we don't know the use of found—broken heaters thrown out. What a difference to the Society Rooms now. It is such a pleasure to be here and lots of members and visitors are gracing our area.



A = From the front door into the main entrance and computer area and through to the library

B = The newly shuffled much lighter library

C = Some of the Local Family Histories files.

### **RELATIVE OF MEMBER KEITH PARKER CHARGED WITH PERJURY**

Before the Police Magistrate in Brisbane, Sarah Ann Wakerley was charged with having on 31 August unlawfully and falsely pretended to Rev MH Parkinson, that it was unnecessary to obtain the consent of the father of her daughter, Elizabeth Wakerley, prior to her being married to Henry Parker. Wakerley was committed for trial at the next sittings of the Court. She was admitted to bail on one surety.

On 26 September, Sarah Ann Wakerley was committed for trial at the Supreme Court sittings on the charge of having induced a minister of religion to conduct a marriage ceremony between her daughter Elizabeth Wakerley and Henry Parker, by knowingly and falsely pretending that it was unnecessary to first obtain the father's written consent. (Elizabeth Wakerley's father's whereabouts were unknown, possibly Charters Towers). Elizabeth Wakerley had allegedly stated that the bride would be 22 years of age next birthday.

On 27 December, Henry Parker, having also earlier been arrested, and now on bail, was charged in the City Police Court with having committed perjury relative to a breach of the marriage regulations.

*Henry Parker and his bride Elizabeth nee Wakerley were the grandparents of Keith Parker. The above are extracts from **The Brisbane Courier in 1882** . They are taken from a book "The Wakerley-Parker Family" by Ed Rosin, made up of 100 pages of Research – stories, photographs and family trees.*

*Henry and Elizabeth Parker lived for many years in a house on Manly Road, Tingalpa. The suburb of Wakerley near Manly West was named in 1975 after Elizabeth's family The Parkers' first child was born in 1884. All but one of their nine children lived to a good age. Their fourth son was Herbert, father of Keith Parker*

**While this is not a Gympie story really but it shows that family research can show up some interesting facts.....KP**

Have you an ancestor that was hanged for piracy, or suffered some other form of capital punishment? ?

Try <http://www.capitalpunishmentuk.org/edock.html>

This site lists people who were hanged for piracy at the Executions Docks, London from 1735-1833. It also gives a good explanation about punishment for misdeeds on the ocean.

My husband's 4 times great grandfather, John Tune, was hanged in 1760 for piracy and is mentioned on this wonderful site.

Marjorie J. Head

## FLORENCE ELIZABETH LOWRY 12 October 1896 – 1 March 1994

Florence Elizabeth Lowry was born in the Lady Musgrave Hospital, Maryborough, Qld on 12 October, 1896, the daughter of Patrick Joseph Lowry and Catherine Elizabeth O'Leary. Catherine Elizabeth O'Leary was the daughter of William George O'Leary and Sarah Jane Elder. William George O'Leary was a noted pioneer of the Wide Bay area. William George and Sarah Jane landed in Brisbane in 1866. After a short stay in Brisbane they went to Toowoomba where they resided for twelve months and then followed up the gold fields – Gympie, Kilkivan, Jimna Blacksnake, Mount Coora and back to Kilkivan, known then as Rise and Shine. About the year 1876 or 1877 they left the latter place to select land on the Mary River now known as "O'Leary's Crossing. After a period of timber-getting he wandered his way to Gundiah where carried on business as a general storekeeper up until the time of his death.

Florence was the second child of Patrick and Catherine, the eldest was a son Ambrose Augustine, and there were eventually 9 children in the family including a boy, Patrick Nolan fostered by the Lowry family. This fostering occurred one day when Florence's mother heard of a woman who had died at a place called Petrie Creek, now known as Nambour. She had left four children including a baby boy 6 months old. Florence's mother did not know these people but she sent a message with the mailman that she would take the baby. His father brought the baby to Florence's mother on horseback with the baby who had very little clothing. His name was Patsy and he grew up as one of the family.

After Ambrose and Florence, next births were Kevin, Peter, Thomas, John, Margaret and Catherine with Foster child Patsy placed fourth in line. Tragically Kevin died after eight months and Peter died at birth. In those days life was very getting a living from the land and the men of the family had to leave to get work in other areas. Florence was able to get work in some the small businesses in the area. But after the death of her mother, her father sold up the property.

