

## Howard Thomas CHAMBERS (1865-1939)

*Baptism Register St James, Upper Edmonton, Enfield, Middlesex*

Entry No.197 Dated 1 Apr 1865 Howard Thomas Chambers, son of Richard and Julia of Northumberland Park – Profession of Richard: factor  
Baptised by George Phillips

*The Star 4 Dec 1868 Birth*

Nov. 26, the wife of Charles Hodge, Stanmore road, of a daughter

*1871 Census 11 Campbell Road, Bromley St Leonard, London*

Richard CHAMBERS	Head	31yrs	Miller	b Bishops Stortford, Hertfordshire
Julia CHAMBERS	Wife	31yrs		b Thorley, Hertfordshire
Howard Thos CHAMBERS	Son	6yrs		b Tottenham, Middlesex
Walter Lawrence Fred CHAMBERS	Son	3yrs		b Ware, Hertfordshire
Stanley George CHAMBERS	Son	19months		b Ware, Hertfordshire
Evelyn Mary CHAMBERS	Dau	1 month		b Bromley, Middlesex
Jane SUTTLE	Sevt	19yrs	Domestic servant [unmarried]	b Sheuly Comps, Cambridge

*West Coast Times 10 Nov 1877 and Grey River Argus 12 Nov 1877*


Mr Charles James Hodge, senior landing-waiter in H.M. Customs in Christchurch, died suddenly on the 2<sup>nd</sup> November.

*1881 Census Stanley House, Derby Road, Woodford, Essex*

Richard CHAMBERS	Head	41yrs	Miller	b Bishops Stortford, Hertfordshire
Julia CHAMBERS	Wife	41yrs		b Thorley Wash, Hertfordshire
Howard T. CHAMBERS	Son	16yrs		b Tottenham, Middlesex
Walter L. F. CHAMBERS	Son	13yrs		b Ware, Hertfordshire
Stanley G. CHAMBERS	Son	11yrs		b Ware, Hertfordshire
Evelyn Mary CHAMBERS	Dau	10yrs		b Bow, Middlesex
Eliza TURRELL		18yrs	General servant	b Ingerstone, Essex

*Napier Probate files of William Couper (1801-1879) – Family Search – Image No.142 – Archives NZ Wellington Reference AAOW 22760/738 189*

In the Supreme Court of New Zealand Wellington District. In the matter of “The Leases and sales of Settled Estates Act 1865” and in the matter of Henry Evanson Beamish an infant by Nathaniel Evanson Beamish his next friend. I Howard Thomas Chambers of Napier in the Provincial District of Hawkes Bay and Colony of New Zealand, clerk, make oath and say [1] That I was present at Napier aforesaid on the ninth day of February 1889 and did then see Nathaniel Evanson Beamish of Okawa in the said Provincial District sheepfarmer execute the consent to be appointed as guardian hereunto annexed marked “A”. [2] That the name or signature “H. T. Chambers” set and subscribed as the signature of the witness attesting the execution of the said instrument by the said Nathaniel Evanson Beamish is of the proper handwriting of me this deponent and was subscribed by me as such attesting witness on the day and year aforesaid. Sworn by the above named deponent at Napier this ninth day of February 1889 before me A. P. Sheath, a Solicitor of the Supreme Court of New Zealand.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "H. T. Chambers". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background. The letters are fluid and connected, with a prominent flourish at the end of the word "Chambers".

*Hawke's Bay Herald 12 Nov 1889 Marriage*

At Napier, on 8<sup>th</sup> November, Howard Thomas, second son of Richard Chambers, of Cambridge, Waikato, to Emily Letitia, youngest daughter of the late Charles James Hodge, of Christchurch, Canterbury.

*Hawke's Bay Herald 9 Aug 1890 Death*

On the 5<sup>th</sup> of August, at her son's residence, Birmingham, Feilding, Ann Hodge, wife of the late Rev. Charles Hodge, Vicar of Clarborough and St. Saviour's, Retford, Notts. Home papers please copy.

*Evening Post 9 Dec 1897 Birth*

On 24<sup>th</sup> November, at Hay-street, Oriental Bay, the wife of Howard T. Chambers – a daughter.

*Evening Post 8 Mar 1898 Local and General*

The fire which occurred in Oriental Bay yesterday afternoon occurred in a building in Hay-street, owned by Mr F. Stevens, and occupied by Mr Howard Chambers, manager of the Palatine Insurance Company. No one was at home at the time of the outbreak, and by the time the Brigade reached the spot the fire had obtained a good hold. Some difficulty was experienced in getting a workable pressure of water, but when the Polhill Gully supply was turned on the Brigade was not long in obtaining the mastery, though not before the inside of the building and contents were completely destroyed. The house was insured for £350 in the Palatine Insurance Company, and the furniture for £200 in the Alliance Company.

