

Mining Ancestors: Knowing where to look

Shauna Hicks MA Grad Dip Lib Sc Dip FHS FQFHS
www.shaunahicks.com.au

Shauna Hicks Noosaville May 2022



Where to Start



Do you know mining history?

How did they get here?

Family stories?


What were the dangers?

Record Sources & Images

Australian Mining History



- Miners moved around
- Major mining rushes (they followed new discoveries)
 - South Australia 1840s
 - Victoria & New South Wales 1850s
 - Queensland 1860s
 - Tasmania 1870s
 - Western Australia 1890s
- Remember the trans Tasman connection



Classic Mining Family (a married sister and her three single half siblings)

- Bullen & Potter families started in Sydney early 1850s
- Then Victoria - Ballarat & Bendigo mid 1850s
- Then Queensland – Gympie & Gladstone early 1870s
- Then Western Australia – Kalgoorlie & Coolgardie 1890s
- Three generations of miners

Article

Talk

Read

Edit

View history

Search Wikipedia

Mining in Australia

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Remember New Zealand too

Mining in Australia has long been a significant [primary sector industry](#) and contributor to the [Australian economy](#) by providing export income, [royalty payments](#) and employment. Historically, mining booms have also encouraged population growth via [immigration to Australia](#), particularly the [gold rushes](#) of the 1850s. Many different ores, gems and minerals have been mined in the past and a wide variety are still mined throughout the country.

Contents [hide]

1 Production overview

2 History

2.1 Gold rushes

3 Location

4 Minerals and resources

5 Statistical chart of Australia's major mineral resources

5.1 Coal mining

5.2 Uranium mining

5.3 Natural gas

6 Entrepreneurs and magnates

7 Economics

8 Technology and services

9 Environment and politics

10 Mining disasters

10.1 New Australasian Gold Mine

10.2 Mount Kembla Colliery

10.3 North Mount Lyell

10.4 Mount Mulligan

10.5 Moura

10.6 Bulli Colliery

10.7 Box Flat Mine

11 Australian mining in literature, art and film

12 See also

13 References

14 External links



Super Pit gold mine on Kalgoorlie's Golden Mile in Western Australia



Adults employed in the mining industry as a percentage of the adult population in Australia divided geographically by statistical local area, as

Tracking miners into Australia



- ▶ Passenger lists usually for immigrants
- ▶ Some free/steerage lists from UK & Europe
- ▶ No lists from America
- ▶ Ship crews deserted

John H. Chipchase, Bloomer, A. B., 5 feet 4½ inches high, fair complexion, brown hair, grey eyes.

Guffith Williams, Bloomer, A. B., 5 feet 6 inches high, fair complexion, light brown hair, blue eyes.

Thomas Hay, Asiatic, sailmaker, 5 feet 7 inches high, fair complexion, light brown hair, blue eyes, anchor on right hand; reward £5.

John Murphy, Asiatic, A. B., 5 feet 5 inches high, complexion fresh, light brown hair, grey eyes, scar on forehead; reward £5.

Richard Smith, Asiatic, A. B., 5 feet 6 inches high, dark complexion, brown hair, brown eyes; reward £5.

Antonio Lauro, Mary Ann, A. B., 5 feet 6 inches high, dark complexion, dark hair, dark eyes, a Portuguese, large black whiskers, and long hair; reward £5.

John Barnes, Bloomer, A. B., 5 feet 8¼ inches high, sallow complexion, brown hair, hazel eyes, cut over left eye.

John Sutherland, Asiatic, A. B., growing, fair complexion, light hair, blue eyes; reward £5.

James T. Wright, Asiatic, A. B., 5 feet 8½ inches high, dark brown complexion, brown hair, hazel eyes; reward £5.

William Welsh, Asiatic, A. B., 6 feet high, brown complexion, brown hair, hazel eyes, an American, with an Irish accent, second and third finger on left hand lately jammed.

Charles Brown, Asiatic, A. B., 5 feet 11 inches high, fair complexion, light hair, blue eyes, speaks English imperfectly; reward £5.

James M'Ewen, Roman Emperor, steward, 5 feet 10½ inches high, fair complexion, light hair, grey eyes, rather slight but well made; reward £40.

Thomas Barclay, Mary Bannatyne, apprentice, 5 feet, fresh complexion, brown hair, dark grey eyes; reward £5.

Robert Gore, Mary Bannatyne, A. B., 5 feet 6 inches high, dark complexion, dark brown hair, blue eyes, crucifix, tree, and anchor on one arm; reward £5.

John Eaton, Mary Bannatyne, A. B., 5 feet 8½ inches, fair complexion, brown hair, hazel eyes; reward £5.

William Walls Boyce, Mary Bannatyne, A. B., 5 feet 10 inches high, fresh complexion, brown hair, grey eyes; reward £5.

Edward Cameron, Mary Bannatyne, A. B., 5 feet 8½ inches high, fair complexion, brown hair, blue eyes; reward £5.

William Brown, Mary Bannatyne, A. B., 5 feet 8½ inches high, dark complexion, brown hair, grey eyes; reward £5.

James Pearson, Mary Bannatyne, boy, 5 feet 2 inches, fair complexion, brown hair, blue eyes; reward £5.

Gold Quest.

EARLY "RUSHES" RECALLED.

Port Curtis and Other Fields.

Recent reports of a strike of gold at Canoona (Q.) may recall the Port Curtis (Q.) rush of 1858. The exodus from Victoria was pronounced. No more disastrous pursuit of gold is on the records of the State. Thousands of men who landed at Keppel Bay and made their way to the scene of the reported "find" were stranded there in the greatest hardship. There was little food on the field, and, as most of the rushers had exhausted their resources in the cost of the journey, they were unable to buy even the necessities which were retailed in small quantities at famine prices. Many died of starvation and fever; the remainder were repatriated at the cost of the Victorian Government. It was estimated that about 16,000 men reached the field in the course of the year—the majority to find that the pioneers, who had obtained some 50,000oz. in alluvial workings in the shallow ground in the neighbourhood of Chappell's Gully, had exhausted the patch (according to Pipeclay-Brown in the Melbourne "Argus").

The strike is notable in that it was the first discovery of gold in Queensland, and out of it came the now flourishing city of Rockhampton. The discovery was made by Charles Chappell prospecting in the Port Curtis country. Exaggerated reports reached Victoria, and the diggers, excited by recent ex-

adventure. Though Canoona was a disappointment, the fact that some gold was there encouraged a few of the better equipped prospectors to remain and search the district for values discovered later in the Fitzroy country. Within 60 miles of the ill-fated first rush lay, undiscovered for nearly 30 years, the wonderful Mount Morgan, the richest gold-mine and largest dividend payer (£10,000,000) ever opened in Australia.

MANY DISAPPOINTMENTS.

The excitement that followed the announcement of gold at Port Curtis was not without warrant. Passengers by the first steamer from the north brought rich specimen stone alleged to have been found on the field, and the newspapers of the time, relying on the statements of some of these, gave it out that men were winning gold by the bucketful. Port Phillip and Sydney Harbour were crowded with ships under the flags of all the nations which had brought gold-hunters to Australia, and had been deserted by their crews and were lying unemployed in the coastal anchorages. The shipping offices were rushed by men offering any price for transport, and as quickly as one vessel was despatched another was loaded, the freight being less of provisions than passengers. What ensued was almost a panic. The gold-fever had spread so rapidly that men on good holdings abandoned them and sank their profits in the new gamble. In September 30 fully loaded passenger vessels had left Victoria for Queensland, and the fear that the colony would be depopulated prompted the newspapers to sound the warning note. "There is not gold at the end of every rainbow." The warning was unheeded. The men had seen gold

The Rushes of the Fifties.

—:0:—

A number of interesting narratives are given in the "Australian Journal" of the rushes of the Victorian gold discoveries in the Fifties, and of adventures with bush-rangers in those days.



• 'I expressed my regret at his hopeless case with a sad end awaiting him, and he admitted its justice, as he had brought it all on himself. He had hoped, on reaching Melbourne, to ship as a seaman on one of the homeward-bound ships, and so clear out of colony. He said he had arrived two years ago as second mate of a good ship, but, hearing the news of the rich goldfields, he, with most of the crew, deserted, and proceeded to the diggings, where he had taken to drinking, gambling, horsestealing, and, lastly, bushranging, but he had never taken life wilfully or used firearms except when pursued by the police, or in defence of his own life. Had he another opportunity, he would make every atonement in his power for his past life, which he bitterly regretted when too late. He asked me to visit him again, which I did a couple of days before his execution. He then engaged me to write to his mother in England, telling her that he died repentant and I fulfilled that pledge."



William Strutt's *Bushrangers on the St Kilda Road*, painted in 1887, depicts what Strutt described as "one of the most daring robberies attempted in Victoria" in 1852.^[1] The road was the scene of frequent hold-ups during the Victorian gold rush by bushrangers, mostly former convicts from Van Diemen's Land (present-day Tasmania), which collectively became known as the St Kilda Road robberies.