Florence's father purchased a hotel in Roma in 1921 and the family moved to Roma. That hotel was sold and another was purchased at Howard. This led to the meeting of Florence and her husband to be, William Augustine Darmody who was a Night Officer in the Railways. They were married in St Stephens Cathedral on the 15<sup>th</sup> February 1926. Their first home together was at Toogoolawah where William was appointed Night Officer. Next posting was Station Master, Einasleigh 200 miles from Cairns. Florence's first child, Monica was born 21 March, 1927 in Einasleigh. In late February 1927 a cyclone hit North Queensland and all 8 railway bridges were washed away. Almost all stations were closed and the Station Masters were transferred south. After several postings in South West Queensland William was posted to Kingaroy as assistant Station Master in 1932 and 1933 he was transferred to Imbil. While he was Station Master he took very ill and died 24 October 1935.

Florence moved to Brisbane alone with four children and another expected very shortly. Accommodation was a problem in Brisbane but Florence was able to find some relief and moved in with her Aunt, Sally O'leary who ran a boarding residential. Using the money left to her by William she was able to buy a large house at Sweetman Street, Red Hill. On the 6<sup>th</sup> December 1935 her fifth child, a son Thomas was born. Money was running short so Florence applied to the Railway Department for a position. She had to wait only four months, when she was appointed Station Mistress at Bald Hills and she started work on the 7th April

1938. Florence stayed in this position until 1958 when changes within the Railway were starting to get her down so she resigned.

Florence enjoyed her retirement mainly with her involvement with St Vincent's Home for Children and in particular the Ladies Auxiliary. She was fortunate to have a cruise overseas on the "Shotta Rostavelli" which was a Russia ship with a Russian Crew. At the end of the cruise she and her sister visited England and Ireland and saw many parts of Ireland where her father grew up as a boy and young man.

Sadly Florence passed away 1 March 1994 aged 97 years and was buried in the Gympie Cemetery on 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 1994.

WILLIAM AUGUSTINE DARMODY

19 July 1897 – 24 October 1935

William Augustine Darmody was born in Croydon, North Queensland on 19 July, 1897 to John Darmody and Catherine Teresa Long. His mother died in March, 1898 as a result of the fever and his father was left to raise William as well as two older sons and two older daughters. William was taken in by a Mrs Proberts who fostered him for some time. William's father was employed by the Queensland Railway as a ganger on the Normanton to Croydon line which meant many changes of address. The family moved from Croydon to Bororen and then Toolooa in central Queensland.

After several transfers the family moved to Walloon in South Queensland when William started work in the railways as a Lad Porter in 1911 aged 14. This took him to several locations in South East Queensland including Walloon, and Torbanlea where he was promoted to Night Officer. There was no hotel in Torbanlea so to quench his thirst he would travel to the next town, Howard where he met his wife to be, Florence Elizabeth Lowry who was the hotelier's daughter and who was very hospitable, we believe. William and Florence were married in Brisbane's St Stephens Cathedral on 15 February 1926. William's first appointment as a married first person was Toogoolawah in May 1926, then Einasleigh in far north Queensland in December 1926. In January 1927 Cairns and the hinterland was hit by a tremendous Cyclone and resulting flood which destroyed several bridges closing the rail line and resulting in the transfer of William to South East Queensland. There was no form of transport except motorized trolleys on which they travelled Alma Den when they were able to board a train bound for Cairns and thence South Queensland.

In June 1930 William was transferred to Kingaroy as Assistant Station Master, where they stayed until February 1933 when William was promoted to Station Master, Imbil. In October 1935 William was struck down by a serious illness needing urgent surgery in Gympie. Unfortunately William did not survive the surgery and passed away on 24 October, 1935. He was buried in the Gympie Cemetery on 25 October 1935 aged 38 years. William left a family of 3 boys and one girl and another child, a son, who was born on 6<sup>th</sup> December, 1935.

*This story was supplied by Tom Darmody—a member of Gympie Family History Society.*

"I have sent you this afternoon some history of my mother and father which you may find of interest and be able to add these to your research. Both are buried in the Gympie Cemetery. I hope you find some interest in them particularly with my mother as her grandfather was an old pioneer of the Wide Bay District, although I could not find any references in your files."

## BARNS & WEBB - 224 MARY STREET GYMPIE.

### Barns & Webb, Gympie Mining Secretaries.

In about 1879, the twenty-four year old Egerton Brydges Barns, after gaining some knowledge of a mining secretary's duties, set up his own business in Gympie. The following year Mr Barns engaged a fourteen year old lad, Arthur Ernest Webb, as his clerk. Arthur Webb proved so capable a clerk and so energetic, that in 1895, Mr Barns took him into partnership, constituting the firm of Barns and Webb. Barns and Webb occupied the first floor of premises owned by Elizabeth Hughes at 224 Mary Street.

