



# FRIENDS OF BARKERVILLE CARIBOO GOLDFIELDS HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER UPDATE - DEC.2014



## “PRESERVE PROTECT PROMOTE”

“THESE OLD BUILDINGS DO NOT BELONG TO US ONLY; THAT THEY  
HAVE BELONGED TO OUR FOREFATHERS, AND THEY WILL BELONG  
TO OUR DESCENDANTS,” William Morris

SOME HIGHLIGHTS FROM AGM NOVEMBER MEETING

## ELECTION OF OFFICERS

President: Grant Johannesen

Vice President: Derek Burdikin

Treasurer: Tony Bensted

Secretary: Brenda Beatty

## DIRECTORS ELECTED

Richard Wright

Robin Grady

Lana Fox

Kristie Seaborn

Bridget Nowakowski

Jim Gorsline

These positions are good for a one year term at which time there will be another election of officers in November at the AGM meeting.

COMMITTEE POSITIONS: membership, special projects, trails, cemetery, website.

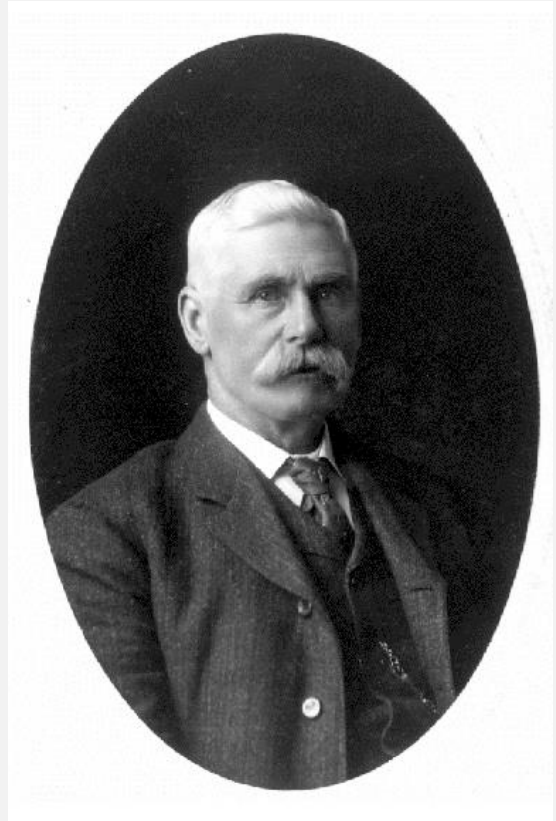
MEMBERSHIP is from May 1<sup>st</sup> and ends April 31<sup>st</sup>, of the next year. A seasons pass is included with the membership and entitles the bearer to visit Barkerville from middle of May to end of September as often as they wish.

**VOLUNTEER HELP** is greatly needed and appreciated!



## HARRY JONES NEW PLAQUE INSTALLED ON HEADSTONE

Hello, this is Harry Jones finally at last able to report to you from the cemetery at Stanley, BC. A big thank you goes to John Mitchell, BC Historian and private donors for the construction of my NEW plaque for my old headstone and thanks to the Friends of Barkerville for assisting the installation. Don't know why any reasonable person would want my old plaque; I think there were only a few cents of value in the brass....they may have thought it was gold!



Harry Jones, BC Archives A-02252

My dear neighbour in the plot just south of mine had his whole headstone ripped out and stolen. His name on the stone was beautifully inscribed "Josiah Crosby Beedy" and where he was from. Maybe there is a greater need for someone to have these for a collection, but makes it difficult to keep track where us old-timers are supposed to be resting.

If anyone has seen or are in contact with any of these cemetery items and wish to have them returned prior to any ghostly occurrences, please contact John or the Friends, no questions asked.

Robin Grady

## CARIBOO'S GRAND OLD MAN CROSSES DIVIDE

From Cariboo Observer newspaper February 29, 1936

Harry Jones, whose death occurred in Vancouver Sunday morning, was one of Cariboo's outstanding pioneers. He came to Cariboo in the summer of 1863 with a company of 27 Welshmen headed by the late "Captain" John Evans to mine gold on Lightning Creek. He was in his 23<sup>rd</sup> year at the time. Talisien Evans, son of the leader, and Harry were the two youngest members of the "Adventurers" company. To distinguish Harry Jones from eight other Jones in the party, he was known as "Henry VIII." All of the men in the company were given a number.

The Adventurers broke up in the fall of 1864 and about half of them returned to Wales. Some scattered to other parts of the Province and a few remained in Cariboo.

Harry Jones hiked out to the coast in the fall of 1884 and returned to Barkerville early in the following spring. One of his first jobs was in the famous Ericsson claim on Conklin's gulch. In a few years, working under some of the ablest deep diggings men in the country, he became an expert, face man himself. One of his outstanding accomplishments was the Van Winkle drain tunnel in the early 1870's which not only brought wealth to the Van Winkle shareholders but to the owners of three adjoining claims as well. Driven out by water, the crews of the Victoria, Vancouver and Vulcan stood by until the drain tunnel tapped the Van Winkle shaft. The tunnel then acted as a drain for all four claims.