Lost in Australia: Missing Friends & Family



Newspapers



Gazettes



Explore

Categories

Community

Research

First Australians

Home / Search results

All

Newspapers &
GazettesMagazines &
NewslettersImages, Maps &
ArtefactsResearch &
ReportsBooks &
LibrariesDiaries, Letters &
ArchivesMusic, Audio &
VideoPeople &
Organisations

Websites

Lists

Newspapers & Gazettes

<https://trove.nla.gov.au>

Papers Past

<https://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz>



Newspapers



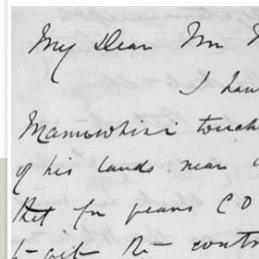
Digitised NZ and Pacific newspapers from the 19th and 20th centuries

Magazines and Journals



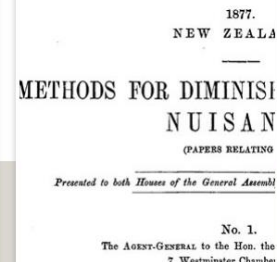
Magazines and journals published in NZ from 1861 through to 2017

Letters and Diaries



Selected letters and diaries, including the papers of Sir Donald McLean, 1820-1877

Parliamentary Papers



Reports and publications from New Zealand's House of Representatives

MISSING FRIENDS.

INQUIRIES FROM IRELAND.

We take the following from the Dublin FREEMAN, April 23 :—

BROPHY, John, who left Carlow Graigue, about 1853, also his brother, Denis, who left same place, 1855, last heard of 1862; sought by their sister, Margaret Brophy.

GRANT, Robert, native of Duthil, Strathspey, Invernesshire; went to Australia; last heard of 15 years ago; sought by his sister, Mary.

KEEFE, Timothy, emigrated 29 years ago from Cork; sought by his brother, Michael Keefe.

MORRISSEY, James, Thomas, Nicholas, and Pat; left Luskagh, Monasterevan, 40 years ago; sought by their niece, Mary Baldwin.

POTTER, John, native of Moylough, County Gal-

way, who left Ireland over thirty years ago. When last heard of, was in the neighbourhood of Melbourne, Australia. He will hear of something to his advantage by applying to Bernard Potter, in care of Mrs. Jennings, Strawberry Hill, Dunmore, County Galway, Ireland.

RYAN, James, John, and Patrick; left Derry, Nonagh, county Tipperary, 12 years ago; sought by their mother.

RIORDAN, Denis, Thomas, and Margaret; natives of Newbridge, county Limerick; went to Australia 25 years ago; sought by friends.

THORNTON, Bernard; left Mullameen, county Monaghan, for Australia in 1852; last heard of 25 years ago, Ballarat; sought by his brother, Luke Thornton.

WALSH, William J. A., native of Dublin; left London in ship Brilliant for Sydney, Australia, 1881; sought by his brother, Sergeant Walsh.

Missing Friends.

Below we give a list of the "Missing in Australia." Any person who can give information concerning those wanted may confer a priceless benefit upon others. We, in turn, will forward the intelligence to Mr. Thomas Catling, Editor of "Lloyd's Weekly":—

Broughton (Samuel and Robert), left Plumstead, Norfolk, 45 years since for Australia; and were last heard of in Adelaide. Robert B. asks.

Burden (Mrs.) seeks the friends who went to the diggings in Australia 20 years ago, belonging to William Shakespeare Quick, born in Union-street, Lambeth.

Clements (George) was in Melbourne in 1890. Aunt Jane, of Camden-town asks.

Cowles (John) seeks his uncle (of Monmouthshire), who went to Australia in 1854-'55; last heard of in 1859 from Geelong.

Jacobs (Harry, Godfrey, and Moss) are sought by their mother. Harry and Godfrey went to Australia; Moss to America, last heard of 20 years ago.

McIntyre (Willie) went to Sydney in 1883 in the Carthage; left Sydney three years later for Portland, Oregon; last heard of at Tacoma in October, 1888. Mother asks.

McLaren (James and Charles P.) are sought by their father. James left Battersea for America about 1883; Charles left Vauxhall for Australia in 1890.

Millikin (Thomas John) left the Raymunderdon's Raphoe, Ireland, about 1828 for Australia. Some 20 years afterwards he started an iron foundry in Philadelphia, U.S.A. Sister Anne would be glad of any tidings.

MISSING RELATIVES TRACED

In a recent issue of a newspaper a photograph of relatives of an old family of Londonderry, Northern Ireland, was published, with an inquiry about the missing relatives from Mr John Wylie Reid. As a result the missing relatives have been located in Mr Joe Reid, of Oamaru, and Mrs N. Tressider, of Port Chalmers, the two surviving members. The photograph, taken in 1894, is of Mr and Mrs James Reid and family, the parents having come to New Zealand in the Jessie Redmond in 1874.


OTAGO DAILY TIMES, ISSUE 26136, 26 APRIL 1946,
PAGE 4

CAN YOU IDENTIFY OR ASSIST?—John Wiley Reid has sent the above family photograph from his address, 18 Marlborough road, Londonderry (Northern Ireland), in the hope that someone can identify and locate the personnel. He writes for information of his mother's aunt and people (name Reid), who left Londonderry for New Zealand about 1886 and last communicated with his mother in 1930. He thinks they had some business in "King's End" (sic) street, possibly a jeweller. The photograph is from the studio of Wrigglesworth and Binns, who were then in business in Wellington, Christchurch, and Dunedin.

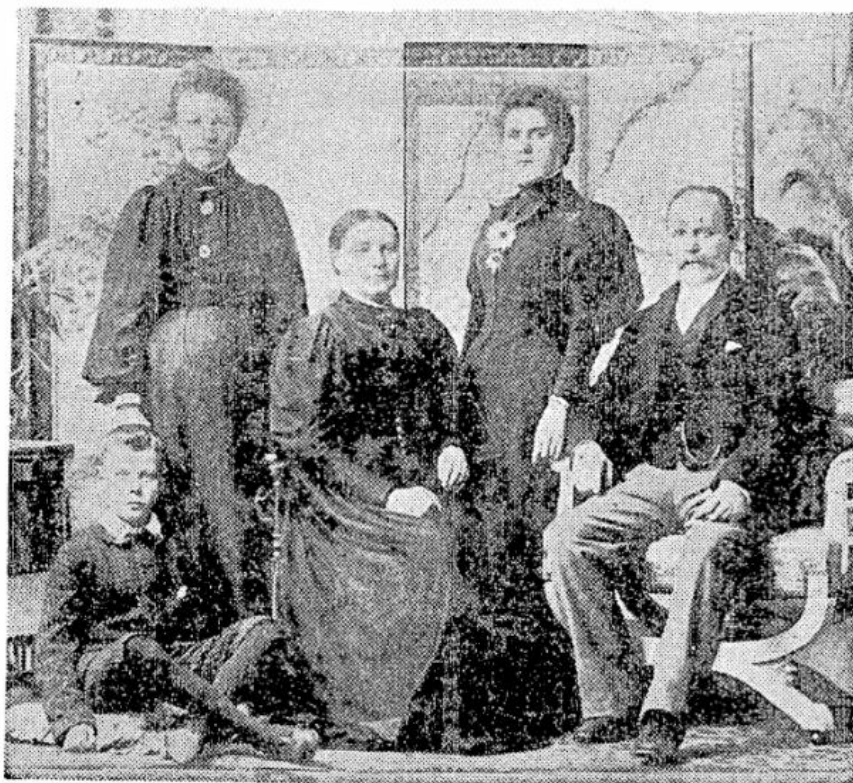
EVENING STAR, ISSUE 25774, 23 APRIL 1946, PAGE 8

Image 

Text 

Research info 

Print 



Untitled

EVENING STAR, ISSUE 25774, 23 APRIL 1946, PAGE 8

Using This Item

Allied Press Ltd is the copyright owner for the Evening Star. You can reproduce in-copyright material from this newspaper for non-commercial use under a [Creative Commons New Zealand BY-NC-SA licence](#). This newspaper is not available for commercial use without the consent of Allied Press Ltd. For advice on reproduction of out-of-copyright material from this newspaper, please refer to the [Copyright guide](#).

Are you missing any
young men from the
UK or US census?