Sometime in the 1890s, Mr E. B. Barn's eldest son, James Agnew Barns, entered the firm. During Arthur Webb's protracted visit to Europe, and the retirement of his father towards the end of the nineteenth century, James A. Barns took over the partnership with Arthur Webb. The business continued to thrive and broaden its interests.

Barns and Webb extended their business in 1913 with the disposal of Mr. Dennis Horigan's interest in the firm of the late John Flood. Mr. Horigan who was born in Gympie, entered the office of Mr. Flood as a junior clerk in 1897 and succeeded to the business following Flood's death in 1909.

Mr. Horigan had purchased the Club Hotel in Ipswich, and commenced his career in the hotel business in March 1913. In May that year, he married a Gympie lady, Miss Jessie Bunworth, at St Patrick's Church, Gympie, and moved to Ipswich, where they made their home. He died there in 1916, aged 32.

### Egerton Brydges Barns.

The senior partner of Barns and Webb, Egerton Brydges Barns was born in England, son of William and Sarah Barns who migrated from Dudley in Worcestershire. Mr. Barns arrived in Queensland at an early age, and started his business career as a solicitor's clerk in his father's Maryborough office. Subsequently, he was apprenticed to the engineering branch of John Walker and Co.'s Union Foundry there, and acquired a good knowledge of that industry.



In the course of his early career, he was engine driver at a sugar mill on the Mary River, and locomotive engine driver on the Railway between Toowoomba and Brisbane. After leaving the Railway, he became a line repairer in the telegraph service, graduating to Telegraph Operator, and Telegraph Master. He was posted to Gympie as Post and Telegraph Master at One Mile in the 1870s. The Government service did not afford sufficient scope for Mr. Barns' energies, so he left it, and after gaining some knowledge of a mining secretary's duties, he started in that line on his own account about 1879, and soon established a good business. No doubt his experience with the telegraphic service would have served him well in business and with his dealings in the Gympie Stock Exchange. Messrs. Barnes and Webb, Gympie Share brokers, made regular reports of the mining industry, and of sales of shares to the various newspapers of the time.

Egerton Brydges Barns married Mary Elizabeth Sloan, and had a son, James Agnew Barns, who was born in 1877. After the death of his first wife, Egerton Barns married Margaret Ann Ardern, at Gympie, in 1883. Margaret Ann Barns died aged 38, in 1897, leaving three young children. In the following year Egerton B. Barns married Margaret's sister, Susan Elizabeth Ardern.

In 1895, Mr. Barns took his clerk, Arthur Ernest Webb, into partnership, and from that time, with his son, James A. Barns, also in the business, E. B. Barns took a less active interest in the firm.

After the death of Daniel Hendry in 1890, the executors of Hendry's estate, sold the Hendry property, *Orange Grove*, at Pie Creek to Mr. Egerton B. Barns who made a number of improvements to the property, and resided there until the time of his death in 1905. Mr. Barns had been in failing health for some time so his relatives and friends were not altogether unprepared for the end which came calmly at about 3 o'clock on 30 December. He was just a few months over 50 years of age, and left a widow, four sons and a daughter. His funeral left *Orange Grove* at 10 a.m., arriving at the Channon Street Bridge half an hour later. Members of the United Ancient Order of Druids were asked to assemble at the bridge to follow the cortege to the Gympie Cemetery.

Edgar Davison Barns, a brother of Egerton B Barns, joined the firm as their confidential clerk, sometime after 1895. Until that time he had been Accountant in the Brisbane Office of Tattersall's Sweeps. When, the Queensland Government banned these sweeps, Tattersall's were welcomed by the Tasmanian Premier and moved to that State. Edgar D Barns remained with Barns and Webb until about eighteen months before his death in Brisbane in 1917. It is ironic that the Queensland Government which had banned lotteries in 1895, was by 1920, running the Golden Casket.

Besides his interest in Gympie's mining industry, the Stock Exchange and the Ancient Order of Druids, Egerton Barns was also involved in civic affairs. The first meeting of subscribers for the Nashville Miners' Hospital was held early in 1868. A committee was elected and until 1926, the hospital was maintained by voluntary contributions, which were later subsidized by the Government from Golden Casket profits. The first rules for the management of the Gympie Hospital were adopted at a public meeting of subscribers early in 1872. Together with other prominent citizens of Gympie, E. B. Barns appears on the list of life members, with a subscription of ten guineas. He was Secretary of the Committee of the Gympie Hospital when a new hospital was erected in 1885.

#### **Arthur Ernest Webb.**

Arthur Ernest Webb, the eldest child of Stafford Webb and Hannah Peed was born in Brisbane in 1867. Another son, born in 1877 did not survive.