*Karori Cemetery Database, Wellington City Council – [www.wellington.govt.nz/services/cemeteries/search/search.php](http://www.wellington.govt.nz/services/cemeteries/search/search.php)*

Angela K. Chambers, aged 6 months, buried 30 May 1898. Section: Public; Plot: 101D

*1903 Electoral Roll for Raymont's Polling Place, Division of Brisbane, Queensland, Australia*

Emily Letitia Chambers, Billington's Hill, Bank street, domestic duties; Howard Thomas Chambers, Bank street, insurance manager

*1905 Electoral Roll for Raymont's Polling Place, Division of Brisbane, Queensland, Australia*

Emily Lactitia Chambers, Billington's Hill, Bank street, domestic duties; Howard Thomas Chambers, Bank street, insurance manager

*The Brisbane Courier 4 Oct 1910 Toowoomba and District*

Toowoomba, October 3. In the Police Court this morning... Edward Sutton and John Morris, alias Kelly, were charged with having a quantity of jewellery in their possession, reasonably suspected of having been stolen. The same defendants were further charged with having entered the shop of E. L. Chambers of Esk, and stolen therefrom a quantity of jewellery. On both charges the accused were remanded for eight days.

*The Brisbane Courer 24 Nov 1910 Ipswich and West Moreton*

Ipswich, November 23. The November sittings of the District Court were commenced to-day... John Morris and Edward Sutton were charged conjointly with having broken into and stolen from the shop of Emily Chambers, at Esk, on September 18. Both prisoners pleaded guilty. Sutton was sentenced to two years' imprisonment with hard labour, and Morris to four years' imprisonment with hard labour.

*1913 Electoral Roll for Esk, Division of Moreton, Queensland, Australia*

Emily Letitia Chambers, Esk, home duties; Howard Thomas Chambers, Esk, jeweller

*1913 Supplemental Roll Subdivision of Biggenden, Division of Wide Bay, Queensland*

Howard Thomas Chambers, Biggenden, cycle agent

*1913 Electoral Roll, Subdivision of Biggenden, Division of Wide Bay, Queensland – 2<sup>nd</sup> printing*

Edith Mary Chambers, home duties; Howard Thomas Chambers, cycle agent; Sampson Henry Chambers, farmer – all of Biggenden

*1913 Electoral Roll, Subdivision of Brisbane North, Division of Brisbane, Queensland – 2<sup>nd</sup> printing*

Vere Howard Edward Chambers, Menzies, George st., telephone mechanic

*The Brisbane Courier 22 Jul 1916 Dalby District Court*

Emily Letitia Chambers, late licensee of the Lyndorah Hotel, Dalby, was charged with having stolen, on July 16, a quantity of bed clothing, the property of Mrs Annie E. Lindsay. Mr C. J. Hogan (Messrs Victory Drury and Hogan) appeared for the accused. The jury, without leaving the box, returned a verdict of not guilty, and the accused was discharged.

*First World War Embarkation Roll*

Private Jack Wyman Chambers, Service number 2402, 49 Infantry Battalion – 2 to 10 Reinforcements (April 1916-August 1917). Aged 22yrs, Motor driver. Address on date of enlistment: Dalby, Queensland. Next of kin: Mother, Mrs Emily Letitia Chambers, Wynnum, Queensland. Religion: Church of England. Date of joining: 7 Sep 1916. Embarked 19 Sep 1916 from Brisbane on the Ship 'HMAT Seang Choon' (number A49)

*1919 Electoral Roll for Longreach, Kennedy, Queensland*  
Jack Wyman Chambers, Post Office, Longreach, motor mechanic

*1921 Electoral Roll Subdivision of Brisbane North, Brisbane, Queensland*  
Howard Thomas Chambers, 63-65 George st., motor driver

*1925 Electoral Roll Division of Brisbane, Brisbane, Queensland*  
Howard Thomas Chambers, 63-65 George st., motor driver

*1930 Electoral Roll for Toowoomba, Darling Downs, Queensland*  
Angela Joan Crain, home duties; Arthur George Crain, dental mechanic – both of Lindsay st.

*1936 Electoral Roll for Wynnum, Moreton, Queensland*  
Emily Letitia Chambers, Maud st., Lota, home duties; Jack Wyman Chambers, Maud st., Lota; Mervyn Alan Chambers, Maud st., Lota, mechanic

*1936 Electoral Roll for Toowoomba, Darling Downs, Queensland*  
Angela Joan Crain, home duties; Arthur George Crain, dental mechanic – both of 7 Hatton tce.

*1937 Electoral Roll for Wynnum, Moreton, Queensland*  
Jack Wyman Chambers, Armytage st., Lota

*1937 Electoral Roll Subdivision of Coorparoo, Division of Griffith, Queensland*  
Howard Thomas Chambers, Short st. and Annerley rd., taxi cab driver

*Brisbane Courier Mail Thursday 25 May 1939 Funeral Notice*  
The relatives and friends of Mrs H. T. Chambers of Commercial Road Bulimba, Mr and Mrs J. Egan of Kangaroo Point, Messrs A. M. Chambers and J. W. Chambers of East Brisbane are invited to attend the funeral of their beloved father and father-in-law Howard Thomas Chambers to move from the funeral parlour 581 Stanley Street, South Brisbane this (Thursday) afternoon at 2.30pm for the Toowong Cemetery, Queensland, Australia.