1851 England Census for John Borrowdale

Lancashire > Liverpool > St Martin > 1uu

Parish or Township of		Ecclesiastical District of		City or Borough of		Town of		Village of	
Liverpool		Liverpool		Liverpool		Liverpool		Liverpool	
No. of Inhabitants	Name of Street, Place, or Road, and Name or No. of House	Name and Surname of each Person who abode in the house, or the Night of the 30th March, 1851	Relation to Head of Family	Condition	Age of		Rank, Profession, or Occupation	Where Born	Whether Blind, or Deaf and Dumb
					Male	Female			
	1 house uninhabited								
127	14 St George's Place	Francis Borrowdale	Head	Mar	48		Bookbinder	Cumbria, Brampton	
		Hannah do	Wife	do		53		Northumberland, Brampton	
		Joseph do	Son	do	22		Bookbinder	do	
		John do	do	do	22		do	do	
		Francis do	do	do	11		do Apprentice	Lancashire, Salford	
		William do	do	do	16		Bookbinder (Apprentice)	do	
		Frederic do	do	do	14		Scholar	do	

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE
Reference: H.O. 107

1871 England Census for John Borrowdale

Lancashire > Liverpool > St Martin > 49

Page 34]		The undermentioned Houses are situate within the Boundaries of the													
* Civil Parish (or Township) of		City or Municipal Borough of		Municipal Ward of		Parliamentary Borough of		Town of		Village or Hamlet of		Local Board, or (Improvement Commissioners District) of		Ecclesiastical District of	
Liverpool		Liverpool		Scotland		Liverpool		Liverpool				Liverpool		St. Matthias	
No. of Schedule	ROAD, STREET, etc., and No. of NAME of HOUSE	HOUSES (Inhabited only)	NAME and Surname of each Person	RELATION to Head of Family	CON-DITION	AGE of		Rank, Profession, or OCCUPATION	WHERE BORN	Whether 1. Deaf and Dumb 2. Blind 3. Imbecile or Idiot 4. Lunatic					
						Male	Female								
181	4 in 3 Cantel	1	James Simpson	Head	Mar	33		Bookbinder	Ireland						
			Mathew do	Wife	do	28			do						
			Margaret do	Daughter	do	10		Scholar	do						
			Mary Charters	Servant	Unm	20		Needle Woman	do						
			Moses McNaughton	Boarder	Unm	35		Bookbinder	do						
182	2 in 3 Cantel	1	George Gribble	do	Unm	28		Bookbinder	Wigan, Lancashire						
			Francis Borrowdale	do	Mar	28		Bookbinder	Cockermouth, Cumberland						
			Barbara do	Wife	do	43			Northumberland						
			John do	Son	Unm	42		Bookbinder	do						
			William do	Son	Unm	36		do	Liverpool, Lancashire						
			Francis do	Son	Unm	7		Scholar	do						
183	No 29 Cantel	1	Mary Ann Thickett	Servant	Mar			General Servant	Bedford, North Wales						
			James Thickett	Head	Mar				do						

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE
Reference: RG10/3764



Search ▾

Search Results Show: Genealogical Index of Names (2) Filter Results

Searched 'Genealogical Index of Names' for '(Genealogical_Index_of_Names.{SN|SSN|SpMoSn|MMN|ALSN|WitnessSN|WitnessSN2}:{borrowscale})'. 2 matches were found. 1-2 are shown.

Select: All None Page: 1

View: 10 items Sort by: Surname: (A to Z) Then by: Given name: (A to Z)

Genealogical Index of Names

- ☐ **BORROWSALE** John H. 26 Jul 1858. Event: Hospital admission. Place: Victoria
- ☐ **BORROWSALE** John Hardy. 04 Apr 1856. Event: Hospital admission. Place: Victoria

Select: All None Page: 1

View: 10 items Sort by: Surname: (A to Z) Then by: Given name: (A to Z)

Refine Search Results

- Event:
- ☐ Hospital admission (2)
- Place:
- ☐ Victoria (2)

www.gsv.org.au

GSV Visitor E-Pass



The GSV Visitor E-Pass gives you access to a huge range of genealogy resources for a short period (6 hours) from your own home at an affordable price. Normally priced at \$20.00, you can buy a Visitor E-Pass at the special introductory price of just \$10.00.

Genealogical Index of Names (GIN)

Surname: **BORROWSCALE**
Given name: John Hardy
Event: Hospital admission
Event date: 04 Apr 1856
Event place: Victoria
Birth place: England
Age: 27
Status: Single
Religion: C of E

Title: Castlemaine district hospital patient registers 1855-1920

Comment: Discharged 21 May 1856. Result: Left. Name of Recommender or remarks: Accident

Genealogical Index of Names (GIN)

Surname: **BORROWSCALE**
Given name: John H
Event: Hospital admission
Event date: 26 Jul 1858
Event place: Victoria
Birth place: England
Age: 29
Status: Single
Religion: C of E

Title: Castlemaine district hospital patient registers 1855-1920

Comment: Discharged 06 Sep 1858. Result: Left

Genealogical Index of Names (GIN)

Surname: POTTER
Given name: Robert
Event: Hospital admission
Event date: 12 Jul 1866
Event place: Sebastopol, Victoria
Birth place: Sydney, Nsw
Age: 22
Status: Single
Sex: Male
Occupation: Butcher
How long in Colonies: 12
Religion: C of E
Title: Ballarat Base Hospital, Victoria: admissions register 1856-1913 index
Comment: Name of Recommender or remarks: NELSON G M CO

Genealogical Index of Names (GIN)

Surname: POTTER
Given name: Robert
Event: Hospital admission
Event date: 30 May 1869
Event place: Sebastopol, Victoria
Birth place: Sydney, Nsw
Age: 24
Status: Single
Sex: Male
Occupation: Miner
How long in Colonies: 13
Religion: Methodist/Weslyan
Title: Ballarat Base Hospital, Victoria: admissions register 1856-1913 index
Comment: Name of Recommender or remarks: Accident

Genealogical Index of Names (GIN)

Surname: Andrews
Given name: John
Event: Hospital record
Event date: 3 Apr 1888
Event place: Creswick, Victoria
Location: Residence: Allendale
Birth place: America
Age: 58
Status: Married
Occupation: Miner
How long in Colonies: 36
Religion: Presbyterian
Title: Creswick district hospital in-patients 1883-1912
Comment: Discharged: 7 Apr 1888 - Cured



Image:


74 CRESWICK DISTRICT HOSPITAL.

IN-PATIENTS.

74

No.	Date of Admission, 1877	Name.	Residence.	Age.	Trade.	M., S., or W.	Native Place.	Religion.	Years in Colony.	By whom recommended.	Disease.	Result.	Date of Discharge.	REMARKS.
31	March 6 th	James Benacle	Weslake	12	School	S	Vict.	RC	12	Mr. Brown	Dysphtheria	Cured	March 18 th	
32	" 7 th	Mary Slattery	Bald Hills	20	Domest.	S	"	"	20	Mr. Slattery	Pericarditis of rib	Cured	July 25 th	in July 6 June 30
33	" 8	Ellen Morrison	Allendale	41	FW	M	Laosman	Wry	40	Mr. Spence	Haemorrhoids	Cured	March 27 th	
34	" 9 th	Frederick Phycell	Cattle Station	34	Miner	S	America	Chy	28	Mr. Nae	Wound Cord	<u>Fatal</u>	April 30 th	
35	" 12 th	Charles Williams	Creswick	61	"	"	England	"	30	Urgent	Malpian disease of eye	Rel	March 23 rd	
36	" 13 th	Abraham Elward	Beaconsfield	45	"	M	Wales	Ang	30	Accident	Fract. Pelvic	Cured	April 14	
37	" 27 th	Arthur Graham	Sp. Hill	3	Infant	S	Vict.	RC	3	Mr. Spence	Dysphtheria	Cured	April 4 th	
38	27 th	William Rogers	Rocky Hill	57	Miner	"	England	Chy	22	Dr. Davis	Fract. Rib	Cured	March 31 st	
19-5-24	29 th	William Sutton	"	48	Bricklayer	M	"	"	25	Urgent	Structure Wrecker	Rel	March 30 th	
40	29 th	George Lakin	Allendale	46	Miner	S	Ireland	"	28	Mr. Spence	Bronchitis	Cured	April 11 th	
41	30 th	Thomas Flynn	Spring Hill	24	Labourer	S	Vict.	RC	24	Accident	Fract. L. & R. Ribs	Cured	May 28 th	
42	31 st	Catherine Little	Creswick	31	FW	M	"	Chy	31	Urgent	Malpian disease of heart	Cured	April 21 st	Amended March 28
43	April 3 rd	John Andrews	Allendale	58	Miner	M	America	Presby	36	Spence	Epithelioma of lip	Cured	April 7 th	
44	" 4 th	James Ryan	Coptham Creek	60	Labourer	W	Ireland	RC	20	Mr. Cheek	Schistoma	Rel	April 16	

Genealogical Index of Names (GIN)

Surname: ADELBERG
Given name: Charles
Event: Hospital admission
Event date: 15 Nov 1877
Event place: Maryborough
Birth place: Kenisberg Courlang **Germany**
Age: 61
Status: Married
Occupation: Miner
Ship: Fanny 
How long in Colonies: 26
Religion: C of E
Title: Maryborough and District Hospital Admissions Register 1855-1907
Comment: Port of embarkation: Adelaide. Died on 21 Nov 1877

www.gsv.org.au

HOSPITAL SERIES

The Victorian Goldfields Hospitals Index: The Hospitals and the Information the Records Contain.