Born in Mauritius in about 1830, Stafford Webb was the youngest son of John and Hortense Webb. John Webb was a Captain in the British Army and served in Mauritius and the Isle of Bourbon (now Reunion) as well as in India. With the younger members of his family, he retired to St Peter Port on the Island of Guernsey. Stafford Webb arrived in Australia in 1852. In 1865 he was ap-



pointed Registrar for Northern District Court at Gladstone. However, by 1873, he was conducting a private school on Palatine Hill, Gympie. He died in Sydney sometime in 1908. Hannah Peed, Arthur's mother, was born in 1840 at Maitland in the Hunter Valley. At the time of her death, she was described as having arrived on the goldfield whilst it was in its infancy, participating in its ups and downs. Her many kindnesses and good nature had secured her the good wishes of many people on Gympie. She earned a living as a seamstress, and gave her son, Arthur, a good education. Aged fourteen in 1880, Arthur commenced work in the office of Egerton Brydges Barns. In 1889, he married Margaret Reid, second daughter of Hugh and Mary Reid (née McCarron), from Mullabrack, County Monaghan, Ireland, at St Patrick's Church, Gympie.

In 1897, the North Oriental and Glanmire Mining Company had been over-subscribed in Sydney, Brisbane and Gympie due to the work of Messrs Martin, Ross & McNutt, and Barns & Webb. 48,000 shares at 5s. each were issued. In March 1898, Messrs Barns & Webb reported that no business was being done in the share market owing to the rapid rise in the river, causing the floodgates to be put down in all mines under the drainage board's jurisdiction. A month later, Mr and Mrs Webb were visiting Brisbane, staying at the Imperial Hotel in George Street.

In 1899, Arthur Webb was the guest of honour of members of the Mining Managers Association, Share brokers, Mining Secretaries, Commercial and Banking Interests, the acting Mining Warden and Police Magistrate who gathered for a dinner at Burke's Union Hotel to wish him well on his imminent visit to London, where he would 'combine business with pleasure'. The Chairman, Mr F. I. Power, alluded to Mr Webb's career on Gympie, noting that he was only about six months old when his parents brought him to the field, and pointed out that as a boy he gave evidence of abilities superior to those of the ordinary run of youngsters. Mr Power also spoke of the way Webb had conducted himself, first as an office lad, then as a clerk, and finally as a partner in the firm of Barns and Webb. At a large meeting of the H.A.C.B. Society held in the Hibernian Hall, Arthur Webb, President of the Society was presented with an illuminated address and gold medal prior to his departure. Mr John Flood made the presentation.

The Mines Department prepared geological and mineralogical exhibits for the Greater Britain Exhibition, held at Earl's Court, London. Two hundred and fifty tons of Gympie quartz were transported to London and treated by a plant erected in the grounds. During his time in Europe, Arthur Webb kept in regular contact with his firm and associates in Gympie by cable. One such communiqué told of his delight and surprise at Jack Bochaton's hammer handles having a splendid position in the exhibition. Whilst in London, the Webbs were photographed by Russell & Sons, Photographers to Queen Victoria.

After Arthur Webb's return from Europe, he purchased the lease, license and goodwill of the Union Hotel in Reef Street on behalf of his mother. Mrs Webb was described as one of the old identities of Gympie and was wished every success in her new business. She was less than two years in the hotel business when she died. Her funeral left from the Union Hotel for the Cemetery, where she lies under the wings of a marble angel, placed there by her son, Arthur.

In 1904, the biggest share transaction for a long time was negotiated by Mr. A. E. Webb when one thousand shares of No 2 South Great Eastern were sold in one parcel to Mr. John Donovan, a well known local investor. In October of that year, when mining investor,

George Crumie, 48, succumbed to pneumonia, Arthur Webb, Senior Sergeant of Police, John Ellis and produce merchant George Bell were appointed Executors of the Estate. John Geary, Hotel Proprietor and James A Barns of Barns & Webb, witnessed the will. George Crumie, a single man, who resided at the Union Hotel in Reef Street, left a considerable personal fortune, by way of shares in Gympie mines. He held shares to the value of almost £13,000. Prudent sales of his investments were subsequently made by his executors, until the estate was finalized in 1908. After a few small bequests and £1,000 for the Executors of his Estate, the bulk of the estate was inherited by his brothers and sisters in Ireland.

Arthur Webb held office in numerous other Gympie organisation, including the Fire Brigade, the Chamber of Commerce & Mines, the Mine Owners' Association, the Southern Drainage Board, the Stock Exchange Club, the Gympie Hotel Keepers' Association. A race-horse owner, he was a member of the Turf Club and Show Society, as well as Patron of a number of other sporting organisations.

