

**GCPS Progress Report**  
**March, 2023**  
**By Diane Sterne**

- It is with deep sadness that I must report the passing of Barrie Cook (April 13, 1939-March 2, 2023). Barrie was the grandson of Foxcrowle Percival Cook, merchant at Granite Creek, Coalmont and Princeton. Barrie's father was Ed Cook, Foxcrowle's only son. Barrie was one of the ribbon cutters at the opening ceremony for the Granite Creek Walking Tour. He was a wise and talented man. Before retirement, he worked in the newspaper industry. For many years Barrie was my "go to" man when I was stumped about something historical. If he couldn't answer me, he always seemed to be able to guide me to someone who could. Barrie also provided us with many photos of the area. I feel honoured to have known him. RIP Barrie. You will be missed!! Webmaster, Ray Boyd has posted an obituary for Barrie on our GCPS website under the News tab: <https://www.granitecreekbc.ca/news.html>. Thank you, Ray.
- In January I received an inquiry through our website regarding the Pollock graves at the Granite Creek Cemetery. I was able to send a reply with links to photos of the headstones.
- Our Webmaster, Ray Boyd, has added our mailing address to both the GCPS website and the Cemetery website. Thank you, Ray! Thanks to Jon Bartlett for pointing out to me that we didn't have the address on either site.
- For a little over a year now (interrupted by the addition of our puppy) I have been working on transcribing some family papers from Skip Broderick. You may recall, she donated the Granite Creek piano to the Princeton Museum. These papers were also donated to the Museum. I have asked Webmaster Ray to add some of the transcriptions about Skip's Grandfather, George Gilbert Batstone, to our GCPS website and he has done that. Thank you so much, Ray! They can be found in the Archives section under Biography: <https://www.granitecreekbc.ca/arc-bio.html>. The original papers and a thumb drive with my transcriptions have been given to the Princeton Museum for their records. Someone from the Museum will be photographing the original papers for the Museum. One of the pieces I transcribed looked to be an obituary. I put a copy of this on the familysearch.org site (a genealogy site run by the Latter-Day Saints). There is a family tree for George on that site, so I placed the obituary in the section for him called "memories". I also included his photo.
- While transcribing Skip's papers about George Gilbert Batstone, I learned that there is a burial at the Granite Creek Cemetery which I wasn't aware of. George Batstone mentions it in his memoirs. The man was Joe Newton. He was a partner on the Pogue Claim with Judge Thomas Murphy. George Batstone found Joe when George was asked by Thomas Murphy to look for

him and deliver a message. Joe was discovered deceased, sitting on a log at his claim. George built a coffin and brought Joe back to the Granite Creek townsite and he was buried at the cemetery. I have made a note of his death in my cemetery records, and we will add him to the list of names on the tree at the cemetery. We do not know the exact location of his grave or the date of his death. A search found Joe in the 1891 Census. He was single and born in the USA about 1826, occupation miner. I have added Joe to the findagrave site listing for the Granite Creek Cemetery.

- Financial Report: 19 paid members; current bank balance \$3,694.36; PayPal \$96.80; cash on hand \$21.82; accounts payable to Ernie when the Delprato picnic table is made \$800. Balance is \$3,012.98.