The CD is an amalgamation of indexes to records of the following eight hospitals. They are all admission records, except that which we have called the Kyneton Hospital Family record:

Amherst Hospital 1869-1888
Ballarat Hospital 1856-1913
Castlemaine Hospital 1855-1920
Castlemaine Benevolent Asylum 1860-1922
Creswick Hospital 1863-1882
Creswick Hospital outpatients 1873-1877
Creswick Hospital 1883-1894
Dunolly Hospital 1860-1900
Kyneton Hospital Admissions Register 1862-1885
Kyneton Hospital Family Record 1869-1884
Maldon Hospital 1864-1905
Maryborough Hospital 1855-1907

The index comprises ten fields of information: surname; given name(s); admission date; age of patient; patient's place of birth; whether single, married or widowed; occupation; residence; and source.

Various additional information is contained in the records.

OMEIO DISTRICT GOLDFIELD - NOTES

- 1851:** Gold officially discovered at Livingstone Creek, Omeo, by men employed by Edward Crooke, licensee of Hinno Mungey station, about 10 miles below Omeo - small rush followed - about 100 - worked with shovel and tin dish - almost abandoned mid-1852. Area prospected as far as Cobungra station. Among early parties was Hedley. (Flett, p. 169)
- 1852:** Gold found at Bindi on Tambo River. (Flett, pp. 171-2)
- 1854:** Early in year, 50 miners at Omeo, surfacing and sluicing - later that year, 180 men 'between Mt Livingstone and the Swamp', working in creek or on eastern bank terraces. (Flett, p. 170)
- 1854-6:** Mining camp called Omeo - became a town in 1856. (Flett, pp. 170-71)
- 1855-7:** First in series of long sluicing races constructed - Champagne and Co. (Frenchmen) built theirs early in 1855 - they were original party to work the area now known as the Oriental claims. Fitzgerald and party commenced cutting races, which delivered water to Bloomfield's Gully, and (later) Pioneer claims.¹
- 1856-7:** Gold found in tributaries of Livingstone Creek - Dry Creek and New Rush Creek opened, 1857. (Flett, p. 170).
- 1856+:** The alluvial deposits in the Dry Gully area (now loosely grouped as the Oriental claims) 'are over one hundred feet thick in parts [and] apparently occupy the bed of an ancient tarn or mountain lake, and are auriferous for almost the complete depth...'²
- 1857-60s:** Fitzgerald and party took up claims on hill at junction of Livingstone Creek with Dry Gully and Mountain Creek in 1857 - working ground as Pioneer claim, ground sluicing, in 1858. Pioneer and French parties competed for water rights - Fitzgerald took up agricultural ground around Dry Hill and west of Livingstone Creek - restricted others from building water rights around his ground.³
- 1863-4:** Township and Pioneer reefs opened up. (Flett, p. 171)
- June 1864:** 425 alluvial miners (275 Chinese, 150 Europeans) - no quartz miners. Population focused on Livingstone Creek (265) and Mitta-mitta River, from Cobungra to Wombat Creek (120) - 20 at Tambo River and Swift's Creek, 15 at Wombat Creek. Chinese population does little mining in winter months - cannot endure the cold at Omeo.

<http://pandora.nla.gov.au/col/13063>

BEECHWORTH GOLDFIELD

DATE

1852:

HISTORY: •

First discovery on present site of Beechworth, February 1852.¹

1853:

Woolshed (part of Reedy Creek, about 6 km below Beechworth) opened 1853 - extraordinarily rich by 1855 - township extended for 2_ miles, but almost deserted within a few years.²

1855:

Discoveries of new fields at Eldorado in 1855 and Wooragee (Magpie Creek), north of Beechworth, in 1856.³

1856:

Small party cut a tail-race from the Spring Creek falls up to the alluvial flats on Spring Creek, east of Beechworth, then virtually abandoned, 1856 (future Rocky Mountain Co. claim) - had been held in very small claims and worked by sinking and driving, then tub-and-cradled - tail-race 20 chains long, blasted 2-8 ft deep through rock - took 18 months to complete, cost £3,000 - not deep enough to drain deepest ground - much gold left behind.⁴

1859:

Spring Creek, 1859 - called Spring Creek above the Upper Falls and Woolshed Creek below the Lower Falls - originally worked in paddocks - slabs and bark used to prevent sides falling in - then worked over again with sluice-boxes - now being worked for third time, by improved sluicing methods.⁵

1860:

2,310 European miners, 2,139 Chinese⁶ - Upper Three-Mile Creek worked since 1852 - now chiefly taken up by Chinese, sluicing (likewise Lower Three-Mile/Bowman's).⁷

1861:

Battery of 16-head, 15-hp steam engine erected at Two-Mile Reef, 1861.⁸

- The 'great' Excelsior tail-race, Reid's Creek, being extended by blasting through tough granite, 15 ft deep, 1861.⁹

1861:

Bawden's (or Rawden's) Steam Co., Woolshed, 1861 - 'have given up the system they first adopted, of ground sluicing their claim, and in consequence of having little or no fall to work upon, lifting up the tailings and water by buckets on an endless band of vulcanised India rubber some 15 ft and discharging it over the bank into the creek; they now only lift the water and bank up the tailings as well as they can.'¹⁰

1861:

German and Durham crushing machine, 2-Mile Creek, 1861 - 12-head, 12-16 hp engine.¹¹

1861-62:

European miners leaving for the Lachlan and New Zealand, 1861-2 - Chinese taking over ground.¹²



CORNISH ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA



– Overland Gold –

Overland from South Australia to the Victorian goldfields 1851-53; routes taken, modes of travel, conditions experienced

[HOME](#)[THE PROJECT](#)[HISTORICAL CONTEXT](#)[INFORMATION RESOURCES](#)[TRACING THE JOURNEY](#)[BLOG](#)

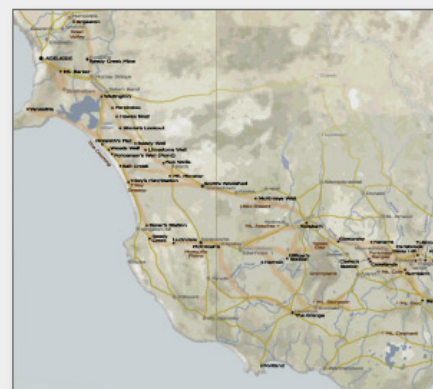
– Home –

Welcome to our website - Overland Gold - which provides a forum to share information relating to travel between the copper mining areas of South Australia and the Victorian goldfields in the early 1850's - an integral part of early Australian history.

We hope you can contribute to this resource.

Introduction:

In 1851 after news of gold discoveries in Victoria reached the copper mining regions of South Australia, in particular the settlement of Burra, many left immediately for the Victorian goldfields, leaving homes, jobs, and in some cases families. The extent of the subsequent overland migration lead to considerable economic pressures on the Burra mines, the area surround it, and the state of South Australia itself.



EXPLORE THE INTERACTIVE MAP

A significant number of travellers made their way overland - a journey which generally took around 6-8 weeks - depending on the route taken, a distance of approximately 450 miles (725 kms).

Did they walk? How did they travel? How did they find the way? How many were involved?

There is increasing interest amongst family historians in stories that complement family tree research. By providing this forum and collecting accounts, references and data relating to people who made the journey, we hope to increase understanding of the subject. We also aim to provide a guide for those who would like to 'follow in the footsteps' of their forebears.

While the focus is on travel from the Burra area of South Australia (to which many Cornish were attracted in the late 1840's and early 1850's), travel to the goldfields from all areas of South Australia during this period will be included.