He died at the Union Hotel on 25th August 1921, aged 55 years leaving his widow, Margaret Webb, to inherit his personal estate of almost £2,000. She was also the owner of a number of properties in O'Connell, Monkland, Myall and Stone Streets, Gympie, at the time of his death.

### **James Agnew Barns.**

James was born in Ipswich in 1877. He was the eldest son of Egerton Brydges Barns and only child of E.B. Barns' marriage to Mary Elizabeth Sloan. As a child in the early 1880s, he moved to Gympie. In about 1895, J. A. Barnes joined his father's firm Barns & Webb, and worked as a mining secretary for many years. About the same time, Edgar Davison Barns, Egerton Brydges younger brother, joined the firm of Barns & Webb in Gympie as their confidential clerk. Until that time he had been Accountant in the Brisbane Office of Tattersall's Sweeps.



The Barns family retained their interest in the Gympie Hospital for many years. James Agnew Barns was chosen to fill the position as Secretary of the Hospital Committee in 1920, after the resignation of Mr. A. R. Ranson. James Barns proved to be a most efficient Secretary. He was also appointed auditor and was responsible for monthly inspections of the Hospital's books, vouchers, &c.

Prior to the death of his father, Egerton B Barns in 1905, James Agnew Barns entered the firm of Barns & Webb as a partner. J A Barns also had a long association with the Gympie Fire Brigade Board. He was appointed Secretary to that organisation in 1920, and held the position for about thirty years, and for several years was the Manager of the Gympie Stock Exchange Club. With his partner, A E Webb, he was jointly responsible for many of the achievements and progress in the mining industry mentioned above.

In 1906, James Agnew Barns married Miss Lillian Willington of Sandgate. They had three sons:- Harry, Jim, and Egerton; and two daughters, Lillian Mary, Mrs R.J.H. Snook,

and Mrs Riley of Urangan, whose mother had died and was cared for as their own child. James Agnew Barns retired to Hervey Bay in 1938. James A. Barns died in Gympie, July 1959, and is buried in the Maryborough Cemetery. The Barns family home at 44 Barter Street is in a good state of repair, however members of the family who still live in Gympie no longer occupy it. {Research and story contributed by Tony White from Kenilworth}

*The Gympie Miner*, Ibid, Cable to *The Gympie Times* from London 01.06.1899  
*The Gympie Times*,  
*The Queenslander*,  
*The Brisbane Courier*,  
*Sydney Morning Herald*,  
*Australian Town & Country Journal*,  
 Queensland State Archives  
[www.bdm.qld.gov.au](http://www.bdm.qld.gov.au),  
*Historical Sketch of Gympie 1867-1927*.  
 Mr Jim Barns, Wishart, 4122.  
 Susan Ilie (Associate Guernsey Research Association),  
*Sydney Shipping Gazette*, Vol 9 No 445, pp 284 & 286  
*Index to Queensland Government Gazette*, 1865, Vol VI, p 27  
*Gympie 1867-1967: A Golden Past - A Golden Future* (Gympie Centenary Celebrations Committee), 1967, p 65  
[https://tatts.com/golden\\_casket](https://tatts.com/golden_casket)



*Barns & Webb Office - 224 Mary Street, Gympie.*  
 Photograph from, Author's Collection )

### **I cloud for photos**

Although I don't understand much about the icloud (I believe it is a huge storage system that people send their data and photos too), I heard a gentleman on a local radio station commenting on photos. He was saying that many people now are putting their photos onto their computers and tablets etc and also backing them up onto a separate device BUT leaving this in the same premises. He was also talking about people who do not leave their passwords to their icloud "safety box" and pass away. Then no one can access the photo files as they are lost to the probate. Something else to be aware of when photos are not printed out.

## End of Year 2012 Gathering

November saw many of our members make the trip into our rooms for a meeting of friends and a sharing of food, together with “let me show you this!”



Tony White brought in two beautiful paintings that were from the office of John FLOOD. There is a thought that they were either done by one of the Flood girls or perhaps are of the Flood girls. Barnes and Webb (see previous story) took over the share broking part of John Flood’s business. The original frames are pine backed.



Margaret Long brought in the glasses and case of Henry McKenna. She also has a mobile gramophone which all fitted into a small box and actually played a record—albeit a bit wonky and hard to hear.



This is a coronation coach that was from 1952 brought in by Marjorie Head. She remembers watching the coronation go past in Regent St. Also a fork from Wes & Lyn Fleming with a Dragon crest signifying its origins.



DRAGON CREST  
1817 BEERE & MOORE  
DUBLIN  
A.B.S  
ADEY BOLAMBY SAVORY  
1826 - 1828



This is a tin plate photo of Lyn Fleming’s mother which her father carried while at war. The pin is made of bits of a plane that came down and was then sent back. “For my darling wife”



Val Thomas shared a letter opener from France in 1915 or 1916 but the bullet handle is older.