*The Argus (Melbourne) 25 May 1939 Taxi-Driver Murdered – Youth detained by Police*

Brisbane, Wednesday. Following the murder of Howard Thomas Chambers, aged 74 years, of Commercial road, Bulimba, one of the oldest and best-known taxi drivers in Brisbane, in his car on Tuesday night, police have detained a youth at Bangalow (N.S.W.). Chambers's body, with three bullet wounds in the head, was found by the side of the Southport road at Slack's Creek, 16 miles from Brisbane, this morning. Chambers's taxi-cab, a late model black sedan, was missing, but shortly after the body had been discovered the taxi-cab was found about four miles from Mullimbimby (N.S.W.). There were pools of blood in the car, which had been abandoned. This evening police detained a youth at Bangalow (N.S.W.), who resembled in description a young man who was reported to have been seen in the car. The discovery of the body was made at 9 a.m. by three young men, who were driving horses from Grafton to Toowoomba. They informed the schoolmaster at the Slack's Creek school, about 300 yards away, and he in turn informed the police at Beenleigh. At first it was thought that the man had been injured in an accident. He was lying on his back, which prevented anyone from seeing two bullet wounds in the back of the head. Apparently robbery was not the motive for the murder, because when the police searched the dead man's clothing they found among other articles £5 12s in money. His spectacles were a short distance from the body, but his cap was missing. From the position of the body and marks leading from the side of the roadway for a distance of 40ft to a fence near which the body was huddled, the police ascertained that the dead man had been dragged by the arms from the car. It was evident that the shots were fired at close range as hair had been singed at the place where one of the bullets entered the lower part of the head. An examination of the car at Mullimbimby indicated that the dead man had been carried about in the car for some time before the body was dragged out on to the road. There was a large pool of blood on the floor near the front seat. Apparently after he had been shot he had fallen against the near side door and had been left huddled there while his attacker moved into the driving seat, and took control of the car.

*Canberra Times 26 May 1939 Robbery suspected*

Lismore, Thursday. The police were informed to-day that Howard P. Chambers, taxi driver, whose body was found 14 miles from Brisbane yesterday, may have been carrying several hundreds of pounds, the proceeds of a recently completed business deal.

*The Mercury (Hobart) 26 May 1939 Theft of Car Alleged – More serious charge to follow*

Derwent Evans Arkinstall (18) was charged in the Lismore Court today with having stolen a motor-car in Brisbane on Tuesday. Police stated that a more serious charge would be preferred later. Arkinstall, who was remanded in the Brisbane Court, was arrested at Bangalow last night by police who were inquiring into the death yesterday of Howard Thomas Chambers (74), taxi-driver of Brisbane. Chambers' body was found near Slack's Creek with two bullet wounds in the head.

*The Canberra Times 5 Sep 1939 Remand on Murder Charge*

Derwent Evans Arkinstall, 19, an electrician's apprentice, was charged at the Supreme Court to-day with the wilful murder of Howard Chambers, a taxi driver, on the Pacific Highway on May 23. Arkinstall denied wilfully murdering Chambers. The Crown alleged that Chambers was shot three times from behind, and died in the driving seat of his taxi cab. The hearing was adjourned.

*Sydney Morning Herald 1 Jan 1940 Summary of Main Events of 1939*

Sep 8. Derwent Arkinstall, life imprisonment for murder of Howard Chambers, taxi-driver, near Brisbane.

*1943 Electoral Roll for Toowomba, Darling Downs, Queensland*  
Emily Letitia Chambers, 10 Union st., home duties; Jack Wyman Chambers, 10 Union st

*1943 Supplementary Electoral Roll for Surat, Maranoa, Queensland*  
Jack Wyman Chambers, Frogmore

*1949 Electoral Roll for Toowomba, Darling Downs, Queensland*  
Jack Wyman Chambers, 628 Ruthven st., Kathleen Mary Chambers, 628 Ruthven st., home duties

*Brisbane Courier Mail Monday 11 May 1953 Funeral Notice*  
The relatives and friends of Mr and Mrs J. Egan and family are respectfully advised that the funeral of her beloved mother and their mother-in-law and grandmother Emily Letitia Chambers late of 668 Main Road, Kangaroo Point is appointed to leave the parlour at 400 Wickham Terrace Brisbane tomorrow (Tuesday) for Mount Thompson Crematorium after service commencing at 1.45pm. Metropolitan funerals Brisbane, Queensland, Australia.

*1954 Electora Roll for East Toowomba, Darling Downs, Queensland*  
Jack Wyman Chambers, 25 Boland st.; Kathleen Mary Chambers, Hogg st., Rockville, home duties

*1954 Electoral Roll for Widgee, Fisher, Queensland*  
Jack Wyman Chambers, Eumundi Rd., Noosaville; Mervyn Alan Chambers, Eumundi Rd., Noosaville

*Brisbane Courier Mail Saturday 27 Oct 1956 Death Notice*  
Chambers. Alan, youngest son of the late Emily and Howard Chambers aged 52yrs at Brisbane on 21st October 1956 was cremated on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 1956. At rest.