Archives & Libraries



**State Archives – Fact Sheets,
Published Guides, Online Catalogues**



Specialist

Bendigo Regional Archives Centre

Mining

- Read [Research guide to records Mining Warden's records](#) and miners' homestead leases including lease applications, maps, and a list of the various acts from 1869 - 1990.
- Read [Research guide to mining records](#) provides a list of the main series of records at Queensland State Archives from the Queensland Mines Department and Mining Warden's Offices including separate series of records for the three main types of mining; gold, coal and base metals.
- Search [Mineral leases 1871-1940](#)—index to mining leases created by the Mines Department and the Mining Warden in Cloncurry includes gold, mineral, coal and water race leases.
- Search [Miners rights 1874-1880](#)—index to registers of miners' licenses and business licenses issued mainly between 1 November 1874 and 31 May 1876. Created by the Warden's Office at Maytown however also includes Edwardstown, Palmerville and Kingsboro.

www.qld.gov.au/recreation/arts/heritage/archives/collection/lands



Gold Mining Guide

Guide

Indexes

Stories



Contents

Historical overview

How to search

Published Indexes

A Select list of records

Colonial Secretary

Gold Commissioners

Gold Escort

Treasury

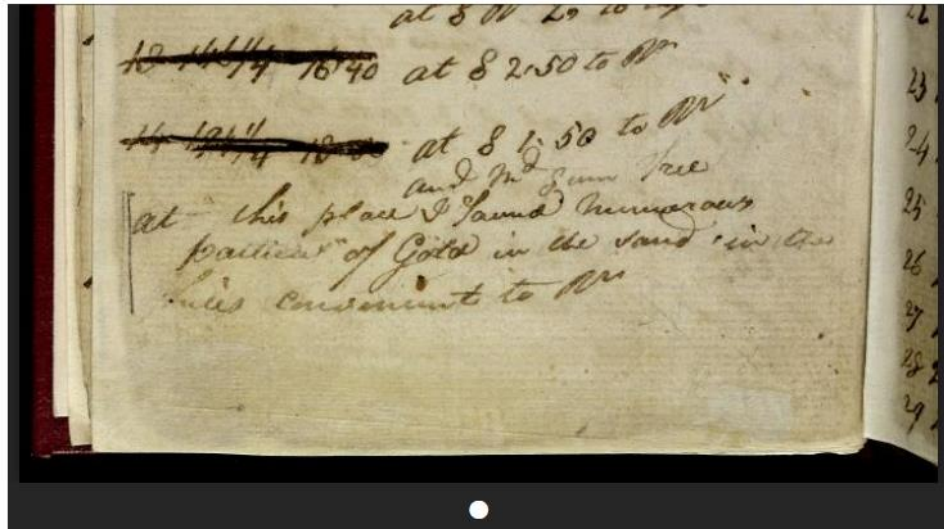
Department of Lands

Mines

Company Records

Maps

Additional sources



Goldmining can be a challenging field of research. The record series listed in this guide may assist.

www.records.nsw.gov.au/archives/collections-and-research/guides-and-indexes/gold-mining-guide

Mining and Resource Records

The State Records Office holds various sets of records relating to mining and resource development within Western Australia.

Mining records have been created by several government agencies including the Department of Mines and its successor agencies, the Department of Industrial Development and its successor agencies, and the various Mining Registrars and Mining Wardens from throughout the State.

Department of Mines

Show more ▾

Mining Registrar / Mining Warden Records

Show more ▾

Mining Leases

Show more ▾

Miner's Rights

Show more ▾

Other Mining Records

Show more ▾

[Search the State Archives Collection](#)

[Research using State Archives](#)

Need help with what's in the Collection? Get started with our guides to popular topics:

- [Aboriginal History](#)
- [Architectural Information](#)
- [Colonial Secretary's Office](#)
- [Convicts](#)
- [Court Records](#)
- [Education and School Information](#)
- [Harbour Masters and Shipping](#)
- [Hospitals and Health](#)
- [Local Government Archives](#)
- [Mining and Resource Records](#)
- [Online Maps and Plans](#)
- [Passenger Lists and Immigration](#)
- [Policing](#)
- [Premier, Cabinet and Parliament](#)
- [Prison and Gaol Records](#)
- [Railways and WAGR Staff](#)

www.wa.gov.au/organisation/state-records-office-of-western-australia/mining-and-resource-records

Item 1893/0149 - Gold Mining Lease No 45 The Eureka application for

FILES - MINING » Gold Mining Lease No 45 The Eureka a...


Identity area

Reference code	AU WA S20- cons964 1893/0149
Title	Gold Mining Lease No 45 The Eureka application for
Date(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">1893-04-01 - 1908-02-28 (Accumulation)
Level of description	Item

Context area

Name of creator	AU WA A16 - DEPARTMENT OF MINES (1894-01-01 - 1992-07-01)
Repository	State Records Office of Western Australia


Content and structure area

Scope and content	William Caws and Patrick Philbin - The Island, Lake Austin. Transfers to James Robert Tait, Samuel Jeavons, Frederick Francis Burdett Wittenoom, Charles Throsby Von Arnheim, Fred Carlisle, John G Greayer, Edward Bullen Gilbert, George Payze, The Island Eureka Gold Mining Company NL., Richard Paterson Young, Frederick Williamson & Henry Williams. Declaration from Jane Philbin 
-------------------	---

Conditions of access and use area

Conditions governing access	Open
-----------------------------	------

Explore

 Browse as list

 Browse digital objects

Export

 Dublin Core 1.1 XML

 EAD 2002 XML

Women on the goldfields

Hard life

Looked
after the
children

Few
records

2020

Australians Women's Archives Project

The Australian Women's Register

A collaboration between The University of Melbourne and The National Foundation for Australian Women (NFAW)

Home
About
Explore themes
Browse
Subscribe
Search
GO

BLOG

[The Australian Women's Register is taking a break.](#)

After 20 years of continuous operation, we are sad to announce that on Monday 21st December the Australian Women's Register is taking a summer break of indeterminate length. We hope it won't be for too long.

[Read this post](#)

FEATURED EXHIBITIONS



The Encyclopedia of Women and Leadership in Twentieth-Century Australia
[Details](#)



Redefining Leadership
[Details](#)



She Speaks: Emerging Victorian Jewish Women Leaders
[Details](#)



Australian Women Lawyers as Active Citizens

Welcome

Welcome to the Australian Women's Register, Australia's premier online archival resource discovering, promoting and preserving the diverse stories of Australian women, past and present. By making research about Australian women publicly available, the editors hope to shape attitudes about women and support policy that seeks to improve social equity.

The Register contains **7042** entries with references to **4297** archival resources, **9033** published resources and **1302** digital resources. You can use it to:

- Find women
- Find organisations
- Find archives
- Find publications
- Find digital resources

Search

GO

Browse

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R
S T U V W X Y Z

Explore themes

Find women according to categories such as occupation and place of birth.

GO

Exhibitions






[More exhibitions](#)

About the Australian Women's Archives Program

The National Foundation for Australian Women (NFAW), in collaboration with the University of Melbourne, established the Australian Women's Archive Program (AWAP) in 2000 (originally the Australian Women's Archives Project) to build knowledge and recognition of the contribution made by women to Australia.

[More](#)

1870

The Warden and a noted miner named Macrossan were deadly enemies, and this enmity culminated in Macrossan horse-whipping the Warden, a feeble

55

old man, in the muddy bed of Elphinstone Creek, before the bridge was built. I was at the door of the Court House and, seeing a disturbance, ran down the hill and fought my way through the mob, and capsized Macrossan into the sludge. I then got the Warden into a pub. and sent for the police. Macrossan was shortly after arrested, and the local Justices asked for an absurd one thousand pounds bail, which was given by a notorious shanty keeper named Annie Smith who, in consequence of this, was chaired round the town shoulder high by an admiring mob of half drunken sympathisers. The final scene saw Macrossan fined thirty pounds at the District Court, Townsville ; it made for him a name very popular among a certain class of miners.

www.textqueensland.com.au

A very stirring event happened two years after my arrival at Ravenswood. At Charters Towers a butcher named Trevethan raised the price of meat, and this the miners resented. The main camp was then at Millchester, where the shop was situated.

One Saturday night, November the second, 1872, the mob made a long rope fast through the gable of the shop, and pulled the whole structure bodily into the road. Three of the ringleaders were arrested and taken to the lock-up at Charters Towers, a distance of two and a half miles. That night an armed mob of several hundred men marched up from Millchester, and demanded the release of the prisoners. Warden Charters, in charge, went home to his country residence, sick, but P. M. Jardine and Warder J. G. McDonald were equal to the occasion, and by their tact and good judgment prevented a very serious riot.

1872

45 Years in North
Queensland by W O Hill



W. R. O. HILL, 1884.

Explore

Categories

Community

Research

First Australians

[Home](#) / Search results

All

Newspapers &
GazettesMagazines &
NewslettersImages, Maps &
ArtefactsResearch &
ReportsBooks &
LibrariesDiaries, Letters &
ArchivesMusic, Audio &
VideoPeople &
Organisations

Websites

Lists

Books & Libraries



gold mining accounts

Access: Free access X

BOOKS & LIBRARIES

2,623 total results Sort by: Relevance

The gold fields of Victoria in 1862 /

 **Book, Unpublished** - 6 editions: 1862-2007  **Patterson, J. A**

... main **gold mining** areas in Victoria and how they operated. Also chapters on extraction methods, water ... The **gold** fields of Victoria in 1862 [electronic resource] / ... of the goldfields was considered desirable in 1862, 10 years after the discovery of **gold** in Victoria ... The **gold** fields of Victoria in 1862 / ...