## NEXT GYMPIE CEMETERY CRAWLS



# Wednesday 27th Mar 2013

6.30 pm start

\$5 per person incl light supper & a booklet

Phone : 0419 224 628 (Di)

(bookings preferred for catering & printing purposes)

RAIN, HAIL or MOONSHINE—It is always on!  
The supper is lovely and the stories are pretty good too!

*We now have a fruit & vegetable tray raffle as well drawn on the night  
so bring a few extra \$\$\$ with you*

### Next dates: June 26th & October 23rd

*Our extensive pioneer headstone book will be available for \$30—  
please pre-order with Di (details on the following page)*

- *Meet at the shed at the Two Mile Cemetery*
- *Wear suitable clothing as it can be a little cool in the evening*
- *Wear good walking shoes as the area may be wet—dependant on the weather*
- *Bring a torch if you wish—but this is not necessary.*

### Cemetery Crawl report

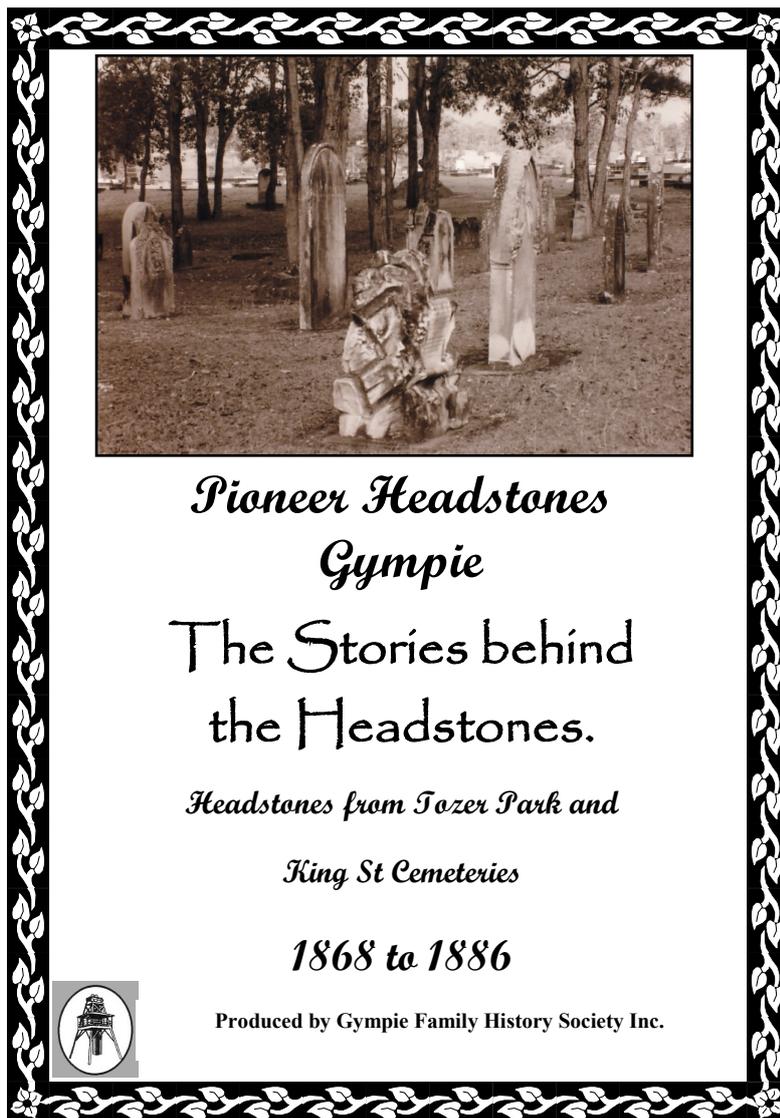
The next crawl is on the 27<sup>th</sup> March and will be spent mainly in the Presbyterian Private area and then down into the Presbyterian Select and around to the front of the shed.

I will be re-presenting two stories from crawls done way back in 2004 by John Nathan and Jack Crone – one is Anthony Conwell and the other is George Argo (the glowing tomb) so that will be interesting. Further research has been added to both of these.

Many people have told me that they have the little date slips for the crawls for the year on their fridges so that seems to be working well.

Crawl stories this time are: William Kemp, Anthony Conwell, Catherine Ramage, Axel Sundstrup, David Elder Reid, George Argo, John Bradford, Alexander Pollock, Tom Cass.

Don't forget to mark your calendars for the June Crawl as well as the next magazine comes out in July and the crawl is in June.



