



# GEORGE'S DIARY

GEORGE WEBB of MISSION BEACH



BY KEN GRAY

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The diaries referred to in this article are in the care of the Wheatley family and we greatly appreciate access to them as it enables another small chapter of our district's history to be revealed and recorded for future generations.

Cover

Images on the cover are the Victory Medal (top), the Australian Hat Badge as worn by George in the Boer War and WWI and a depiction of the Victoria Mounted Rifles he joined up with for the Boer War in 1902 (bottom left).

## G E O R G E

The small amount written of early settler, George Webb of Mission Beach, leaves one with a mental picture of soldier, a man of few words who was actively involved in three major wars, the Boer War in South Africa in 1902, WWI in France in 1916 - 1917 and in WWII with the Citizen Military Force in Victoria, 1942 - 1943. Yet he chose to live well away from the hurly burly of life in cities and wars for much of his life, preferring the tropics of north Queensland where he could fend for himself.

He lived in Mission Beach for 26 years from 1913 to 1939, with part of that time spent in France during WWI.

George was born at Condowie in South Australia 7 August 1882, and soon after his family moved to Benalla in Victoria where they purchased a farm. That is where George was living when he enlisted for the Boer War in 1901. By the time he reached South Africa the war had ended and he returned to Australia in 1902. He enlisted in the Army for WWI on 14 February 1916, where he served in the 9<sup>th</sup> Battalion and was appointed a Provisional Sergeant. He was fighting in the Somme when he suffered severe illnesses and was discharged with pleurisy on 01 January 1918. He was awarded the British War Medal and the Victory Medal.<sup>1</sup>

There was much sadness in his life. In happy times as in 1925, he married Lilian Hopkins when he was 42 years of age and she was around 39<sup>2</sup>. Lilian's father was Thomas Hollis Hopkins (1839 – 1919) who married Ann McTaggart (1847 – 1901). Hollis Hopkins had nine children, five sons and four daughters and Lilian is listed as a half-sister to Spenser McTaggart Hopkins, the first born child and the child of Hollis who was most often spoken of in local histories.

George and Lilian had a daughter, Elizabeth in 1926. There was no school in Mission Beach apart from a tiny private one nearby built by the Dunlop family in 1934 for their three children and Elizabeth joined them for a while. Not long after however, on 14 May 1935, as seen in the diary entries listed later in this publication, Lilian took Elizabeth to England for her education and they were not to return until 1944 when George was back in Benalla where he grew up as a child. Soon after this long-awaited reunion, Elizabeth was killed in a tragic horse riding incident (1947), when she hit her head on a tree branch<sup>3</sup>. After the devastating loss of 20-year-old Elizabeth, Lilian returned to England and remained there until she died aged 97 years at Winchester<sup>4</sup>. George was left without her for the rest of his life.

An excellent account of his life, particularly of his time as a soldier is available online in the Cardwell 1914 – 1919 Roll of Honour|On Active Service.<sup>5</sup> That has an image of George included. The fine book of Helen Pedley, *Tully Street Names: Signs of History* is a similar account (same author no doubt) and includes a photo of the Webb home in 1939.

George tried his hand at many different jobs before he joined the Queensland Police Force in 1913. He was soon transferred to Ingham and while there he found the land at Mission Beach and selected

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<sup>1</sup> 1914 – 1919 Cardwell Roll of Honour On Active Service, George Henry Webb (5756). Accessed 23 October 2021 at [https://www.cardwellhistory.com.au/cardwell\\_roll\\_of\\_honour/webb\\_gh.html](https://www.cardwellhistory.com.au/cardwell_roll_of_honour/webb_gh.html)

<sup>2</sup> Ancestry.com.au search, October 2021.

<sup>3</sup> Ken Gray, *Wheatley Beach Tales*, 2021, Mission Beach Historical Society H011, pages 7 – 10.

<sup>4</sup> Helen Pedley, *Tully Street Names: Signs of History*, self-published, 2010, pp. 176-177.

<sup>5</sup> 1914 – 1919 Cardwell Roll of Honour On Active Service, George Henry Webb (5756). Accessed 23 October 2021 at [https://www.cardwellhistory.com.au/cardwell\\_roll\\_of\\_honour/webb\\_gh.html](https://www.cardwellhistory.com.au/cardwell_roll_of_honour/webb_gh.html)

292 acres to start a farm. He moved to that land 17 September 1914 after resigning from the police force.

Immediately to the south of this property was the large land holding (over 3,000 acres) of the state-owned Hull River Aboriginal Settlement that was destroyed in the 1918 cyclone. George was there the day after the cyclone hit and killed the Superintendent John Kenny and his daughter Kathleen and at least three Aboriginal people living in custody there.<sup>6</sup>

His neighbour to the south of that was Hollis Hopkins of Townsville, Lilian's father. He was a wealthy mercer and stock and station agent, but Hollis did not live on the land. He selected 1,280 acres in July 1882<sup>7</sup> on behalf of his sister and somehow managed to retain it, despite strict laws on conditions of retention of selected land that required the owners to reside on and work the land within a short time after selection. They did not live on the land.

His son, Spenser Hopkins, purchased the freehold land on Dunk Island from Edmund Banfield's wife Bertha in 1933<sup>8</sup>. George could clearly see Dunk Island from his home on the mainland which was located at the southern end of what is known as Wongaling Beach in 2021.

Lilian Hopkins was a regular Dunk Island visitor and became a companion of Bertha Banfield who was close to her half-brother Spenser Hopkins as well. It was there that George met Lilian. They called their land and home *Koongul*. The land had around 20 acres cleared and they grew coconuts (500 trees were planted just before the 1918 cyclone), mangoes (30 trees of many varieties), fruit and small crops and they had 100 goats by 1939.<sup>9</sup>

George left Mission Beach in 1939 after selling his farm to Alfred Wheatley. He returned to Benalla. Late in life he came to Cardwell for a short time (1953) and purchased a lot there. He went to Charters Towers for the last few months of his life yet returned to Victoria<sup>10</sup> before he died 26 May 1955.

A discovery of George Webb's diaries may expand on our understanding of who this man was. Most people in Mission Beach will know of Webb Street near the school in Wongaling Beach and that was named after George. Webb Court in Bingil Bay was named after one of Australia's first ecologists, Dr Len Webb who did so much to save the north Queensland rainforests. Len was not related to George.

When I was given a couple of old diaries by the Wheatley family to see if they would shed some light on our district's history, I held out little hope of it being fruitful. However, they were written by one of our early settlers, George Webb so I was intrigued. This was what the first one looked like after it had lived among some hungry termites. Would it be legible?

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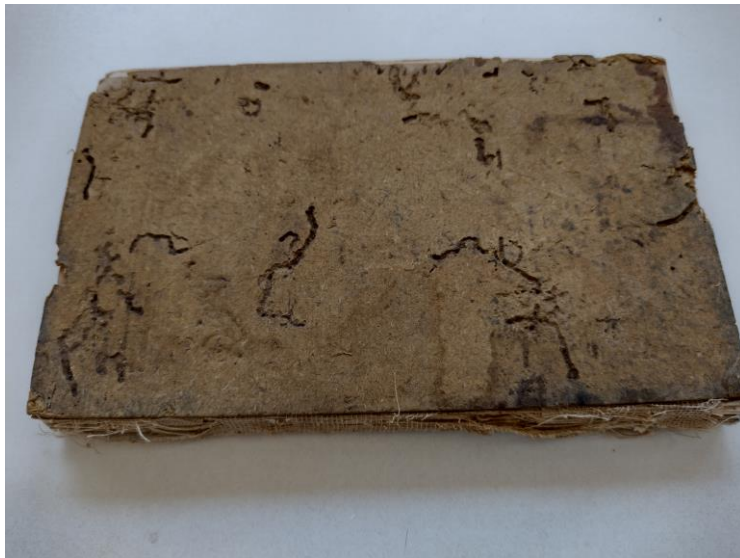
<sup>6</sup> Ken Campbell, *Superintendent Kenny: The Hull River Aboriginal Settlement*, Mission Beach Historical Society, 2022.

<sup>7</sup> Land title search by Ken Gray November 2021.

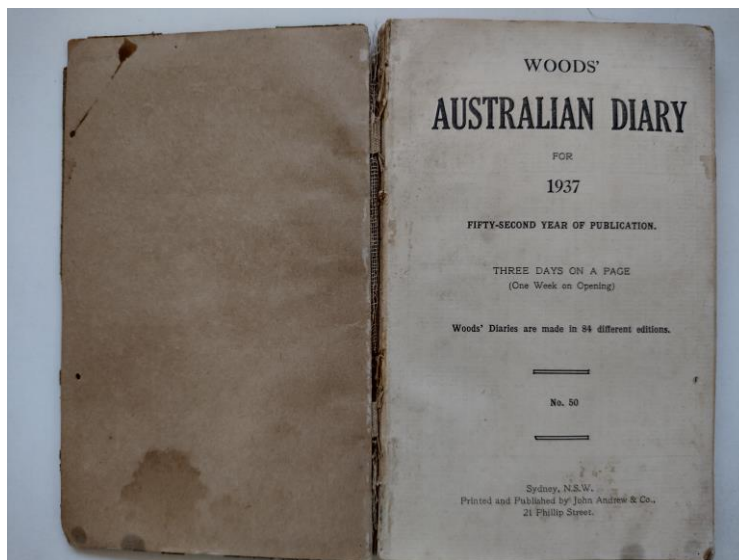
<sup>8</sup> Dorothy Jones, *The Cardwell Story*, Jacaranda Press, 1961, page 380.

<sup>9</sup> Ken Gray, *Wheatley Beach Tales*, 2021, Mission Beach Historical Society, pages 7,8.

<sup>10</sup> Helen Pedley, *Tully Street Names: Signs of History*, self-published, 2010, pp. 176-177.



1937 Diary of George Webb. Courtesy of Wheatley family.

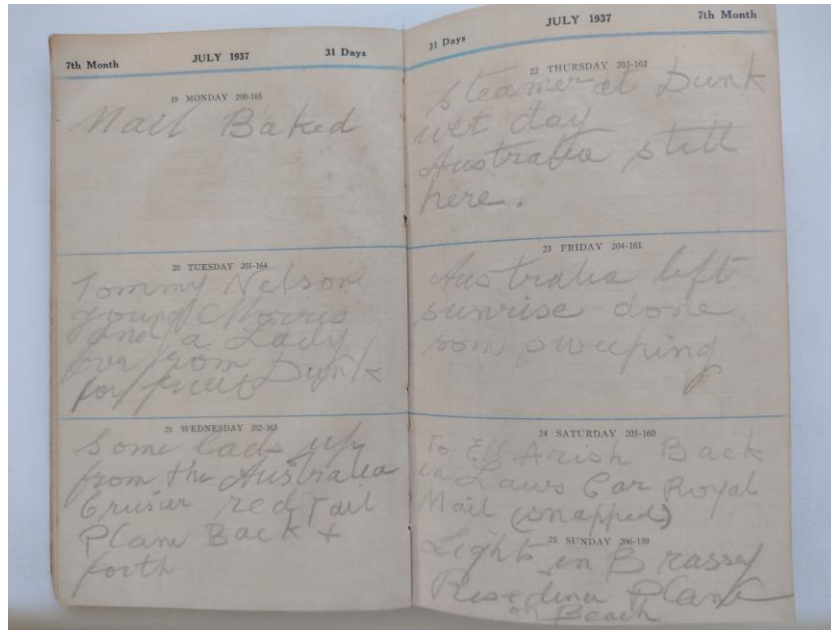


Front page George Webb's 1937 Diary. Courtesy of Wheatley family.