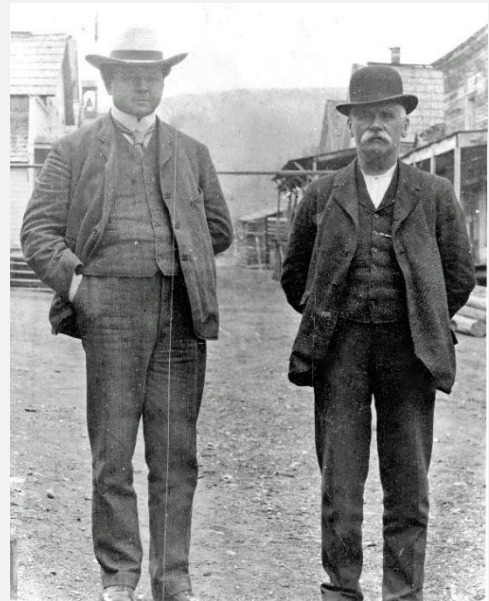
When the best miners in Cariboo failed, Harry Jones took on the job and drove his tunnel through slum by reversing the accepted methods of timbering.



Mr. Jones went home to Wales in the winter of 1875-78 and returned again in the summer of 1888 and 1899 when he accepted a position at Wingdam where he had charge of shaft operations for quite a long period.

In 1903 he was elected as one of Cariboo's members in the Provincial Legislature at Victoria, and was returned in the elections of 1906. He was defeated three years later. For several years, from 1920 to 1926, he acted in the capacity of caretaker at Wingdam at that time and the fall of 1933, when he left for Vancouver to reside with a nephew, J.H. Roberts, he was interested in placer ground at Beaver Pass and on Lovett Creek.

Possessed of a remarkable memory he was able to recall in interesting detail many events of the early days in Cariboo. When word was received here late Sunday that the end had come, friends wired Mr. Roberts and also Premier Pattullo suggesting that the body of Harry Jones be brought back to Cariboo for burial. The



cemetery at Stanley was recommended because it is there that Capt. John Evan's is buried. Robert Pritchard, another member of the Adventurers is taking his last rest in the same cemetery as well as the remains of two of Harry Jones partners in the "Vanwinkle", Henry Lindhard and Josiah Beedy. Among other well-known Cariboo miners buried there are Wm. Wormald, John Peebles and Abe Stott.

*Photo Premier Richard McBride & Barkerville MLA Harry Jones ca.1903-1909*

*Courtesy of Barkerville Archives Collection P-1010*

While the appearance of this cemetery has been more or less neglected in late years, it is understood that a movement has been started to have it fenced and otherwise made more presentable.

The body arrived on yesterday's PGE train and the funeral procession leaves here for Stanley at 12 noon Saturday for burial at 2:45 the same afternoon. Brief stops will be made at Cottonwood House and at Wingdam where other cars will join the procession. Rev. Boothroyd of Wells will conduct the services at Stanley in the Mattison building opposite the old Wormald Hotel and at the graveside.

### MISSING HEADSTONE MARKER REPLACED WITH NEW

John Mitchell visited the Stanley cemetery two years ago and noticed that Harry's headstone had no marker and decided then he would try raising some money to put in place a new marker for Harry's headstone. Unfortunately the original went missing many years ago.

Recently, John completed this task with the help of Friends of Barkerville members.



John & Gary  
discussing best  
approach





John in final  
stage of  
placement

Connie Mitchell photos, 2014

Left to right is Gary Fox, Grant Johannesen, Robin Grady, Lana Fox,  
Loretta Grady, John Mitchell





Lana Fox photo, 2014

Harry Jones was born at Caernarvonshire, Wales, September 29, 1840 and arrived in BC in 1863. He died February 25, 1936 and is buried at Stanley, BC.

Thank you John Mitchell and other donors for your generous donation, support and interest. John Mitchell is a BC historian and has a website called BCGhostTowns.com <http://itsmysite.com/bchistory/>

Next time you come to Barkerville make a detour through Stanley and stop in at the cemetery. You will find Harry Jones new marker. He is right beside Capt. John Evans.

Not only do the Friends help to support Barkerville projects such as the Canadian Claim recently but also help to preserve, protect and promote other sites within the Cariboo Goldfields.



The Friends of Barkerville have been fixing up the old Stanley cemetery for a number of years now which included making it wheel chair accessible, restoring and painting the picket fences around the graves, repairing the fence surrounding the cemetery, installation of an outhouse and the future plan is to restore headboards which most are in dire need.

We are always in need of volunteer help!