This is the full book of as much research as found for each of the families behind each of the headstones that have been preserved from the original Tozer Park Cemetery and transferred to the Pioneer Section of the Gympie Two Mile Cemetery. Some of the stories are short as not much information is available on the person being memorialised while others are very in depth. While all care was taken in the research, there are no doubt errors or omissions and we are more than happy to have any further corrections or additions to be forwarded to the Society for correction or addition in future copies.

### Pioneer Headstones Gympie

This is the Pioneer Headstones book that is based on the original crawl done back in 2005 and then re-researched by Faye Kennedy and then topped up by me, is now finished and is on sale for \$30. It ended up being over 90 pages long and I think is a valuable piece of GFHS work. It has been well received even though there was some months wait for it to be completed at publishing stage. It will get an ISBN and then a copy sent through to the state archives for recording purposes. The orders taken at the Pioneer crawl were honoured at \$15 but any new sales will now be \$30. Thank you to Faye for the great research she did for it and we are so lucky now to have access to Ancestry.com and also Trove websites to further our research.

We have also donated a copy to the Two Mile Cemetery for their records and as a way of thanking them for their amazing support of our organisation. {Ed}

### **Can you help???**

We have recently received a grant towards purchasing a series of "The Gympie Times" on microfilm. The intention is to continue to obtain more of the films over time as money permits.

At the moment, this is not a newspaper that is due to be added to Trove so to be able to access the films is still essential. Our local Council library does have a complete set of films—however the times that they are available are not always suitable and there should be more than one copy of the films anyway.

Where we need help is that the microfilm reader that we have in our society is exceptionally old and does not print at all and often the inner working simply fall out. The expense of buying a new one is huge and the distant thought of perhaps digitalising the original papers is a possibility but not available now.

Do you have access to a microfilm reader that is no longer needed? We could certainly use it .....

### **Funny how things turn up....**

My own family is from the Newcastle area in NSW with members being buried in Sandgate cemetery. I have personally visited this amazing old cemetery with my father back before I took over the reins of researching so we did not take photos at the time.

I had been unable to find any photos or many records of this cemetery until recently I picked up the Journal 200 of the Newcastle Family History Society Inc and had a read through it.

Funny how things turn up—this is the journal where the Sandgate Cemetery—the transition to a virtual world—is shared with the reader. I had a look today at the site, which is beautifully done and very user friendly and there are three lovely photos of my 2nd great grand uncle's headstone.

[www.sandgatecemetery.org.au](http://www.sandgatecemetery.org.au)

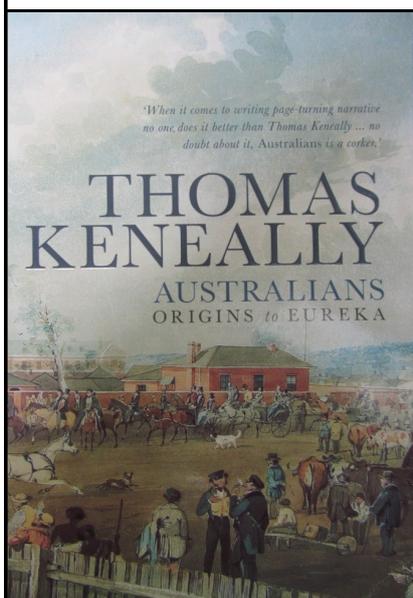
Thank you so much to Terry St George who made this possible, together with the Sandgate Cemetery Trust for their enormous amount of work in digitalizing this huge cemetery. *(Ed)*

*Our local Gympie Cemetery is also online and using Google Earth to be able to pin point the graves. Also photos are being uploaded as well including some of John Nathan's photos.*

[www.gympiecemeterytrust.com.au](http://www.gympiecemeterytrust.com.au)



### The story of the birth of our nation.



Mr Thomas Keneally is not only a noted historian but writes in everyday language that makes the reader live the scene he is creating with his words. This book “Australians Origins to Eureka” is the first book in his series with the second book being “Eureka to the Diggers”.

For anyone wanting a guidebook on the beginnings of our country and how and why things were done, have a look at this. The detail is precise with out being boring and the explanation of where places got their names is fascinating. Little facts and big facts are all written into the story, using real people and names and incidents that happened to those people at the time. Be warned though that this book does not make for easy bedtime reading—purely because although it is a paperback, it is in a larger size than normal and so packed full of information, the whole book weighs a ton. Recommended retail is \$40 and it is worth every cent.

### My connection to the Endeavour

After purchasing this Thomas Keneally series at Christmas for use as a reference for the story I am writing about part of my own research saga, I have only just begun to read it.