When I nervously opened the cover, it looked quite promising. No termites or water damage to speak of there. This was exciting but the question remained, could I read George's writing and would it have a record of important events? This diary was written in 1937 and from research previously conducted for the book, *War and Beach*, a test would be to examine entries for July when Australia's most notable WWII warship, our navy's flagship, the heavy cruiser, HMAS *Australia II* visited Dunk Island's new resort<sup>11</sup>. I quickly yet carefully flipped the pages to July 21 hoping George would have seen this incredible event and was not disappointed. There it was ... history written legibly on the day it had happened!

<sup>11</sup> Gray, Ken, *War and Beach*, Chapter 5 | *Naval Forces, Déjà vu*, September 2020, Draft2Digital, page 31.

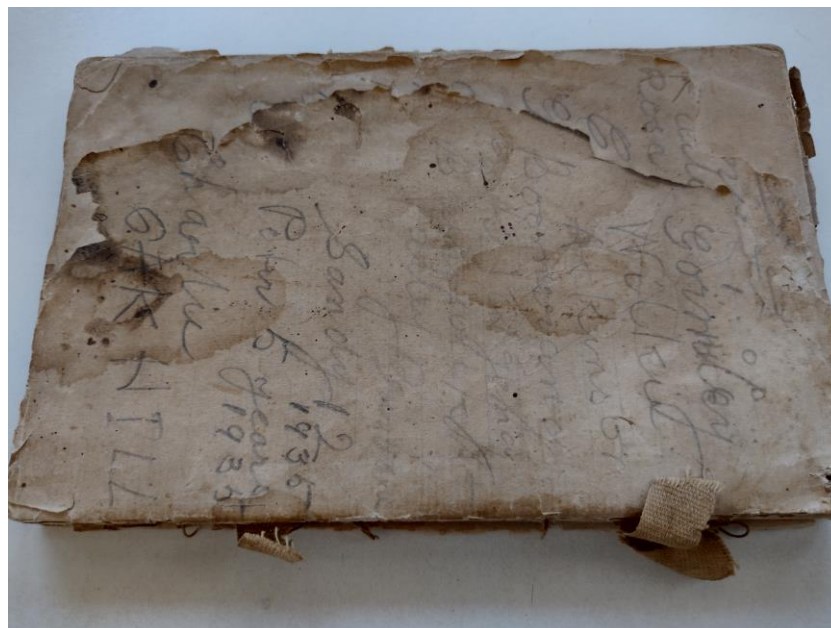




21 July: Entry regarding HMAS *Australia II*: the Royal Navy's flagship at Dunk Island.

I scrambled to find other known visit dates for RAN cruisers and destroyers and found them also accurately recorded by George. Early visits by the cruiser HMAS *Canberra* and destroyer D22, HMAS *Waterhen* are also confirmed in the diaries. This was gold. How lucky we are to have people like Don Wheatley who kept every record of our history he ever came across.

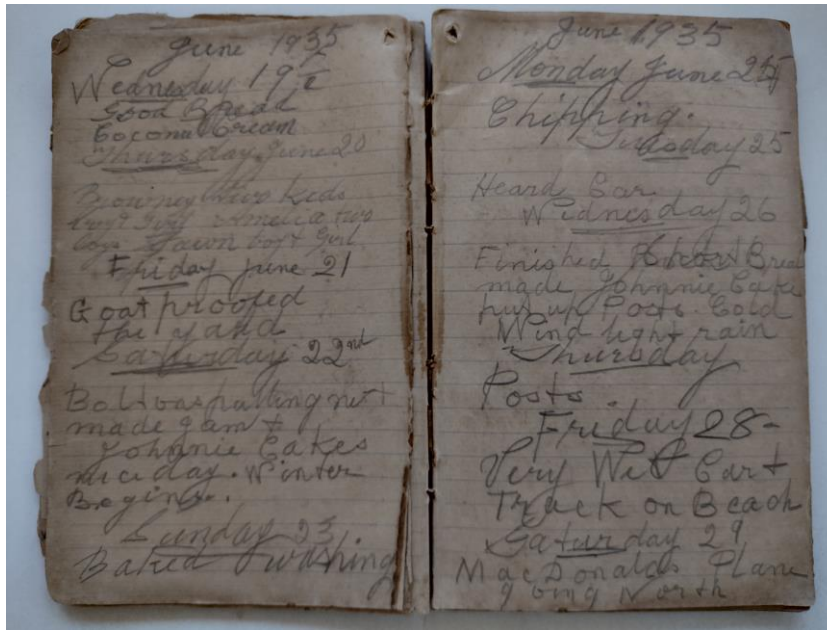
Next was a less formal diary for 1935 and 1936 in a small notebook. That looked like a write-off.



Webb Diary 1935-36, courtesy of Wheatley family.

This one contained diary entries from 14 May 1935 to 03 February 1936.

It was a little more difficult to decipher. However, most of it seemed legible ... this page tells us there was a truck on the beach June 28 and George heard a car passing by on June 25.



George Webb's Diary 1935-36, courtesy the Wheatley family.

Some reading and analysis would soon determine if this record was worth retaining and preserving among our research papers so it would be available to future generations interested in our district's history.

I reached a conclusion quickly: this was certainly a valuable record. In the 1935-36 diary, George had also recorded his shopping lists from 1929 to 1933 (see Appendix 1). That allows readers to see what sorts of food and supplies people commonly purchased in the 1930s. It paints quite a different picture when compared with a 2022 supermarket shopping list.

## ANALYSIS OF DIARIES

The challenge now is to see if there are significant differences between the diary revelations and the impressions we have from any histories written since he died. We have analysed the diary entries and counted how many times he cited meetings with people and common issues or events.

After transcribing the 1937 diary then extracting the 1935 and 1936 entries I was given some notes by Don Wheatley that were written by Sheena McEachan (nee Rick) in September 2000. George's diary had already been transcribed by Sheena and they were accurate. Further, Sheena had access to a 1918 diary that had not been revealed to me. This had only a few of the days recorded for the year yet was an amazing record, nonetheless. On 10 March 1918, George merely entered the words, 'Terrible cyclone.' The description of George as, '*a man of few words*' was apt.

That cyclone was among the few genuine category 5 cyclones to have crossed the coast of Queensland after European settlement. Cyclone 'Mahina' in 1899 which crossed at Princess Charlotte Bay was the most powerful cyclone to cross the Queensland coast after British settlement. It is claimed that the barometer dropped to 914 hPa and some suggest much lower figures. The 1918 cyclone referred to by George Webb is widely regarded as the most severe cyclone to have crossed the Queensland coast near to a large population.<sup>12</sup>

Its central pressure was recorded at 926 hPa and only cyclone Yasi in 2011 comes close to that for Queensland cyclones crossing near to towns since. That was recorded at 929 hPa. George gave it merely two words in his diary entry so he could not be accused of exaggerating. In comparison, Edmund Banfield in his fourth book, *Last Leaves from Dunk Island*<sup>13</sup>, wrote an entire chapter about this cyclone. He recorded it as a short yet incredibly intense event and his descriptions were as detailed and dramatic as George's were brief and understated:

The devastating assault lasted about half an hour; it was followed by a lull, succeeded by another attack from the north and west ... Within a few minutes the demons of the air were crazy with fury. The course of the storm was brief – a little over a hundred miles. The dangerous phase was not experienced for more than twenty miles to the south ... Huge coco-nut palms .... lie uprooted or broken at the base, or lean at pitiable angles... Veering of the wind to the north west, since it took place about the hour of high water, occasioned a tidal wave ...

Dorothy Jones<sup>14</sup> and Constance Mackness both say that George Webb was present at the Hull River Aboriginal Settlement the day after the cyclone. Mackness said that Webb found the victims at the Settlement<sup>15</sup> and that they '*were buried on the hill where the settlement had stood and the grave was covered with shells to mark the spot.*' Dorothy Jones said the same thing<sup>16</sup> but George Webb told locals that the graves were not on the hill but are down on the foreshore and were covered with a large pile of coral and many burial stones. However, subsequent research uncovered government

<sup>12</sup> Jeff Callaghan, *Hardenup Queensland, Case Study: The Innisfail Cyclone*, 1918. 2011, accessed October 2021 at [https://hardenup.org/umbraco/customContent/media/632\\_Innisfail\\_Cyclone\\_1918.pdf](https://hardenup.org/umbraco/customContent/media/632_Innisfail_Cyclone_1918.pdf)

<sup>13</sup> E J Banfield, *Last Leaves from Dunk Island*, Angus and Robertson, 1925 chapter 1, *The Tempest*.

<sup>14</sup> Dorothy Jones, *Cardwell Shire Story*, Jacaranda Press, 1961, page 309.

<sup>15</sup> Miss Constance Mackness, 1959, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition 1983, *Clump Point and District an historical record of Tam O'Shanter, South Mission Beach, Mission Beach, Bingil Bay, Garner's Beach and Kurrimine*, G.K. Bolton, Cairns, page 27.

<sup>16</sup> Dorothy Jones, *Cardwell Shire Story*, Jacaranda Press, 1961, page 310



correspondence<sup>17</sup> confirming that the John and Kathleen Kenny were buried on the hill near their destroyed homestead while the Aboriginal dead were buried near the beach.

The numbers of Aboriginal people believed to have been killed at the site in the 1918 cyclone also varies with some saying three (Webb's 1918 diary 11 March) and others<sup>18</sup> saying 12, perhaps many more, were ultimately found dead on or near the site. Constance Mackness also said that Kathleen<sup>19</sup> was the step-daughter of Jack Kenny, the Superintendent of the institution.