- Lana Fox

**THIS FRIENDS OF BARKERVILLE PROJECT COMPLETED IN JULY 2014, LOCATED ACROSS FROM STANLEY CEMETERY.**



Many thanks to everyone who helped on the replacement of the new sign at Stanley which tells some history of Stanley with photos as well as a good display of flora and fauna.

## CANADIAN CLAIM OPENING

JULY 1, 2014

Over the years the Friends of Barkerville have been fund raising in support of the re-building of the Canadian Claim site and hydraulic pit.



### Canadian Claim and Gunn Hydraulic Pit

July 1<sup>st</sup> was the grand opening with many people from all over in attendance. The Friends donated \$20,000 towards this project.





### Back street of Barkerville at Williams Creek

It was a beautiful sunny day with many people attending all the celebrations of the day even the Royal Canadian Mounted Police dressed in red.

As soon as the ribbon was cut people crossed the bridge onto the site, stopping in to look at the re-constructed miners cabin display then climbed the steps and took in the new views overlooking Barkerville.

### Ribbon cutting by Mandy Kilsby, Curator at Barkerville & John Massier, Chair Barkerville Heritage Trust



The Friends working with Dunkley Lumber had an opportunity to acquire a much needed bridge to access the site and it was donated to Barkerville. This bridge is well constructed and set up high from the creek so it should last for many years to come.



A walk up the steps will take you to the view point. A crowd of people are gathered around taking in the sites and reading the signage explaining the mining. From the view point you can walk



further up along the old trail to see the headbox. Be sure to check all this out next summer if you haven't already. Great job done!





## RECENT DONATION BY THE FRIENDS OF BARKERVILLE

Lana Fox hands over check  
to Ed Coleman, CEO of  
Barkerville



The Friends of Barkerville recently donated \$5000 to Barkerville to help in the newly constructed wheel chair accessible trail to the old cemetery completed this fall before snowfall. The money will go towards signage and benches and whatever else that's needed. It will be ready and waiting for tourists in 2015.



## STANLEY CEMETERY UPDATE

The Friends have been very busy lately with a few projects on the go. The Stanley cemetery is coming along nicely having been made wheelchair accessible a few years back, fixing fences after snowfall damage and picket fences around the graves. Next big job is getting new headboards made to replace the old ones that are barely readable and some are just falling apart.

The new sign across from the cemetery was another project that is now complete except for a bit of maintenance yet to fasten it down more securely. Future plans are to install a kiosk which will have some history on the people in the graveyard. So there is work yet to be done at Stanley.



It seems a shame that the highway bypasses this historic site and old graveyard. The Friends did request to have a sign installed at each road entrance and this has been done by highways. Hopefully people will take a moment to detour off the highway and make that circle around for a visit.

We are in the stages of updating signage for the historic trails and hope to do some cleanup on them. We have many great historic trails around Barkerville for the hiker to use. Volunteer help is always in need!



# VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS IN BARKERVILLE - 2014



Fun times!

## PRESIDENTS MESSAGE.....

The Friends of Barkerville Cariboo Goldfields Historical Society (FOB) has been actively supporting, funding, and working on projects in and around Barkerville for many years.

We have our new Executive and Directors established for the upcoming year. This is an enthusiastic group of volunteers excited about promoting, preserving, and protecting Barkerville Heritage Town site with its merchants, exhibits, street performers, Theatre Royal shows, wagon/sleigh rides.

The surrounding area, is rich in history, scenery, flora and fauna, and offers a multitude of recreational opportunities amongst lakes, creeks, rivers, mountains, and trails.

We have vibrant cities, towns, and ski hills in the areas leading to the famed goldrush town. They are rich in arts, have friendly and unique personalities, and are economically viable. As well, there are remnants of mining towns, cabins, and ditch lines of days gone by.

There is still active mining by individuals and companies looking to strike it rich or looking, for the thrill of the adventure. First Nations people, and cultures from around the world have worked, travelled, and lived side by side or together in this area since the early days. To this day this continues.

Some projects we will be considering and/or working on, supporting or funding are: creating and replacing headboards for Stanley Cemetery, historic trail signage and trail clean up, guided hikes or snowshoe trips, Billy Barker shaft exhibit, identifying and researching Richfield Chinese and Catholic cemetery site.

We encourage you to purchase annual memberships to Friends of Barkerville as individuals, couples or families and to bring or send friends and family to experience Barkerville and the area around it. You can purchase memberships on line via Paypal, in person at the gate or from any FOB director. All proceeds directly fund Barkerville and area projects.

Come for a good “Old” time or just for a “Good” time! Feel free to contact the Directors at any time with comments or feedback in person or send us an email and we will be happy to hear from you.

Grant Johannesen, President (FOB)

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**FRIENDS OF BARKERVILLE  
CARIBOO GOLDFIELDS HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY**

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