I have always loved early Australian history and have also felt very connected to this country and to this land even though my direct blood lines are Scottish and English with a little bit of Irish Rebel mixed in for good measure. After reading that the little vessel that brought Captain James Cook to our shores way back when actually began life as a coal boat in Yorkshire, England, now I understand a little bit more about why I feel so connected.

My CALVERT ancestors were English Coal miners and came from a little place called Whitby in Yorkshire, and this is where the Endeavour was working before being fitted out for Mr Cook. My people were there at the time and so may have been in and around the little boat before it began its long journey down south.

**GFHS has a Facebook page. (with 13 LIKES so far)** For those people who use this very interesting way of communication, at least it will be a place where we can put information on the crawls and events of interest. Have a look at this as we have other links and Woody has put quite a lot of information up about other relevant things too.

We recently had another enquiry come through from an English lady. Don't forget to “LIKE” it and then you can look at the photos of the events we run including the Cemetery Crawls. There are clearer photos of the Rooms now up on the site.

**PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE {Please note that some prices have changed}**

- **MINING ACCIDENTS SERIES** by Betty D'Arcy, information on mine accidents from the annual reports of the Mines Dept. (Qld) Volumes 1-14 (1878-1945). Cost per volume \$13 plus p&p **B**, order whole set add p&p **E**, order 5 copies add p&p **D**
- **PIONEER REGISTER** of families of Gympie and Surrounds (pre 1900) \$30 plus p&p **B**
- **PIONEER HEADSTONE BOOK** of Tozer Park & King Sts Gympie \$30 plus p&p **B {updated}**
- **A GOLDEN FUTURE 1867-1967** Stories, reports & photos of Gympie (photocopy version) \$15 p&p **B**
- **125 YEARS OF THE ONE-MILE SCHOOL** by Jan Wegert & Elaine Thomson \$12.50 p&p **B**
- **HISTORIC SKETCH OF GYMPIE 1867-1927** Stories & photographs of people & events of that period, includes index. (photocopy version) \$15 plus p&p **B**
- **Roll of Honour Board 1914-1918** by Greg McGuire. Names shown on the tablets at Memorial Gates, Mary Street, Gympie, includes burial details \$15 plus p&p **A**
- **Roll of Honour Board MONKLAND STATE SCHOOL, GYMPIE** by Greg McGuire \$18 P&P **A**
- **Roll of Honour Board ONE MILE STATE SCHOOL, GYMPIE** by Greg McGuire \$18 P&P **A**
- **Roll of Honour Board TWO MILE STATE SCHOOL, GYMPIE** by Greg McGuire \$14 P&P **A**
- **Roll of Honour Board GYMPIE HIGH SCHOOL** by Greg McGuire \$30 P&P **B**
- **COOLOOLA COAST CEMETERY** (Tin Can Bay & Rainbow Beach) transcribed 2001. Headstones, burial register in date order. Cost \$15 plus p&p **B**
- **GYMPIE CEMETERIES**
  1. **Headstone Transcriptions to 1995** \$25 p&p **C**
  2. **Burial Register 1866-1994.** King Street, Tozer Park Road & Two Mile cemeteries \$35 p&p **C**
  3. **Burial Register 1995-1999** Two Mile Cemetery, Cooloola Coast Crematorium register of burials in other towns \$15 plus p&p **A**
  4. **Burial Register 2000-2004** Two Mile Cemetery, Cooloola Coast Crematorium register of burials in other towns \$15 plus P&P **A**  
(Set of all 4 books) \$90 plus p&p **D**
- **THE GYMPIE TIMES 2005 Personal Notices.** Births, Deaths & Marriages, Wedding Anniversaries, Funerals & Memorials for the 2005 year. \$15 plus **C**
- **GYMPIE TIMES SERIES**
  1. **1868-1874** Births, deaths and marriages, funerals and miscellaneous
  2. **1875-1884** Births, deaths and marriages, funerals
  3. **1885-1889** Births, deaths and marriages, funerals
  4. **1890-1894** Births, deaths and marriages, funerals & in memoriam
  5. **1895-1899** Births, deaths and marriages, funerals & in memoriam
  6. **1900-1904** Births, deaths and marriages, in memoriam, wills/probates
  7. **1905-1909** Births, deaths and marriages, in memoriam, inquires/court  
(Set of all 7 books) \$95 plus p&p **D** or each book \$15 plus p&p **A**
- **GYMPIE CEMETERY CRAWL BOOKLETS** Presentations of headstones by our members. Approximately 10 names described per booklet. Includes some photos of headstones. Cost \$3 each plus p&p **B** for 3 booklets (we are up to book 29 now) (ask for a list of names)

Postage codes: A=\$4      B=\$5      C=\$8      D=\$10      E=\$16      to any part of Australia

**See inside front cover for where to order.**