Constance Mackness spoke of the way that George Webb obtained his mail<sup>20</sup>. Until Edmund Banfield's death, he rowed to Dunk weekly for the mail and after that he went to Narragon – the latter is confirmed in the diaries (visits to Mackness at Narragon). In the Commonwealth electoral rolls from 1928 on, George and Lilian listed their address as Narragon Beach (Mackness' home where they collected the mail) whereas earlier they had their address as Koongul via Dunk Island.<sup>21</sup>

In all, the diaries cover about 90 weeks' of George Webb's life story. Common citations of people and topics are listed in two tables below.

| Issue Mentioned                                | Days cited | Comments                                     |
|--|------------|--|
| Weather  | 201        |  |
| Steamers or boats at Dunk, on beach or passing | 142        | Mainly to Dunk, regular steamers             |
| Visits by George to others                     | 144        | Often went for tea or met people on beach    |
| Visits to George                               | 111        |  |
| Property maintenance, gardening                | 84         |  |
| Housework, cooking, washing                    | 76         |  |
| Went for mail                                  | 76         |  |
| Planes on beach or seen flying                 | 62         | Mainly 1935                                  |
| Fishing, hunting, shooting animals, birds      | 41         | Ate a lot of birds and animals               |
| Lights status at Dunk                          | 36         | Started 1937                                 |
| Farming activity                               | 37         |  |
| Wildlife observations                          | 35         |  |
| Went to surveyors camp/road works              | 28         |  |
| Received mail, letters                         | 21         | 11 wife, 3 nephew Bill, 2 Elizabeth @ school |
| Saw cattle, horses, bikes or tracks on beach   | 21         |  |
| Letters written                                | 19         |  |
| Went to El Arish                               | 19         |  |
| Events on Dunk Island                          | 16         |  |
| Saw or met the Brasseys or their boats         | 16         | Boats named Sunbeam and Twilight             |
| Supplied fruit                                 | 15         |  |
| Cars on beach                                  | 14         | 1935 & 1936 not 1937                         |
| Quiet day                                      | 12         |  |
| To Tully                                       | 11         |  |
| Met First Nations people                       | 10         |  |
| Saw RAN ships at Dunk                          | 11         |  |
| Went to Dunk                                   | 9          |  |
| Shells collected or sent                       | 5          |  |

<sup>17</sup> Ken Campbell, *Superintendent Kenny: The Hull River Aboriginal Settlement*, Mission Beach Historical Society H025, pp 32-33.

<sup>18</sup> C4 website, *Hull River Aboriginal Settlement*, accessed December 2021 at <https://www.cassowaryconservation.asn.au/indigenous-history.html>.

<sup>19</sup> Miss Constance Mackness, 1959, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition 1983, *Clump Point and District an historical record of Tam O'Shanter, South Mission Beach, Mission Beach, Bingil Bay, Garner's Beach and Kurrimine*, G.K. Bolton, Cairns, page 26.

<sup>20</sup> Miss Constance Mackness, 1959, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition 1983, *Clump Point and District an historical record of Tam O'Shanter, South Mission Beach, Mission Beach, Bingil Bay, Garner's Beach and Kurrimine*, G.K. Bolton, Cairns, page 50.

<sup>21</sup> Electoral Rolls Cardwell-Tully and Geraldton-Innisfail 1903 to 1937 accessed November 2021.

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| Swim           | 4 |
| To Innisfail   | 4 |
| Haircut        | 4 |
| Lottery ticket | 4 |

The most common citations, apart from weather commentary of course, were seeing movements of steamers and boats to and from the beach and Dunk Island. Visits by George to others living in the district and nearby were also commonly recorded. Indeed, if we look at their frequency, he was a person at this time who was entirely outgoing and actively engaged with the community. Three days a week he met with others, often for tea or dinner. He enjoyed the company of others and sought these frequent interactions actively himself and many locals had strong relationships with him and enjoyed his company.

The people he most often met and socialised with are listed in the table below. ‘Old Smith’ was known as ‘Gunboat Smith’ and Don Wheatley<sup>22</sup> knew him when he was a boy and said he was squatting in a tin shed on land near to the Big Cassowary statue site at Wongaling Beach, possibly on Alex Dunlop’s land.

Some of the notable people of the district at the time, Alex Dunlop, Peter White and Len Mackness, were regularly interacting with George and he had many friends who he visited in El Arish and Tully as well as at Mission beach. He often travelled widely, north to Bingil Bay or Garners Beach and south to as far as the Hull River to see friends.

| People Mentioned               | No. cited | Comments                                    |
|--------------------------------|-----------|---|
| Smith family                   | 27        | Mainly ‘old Smith’ usually for tea          |
| Dunlop family                  | 27        | Mainly Alex. Often for tea                  |
| Hanson family                  | 24        | Mainly Max, often for tea                   |
| Bolton family                  | 16        |   |
| Barrett family                 | 15        | Mainly Ollie                                |
| Mackness family Narragon Beach | 15        |   |
| White family                   | 11        | Mainly Peter, later Chairman Cardwell Shire |
| Juhas family                   | 10        | Suppliers                                   |
| Watkins family                 | 9         | Mainly Ted from Cardwell who owned a boat   |
| O’Donnell family               | 9         | Surveyor at road camp, supplier             |
| Scott family                   | 9         | Mainly Don                                  |
| Law family El Arish?           | 8         | Often tea                                   |
| Driscoll family                | 7         | Jim   |
| McDiarmid family Tully         | 7         |   |
| Harris and son, David          | 7         | Bedarra Island owner                        |
| Hillcher family                | 6         | Joan and Desmond                            |
| Theim family                   | 6         | Business at Dunk                            |
| Jones family                   | 6         | Tom and Arnold Jones, road foreman          |
| Spenser & Hollis Hopkins       | 6         | Past Dunk owners, small holding kept        |
| Stock family                   | 5         | Bill  |
| Johnson family                 | 4         |   |
| Irving family                  | 4         | Jock, El Arish, tea                         |
| Gillett family                 | 4         |   |
| Wildsoet family                | 4         | Chris; timbergetter                         |
| Morris family                  | 4         |   |
| Buntings                       | 4         | Jack  |
| Rupert Fenby                   | 4         |   |

<sup>22</sup> Ken Gray, *Wheatley Beach Tales*, Mission Beach Historical Society, 2021, page 75.

|                           |   |                            |
|---------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| Beaman                    | 3 |                            |
| Kennys                    | 3 | Jack                       |
| Bill Porter               | 3 |                            |
| Charlie Nelson            | 3 | Dunk Island                |
| Truethardt family         | 3 | Dunk Island resort manager |
| John Wylie Narragon Beach | 3 | Wylie's Creek              |
| Paddy Ferris              | 3 |                            |
| James family              | 3 | Tom, James Road?           |
| Nugget Rivett             | 3 |                            |
| Malin family              | 3 |                            |

He interacted with most of the people known to live in the area at the time and not all mentions are listed in the table above. For example he mentions the Reids only once and the Unsworths twice (this table lists people he mentions three times or more.) The one not mentioned in the diaries is Edmond Frizelle, the Irish butterfly collector who lived in Garners Beach and was educated at Oxford University, and George did not go to the Garners' place to visit and only mentions them briefly. He mentions Banfield only once, but he obviously knew him very well as he went to Dunk regularly before 1923 to obtain mail and supplies every week.

In her book, *Cardwell Shire Story*, Dorothy Jones tells of a returned soldier, Sydney Woodfield Harris<sup>23</sup> who died in a fire while clearing his land in November 1921. George was one of a team of four with Banfield, Beaman and Fenby, who created a cairn where Sydney Harris was buried. War records show<sup>24</sup> that Sydney Harris enlisted in August 1914 in the Tropical Unit of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion which was not involved in the eviction of the small force of Germans guarding the radio station at Rabaul, New Britain, but took over after the battle was won and the radio station destroyed. His unit remained in Rabaul as an occupying force for the duration of the war and Sidney was discharged 28 February 1921. He spent less than eight months on his farm at Mission Beach and was clearing the land to create a vanilla crop before his sad demise.

George shot nearly everything that moved on his land and usually ate it. Pigeons, wallabies, bush chooks, you name it, they were on the menu for George. He recorded his love of small birds in his diary. He often mentions sunbirds (one he named 'Sarah'). However, they were the only critters that escaped his rifle for over 27 years.

Lists of some of his common shopping items are quite revealing and these are summarized in Appendix 1. He was an accomplished cook and often baked bread, biscuits and cakes and cooked a wide variety of meals using many ingredients. He was not simply a meat and veg man. He grew fruit such as pineapples, mangos and bananas and provided that to locals but was not sending fruit off to external markets by this time. He started on the pension in 1937 to augment his income from farm produce. Occasionally, he sent shells down south as well, but that was irregular.

George was ever curious about Dunk Island happenings and this was the time when Hugo Brassey owned most of the leasehold land on the island<sup>25</sup>. The diaries show he knew Hugo and his wife Christa, a Baroness from Germany, but he did not know them well and on one occasion he went to visit them unannounced and was sent away after being offered refreshments. In the diaries,

<sup>23</sup> Dorothy Jones, *Cardwell Shire Story*, Jacaranda Press, 1961, page 312.

<sup>24</sup> Ancestry.com.au *War Records Sidney Woodfield Harris* accessed October 2021 at [https://www.ancestry.com.au/family-tree/person/tree/177669542/person/362307934315/facts?\\_phsrc=Fga47&\\_phstart=successSource](https://www.ancestry.com.au/family-tree/person/tree/177669542/person/362307934315/facts?_phsrc=Fga47&_phstart=successSource)

<sup>25</sup> Ken Gray, *Our Own Gatsby: Hugo Brassey of Dunk Island*, 2021, Mission Beach Historical Society, H002.

George often records the status of the lights on Dunk. Hugo purchased the diesel generators once used to power the NSW town of Ballina<sup>26</sup> and there was no electricity in Mission Beach at the time; that came 25 years later, in 1962.

The topic of passing planes or planes landing on the beach was also a common theme in the diaries. There was no air strip at the time on Dunk Island, but that was soon to come and Constance Mackness noted at one stage that a plane once landed on Mission Beach and was lost in soft sand and ended up in the sea, so planes stopped landing on the beach<sup>27</sup>. However, in this period, from mid-1935 to the end of 1937, planes were frequently landing on Mission Beach.

There were two other important events that occurred in the district at this time. The first he saw yet did not note its relative importance. The HMAS *Australia II*, Australia's flagship of the RAN fleet, a heavy cruiser, arrived at Dunk Island<sup>28</sup>. George records that accurately yet says nothing of why it was here. On board were relatives of Hugo Brassey, Lord and Lady Gowrie (Governor General of Australia), so this was a rare Vice Regal visit. Lady Gowrie was Hugo's aunt and she arrived to celebrate the opening of Hugo's resort dance hall. The ship's band played for the visiting celebrities and it was a fun evening but Christa and Hugo were abroad and missed the party.

The other notable event in that period was the building of the road from El Arish to Mission Beach then the road from Tully to Mission Beach. There was a rough track built in 1924 from Bingil Bay to El Arish by local farmers but Council came in and built a properly gravelled road starting in 1936, but this road detoured at Maria Creek and reached Mission Beach via Fenby's Gap bypassing Bingil Bay. George visited the surveyors camp frequently (at Wongaling Beach near where the Dunk Island Ferry is in 2022) and knew the men well and heard the explosions as they cut through rock faces probably on the new road to Tully.

