

EMILY McDONALD, Daughter

Birth: 28 Jul 1855 Place: Westbury
Death: 27 Oct 1917 Place: Long Gully, Coolamon, NSW Age: 62
Burial: 28 Oct 1917 Place: C.E. Cemetery, Coolamon, NSW
Occupation: None
Residence: Ulverstone; Coolamon, NSW (19 years)
Father: GEORGE McDONALD (~1801-1878)
Mother: DELIA FURNER [ALIAS GILLAM] (~1815-1900)

Informant of birth was John Leith, Uncle, Westbury. Parents were George M'Donald, farmer, and Delia M'Donald, formerly Gillam. [RGD 1606]

Stated she was a spinster of full age at time of marriage. Witnesses to marriage were James Alfred Fogg (Senr) [brother-in-law] and Charles Newberry Fogg [nephew] and Hannah McDonald [niece]. [RGD 943]

"BUTTON---M'DONALD—On 21st April, at the Episcopal Church, Ulverstone, by the Rev E. Champion, Harold W. B. Button, to Emily M'Donald, both of Leven." [Examiner Thursday 29 April 1886]

"Rolled Flora Howman in gold sovereigns. Very rich." [Marie (Anderson) Brown 22 February 1972]

From death certificate data would have left Tasmania for NSW c1898/99.

"BUTTON-On the 27th October, at Long Gully, Coolamon, N.S.W., Emily, beloved wife of Harold Button, aged 62 years. (Tasmanian papers please copy.)" [The Argus Tuesday 6 November 1917, p1]

Cause of death was mitral regurgitation, heart failure. Medical attendant S.W. Baxter. Informant of her death was her husband, H.W.B. Button. [NSW RGD 17516 Transcription]

No will found NSW Probate Index.

Spouse: HAROLD WILLIAM BARNARD BUTTON

Birth: 10 Mar 1855 Place: River Forth
Death: 24 Jan 1932 Place: Pymble, Sydney, NSW Age: 76
Burial: 25 Jan 1932 Place: Rookwood, Sydney, NSW. [Cremated]
Occupation: Farmer (1890) Grazier
Father: WILLIAM BARNARD BUTTON (1828-1905)
Mother: ELIZABETH WEAVERS (1849-1874)

Marriage: 21 Apr 1886 Place: Holy Trinity Church, Ulverstone, C.E., by Lic.

Informant of birth was Henry Manning, J.P., River Forth. [RGD1314]

Stated he was a farmer, and of full age, at time of marriage.[RGD 943]

"BUTTON.—January 24 at his residence 32 Bobbin Head-road Pymble Harold William Barnard, beloved father of Edna late of Coolamon (NSW) and Ulverstone (Tasmania). In his 77th year. Privately cremated." [The Sydney Morning Herald Thursday 28 January 1932]

Cause of death was chronic myocardial & valvular heart disease & influenza. Parents given as William Barnard Button, farmer, and Alice Weavers. Informant of death was R.J.E. Gormley, no relation [later became his son-in-law], 32 Bobbin Head Road, Pymble, NSW. [NSW RGD 642]

Will 13 October 1921. Sworn at 3984.19.7. [NSW Probate 179496]

Children: EDNA BLANCHE (1890-1967)

Emily McDonald, the youngest of the daughters of George and Delia McDonald, and born at Westbury 28 July 1855, married Harold William Barnard Button at Ulverstone on 21 April 1886. He was 31 years old, and she 30. Witnesses to the marriage were her brother-in-law James Fogg and nephew Charles Newberry Fogg and her niece Hannah McDonald (later Mrs Frampton). Hannah was the daughter of Emily's eldest brother George and was actually three months older than her aunt Emily!

'Barney' Button was the son of William Barnard Button, landowner and Justice of the Peace of Ulverstone, and nephew of Henry Button, author of *Flotsam & Jetsam* and one-time owner of *The Examiner* newspaper. Another uncle, Thomas Button, was the proprietor of the Leven Tannery near Button's Creek at East Ulverstone.

Like her sister Maria Fogg, Emily is also reputed to have had the proverbial 'green thumb', and she too is credited with growing some of the old *Magnolia grandiflora* trees that still survive in the district.¹

Emily and 'Barney' left Tasmania around 1898–1899 and settled in the Coolamon district (near Junee) in New South Wales.²

They had one child, a daughter, Edna Blanche, born 8 April 1890. Edna was sole beneficiary of her father's estate which was sworn at £3984 19s 7d when probate was granted on 26 February 1932. Emily had died at Coolamon in October 1917.

¹ Hearsay: Late Mrs Robyn Oughton.

² Hearsay: Late Mrs Alleyne Piercey.

EDNA BLANCHE BUTTON, Granddaughter

Birth: 8 Apr 1890 Place: River Leven
Death: 25 Mar 1967 Place: Pymble, Sydney, NSW Age: 76
Burial: Place:
Father: HAROLD WILLIAM BARNARD BUTTON (1855-1932)
Mother: EMILY McDonald (1855-1917)

Informant of birth was Harold William Barnard .Button, father, farmer, River Leven. Mother was Emily Button, Formerly McDonald. [RGD 3375].

See also Examiner 11 April 1890 for birth notice.

For marriage see NSW RGD 19033.

No death or funeral notice found Sydney Morning Herald between 25-28 March 1967.

Will 30 August 1966: Beneficiaries of will were Patrick Woulf, postman (\$200), James Patrick Gormly, Joseph Colin Gormly, Richard Anthony Gormly, David Phillip Gormly, and Joan Margaret King (children of James Noel Gormly, Edna's stepson); Nance Vane Spillane (d/o late Vera Dulhunty, Edna's stepdaughter), and Gwen Gormly; Bruce Lohry (s/o her cousin Douglas Lohry; Raymond McDonald (cousin); Patricia Button Laurence Vane Dulhunty and Marcus Vane Giblett (children of late Vera Dulhunty); Edith Brighton (friend). [NSW Probate No. 633292]

Spouse: RICHARD JOSEPH ERNEST GORMLY

Birth: ca 1868 Place: Wagga Wagga district, NSW
Death: 23 Aug 1961 Place: Pymble, Sydney, NSW Age: 93
Father: JAMES GORMLY
Mother: MARGARET COX

Marriage: ca 1939 Place: Chatswood District, NSW

For birth see NSW Births Index: 17324/1868 Gormly [sic] Richard J son of James and Margaret, Wagga Wagga

For death notice see Sydney Morning Herald Friday 25 August 1961: "...beloved husband of Edna and loved father of Vera (Mrs H.V. Dulhunty, dec.), Oscar, Kevin (deceased), James and Colin (Wyn), aged 93 years. Private funeral..."

NSW Probate of Will 529561.

No Children

Edna sometimes appears in the prize winners lists for horticultural events. She was an exhibitor at the Leven Exhibition of 1897 in the Pot Plant Class, with winning exhibits in the Flowering Plants and Foliage Plants Classes. She kept in contact with her River Leven relatives and was a beneficiary of the will of her cousin May Daniel (nee Fogg).

After the death of her father in January 1932, Edna married Richard Joseph Ernest Gormly (a widower) who predeceased her in 1961. Joseph had married Kathleen Frize in 1891 and by her had 5 surviving children. Edna continued to live at Bobbin Head Road, Pymble until her death in 1967.³

³ NSW Probate Registry: Will 633292 30 August 1966.