

## St Mary's Orphanage Cemetery

From Webby, M (1991) *From Prison to Paradise*

### A list of burials:

Adjacent to the Ngawhatu Hospital Chapel

- Arthur BLANE - Aged 7 years. Died of meningitis
- Francis Stephen STEWART - Aged 8 years. Died of croup and cardiac failure
- John BROSNAHAN - aged 19 years. Accidentally drowned 26 February 1919
- Patrick BYRNE - aged 72 years, died 26 February 1894

Lying on the ground in many broken pieces of marble lies a memorial stone with the following list of names in the same order as they are on the stone.

*R.I.P.*

*"Dedicated to the memory of the boys who died  
at St Mary's Orphanage"*

- William Arthur Rogers            Oct 25 1890 13 yrs
- Joseph Clolus Whiteside        March 21 1891 6 yrs
- Frances Gallagher                July 19 1893 6 yrs
- James Sullivan                    Sep 23 1893 15 yrs
- Thomas Grace                     Sep 17 1894 8 yrs
- James Burke                        Feb 21 1895 7 yrs
- Francis Hanlon                    July 30 1893 13 yrs
- Arthur Blane                        May 27 1890 7 yrs
- Michael Nolan                    Oct 29 1901 10 yrs
- William Nelson                    Apr 27 1903 9 yrs
- Bernard Thurston                Aug 8 1903 13 yrs
- Daniel O'Halloran                Oct 16 1903 10 yrs
- Horatio Weston                    Mar 5 1904 10 yrs
- Joseph B Collins                  Aug 28 1904 14 yrs
- Tasman Lyons                      Sep 1 1907 10 yrs

- James Grace Aug 7 1908 12 yrs
- Simon Sullivan Aug 17 1909 18 yrs
- Edward Clancy Nov 4 1909 13 yrs

#### G Miller Nelson

On the occasion of death at the orphanage everyone had to attend the funeral service then the boys would carry the casket containing the body of their deceased mate from the chapel in the orphanage up the steep hill to the last resting place. It was on only rare occasions during later years that a funeral director, known then as an undertaker, would take part in any of the interment. According to records the priests conducted the services.

Listed below are the names, ages date of death and causes of death obtained from the death register held at the District Court at Nelson from 1886 to 1922.

Date of Death	Name	Age	Cause of Death
27.5.1890	BLANE Arthur	7	Meningitis
25.10.1890	McPHELLAMY James (School-teacher)	29	Phthisis
25.10.1890	ROGERS William Arthur	13	Not recorded
21.3.1891	WHITESIDE Joseph Clolus	6	Marasmus
19.7.1893.	GALLAGHER Frances	7	Measles
30.7.1893	HANLAN Frank	13	Tabes Thesenterica
23.9.1893	SULLIVAN James	15	Measles
23.2.1894	BYRNE Patrick	72	Stroke (Farmer)
16.9.1894	GRACE Thomas	8	Influenza
21.2.1895	BURKE James	7	Not recorded
29.10.1901	NOLAN Michael	9	Meningitis
23.4.1903	WILSON William	9	Burnt to death in
17.8.1903	THURSTON Bernard	13	Periostitis Femour— Pneumonia

16.10.1903	O'HALLARAN Daniel Joseph	10	Tubercular Meningitis
5.3.1904	WESTON Horatis	10	Pheurnatic Fever and
28.8.1904	COLLINS Joseph Bernard	14	Heart disease Tuber
1.9.1907	LYONS Tasman	10	Not recorded
7.8.1908	GRACE Thomas	12	Acute Tuberculosis
17.8.1909	SULLIVAN Simon	18	Phthisis
4.11.1909	CLANCY Edward	13	Acute Phenmatism
22.6.1916	SHARP James Odonnell	21	Phthisis Exhaustion
21.11.1916	WHITELOW Thomas Hector		Tuberculous
26.2.1919	BROSNAHAN John	19	Accidently drowned while bathing in the creek
16.10.1920	STEWART Francis Stephen	8	Croup and Cardiac Failure

The last four deaths list their addresses as the Boys Training School, whereas all the others their place of residence was given as St Mary's Orphanage. There was another small burial ground for the brothers and priests behind the Orphanage. The two brothers that were buried there were removed and re-interred in Oamaru about 1964.

Researched By Marjorie WEBBY

Ngawhatu Hospital