George's unedited diary entries are recorded in this article (next pages) where they are legible so that future historical researchers will have access to that useful record.

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<sup>26</sup> Ken Gray, *Our Own Gatsby: Hugo Brassey of Dunk Island*, 2021, Mission Beach Historical Society, H002, page 5.

<sup>27</sup> Miss Constance Mackness, 1959, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition 1983, Clump Point and District an historical record of Tam O'Shanter, South Mission Beach, Mission Beach, *Bingil Bay, Garner's Beach and Kurrimine*, G.K. Bolton, Cairns, page 62.

<sup>28</sup> Ken Gray, *Our Own Gatsby: Hugo Brassey of Dunk Island*, 2021, Mission Beach Historical Society, H002, page 5.

## THE DIARIES

## JANUARY 1937

- 01 North wind and showers. Boats at Dunk.
- 02 To Clump Point Mrs B Johnson, Maud Bimrose 5, Eva 21. Girls. Wet day.
- 03 Fine day.
- 04 Alex Dunlop along for some clothes pegs.
- 05 Got a crab in creek.
- 06 Bill Stock, Max Hansen, Alex Dunlop up to see if I would sell a kid to White's scrub fallers.
- 07 Windy, caught an eel.
- 08 Got mail. Letter from nephew Bill and paper.
- 09 Done washing. Boats at Dunk.
- 10 Visit by Mr Harris from Dunk.
- 11 Desmond Hillcher, Driscoll, Mrs Dunlop and self along beach as far as White's pegs.
- 12 Got a crab.
- 13 Goods arrive from Nolan's Melville. Driver takes some bunches of bananas back.
- 14 Noel Woods (sic) and Mr Harris from Bedarra.
- 15 Rain and winds swept house.
- 16 New tube in bike. Wind and rain.
- 17 Owen Barrett for tea and evening.
- 18 Shot a mullet. Tomato heterosis.
- 19 Small boat going north towing another I think. Ollie.
- 20 Went to Tam O'Shanter and caught a 3lbs pig nose.
- 21 For mail. Tea at old Smith's.
- 22 Desmond and Joan Hillcher along with Driscoll.
- 23 No lights on Dunk.
- 24 Joan Hillcher 11, 23 February 1937
- 25 Wrote two letters. Ron Dickson goes to college Rockhampton.
- 26 (Anniversary, Foundation of Australia 1788). Saw Len Mackness and Driscoll at Dunlops. Tea at old Smith's.
- 27 Speared a mullet.
- 28 Mail. Tea at old Smith's. Thunder.

29 Two scrub hens one shot.

30 Lights on Dunk.

31 Mr Dunlop along on horseback.

## FEBRUARY

01 (Observed as Australia Anniversary Day Public Holiday all States.) Two masted boat at Dunk.

02 East wind. Cattle driven south along beach.

03 Plane gliding. Steamer at Dunk.

04 To Dunlops for mail. I get a Dailey Sketch. Tea at old Smith's.

05 13 foot carpet snake coiled around kid.

06 Caught crabs and creek cod.

07 Quinlan and Findley's from Bells.

08 Six lb rock cod on line at bridge. 4 horses and a bike along beach.

09 Horse track Max going north. Thunder storm.

10 Light at Dunk. Wrote letter.

11 Steamer at Dunk. Bill Stock, Max and Paddy at Dunlops.

12 Calm. Had a swim.

13 Max and Bill to Tully on bikes.

14 South east swell, cloudy.

15 Heard car on Mission Hill.

16 Sprayed Jack Fruit tree.

17 Sunbeam home. Dunk lit up. (*Scribe: Sunbeam is a Hugo Brassey boat.*)

18 Received notice re Appeal Board. Muriel and Mr Goodwin along beach.

19 Fine day. North east wind.

20 Wrote two letters re appeal.

21 Wrote letter. Washed got ready for Tully.

22 98330. To Tully and back on bike. Cup of tea D McKinnons, saw Mr McDiarmid, Mr A Jones, J Buttler, Mr Morris. Posted letters. Got a casket ticket. No 22.

23 Barrett (Owen) up for water, two billy cans? Going to work on Reids, now Whites.

24 Steamer at Dunk. Two trips Butlers. Calm weather. Owls hooting.

25 Nugget Rivetts up for bananas. Sunbeam over from Dunk. I went to Dunlops for mail. Tea at Smiths.



26 Angus Campbell, J Hopkins and Laurie by boat from Townsville. East wind.

27 Plane on beach. Boat over from Dunk. Rain.

28 Two planes on beach in morning and one in afternoon.

## MARCH

01 Showery. 3 out fishing in Dunlops flattie. I killed a kid. No lights on Dunk.

02 Rain. Cattle along each, whip cracking. Light on spit.

03 Buttlers at Dunk. Fine day. Baked.

04 Wet. To Dunlop's for mail. Max and W Scott go to Tully on bikes. Steamer at Dunk. Tea at old Smiths.

05 steamer at Dunk. Buttlers left 5pm. South east wind. Mans track on beach walking north.

06 To vote. Tea at Laws, saw pup.

07 Got some bananas.

08 Mr Collins (bank). To Tully met C Wildsoet, T Garner, Jones, MacKinnon. Rain on way home. Mr Morris D.

09 Showers, washing.

10 To Peter Whites. Shot heifer, good meat. Rain. Steamer at Dunk.

11 Rain. To D for mail. Blue stone salt paste soap spread on surface. Gordon Johnson.

12 Solid rain all day. Set bread.

13 A fine day, NE wind. Baked (Poley?)

14 Steamer at Dunk going south also Buttlers.

15 Fine day north wind wrote letter yesterday.

16 Max along for dinner. He and Gordon Johnson getting flattie from Whites.

17 Steamer at Dunk, also Buttlers. Fine day.

18 To Dunlops for mail. Tea at Smiths. Letter favourable re pension.

19 Piebald pack horse along beach also bike. Wet morning.

20 Killed a kid. Fine day, several planes.

21 Rain. Autumn.

22 Showers. Plane dropped something on Dunk.

23 Plane going south, low. Fine day SE wind.

24 Tom White, Barrett and I forget his name along beach from Peter Whites. Tom ? on others Reids.

- 25 No mail. Tea at Smiths and Dunlops. Lights on Dunk. Plane on beach.
- 26 (Good Friday). Tom White up for some kerosene tins. Plane on beach. Buttlers boat at Dunk.
- 27 Buttlers boat lands about 30 passengers on Dunk.
- 28 Got mail. Tea at Smiths, Max, friends.
- 29 Plane on beach. Boat over from Dunk. Fine day. Pigeons.
- 30 Plane on beach. Boat over from Dunk. No lights on Dunk.
- 31 To D for mail. Tea at old Smiths. Airmail letter from wife. No lights on Dunk.

## A P R I L

- 01 No lights on Dunk. Showers SE. Cattle along beach going south Whites.
- 02 Patched up the track mangroves. SE wind. Morning showers.
- 03 Lights on Dunk. SE wind, cloudy.
- 04 Rough wind. Showers SE.
- 05 Two birds. Lights on Dunk. Fine day, windy.
- 06 Two master at Dunk. Whites drive cattle along beach. Fine day.
- 07 Buttlers at Dunk also 2 master. Planes over in morning. Fine weather.
- 08 Bit of brushing. Fine day. Lights on Dunk.
- 09 Lights on Dunk. S E wind, fine.
- 10 Lights on Dunk.
- 11 Letter re pension. I biked to El Arish.
- 12 Epstappos? El Arish. Bike with Jock into Innisfail. Rail motor. Pollicks (sic) home. (*Scribe – that is probably Arthur Pollock and his wife who were managing the Dunk Island resort for Hugo Brassey at the time*).
- 13 In Innisfail by rail motor 6.35 am. 20 miles 3/3 arrive 8am.
- 14 Eva and John Hendricksen, Chris and Peggy Theim, ? 5.30am El Arish 7am.
- 15 Steamer at Dunk also Buttlers. Fine day, cold nights. Now building going up at Dunk.
- 16 Probably Dance Hall. Set bread, Calm and cloudy.
- 17 Copeland. Mr Harris gets fruit. Mr Dunlop and cattle.
- 18 Dunlop boys up by motor launch.
- 19 Shooting at Tam O'Shanter Point rifle. Washing. Fine day.
- 20 Dunlop boat over to Dunk and back. Steamer at Dunk.

- 21 Albert and mate up on way from Tully going to barrier reef tomorrow. Back on Friday evening.
- 22 Reached Barrier about 2pm, camped on sand dune, Len, Wylie, myself and Dunlop boys and 3 friends rowing flattie.
- 23 On Barrier visited another sand dune fishing poor. Strong wind NWest. Home about 6.30 time travelling about 3<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> hours.
- 24 A little brush hook work. Twilight high and dry (*Scribe: Hugo Brasseys boat*).
- 25 (Anzac Day) To Dunk Theims and Mr Horsford (sic), Shez? Smith.
- 26 Cygnet going south. Washing. Hansen boys went to Murray River.
- 27 No visiting boats at Dunk. Heard a turkey.
- 28 Hansen boys Cygnet went to Innisfail. Young Smith falls on way back to Feluga. Steamer at Dunk.
- 29 Driscoll and old Smith along, Brassey residence lit up. Probably Mrs Brassey home.
- 30 Two letters from wife. At boy camp on beach card playing.

## MAY

- 01 To Dunlops for some meat. Letter from Rosie.
- 02 Moran rope. Find later.
- 03 Albert and Eric to Tully on bikes.
- 04 Albert and Eric out from Tully about 4pm. Sailing boat off Dunk.
- 05 Windy. To Laws for tea.
- 06 Steamer at Dunk, also Buttlers.
- 07 Hansen boys leave about 4pm on way home to Proserpine. Left the brook.
- 08 Went to Tam O'Shanter. Showers.
- 09 Boat going north, close in 7pm.
- 10 Max goes to Aleseen? Plane on beach. Dunk well lit up. New moon. Fine day, cool night.
- 11 Went to Dunlops for mail, only registered. Tea at old Smiths.
- 12 Coronation steamer at Dunk, plenty flags on her.
- 13 Two bunches of bananas from old clearing.
- 14 Peter White and C Barrett up, Brassey pulling net on beach.
- 15 Done my washing. Red tail plane over Dunk.
- 16 Bert and Mr Morris up for fruit.
- 17 Tom White and another along beach on horse. Big smoke at Tam O'Shanter. Fine day.