Lord Robert Cecil's gold fields diary / with introduction and notes by Sir Ernest Scott

 **Book, Book/Illustrated** - 3 editions: 1935-1945  **Salisbury, Robert Cecil, Marquess of, 1830-1903**<https://trove.nla.gov.au>

Shauna Hicks Noosaville May 2022

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
CHAPTER I.	
Introductory	1
CHAPTER II.	
The Rich Quartz Reefs of Inglewood	8
CHAPTER III.	
The Antimony Mines of M'Ivor	23
CHAPTER IV.	
Tarnagulla and Poverty Reef	32
CHAPTER V.	
The Silver Mines of St. Arnaud	43
CHAPTER VI.	
Bendigo (or Sandhurst)	58
CHAPTER VII.	
Bendigo (continued)	71
CHAPTER VIII.	
The Whipstick	87
CHAPTER IX.	
Maldon.—Public Quartz Companies, and the Causes of their Failure	95

not throwing away almost as much treasure as we are obtaining from our reefs.

CHAPTER XXV.

WATER SUPPLY FOR THE GOLD FIELDS.

One of the essential requisites in gold-mining is a constant supply of pure water. Whether the miner is simply a tub and cradle man, or a puddler, or a quartz-miner, the command of water all the year round is equally important. Where the reef affords an ample flow, and pumps are requisite, the quartz-miner is happily independent of the seasons, and carries on his labours in summer and winter with equal success; but there are few mines or mills which can entirely dispense with extensive dams, in which to secure the winter's rain for use in the dry months of the year. Some of the newer fields—such as the Jordan, and the diggings recently opened up in Gipps Land, on the south side of the mountains in which the Goulburn, the Yarra, the Thomson, and other rivers take their rise—are amply provided by nature with clear flowing streams; but most of the older gold-fields of the colony are less fortunately situated, and some of the remoter diggings in the north-west of the colony are specially subject to the unpleasant contingencies that arise to the miner from a dry summer. Around Castlemaine it is no uncommon thing for the labours of the puddler and the tunneller to be suspended for four months in the year, for want of water. The Loddon ceased to flow above Newbridge for many months last year, and along its bed whole

piles of washdirt were accumulated from the tunnels, to be washed out in the first of the winter floods. In the district of Maldon, some of the larger mills were unable to carry on operations, their dams being dry; and the bulk of the mining population could do no work for months together. On Bendigo the want has been seriously felt for years, and, unfortunately, it has not been remedied by the formation of the Bendigo Waterworks Company, whose really fine artificial lake, situated at the head of Kangaroo Flat, supplies sufficient water only for the domestic purposes of Sandhurst. Ballarat has its Swamp; and its co-operative companies find a considerable, if not a sufficient, supply in the gutters in which their workings are carried on; but even there water supply, on a comprehensive scheme, is one of the first requisites to the full development of the auriferous resources of the district, and it is about to be secured by local exertion, supplemented by aid from the State. Inglewood, St. Arnaud, and the out-lying gold-fields, are entirely dependent on the periodical rains, and in summer all work is suspended for want of water. Unfortunately, the rivers that flow through those older fields are intermittent. Taking their rise in the Dividing Range, and flowing northwards towards the Murray, they carry down immense bodies of water in the winter; but their volume gradually diminishes as summer advances, until at last they lose themselves in the great plains south of the Murray, leaving dry channels to mark where rivers have been; or they resolve themselves into mere chains of waterholes, from which supplies may be drawn by the miners, but at an expense which exceeds the profit. Miners have laboured to provide for their wants by the construc-



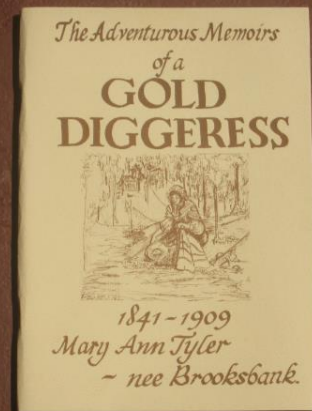
Historical Societies & Museums

- ▶ Google search – place name & historical society
- ▶ Royal Australian Historical Society (NSW)
- ▶ Also try genealogy & family history societies
- ▶ Private individuals
 - ▶ Outback History (Western Australia)
 - ▶ The Goldminer's Database (New Zealand)



Welcome to the Oxley Museum
Wellington NSW

www.oxleymuseum.org.au



Exciting and true story of Mary Ann Tyler who was a remarkable pioneer woman. Not many pioneer women in the same situation wrote about their innermost feelings and opinions of life. She endured extraordinary hardships as well as joyous and delightful times. She would reflect on the beauties of nature even during the hardest times.

Soft cover 66 pages and illustrated
\$10.00

[Home](#)[Feedback](#)[Testimonials](#)[FAQ](#)[About](#)[Links](#)[Help](#)

The Place for Local and Family History on the Western Australian Goldfields



Aboriginal History
Cemeteries
Hospitals
Hotels
Maps of the Goldfields

The Place for Local and Family History on the Western Australian Goldfields

Do you want to know about your family history and heritage? Enter your family name into our site search and discover your past today!

Do you want to know more about your families lives in the Central Goldfields of Western Australia or do you wish to

BULLEN		Brenton	10mths	ANG	17/02/1971
BULLEN		Dorothy Howard	38	ANG	6/11/1920
BULLEN		Elizabeth	68	METH	6/10/1921
BULLEN	➡	George	72	ANG	2/10/1932
BULLEN	➡	Harry Francis	12	ANG	15/07/1916
BULLEN	➡	Hector James	2	ANG	16/04/1908
BULLEN		Wayne Mitchell	7mths	GEN	27/01/1964

George Bullen
Born Magpie, VIC 1860
Married Norton, QLD 1892
Died Kalgoorlie, WA 1932

www.outbackfamilyhistory.com.au/records/record.php?record_id=646&town=Kalgoorlie

ENQUIRY ORDERED.

An enquiry is to be held into the cause of death of Mrs. Anna Grenfell, who resided with her husband and family on the Boulder Block. Deceased is said to have died as the result of a confinement, but Dr. Bisset, who was called in afterwards, refused to give a certificate of death. Mr. A. J. Evans, J.P., will conduct the inquest at 10.30 to-morrow.

The Evening Star (Boulder, WA : 1898 - 1921) / Mon 27 Jul 1903 / Page 3

Anna Elizabeth Loudon
married William Grenfell
Gympie QLD 1902

Died Kalgoorlie WA 1903

CORONER'S INQUIRY.

Kalgoorlie, July 28.

The sudden death of a married woman named Anna Elizabeth Grenfell, which occurred last Saturday after her confinement, engaged the attention of the Coroner's Court, at Boulder, to-day. The inquiry arose through the doctors, called in just prior to death, refusing to give a certificate of death.

William Grenfell, the husband of the deceased, said his wife was confined last Wednesday morning. Witness did not engage a medical man, as Nurse McDonald, who attended deceased, said it was unnecessary. Between the time of her confinement and that of her death, his wife frequently complained of neglect on the part of Nurse McDonald in leaving her to attend to other cases.

The West Australian (Perth, WA : 1879 - 1954) / Wed 29 Jul 1903



HOME JOURNAL LINKS

THE GOLDMINER'S DATABASE

Search over 66,000 records of goldminers from the goldrushes of New Zealand spanning the years 1861 to 1872

Family Name

☒ Wild Card
☐ Exact Match

First Name

Optional ☒ Wild Card

A special release for the 150th Anniversary of the opening of the Thames Goldfield:

GOLDRUSH TO THE THAMES
New Zealand 1867 to 1869

by Kae Lewis



RECORDS INCLUDED IN THE GOLDMINER'S DATABASE

[Otago Mining Records \(1861 - 1866\)](#)

[Thames Mining Records \(1867 - 1872\)](#)

[Explanation of the Record Types in the Database \(First column in the results chart\).](#)

[Notes on the Thames Goldfields and searching the Database.](#)

[Miner's Rights in Thames.](#)

[The Major Goldrushes of the 1800s.](#)

Family history	Resources	Hints and tips	Adoption records	Australian parish records	Births, deaths, marriages	Blue books
Biographical resources	British Army	Cemetery records	Censuses, musters	Committees	Convict ancestry	
Convicts: further research	Convict database	Directories, almanacs, gazetteers	Divorce records	Electoral rolls		
England, Wales BDMs	German immigrants	Huguenots	Immigration indexes	Immigration ships and journeys		
Immigration seamen and shipwrecks	Indigenous family history	Land records	Letters received Moreton Bay	Naturalisations		
Occupations	Newspapers	Children's institutions	Police gazettes	Pubs	Qld PO Directories	<u>Qld mining accidents</u>
Railway employees	Trace your family	Victoria County History	Websites	Wills, probate	WWI Resources: a select list	

Queensland mining accidents

Download a printable version of [Queensland mining accidents \[PDF 256 KB\]](#) ←

Queensland mining accidents were published annually in the *Queensland Legislative Assembly Votes and Proceedings* (later known as Queensland Parliamentary Papers) from 1882 to 1945.

