

William BARHAM (1839-1902)

William John Barham was born on 3 February 1839 in Wymondham, Norfolk in England. His parents were John (1817-1891) and Susannah nee Smith (1820-1911). John was an agricultural labourer. In the 1841 England Census the Barham family were neighbours of the Quarry family who also migrated to Tasmania on the 'Trade Wind'. In the 1851 England Census for Wymondham the Barham family were living at Silfield Street, Wymondham. John was aged 34, an agricultural labourer; his wife Susan, aged 31, was a grocer and William, a scholar, was aged 12. Other siblings of William were Henry, 10; Harriet, 6; Emma, 4; Ellen, 2 and Robert, 1. They were all born at Wymondham.

Wymondham is a market town and civil parish in the South Norfolk district of Norfolk, about 146 km north-north-west of London. It was once known for the woollen industry, however, in the mid-19th century due to the collapse of this industry led to poverty. In 1836 there were still 600 hand looms but by 1845 only 60. In the 1850's the population was a little over 5,000. The decline in the wool industry was probably the reason William decided to seek better prospects in Tasmania.

William was aged 20 when departing on the 'Trade Wind'. He was sponsored by Mr Edward Nicholas (1839-1899) of Bothwell and discharged from the Quarantine Station at Impression Bay to him on the evening carrier on 25 March 1858. Mr Nicholas owned a large property, the 'Meadsfield' Estate, comprising of about 19,500 acres, situated six miles to the west of Bothwell, and was taken up about 1830 under a grant.

William remained in the Bothwell district all his life. He remained working for Mr Nicholas for most of this time at both the 'Abyssinia' and 'Meadsfield' properties. In 1899 William acquired a small property at the Hunting Ground of 40 acres and 2 roods. This was part of the Horsey's Estate and ordered by the Curator to William for £127.

William married Eliza Williams on 24 Oct 1861 at Bothwell. Eliza may have been the daughter of ex-convict, Thomas Williams (1806-1890) and Mary Ann Rogers (1814-1891) both of whom lived in the Broadmarsh district. William and Eliza had eleven children – all remained in Tasmania.

William died on Wednesday 11 March 1902 at Hobart after a short illness. He was aged 64, and buried at Broadmarsh (St Augustine Church). His wife, Eliza, died on 9 January 1908 at Upper Broadmarsh, at the age of 68.



William Barham



Eliza Barham nee Williams