18 Went to Dunk with Driscoll and D Hillcher. Tea at Rivetts. Mrs Zamora at Dunk. Allen Cameron.

19 Jim Driscoll, Desmond Hillcher along.

20 Went to Clump Point for mail. Steamer at Dunk. Showers, Mr Jeffs hotel proprietor.

21 Marty Hoban along to Dunlops 5pm.

22 Fitzgerald for bananas, Smith.

23 Set bread. Max to Tully.

24 Spenser and Kathleen, Annie (Booval), Wallace (Geelong).

25 To Alexanders for mail met Driscoll; Les and C fixing tree Garners Beach.

26 Bob Rodgers on Sings lory. Tea at Mr and Mrs Gibbs (Smith).

27 Fine weather. A hawk about, got in trap.

28 SE wind, change working up.

29 Windy SE. No planes.

30 Got letter re pension.

31 Went to Ell (sic) Arish got on pension and certificate. Tea at Jock Irving, joined league.

## JUNE

01 Hawk about. Mullett in creek.

02 To camp at Hull. No goods arrive. Murray and Bowman lory.

03 Buttlers at Dunk.

04 Max along. Pigs eating Whites bull.

05 Steamer going N, did not stop at Dunk. Cool weather.

06 Sold some bananas road workers.

07 Got my goods from camp. Got rates notice Dunlops. Tea at old Smiths.

08 Cut some stove wood.

09 Max along in the evening, 2 dogs.

10 Ell Arish and then to Tully by train. Stayed night at Tully. Tea at Macs.

11 Hillcher got teeth at Richardson saw. Nugget and Harris came home. Wet weather.

12 Kids in garden. Showery.

13 Washing.

14 Wood, Set bread. Fine weather again. Boat at Bedarra.

15 Roof going on the hall at Dunk. SE wind.

- 16 Mr Harris and son over from Dunk for some fruit.
- 17 Steamer at Dunk, also Buttlers. Showery.
- 18 Red tail plane over Dunk. Roof on dance hall Dunk. Jenkins.
- 19 Scrub hen.
- 20 Max along with mail also Mrs and Mr Gillett from camp.
- 21 Wrote letters. Brushing. Set bread.
- 22 Shot a flying fox.
- 23 Kintore at Dunk. Also Buttlers.
- 24 Mildred Kean. To Ell Arish Mrs Kean, Mr Shubridge. Home by Fenby Gap.
- 25 Coconut cream and stew.
- 26 Stove wood. Horse along beach I think Max.
- 27 Made Buttlers coconut.
- 28 (Kings Birthday). Washing. Lights failed for a while at Dunk. Horse track along beach.
- 29 Ox cheek stew, steam dumpling. Set bread.
- 30 Shot at a hawk. Wallaby on clearing.

## JULY

- 01 Steamer at Dunk. Buttlers. Light in hall – starry night.
- 02 Max along to tea, going to Whites.
- 03 Twilight goes N and returns with passengers (*Scribe: Brassey boat*).
- 04 Twilight towing small boat. FS.
- 05 Went for mail, none. Alexanders would not take delivery from Laws.
- 06 VHUP! Plane going south 5pm (*very high up?*). Twilight goes south. S wind.
- 07 About 50 folk on Dunk. SE wind. Made citron jam.
- 08 To Ell Arish, very windy, back by Fenby Gap.
- 09 Windy and light rain. Buttlers at Dunk.
- 10 Rain. Baked. Steamer goes south.
- 11 Horse tracks along beach going south.
- 12 3 hens laying.
- 13 Gillett and another from road camp going to Tam O'Shanter.
- 14 To P Whites for tea. Mr Dickenson. Steamer at Dunk. Max and Bill Slack to see pig damage.

- 15 Mr Dickenson and Max for lunch. Max looking for pigs.
- 16 Max along for dinner. P White takes his cattle back from Reids.
- 17 Plane flew around.
- 18 Max along with petition re mail.
- 19 Mail. Baked.
- 20 Tommy Nelson and young Morris and a lady over from Dunk for fruit.
- 21 Some lads up from the Australia Cruiser. Red tail plane back and forth. *Scribe: was that HMAS Australia II?*
- 22 Steamer at Dunk. *Australia* still there.
- 23 *Australia* left sunrise. Done some sweeping.
- 24 To Ell Arish and back in Law's car, Royal Mail (snapped?)
- 25 Lights in Brassey residence. Plane on beach.
- 26 Baked bread. Cold SE and drizzle at night.
- 27 Dam (sic) rain!
- 28 Jim Smith, Tonio and another from road camp. Drizzling evening.
- 29 Dunshea and Catalina. Red light on Dunk. 3 other visitors from camp.
- 30 Steamer at Dunk also Butlers also a 2 mast.
- 31 Large boat at Dunk, flag on staff.

## AUGUST

- 01 Large boat at Dunk, plenty people (tent).
- 02 Fred Bolton and 2 other lads on beach, Remington 22 repeater and 2 dogs.
- 03 Fixed up shells for Dr Dixon DSO. Set bread. Plane on beach. Read mail.
- 04 Steamer at Dunk.
- 05 To Ell Arish tea at Irvings. Casket Ticket 496 No 39044. Mail. Letter from Elizabeth.
- 06 Ket Barrett on beach. I got some olive shells. Strong S wind.
- 07 3 shirts, 1 cloth, 1 belt, 2 towels, 2 tea towels. Plane over.
- 08 Blasting in creek. 2 pops, very windy.
- 09 The Twilight away. Showery.
- 10 Smith and Gillett along from camp. Smith borrowed daily sketch coronation numbers.
- 11 3 brolgas flew over. Planted out a few tomato.
- 12 Butlers at Dunk. Light on spit and red light beacon. Baked.



- 13 Buttlers at Dunk. Silver Quay leavy loaded.
- 14 To Macknesses for mail, got wheel hoe.
- 15 Buttlers at Dunk. Duck in flight.
- 16 Cruiser *Canberra* anchored at Dunk. No leave to mainland.
- 17 *Canberra* still here, no leave to mainland. I saw two Torres Strait pigeons.
- 18 Steamer at Dunk.
- 19 To Ell Arish Toohey Bridge? Contract. Holmes Accordion S insurance Bullock driver.
- 20 Made cream. Two mast boat at Dunk.
- 21 For mail to Mack. Old Smith on beach. Dust atmosphere.
- 22 Got some shells Tam O'Shanter.
- 23 Washing. Fine day.
- 24 Sail boat. Red tail over Dunk. I shot iguana.
- 25 Steamer and Buttlers at Dunk. Plane on beach. Fine day.
- 26 Cleaning, garden. Light in bay. Plane on beach this morning.
- 27 Mr Georgensen. Tully on bike.
- 28 For mail paper. 2 lights on Dunk.
- 29 Two master at Dunk, no lights.
- 30 Washing. Two master still at Dunk. No lights.
- 31 Destroyer at Dunk. Wrote letter.

## SEPTEMBER

- 01 To Tully stayed with MacDairmids. Pictures with Mac and Mr Mann (Swing time)
- 02 By rail to Ell Arish. Tea at Jocks (Jim and Ethel Lee). Home 1pm. Steamer at Dunk 66641.
- 03 Two large boats t Dunk. Cut some bananas.
- 04 Sarah setting.
- 05 Washing, quiet day.
- 06 Plane on beach boat over from Dunk. Baked.
- 07 SE wind and showers evening. Kid missing.
- 08 Steamer and Buttlers at Dunk. Cattle along beach.
- 09 Boat from Dunk along the beach. Showers.
- 10 Dunk lit up again. Full lights. Clear weather.

- 11 To Macknesses for mail. Lights at Dunk. Steamer there morning. Going south, Buttlers.
- 12 Washing.
- 13 2 dingies fishing south of Purteboi. Showers. Plane at 5pm.
- 14 Got some bananas. Letter.
- 15 Heavy rain.
- 16 To Ell Arish. Destroyer D22 at Dunk. (*Scribe: an old WWII destroyer but was used in WWII: HMAS Waterben.*)
- 17 D22 still at Dunk. Flash signal. No shore leave. Bright night.
- 18 D22 left 9.30am. Fine day.
- 19 Kevin Koski, Gibb Gillett bananas.
- 20 Went to Tam O'Shanter got a few oysters and shells. Sarah insulated on Sunday.
- 21 Red sails at Dunk.
- 22 SE wind, one shower.
- 23 Paddy Ferris and another chap on bike going back to look Laws T & E up, 5pm.
- 24 Windy. One light shower only. Small boats at Dunk.
- 25 For mail 2 from wife, 1 from Bill. Showers.
- 26 Clear night, northerly.
- 27 No rain. Washing. Still rough.
- 28 Still blowing. Baked. Got bananas,
- 29 One light Dunk. Shower. Wrote letter. Red tail over.
- 30 504 - 60643. To Ell ARISH Kidner, Mrs Davidson, Marge Williams Gail Delicoe. Steamer at Dunk. Full lights on. Mr Gibb.

## OCTOBER

- 01 Full lights on Dunk. Plenty March flies.
- 02 Got gate posts. 4 horses going north, one man T B post.
- 03 Steamer north of Dunk.
- 04 Fixing gate posts. Lights. 5 horses, flies bad.
- 05 Two master at Dunk.
- 06 Bullocks on beach. March flies bad.
- 07 Bullocks on beach. 3 bells.
- 08 Fixed front gate, Got a scrub hen. 1 egg white.

- 09 For mail. Mrs Lois Horne and family, Mr Campbell.
- 10 2 road workers, bananas.
- 11 Made a coop for the chickens. Red tail over Dunk. Thunder.
- 12 Wrote letters.
- 13 Death of one chick. Small snake that could not swallow it.
- 14 To Ell Arish. Got post card photo of Elizabeth and other snaps old Smith ??.
- 15 Bathe on beach.
- 16 Baked bread. Had a swim.
- 17 Washing. Beach out board along.
- 18 Cut bloodwood sapling for bridge. It will take some time to get it along.
- 19 Iguana got egg. Fine day. Land breeze evening, northerly weather.
- 20 Cleaning, pineapples. Plane low along beach.
- 21 No boats at Dunk. Hazy weather. N wind.
- 22 Chipping fence. Northerly.
23. Voting. Lunch at Laws.
- 24 Mr and Mrs Murray and Annie Murray.
- 25 42201. Shifting stringer for bridge on rollers.
- 26 Quiet. Toby and gin from Fleglers Feluga.
- 27 Hair cut.
- 28 To Ell Arish Max at Davidsons. Got a ticket in 508 casket. Letter from Crystal.
- 29 Sunbird starts nest on E verandah room.
- 30 Boat at Dunk.
- 31 From Dunk W, Ivehouk and Charlie Nelson. Steamer loading timber.

## NOVEMBER

- 01 Washing folded. Sarah bird building in E verandah.
- 02 Getting logs for bridge.
- 03 Butlers and steamers at Dunk. Thunder. Light showers.
- 04 Nature little white l??s left their nest. Fire on Dunk.
- 05 Sunbird two eggs in goat shed.
- 06 Johnson mill H???. Ted and son, Mackness down on beach. Tea at Laws, folk on beach.