Queensland Mining Accidents Index

A searchable online index of Queensland mining accidents up to 1945 is now available in One Search. ←



Join us

Become an SLQ member now to access our services, collections and more.

www.slq.qld.gov.au/resources/family-history/mining-accidents

SLQ-Queensland mining accidents 1882-1945

URL: <https://data.gov.au/dataset/41701e1a-b1cc-4d8b-98d1-c0dcbffc2795/resource/63fd8050-0bab-4c04-b837-b2ce664077bf/download/slqg...>

Information about mining accidents published annually in the Queensland Legislative Assembly Votes and Proceedings (later known as Queensland Parliamentary Papers) from 1882 to 1945. Search the index at the State Library of Queensland in the Family History Indexes on One Search, the library catalogue. http://onesearch.slq.qld.gov.au/primo_library/libweb/action/search.do?vid=FamHis&fromLogin=true

Data Explorer

</> Embed

Add Filter

Grid

Graph

Map

8903 records

«

1

–

100

»

Q

Search data ...

Go »

Filters

_id	ID	Name	Field2	Year	Session	Page	Date	District	Geo-sub...	Name O...
1	2652	Weir, W.		1908	3	573	(May 1907)	Charters...	Charters...	Mills Unit...
2	2659	Martin, F.		1908	3	574	(May 1907)	Charters...	Charters...	Mills Unit...
3	2683	Williams,...		1908	3	575	(May 1907)	Charters...	Charters...	Brilliant ...
4	2778	Morris, E...		1908	3	581	(May 1907)	Charters...	Charters...	Mills Unit...
5	2750	Bryden, ...		1908	3	579	(Jun 1907)	Charters...	Charters...	Mills Unit...
6	2779	Taylor, T...		1908	3	581	(Jun 1907)	Charters...	Charters...	Rainbow...
7	3012	Callama...		1910	3	769	(Apr 1909)	Charters...	Charters...	Queen G..
8	8423	Mann, H.		1946	2	160	22/05/2012	Charters...	Charters...	Black Jack

Discover their stories

- ▶ Biographies
- ▶ Obituaries
- ▶ Images – people & places



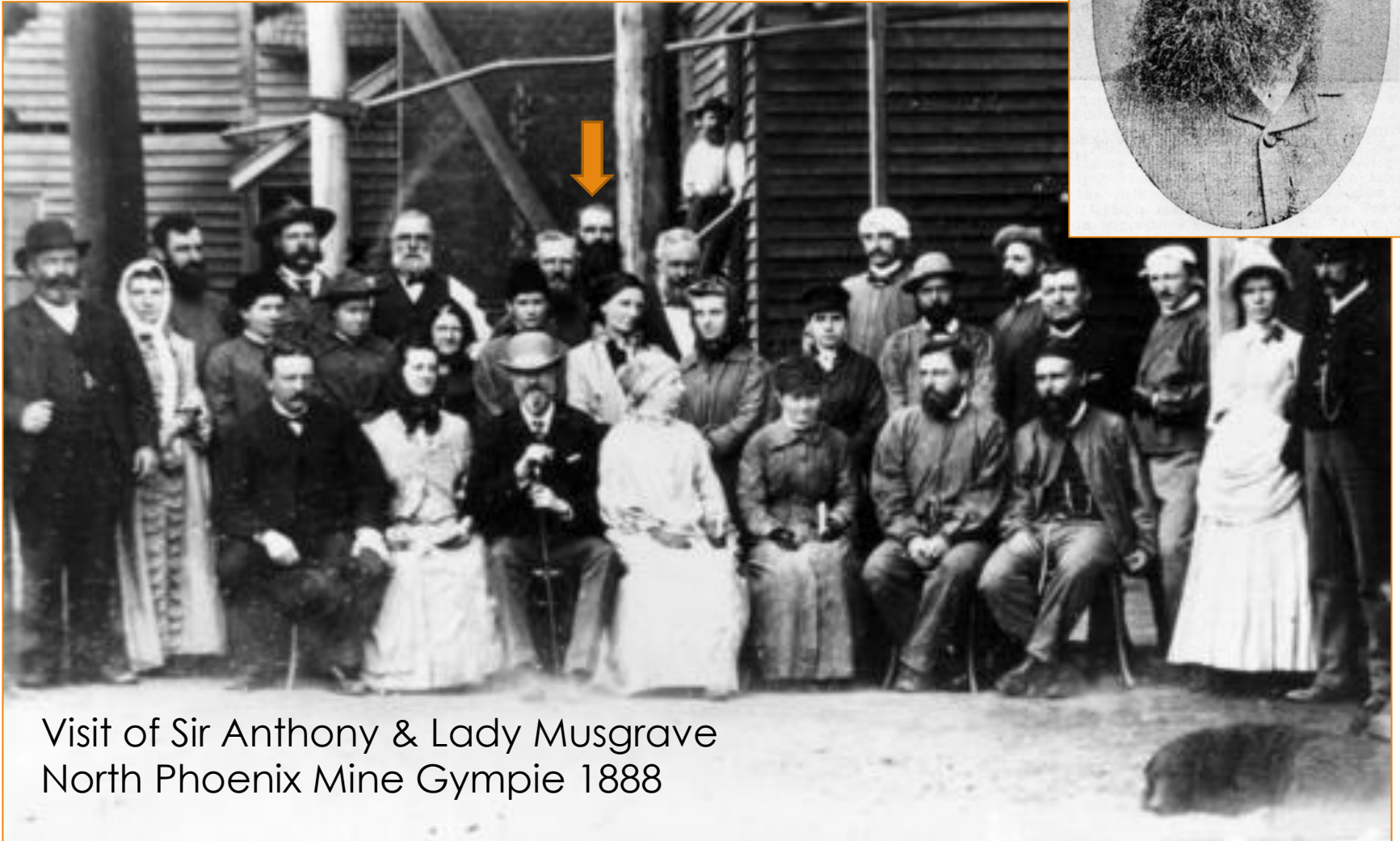
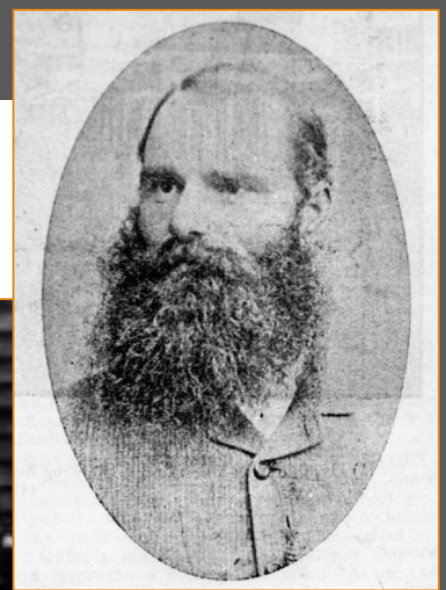
Mr. John Barrow Atkinson

first saw the light in 1845 at Calthouse, on the banks of Windermere Lake, Lancashire, England, and at the early age of 10 started out in life on his own account. For some years he travelled about, engaged principally in agricultural work, afterwards carrying on the occupation of carrier, and subsequently becoming an employee of the Barrow Railway Company and at the Barrow Ironworks. In September, 1867, he embarked for the West Coast of New Zealand, where he commenced mining. His first miner's right was issued in the district of Canterbury, and bears the date of 20th January, 1868, and is for the goldfield of Wai-mea. The cost of this was £1. At this time Gympie was considered the El Dorado of the day, and numbers of miners from New Zealand were flocking to the place, so Mr. Atkinson decided to also try his luck. He reached the field (after participating in the rush to Yarrell station, sixty miles above Gayndah, which proved a "duffer") in April, 1868, and found the town to consist of bark huts, gin cases, calico, and mud. He soon set to work and, in company with others, sank many holes, but with indifferent success, so he turned his attention to the Two-mile, where his efforts brought him greater reward. Subsequently he engaged in mining in various parts of the field, and, after a brief prospecting trip to New England in 1871, he

erected his own battery. Apart from his mining career the subject of this sketch has always borne a full burthen with regard to public matters. He served on the Municipal Council for seven years, during which time he was elected three times, and had he chosen he might have occupied the Mayoral chair. He was also on the Glastonbury Divisional Board for many years, and for a considerable time was a prominent member of the Masons and Oddfellows. He has always taken a lively interest in hospital matters, and, in company with Mr. J. Farrelly, he collected £1500 to start the new building. For fifteen or sixteen years he served on the committee, and for the last four years he has been president. He was one of the first members of the Drainage Board, and has been re-elected every year since; he is a member of the One-mile School Committee, and one of the founders of the One-mile saw-mill, and the largest shareholder in the Gympie Tannery Company.

Images John Oxley Library,
State Library Queensland

J B Atkinson, Gympie
1897



Visit of Sir Anthony & Lady Musgrave
North Phoenix Mine Gympie 1888

OBITUARY

MRS JANE GUY

A very old and respected resident of the Copperfield and Clermont districts, Mrs Jane Guy, passed away at the residence of her son, in Clermont, after a short illness.

