

Joyce Constance Barns

2016-1997

Institute of Early Childhood Studies,
Victoria University Wellington





Afternoon tea held at the Institute for Early Childhood Studies, Victoria University Wellington c1999 on the occasion of receiving the oil portrait of Joyce Barns from her estate. The portrait, painted by Valerie Belas (date unknown), was after Joyce Barns was awarded the QSM in 1990. Afternoon tea guests (standing are L to R Sophie Alcock, Mary Wood, Marie Bell, Beryl Hughes, Mary Purdy Helen May, ??? Carmen Dalli and Anne Meade (sitting)).



Brief biographical profile of Joyce Barns

Joyce Barns was born in 1916 and died in 1997. Both parents died when Joyce was very young and she and her brother were brought up in Invercargill by maiden aunts. Joyce trained as a kindergarten teacher in Dunedin and was the Director of several kindergartens and the prestigious Helen Deem Centre which was used in the training of Plunket nurses.

Joyce moved to Wellington in 1947 and was the Director of the Taranaki Street Nursery School, at that time used for the training of Kindergarten teachers. In 1951, Joyce Barns, the director of the Taranaki Street Nursery School, received a bursary from the British Council to study "the most up-to-date methods in work with young children" at London's Institute of Education. Joyce became principal of the Wellington Kindergarten Teachers College, a position she held till 1973 when the Kindergarten Teachers Colleges amalgamated with the Teachers Colleges.

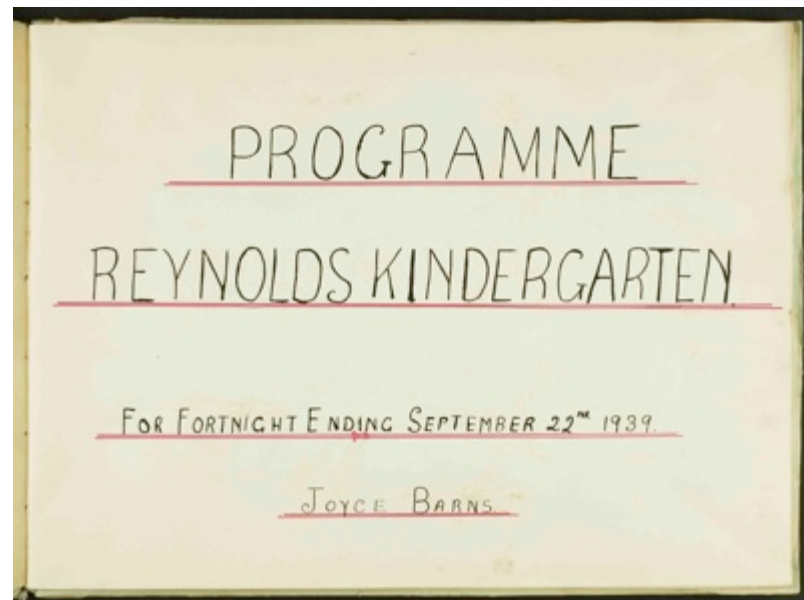
Joyce is remembered as being very warm and caring of "her girls" at the Training College. She was quite proper, but had a great sense of fun. Joyce's influence on early childhood education has been widespread and enduring.



JOYCE BARNS TRAVEL TRUST

The Joyce Barns Travel Grants are administered by the Nikau Foundation on behalf of Guardian Trust. NZK organises the selection of recipients each year. The Trust provides three \$5,000 grants each year to registered kindergarten teachers currently employed by a kindergarten association, to assist with the cost of travelling overseas to study or to assist meeting costs of attendance at early childhood education conferences. Applications are invited around June each year.

<http://www.nzkindergarten.org.nz/secure-resources/nzk/joycebarns>



Rachel Reynolds Kindergarten, Dunedin

The programme booklet is held in the:
Constance Barns Papers fMS-Papers-9071
Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington.

This appears to be a display copy possibly rather than for everyday use, possibly for the Centennial Exhibition in 1940 in Wellington where there was a display kindergarten. Joyce Barns visited this exhibition and there were displays from around New Zealand



Miss C. J. Barns (second on right), principal of the Wellington Free Kindergarten Teachers' Training College, is in Napier conducting an "in service" course for teachers. She is pictured at the Carlyle Free Kindergarten this morning with three teachers who trained under her at Wellington. They are from left: Miss Libby Allen, Wellington, Miss Heather Martin, Hastings, Miss Barns and Miss Helen Paris, Masterton.

Kindergarten teachers at study course

An in-service course for kindergarten teachers began today in the Carlyle Free Kindergarten, Napier.

It is being conducted by Miss J. C. Barns, principal of the Wellington Free Kindergarten Teachers' Training College.

Twenty-eight teachers from Gisborne, Napier, Hastings, Havelock North, Waipukurau, and Dannevirke, along with representatives of free kindergarten associations, are attending the course.

Miss Barns arrived in Napier on Wednesday morning. In the afternoon she addressed the pupils of the Napier Girls' High School, Colenso High School, Hukarere Maori Girls' College and Sacred Heart Convent. She spoke on kindergarten teaching as a career.

In the evening she met and talked to careers' advisers from all the Napier girls' schools.

Yesterday morning Miss Barns addressed pupils of Woodford House, Havelock North, and later met the principals of Iona College and Woodford House.

Joyce Barns recruiting students in the regions

KINDERGARTEN TEACHING



A CAREER FOR GIRLS

Applications to train will be received now by Napier, Hastings and Havelock North Free Kindergarten Associations.

CLOSING DATE JULY 31st

Students' Allowances range from £297 - £347
(According to qualifications)

QUALIFICATIONS:

School Certificate or higher examination, OR three years' secondary education.

SALARIES:

Salaries at present range from £480 to £730 upon qualification to £1505 according to qualifications, and position in the service.

Forms of Application and Brochures from the Secretary		
Box 511	Box 743	Box 153
NAPIER	HASTINGS	HAVELOCK NORTH

PARENTS:

Listen to Miss C. J. Barns, Principal Wellington Free Kindergarten Teachers' Training College, on 2ZC at approx. 2.40 tomorrow afternoon.

Undated cuttings, c. 1972, Kindergarten Scrapbook
Heretaunga Kindergarten Association Archive



Joyce Barns (third from R. At the Wellington Free Kindergarten Association graduates reunion 1989. From L. Simon Easton, Mary Purdy, Joyce Barns, Marjorie Connell, Margaret Jones. Ref: PAColl-3311-1-1, Alexander Turnbull Library <http://natlib.govt.nz/records/22776903>

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Further information

Joyce Barns's papers and photographs albums are held in the Alexander Turnbull Collections of the National Library, Wellington

<http://natlib.govt.nz/items?utf8=✓ &text=Joyce+Constance+Barns>

There would be information about Joyce Barns's career in kindergarten in the papers of the Dunedin Free Kindergarten Association held in the Hocken Collections, University of Otago and the papers of the Wellington Free Free Kindergarten Association held in the Alexander Turnbull Collections.

Helen May uses excerpts from Joyce Barns's interview transcript in the books:

May, Helen (2001, 2009 2nd ed.) *Politics in the playground: The world of early childhood in New Zealand*, University of Otago Press, Dunedin

Middleton, S. & May, H. (1997) *Teachers Talk Teaching 1915-1995, early childhood, school, teachers college*, Dunmore Press, Palmerston North

May, Helen (2014) *People, places and play in the 'child gardens' of Dunedin, Dunedin Kindergartens - Mana Manaaki Puawai O Otepoti 125 years old*, Dunedin Kindergartens