- 07 Steamer at Dunk. Sunbird sitting.
- 08 Butlers at Dunk til midday. N weather. Bridge work. Sarah sitting.
- 09 Butlers and Steamer at Dunk. A flock of geese flew over this evening.
- 10 Wrote letters.
- 11 To Ell Arish got a 25lb bag of flour.
- 12 Two master at Dunk goes north.
- 13 A visiting cat.
- 14 Party at Dunk, Butlers and another B.
- 15 Finished bridge, saw surveyors.
- 16 Pigeon stew and dumplings.
- 17 Someone along beach on bike about 5pm, back and forth last going south.
- 18 Posts for foul house. Swamp dry.
- 19 Dunk boats to the Hull and back.
- 20 C Nelson over from Dunk for fruit. A party from Tully at Dunk.
- 21 For mail. At Dunk timber.
- 22 Young sunbirds. Thunder storm.
- 23 Packed shells for C and M Webb Tarnook Victoria. Thunder storm, Heavy rain.
- 24 To Ell Arish. Tea at Jocks. McManus.
- 25 Stranquist Innisfail. To Ell Arish. Sent some shells away to Tarnock by mail. Tea at Jocks. Rain.
- 26 Light showers. Steamer at Dunk. Set bread. Sarah nest robbed after tea or during Innisfail Stranquist.
- 27 Showers. Contractor Hull bridge. Stranquist.
- 28 Washing.
- 29 Small two winged plane VH over, low going north 11 am.
- 30 Two master at Dunk red sails drying at boat shed.

## DECEMBER

- 01 Flare on spit. Plane on beach.
- 02 Saw tracks of croc at creek mouth.
- 13 Steamer at Dunk. Shot a six foot croc at my creek mouth. Boat over from Dunk.
- 04 Mail. Tea at Laws. Met Browns on beach. Boat over from Dunk.
- 05 Plane on beach. Two cyclists.

- 06 Plane on beach. Boat over from Dunk.
- 07 Wrote letter. Preparing for trip to Tully and Ell Arish.
- 08 Up at 4am to Tully. Stay at MacDairmids. Picture show.
- 09 To Ell Arish. Tea at Buntings. Home at 5pm.
- 10 Theims at Dunk taken over Buttlers business.
- 11 Took Mr Wilson to Dunk.
- 12 Clerks and PS and Shire (Sell wood and Thomas?)
- 13 Washing.
- 14 To Tully with hove? Mary Glendenning, Alf Pedley, Collins.
- 15 Theims at Dunk.
- 16 Shot iguana. Got some mangos.
- 17 Light in Brammo Bay 9pm.
- 18 Miss Mackness home by plane from Townsville. Johnson boys on beach.
- 19 Lights on Dunk. Quiet day.
- 20 Got two cockies. No light Dunk. Clear night.
- 21 White lugs? hatched. Killed a carpet snake.
- 22 Plane over 6.30am or 6am.
- 23 To Ell Arish. Browns on beach. Charlie Nelson on beach. Brassey over for time.
- 24 Full lights on Dunk. Wireless in hall.
- 25 (Xmas). Watson, MacDairmid, Beaman presents.
- 26 Albert Hanson on bike.
- 27 Visited Beaman and Colyers? Albert.
- 28 To Dunk with Albert Hanson. No fish. Late storm 8.30pm.
- 29 Mr Colyer, Mr Beaman, Mr Johnson, Billy J and Mr Smith along. Steamer at Dunk.
- 30 Pulled the net caught some fish.
- 31 Early morning dip. WE wind 92 in shade. Game of cribb.

## DIARY 1935

## MAY

14 Mrs Webb left Brisbane on Largo Bay en route to England

20 I went to Tully and back

26 Fine day, cold night

30 10 by on way from Bryce Henry to Andrew Illage (pigeons)

31 Alex Dunlop up with mail.

## JUNE

01 Fred Bolton up with letter for post. Showery. My turn mail, got some records off Len

02 Fine day, washing

05 Pass book page 921 balance 281-17-3. To Dunlops for tea. Fine day.

06 Split up 6 posts; first egg for months

07 Helping load off Dunlop goods into Watkins boat

08 Three pigeons fly. Got a letter from wife from Adelaide and one from niece Annie from Perth.

09 Washing

10 Cat

11 Ollie and Mr McNab and Wylie. Shot turkey.

12 Shot wallaby. 3 eggs. Collected posts. Showers.

13 Steamer at Dunk.

14 Chipping. Windy.

15 Went for mail. Ray late 5pm.

16 Quiet day people at Dunk

17 Dunlops left beach per Watkins launch 6am for Cardwell. Barrett H and I and old Smith assisted in moonlight FLIT.

18 Nice day, chipping. 2 pigeons. Bananas.

19 Good bread. Coconut cream.

20 Brassey? Two kids Amelia and two boys

21 Goat proofed the yard

22 Boltons putting net in. Made jam and Johnnie cakes, Nice day winter beginning

23 Baked. Washing.



24 Chipping

25 Heard car.

26 Finished short bread and made Johnnie cake. Put up posts. Cold wind light rain.

27 Posts

28 Very wet. Car and tracks on beach.

29 MacDonalds plane going north. Frigate birds going north. Wind and rain.

30 Wet, light rain. Airoplane twice or two going south and one going north 5.30pm. 1 kid. Black girl (Poley)

## JULY

01 Went for mail, wet. Johnson boys go away for season in launch.

02 Norris came along and killed heifer took half. Barrett called up for a while.

03 Innisfail at Dunk. Cleaned bike. Head ache.

04 Tied up goats; foot out of joint.

05 Boat at Dunk might be Theims

06 Aeroplane passed overhead going south.

07 G Donnell on beach with car, also Bolton. Say Theim camped on Dunk Island.

08 Cut hair. Fine day. Chipping. Moonlight light.

09 Went for mail. Letter from Jean and wife and Bill. Miss Mackness home and witnessed my signature for winding up of uncle John's estate.

10 Fine day, chipping. New nest found dozen eggs, made coconut cream.

11 Steamer left Dunk about 1.30pm. Broke handle of trenching tool. Showers.

12 Chevrolet utility stuck in mouth of my creek' Juhas owner paid on mileage by surveyor. O'Donnell got it out with Chinaman winch. Two stayed the night Mr and Mrs Juhas.

13 Got the truck going, swept out etc, cleaned lamps ...?

14 Theims over for the Bolton crowd took them over to Dunk on the day airplane along the beach. Lovely day.

15 Shot a wallaby. Made cream. Nice day.

16 Full moon. Chipping. Wrote 3 letters.

17 Went for mail. Boltions, Florrie and Mrs return from a few days on Dunk with Theims.

18 Eggs on water glass 3 dozen? Steamer left Dunk 7am. Wind SE.

19 Went for mail then to surveyor camp over the Hull then along the beach to mouth of Hull. Stayed night at Ollies.

20 I am to Tully on Bills lory out again by old route. Tarts and tea at O'Donnells and paid for lory. Groceries from Robertsons.

21 Went along t see Barrett met two cyclists and old chap from Tully. Picked first tomato.

22 Florrie Bolton and Art half bar of soap and a box of matches. Washing. Chipping.

23 SE winds. Mr Barrett along for tea and evening. Borrowed a bit for poring posts.

24 Chipping.

25 Mr and Mrs Juhas early morning with my goods. Baked bread. Florrie and Ethel Bolton in afternoon to inquire if I was going for mail this week. Steamer left Dunk about 1pm. Windy. Chap Nick named Purp up to get some coconuts with Mr Malin at Dunlops.

26 Wind dying down, quiet day here, made coconut cream, 10 eggs.

27 Fine day windy afternoon. 3 boats at Dunk. King fish jumping.

28 Nice day. Malin along to Dunlops. Barrett along to Watkins.

29 Airoplane sic going north 4pm. Nice day two motor boats left Dunk going South. Set a hen.

30 Went for mail saw Mrs Tom James and son afterwards went to O'Donnells Camp to see if I could get a lift into Tully August 2<sup>nd</sup>

31 Treuthard over from Dunk (*Scribe: Frederick Treuthardt the Swiss manager of the resort for Brassey for a short time*). Two others. Calm day.

## AUGUST

01 Innisfail (ship) whistled going north, did not stop and anchor.

02 Went to Tully, rode from Hull to O'Donnells camp in Peter White utility V8 Ford. Introduced to Mr Lardi from Bright, Victoria. Rest of way in Juhas Chevrolet utility. Mrs Bolton also went in and took all Freds wages. Back to O'Donnells about 8, had tea then home.

03 Kintor (steamer) at Dunk, went south about 8am. Joyce Shloss.

04 Noticed a note from S H on back table saying he was over on Friday. Visitors Miss Bell, Mr Weeks from Tully also young chemists assistant and Mrs Jago. Mrs Moller and young chap brought some nuts and another from near Feluga. Ted Watson called up for lantern driving his truck.

05 Got bananas. Poisoned egg also bandicoot.

06 Went for mail only a paper. Bolton kids looking for cows called up about 3pm. Fire started on frontage near boat. Mr O'Donnell called up for some reading material.

07 Mrs Webb 9, old Webb 53 ?

08 Chaps in a aeroplane. Man along beach leading horse going south.

09 Bolton kids up for a bottle of kero, one very cheeks. Chipping.

10 A ticket on Tatts No 17169 33<sup>rd</sup> consultation 1936. Mr Smith along with mail. Letter from wife and big E L 55 of ?? not including H H & Co. Maud, Hilda Claire letter from Bill. Pet eats eggs.

11 Mr Treuthard over also Botwright and Oscar and Srank Scamp?? Treuthart going o Brisbane for a few days.

12 Aeroplane on beach about 4am. Ethel and Florre Bolton up to buy jam and soap. I could not spare it. They then asked for a little kid and I gave them one, black and white.

13 Light showers in morning, fine night, fire on at Dunk near boat shed.

14 Kid died with tick. Wrote to wife and E. Made jam and baked.

15 Malin pulling net also Bolton helped. Kids up with flattie. Stuff unloading at Dunk from Sydney. Silver Quay with tanks etc (*ship*) Len (*Mackness*) not too good.

16 Quiet day, cleaned up round the place, made cream.

17 Mr O'Donnell George the cook and Ted Watkins called up. Windy day. Looked at shells. Sent letter for posting to H H & Co. (*Scribe is that Hollis Hopkins and Co?*)

18 Windy. Aeroplane high south lownorth. Two cars on beach. Washing.

19 Windy showers in morning. Chipping.

20 Showers, windy. Chickens, seven.

21 Rough and showery. Made cream. Baked. Avocado sic pear. Hawaii Queenie? And David Kaili.

22 Wind and rain. Put in some seeds.

23 Treuthardt landed on beach via plane from Townsville also S H (Spenser Hopkins?) who did not stay over from Dunk. Barrett on beach on horse. Birds doing up their nest on verandah deck.

24 Wet, windy.

25 Fine day. Car on beach arvo. Aeroplanes together going north.

26 Washing. Chipping. Poisoned egg? Set bread. Made cream.

27 Torres Strait pigeons. (Baked).

28 Went to surveyors camp. At school got mail.

29 Ted Watkins along borrowing compass. A few posts up. Steamer at Dunk about midday, left about 4pm. Torres strait pigeons flocks.