Mrs Guy, who was a native of Cornwall, England, was 87 years of age, and came to Australia in the sailing boat Hampshire with her husband, landing in Rockhampton. The couple arrived in Copperfield 50 years ago, travelling overland by coach.

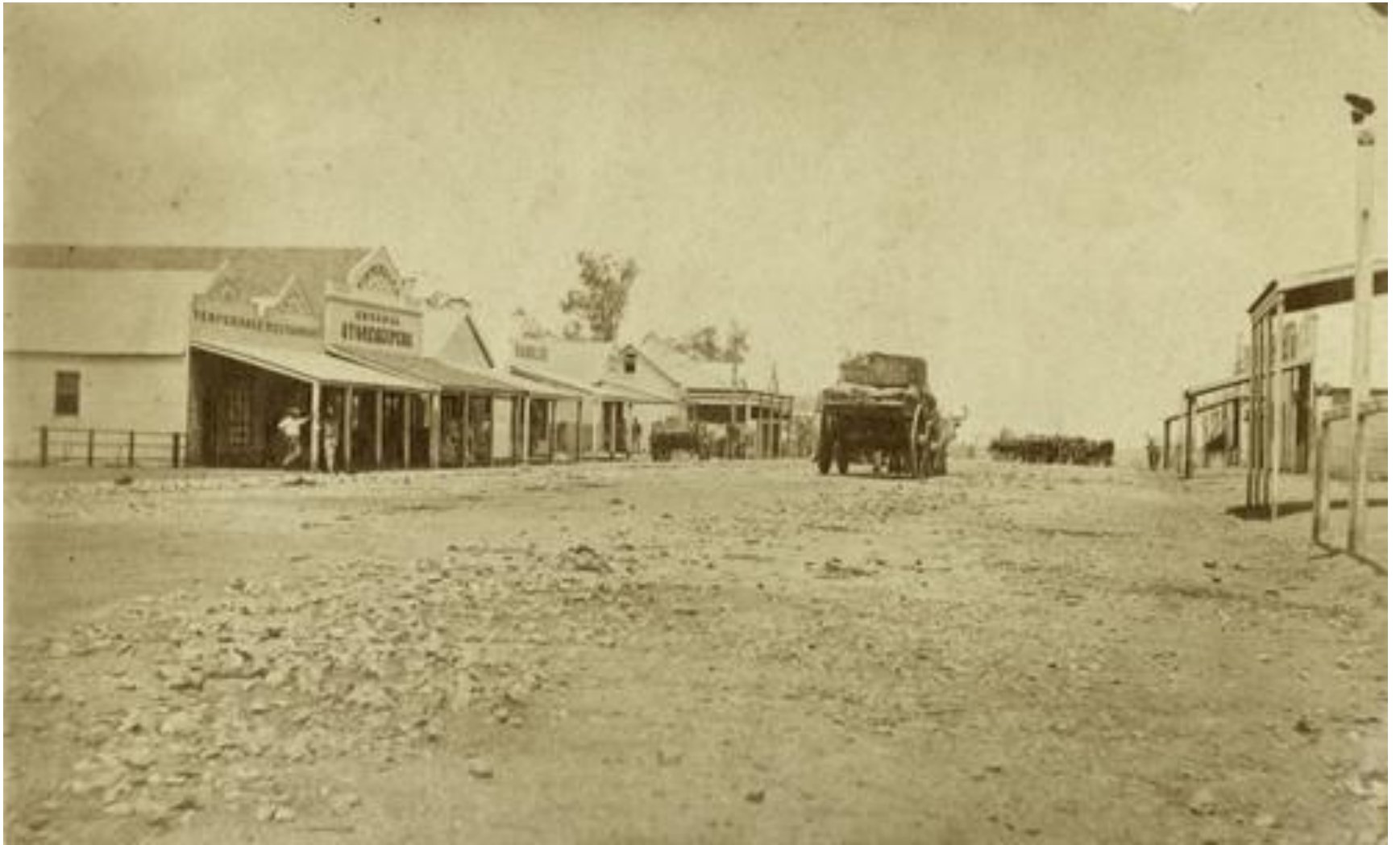
The late Mr Guy was employed at the Copperfield mine for many years, after which the family moved to Clermont. In 1896 Mr Guy passed away, and Mrs Guy resided with her son Richard up to the time of her death.

The surviving family are Mrs S. Withers (Clermont), Christopher (Rockhampton), George (Blair Athol), and Richard (Clermont). There are also 14 grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

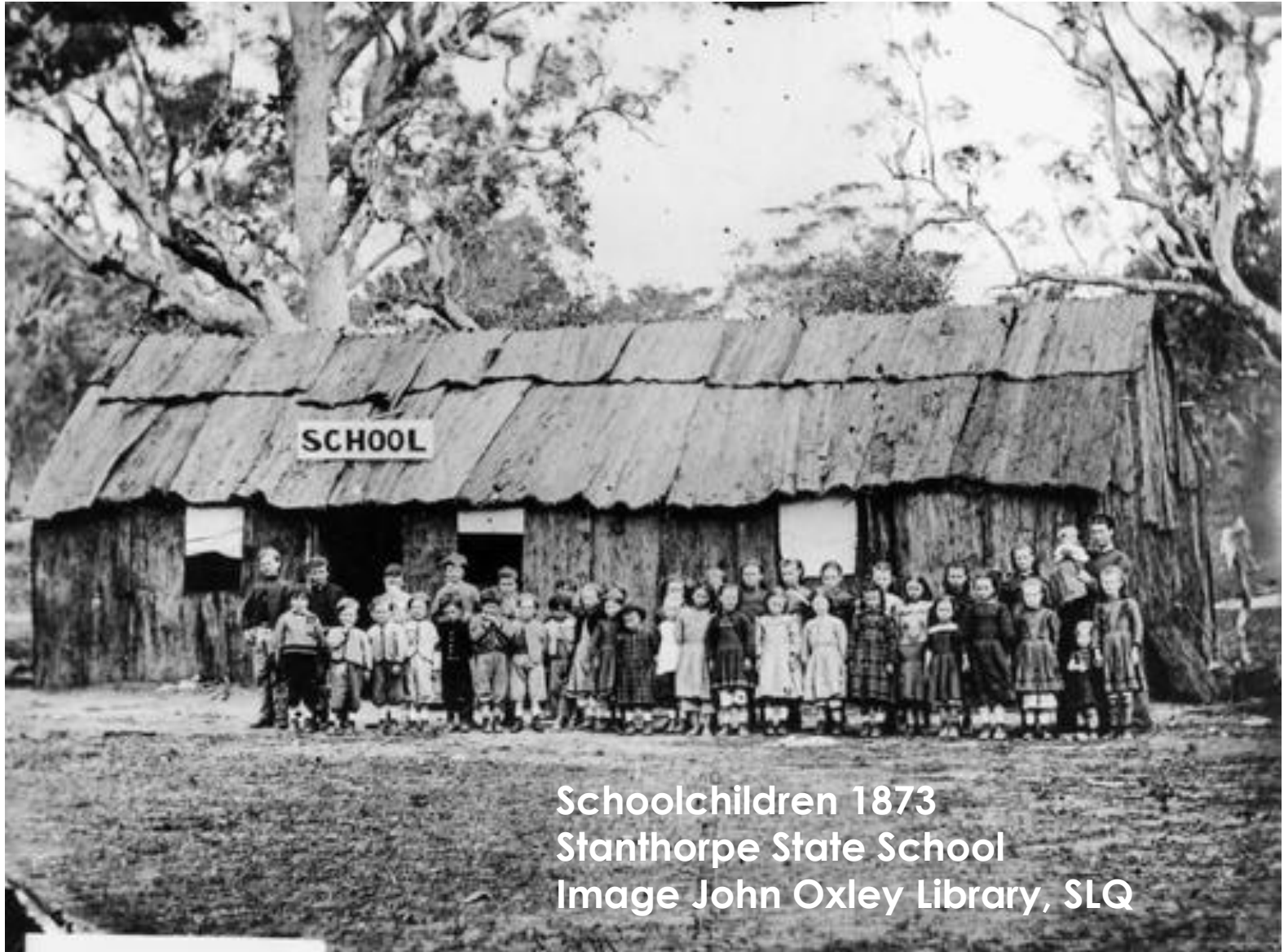
The funeral moved from the Methodist Church, of which the deceased had been a member for 50 years. The Rev. H. V. Miller conducted the burial services at the church and at the graveside.

Jane Wearne & William Guy
Married in New York, USA
prior to coming to
Queensland.

William's brother George
Guy was already here in
Copperfield.



Copperfield ca 1876



Schoolchildren 1873
Stanthorpe State School
Image John Oxley Library, SLQ



Cradling for gold outside Charter Towers



Last Thoughts

- ▶ Follow the gold (remember other minerals too)
- ▶ Not everything has survived, nor indexed or online
- ▶ Lots of miners came, some stayed & others returned home
- ▶ Have fun & good luck!