30 Wrote letter. Went along to camp with water and tea.

31 Started to paint boat. Cleaned round shed. Juhas on beach.

## SEPTEMBER

01 Went to Dunk Is with O'Donnell and Ted Watkins. Afterwards fishing.

02 Washing and baking. Two cruisers and destroyer at Dunk.

03 Canberra cruiser and Stewart left Dunk. Windy day. (*Scribe: this was HMAS Canberra a cruiser lost in the Pacific War in 1942 at the Battle of Savo Island and HMAS Stuart (D00) an old WWI destroyer that served also in WWII*).

- 04 Windy. Juhas car along beach.
- 05 Painted boat. Aeroplane on beach. Boat over from Dunk went round TAM Point. Met young White on beach.
- 06 Done some garden and shutters.
- 07 Bruscnor accountant at back of S Hopkins. Went to O'Donnells for mail and tea. Set bread.
- 08 Washing. Baking. Juhas along beach.
- 09 Posts. Car along beach 9.30pm.
- 10 Quiet day. Corner post up. Northerly weather.
- 11 Steamer at Dunk. 11.30 am left. 3pm car along beach.
- 12 Finished posts. Northerly. Two wallabies in clearing.
- 13 Along to camp.
- 14 Along to camp, gramophone, dogs barking. Two letters from wife.
- 15 Quiet day. Washed. NE wind. Sings boat at Dunk.
- 16 oring posts.
- 17 Wire gate. Cloudy day Car on beach. Wrote two letters.
- 18 Steamer at Dunk.
- 19 Steamer left Dunk about 10am. Set bread. Fixed Adams lamp.
- 20 Warm day. Baking. Car on beach.
- 21 Went to camp for tea and mail. Took tomatos sic.
- 22 S Hopkins over from Dunk also Treuthard and young chap MacDonald. Plane landed on beach for S H. Sings boat on beach.
- 23 Finished fence. Northerly weather.
- 24 Brushing.
- 25 Steamer at Dunk about 8pm. Made coconut cream. Purp and two others along beach to Dunlops about 10 am.
- 26 Cleaning garden. Small steamer going north 4pm. ? shell.
- 27 Cleaning garden. Juhas car along beach 6pm.
- 28 Went to camp for tea and mail. Calm night.
- 29 Bridges the same and ary? Man from Tully in a International 35 ? truck.
- 30 Cut hair.

## OCTOBER

- 01 Cleaning up garden, showery
- 02 Went to camp. Juhas bringing our stores.
- 03 Very wet.
- 04 Went to Tully via mouth of Hull in Jim Butlers lory. Saw baby Jim. Folk in from island. Had tea at Peter Whites with Barrett and old Mr Rivet in Tully, also Mr Harris.
- 05 Quiet day.
- 06 Went to camp. Got a letter from wife and big Eric birthday and two snaps. Ted Watkins caught a good haul of fish. Gramophone on ?
- 07 Brushing. Washing. String? Horne to.
- 08 Wind and rain.
- 09 Steamer at Dunk about 5.30pm. et bread. Planted Queensland Nut.
- 10 Baked.
- 11 Steamer at Dunk 6pm. Did not stay long going north.
- 13 Steamer left Dunk midday.
- 14 Juhas along with gods about 7pm. Charlie Oakhill or Sloper? Old billy kills young billy.
- 15 Butlers boat at Dunk. Two aeroplances south/north.
- 16 Brushing. A shot nearby 1pm.
- 17 Council road gang blasting. 3 chaps down to surveyor camp fishing.
- 18 Butlers at Dunk 5pm. Juhas to Tully 7pm.
- 18 Went to Dunk I. Mr Brassey too busy to see me Mr Rivet and King.. Gave me refreshment. Home about midday.
- 20 Went to survey camp for tea. Letter from wife. Elizabeth at school. Hunt party down on Porters Creek.
- 21 Brushing.
- 22 Thunder in distance.
- 23 Innisfail at Dunk left about 2pm. Northerly wind.
- 24 Burning round fence. Thunder. Baked.
- 25 Surveyor O'Donnell, Ted Watkins, Charlie Oakhill for lunch.
- 26 Along beach to survey camp for tea.
- 27 Blasting on road. Windy SE. Washing.
- 28 Set a hen, 9 eggs. Aeroplane low. Tractor working on our road.

29 I think surveyor took flattie over to Dunk. Aeroplane flies low from beach over past Dunk going south.

30 Had a look at the road workers. Surveyors came home this way.

31 Nice day. Airplane flying low. Hear rifle shots. I shoot a iguana. Baking. Steamer at Dunk.

## NOVEMBER

01 Killed carpet snake. Packed shells to Aberdeen.

02 Went to camp for mail and tea.

03 Mrs Wildsoet, Ted Ph??? And Ednd? (Mrs Hardie) and 2 children round. Pease and Betty also others, one Mrs May others do not know. Several cars on beach.

04 Boat from Dunk over to mainland. I killed a venomous black snake.

05 SE wind and rain.

06 Showers and windy. Big tide about 5pm.

07 Big boat arrives at Dunk.. Butlers at Dunk. Windy weather.

08 Windy. Barrett and Tom White along beach on horse with cow and calf.

09 Went to surveyor camp for mail. Sgot a 9 foot croc in front of camp with 303.

10 Flight of black duck about 5 O going north. Luggar sic at Dunk. Brushing.

11 Boat on beach from Dunk. Airplane.

12 Car along beach. Got bananas. Fine day, land breeze.

13 Surveyor and cook left and his ??? and Watkins going in Thursday Hunts truck.

14 Went for mail to Macknesses. Baked. Northerly wind.

15 Kintor at Dunk. Thunder storm evening.

16 Frigate birds. 4 along beach. Two men is bathers.

17 Car along beach. Cats sick. Quiet day, dusty.

18 Airplane overhead going north about 9.30, returned 4pm also one going south, Hazy.

19 Wrote two letters and fixed up bank book for Tully.

20 Went to Macknesses for mail and got note from Eric re Willies death.

21 Baked. Nice day. Shoal of fish. Steamer at Dunk.

22 Set fire to grass in acres?

23 Pulled up and twom flat head...?? Saw old.

24 Excursion Tully to Dunk.

25 Twin screw plane going north.



26 Set a hen. Showers.

27 Went for mail. Steamer at Dunk from north, Windy.

28 Saw relief workers on road Mr Bolton, Barney Symmonds, Fred Bolton and Ian Jones.

29 Wallaby.

30 Rashkio and family,

## DECEMBER

02 Washing. 3 up to inquire way to pineapples.

03 Out board and sail on flattie going north.

04 Saw men on road working. Went ot Tully got some goods.

05 Chipping.

06 Steamer at Dunk.

07 Chipping.

08 Fires. Mr Scoot up for a while. Washing.

09 Airplane low at Dunk Is.

10 Walsh along in evening. Scoot along. Innisfail at Dunk.

11 Went for mail saw Mr Grur? Got snaps of E.

12 Old Macnamara up.

13 98. Northerly. Small snake at tank.

14 Wrote letters.

15 Plane low at Dunk. Fire on Dunk. Boat along beach.

16 Chipping. Fine day.

17 Mr Jones (Tom) foreman to see. Stone shot at dingo. Cut hair.

18 Went for mail. Got short bread. Christmas parcel, cake etc. Saw Mrs Mackness and old Smith.

19 Scoot and another man for some mangos.

20 Quiet day.

21 Northerly. Butlers at Dunk.

22 trong northerly.

23 Morning a Chev truck person from Cardwell looking for nuts. Afternoon MackDiarmid, Farris and son and someone else from Dunk.

24 Christmas eve quiet.

25 Went to Macknesses for mail saw Tom James and wife also his sister and the two babies.

- 26 Chap shooting fish in the creek.  
 27 Got some bananas. (Baked.)  
 28 Old Smith along with news and pineapples.  
 29 Mr MacDiarmid, Jean, Mr Harris and Zoe Theodore for dinner.. Pelgrave? On beach.  
 30 Washing. Wrote letters. SE wind.  
 31 Sally and two Boltons on beach.

## JANUARY 1936

- 01 Went for mail. Mrs Scott and son along from Mission Hill. SE showers.  
 02 Heavy showers. SE wind. Airplanes fairly low.  
 03 Dick and Spencer called on way home. Pudding.  
 04 Baked. In evening Brassey returns to Dunk. Butlers at Dunk.  
 05 Washing. Went to Mission Hill had tea with Scotts. Plenty rain.  
 06 Sally Dolores, Betty and Elsa and Mrs Raiskio, Joe and Mrs Symmonds to see me.  
 06 The Sunbeam over on the beach from Dunk. Mrs Brassey and another lady flying on airplane VNI. Plenty of rain pm.  
 07 Wrote letter. Rain afternoon. Ted Mack. Steamer.  
 08 Went for mail. Miss Mackness home. Les and Mrs (*Mackness*) in Townsville. Butler and others at Dunk.  
 09 Sunbeam over on beach to meet airplane.  
 10 Road work. Dry day.  
 11 Cleaning store room.  
 12 Boat over from Dunk. Big plane on beach. Don Scott and Mrs Scoot along.  
 12 I went along to Scoots camp. Jack Bunting and friend with cattle stay the night.  
 13 Warm day, N wind.  
 14 Washing.  
 15 Went for mail. Wylie complained of bloke tricking him.  
 15 For mail, none from Scotland.  
 16 Two chaps up for mangos. Plane low over Dunk.  
 17 Innisfail at Dunk.. Northerly. Fred Bolton along beach on horseback.  
 18 Chipping. Refilled water trough.

19 Visitors, Mrs Scott Mrs Byrne Mr and two little girls. Eldest 5 Margaret Jean and Jill. C Wildsoet and son, Peter White and Barrett. Island boat returned.

20 Horse tracks go north on beach.

21 Saw T Jones. 2 Greeks. Don Scott for mangos. Showers.

22 Set a hen. Saw Mrs James. Blokes at creek. Got mail.

23 Killed carpet snake. Dog barking on beach.

24 Nr and Mrs Dunlop; Alex Dunlop, Jones.

25 Car down from Tully

26 Island boat back. Byrne and Wildsoet and two cyclists.

27 Went visiting as far as Peter Whites and Mission Hill.

28 Don Scott along in late afternoon.

29 Tom Jones.

30 Went for mail. Old Smith on beach. Airplane low at Dunk.

31 Set a hen.

## FEBRUARY

01 Sunbeam along the beach.

02 Warm day. Car on beach. Reading. Simon called. Peter.

03 Folk diving off jetty at Dunk.

## 1918 DIARY

Sheena McEachan transcription of George Webb's 1918 diary September 2000.

The following notes were copied from books that are in the possession of Mr Don Wheatley of Mission Beach. The spellings, grammar and punctuation are as they were found in the notebooks. These are now very brittle with age. The highlights in yellow are for my own use as I have a particular interest in recording the story of Rupert Cyril F enby, an Englishman who had arrived in the Mission Beach area in 1910.

The first diary of the Webb collection, that of 1918, would appear to be from England. The diary page for 24<sup>th</sup> June 1918 notes: {St John Baptist. 0 10<sup>th</sup>. 38m. A.A. (Greenwich). Midsummer Day, Quarter Day. Cambridge Easter Term ends. The entries in this diary are very infrequent.

## JANUARY

04. Friday: Sailed for the North on 'Bingera' leaving Brisbane about 9.30 AM. Mr. W and E

05. Saturday: At Gladstone about 1] AM not allowed ashore left about 2 PM met Bluey Davis of

Mackay

- 06. Sunday: Flat Top 8 AM.(?) 4PM of Townsville about 4 PM on account of rain held off till daylight
- 07. Monday: Townsville Peoples Palace Macree Rosetta Brooks call me R
- 08. Tuesday: Visit Monroes
- 10. Thursday: PAFSOA Shanks 8PM
- 12. Friday: Magnetic Isld Picnic Bay
- 13. Saturday: Stanley Pictures, Ragged Princess
- 14. Sunday: Mr D. Munro Leigh Street West End Townsville
- 15. Tuesday: Arrived Dunk Isl. About 3 PM Met Jack Kenny Mr Banfield Bunting and Fenby
- 17. Thursday: Victor Kenny<sup>29</sup>
- 19. Saturday: Charlie Dosser
- 20. Sunday: Met Jack Bunting Young, Alexander Gunboat off Dunk Isld
- 29. Tuesday: Shift across from Mr. Kennys
- 30. Wednesday: Big push knocking down scrub.
- 31. Thursday: Knocking scrub, garden patch.

## FEBRUARY

- 03. Sunday: Harrington & Richardson No A96265, Heavy showers
- 04. Tuesday: No Mail Jack Kenny ill
- 07. Thursday: Chipping pineapples
- 08. Friday: Planted few sweet potatoes Wet afternoon
- 09. Saturday: Baked Damper Pigeons close
- 10. Sunday: Visit Bill Porter at Reids, Heavy rain
- 11. Monday: Boats off the Island
- 23. Saturday: At Unsworths ordered 400 cocoanuts £1 hundred 10 sheets iron 8/- a sheet T £8  
10 bags 1 each £8-10-0
- 24. Sunday: Bill Porters seen shark etc
- 25. Monday: Miss Chrissie Knight, 85 Angle Heart Road, Catford London S. E
- 26 Tuesday: Jack Bunting for mail
- 26. Wednesday: Sailed to Unsworths got nuts iron and some fowls. Paid in cash for same £9-0-0
- 28. Thursday: Lennon spoke at the settlement chaps from Banyan:

## MARCH

- 01. Friday: Brought coconuts and iron up from beach
- 10. Sunday: Terrible Cyclone<sup>30</sup>
- 11. Monday: Great damage. Mr Kenny, Kathleen and 3 coloured folk killed at settlement
- 13. Wednesday: Got Mrs Kenny away on the Gowrie

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<sup>29</sup> Dorothy Jones, *Hurricane Lamps and Blue Umbrellas*, 1973, page 302 refers to the appointment on 1 September 1914, of ex-Peninsula Policeman Kenny as Superintendent of the Mission Reserve. Known as the Hull River Mission it was established on the hill at the northern end of the beach that is now called South Mission Beach.

<sup>30</sup> Hector Holthouse, *Cyclones*, 1971 page 1170, records: Innisfail almost destroyed by very severe hurricane: heavy damage at Cairns, Cardwell, Ingham Dunk Island and surrounding areas: one life lost: Barometer fell to 27.88 inches at Innisfail: 10 foot storm surge on coast. Holthouse page 98 gives a different fatality number where he describes the total destruction of the Hull river Aboriginal Mission station building. Three aborigines taking shelter under the building were crushed. The Rev. Mr. Kelly, and his daughter (said 'step-daughter Kathleen', Jones: page 321) were crushed by a falling log as they sheltered behind another. By Monday morning, the cyclone had passed.

- 16. Saturday: Went to Beamans from there to Cuttin to Voote
- 17. Sunday: Back from Cuttins fine weather O Regan at Settlement:
- 22. Friday: Very wet mending fence, Melbadier at Dunk Island<sup>4</sup>

## A P R I L

- 03. Wednesday: Got Post office Money Order
- 04. Thursday: showery, planted some sweet bucks, set a hen on seven eggs
- 06. Saturday: Two slabs
- 21. Sunday: To Fenbys Porters 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> clearing. got Pigeons scrub Turkey saw Ducks
- 22. Monday: Saw Jack Bunting found purse, very wet
- 24. Wednesday: Received Wristlet Watch from Cardwell War Council, Chicks out.
- 28. Sunday: 'Haul' of Fish in net mouth (Porters Creek)

## M A Y

- 02. Thursday: Shot Scrub Hen
- 03. Friday: showery flock pigeons, strong wind Brushing
- 05. Sunday: Beaman and I had a look at Boat
- 07. Tuesday: Wet
- 11. Saturday: Inquiring of Boat. received Boat
- 19. Sunday: Over to Dunk Island
- 22. Wednesday: Fine weather, Mail Day, entry by feminine hand<sup>31</sup>
- 30. Friday: Brushing

## J U N E

- 02. Sunday: showery Beamons
- 11. Sunday: Hull River
- 12. Tuesday: Fine weather

## J U L Y

- 13. Thursday: Bill from Rooneys £3- 2-0, Fire wont run in clearing
- 12. Friday: Getting timber for boat shed, Fine weather
- 11. Saturday: finished boat shed
- 21. Sunday: At Fenbys
- 23. Wednesday: Got the Punt afloat from the Beach Mr Poultney towed across to Dunk Island

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<sup>31</sup> Handwriting is different from previous entries. The handwriting in black Italics was more feminine and would be described as calligraphy in the modern day. Eg G is quite distinctive. Shopping lists are in the handwriting of the person who made entries up till April. I have included some of the shopping lists from an order book that dates from as early as 1927. Some of the entries have been dated and each grocery order seems to cover a month's supply. Not all orders have been copied but it was difficult to discard anyone as they all provided some clue as to the lifestyle of the family. I was about to move on from the order for June 21<sup>st</sup> 1927, when I deciphered 'I small, soft toothbrush good for ten month's baby'. This added significance to the entry of '6 tins of skim milk' on the previous order.

good weather receipt from Rooneys Ltd form from Refrigerator

27. Saturday: At Fenbys

28. Sunday: Carrying up Hollands goods

## AUGUST

04. Sunday: Wet weather.

## APPENDIX 1: SHOPPING LISTS 1935

## ENDNOTES 1937 | SHOPPING LISTS

- C Ecker, Les Dennis, Jack Paradies
- Cygnet pilot Shev Smith
- Eva and John Hendricksen
- Sugar tomato (for cold) slice of swede turnip, sugar and lemon juice.
- Harry Rodergs and Bob
- (Boss C Koiru) H Rodgers (Hovi? Family man)
- G Gillett married Koski Lower Tully
- Mr Brown English settler on road to Ell Arish
- 2 50s of flour from Sings to Halls Camp June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1937.

## ORDERS

- 2 bags flour; Half bag onions; 28lb rice; 4lb sago; 5 tins Goldenia tea
- 3 bottles Champions Pure Malt Vinegar; 12 tins Nestle Milk; 12 x 2lb dripping
- 5lb cheese; 8lb bacon; 3 tins Uncle Toby Oats; 3 tins Robinsons groots?; 4lb split peas
- 6 x 1lb pkts Corn flour; 2 x ¼ lb mustard; ½ LB ground ginger; 2lb crème of tartar
- 1 ½ lb crème of soda; 6oz tartaric acid; ½ lb ground almonds; 2lb icing sugar
- 4 lb currents; 3 lb sultanas; 1 lb peel; 4 tins luncheon beef; 3 lb butter

March 21

- 2 bags flour; 1 sugar; ½ onions; ½ salt; 28lb rice; 2lb sago; 1 lb tapioca; 5 lb tea
- 1 lb corn flour; 4 bottles malt vinegar; 6 x 2lb dripping; 2 4oz marmite; 4 lb split peas
- 1 lb tin compressed dried vegetables; 3 tins Robinsons groote? 3 tins luncheon beef
- 3 tins curry powder; 5 lb cheese; 8 lb back bacon; 1 x 2lb jar Barries honey
- 3 bars kerosene soap, 3 boxes Sunlight soap; 3 packets Lux

Other common items ordered

- 1 lb Breakfast Delight; 1 tin Cerebos salt; 2 bottles coffee essence; 1lb stoned raisins
- 4 lb tin syrup; 3 sand soap; 3 monkey soap; 3 Brasso; 4 lb starch
- 1 box Swiss gruyere cheese; 1 Kraft cheese; 2 tins Van Houten's cocoa; 1 bottle cochineal
- 2 4oz tins pepper; ½ lb nutmeg; 2 lb mixed spice;; 3 lb tin Malted Wheat Extract
- 1 ½ lb garlic; 14 lb potatoes; 12 dozen pegs; 2 lb tin Quaker Oats; 1 bottle tomato sauce
- 2 cakes Rexona soap; 2 boxes pea rifle cartridges 22; 9 lb lentils
- 2 bottles Worcestershire sauce; 6oz lemon essence; 2 packets Kellogg's All Bran; 2 lb oatmeal
- 1 packet barley kernels; 2 jars peanut butter; 4 tins skim milk; 1 bottle 3 in 1 oil;
- 2 lb macaroni; 1 tin pesto; 1 large tin carbolic disinfectant powder; 1 small soft toothbrush
- ½ lb peppercorns; Whole mace; 1 tin custard powder; 2 packets waterproof matches
- 3 tubes Colgate toothpaste; 6 packets Australasia cigarette papers; 3 pkts Weetbix
- 3 bottles chlorodyne; 4 oz glazed cherries; 1 small bottle browning; 4 lb arrowroot

- 6 bottles mixed herbs; 2 Rexona ointment; 1 lb dates; 10 tins Bo? Boy milk powder
- 3 tins Clever Mary; 2 lb haricot beans; 1 tin Johnson Baby Powder
- 3 pence worth rock ammonia; 1 packet Rice Bubbles; 1 packet radish seed;
- 3 Lifebuoy soap; Grease proof paper; Toilet paper; Kellog's Cornflakes
- 1 pint methylated spirits; 1 tin kerosene; 1 lb dried apricots; 1 lb dried apples
- 1 lb tin apricot jam; Sardines; ¼ lb ground cloves; 12 knots of blue; 2 lb Bushell's tea
- 3 x 1 lb Bushell's blue label coffee; 1 tin brown Nugget; 4 cakes Palmolive Soap