

John Henry WALTON

27/10/2012

John Henry WALTON

(late of Westleigh, NSW)

NSW Police Training Centre – Redfern Academy – **Class 084A**

New South Wales Police Force

Regd # 9727

Joined NSW Police Force via the NSW Police Cadet system on 7 July 1958 but appears to have resigned on 7 July 1958 before re-joining around 1960.

Cadet # 1451

Rank: NSW Police Cadet – commenced Monday 7 July 1958 until 7 July 1958. (1 day) (Aged 17 years, 0 months, 15 days)

Probationary Constable – appointed 15 August 1960 (aged 19 years, 1 month, 24 days)

Constable – appointed 15 August 1961

Constable 1st Class – appointed 15 August 1966

Detective – appointed 22 March 1968

Detective Senior Constable – appointed 15 August 1970

Detective Sergeant 3rd Class – appointed 28 April 1976

Final Rank: Detective Sergeant 3rd Class

Stations: Police Training Centre (15/08/1960 – Trainee), Regent St (2 Division GDs from 190960), Regent St (Traffic – Probation from 030161), Regent St (Traffic – Permanent from 030261), Wagga Wagga (transfer cancelled), Canowindra (GDs from 080563), 11 Division (GDs from 101163), Vice Squad – H.Q. (from 220365), Darlinghurst (3 Division – Vice Squad from 251065), Liverpool (22 Division – C.I. Duties from 280966), 9 Division (C.I. Duties from 250869), C.I.B. – Special Crime Squad (from 260273), C.I.B. – Armed Hold-up Squad to death

Service 1: From 7 July 1958 to 7 July 1958. (1 day)

Service 2: Pre August 1960 to 23 June 1978 = 18+ years
Service

Awards: No Find in Australian Honours

Born: Sunday 22 June 1941 in Young, NSW

Died on: Friday 23 June 1978 (day after his 37th birthday)

Cause: Motor Vehicle Accident – front seat passenger – On
Duty

Event location: Carlingford Rd & Glenview Parade,
Carlingford, NSW

Age: 37 years, 0 months, 1 day

Age at Retirement / Leaving: 37 years, 0 months, 1 day

Time in Retirement: 0 years, 0 months, 0 days

Funeral date: Tuesday 27 June 1978

Funeral location: Macquarie Park Cemetery & Crematorium, Delhi
& Plassey Rd, Macquarie Park, NSW

Buried at: RC Lawn, Block 12 / 0445

GPS: Lat: -33.790614478 Long: 151.142994



Grave Location: [codepeople-post-map]



John Henry WALTON
National Touch Plate, Canberra

JOHN IS mentioned on the Police Wall of Remembrance

About 2.45am on 23 June, 1978 Sergeant Walton was a passenger in a police vehicle travelling along Carlingford Road, Carlingford.

A vehicle approaching in the opposite direction drove onto the incorrect side of the roadway, forcing the police vehicle off the road where it collided with a parked horse float which was parked, without lights, on the southern side of Carlingford Rd at the intersection of Glenview Parade.

Detective Sergeant Walton was killed instantly.

Extensive inquiries made to locate the driver of the unknown vehicle responsible for this accident have to date proved unsuccessful.

The sergeant was born in 1941 and joined the New South Wales Police Force, as a Cadet, on 7 July 1958.

At the time of his death he was attached to the Armed Hold-up Squad.

Beyond Courage

Prior to joining the NSWPF, John was a Junior Clerk for 10 months then joined the NSWPF Cadet system from the 7 July 1958 and finished on the 17 August 1958 for reasons unknown to me.

He then appears to have been a General Hand for 4 months and then a Clerk for 18 months before coming back to the NSWPF –

Attesting as a Probationary Constable on the 15 August 1960.
His re-join date is also unknown to me.

He was 5' 11" tall, 12 stone 12 lb in weight with Hazel eyes, brown hair and of a medium build. He was born in Young, NSW and was single at the time of joining but married on 23 November 1963. He obtained his School Intermediate Certificate.

He obtained an 82.5% at completion of Training Class 84A and he had a 23 w.p.m. rate of typing – on the 4 April 1961

He also completed a three day course in Civil Defence in 1961.

He passed his Constable 1st Class exams on the 22 September 1964.

He failed his first attempt at the Sgt 3/c exams on 18 May 1973 but passed on the 16 May 1974.

He passed the Detective qualification course on 25 October 1967 and was designated a Detective on the 22 March 1968.

On the 14 November 1977 he was " *Commended for the good policing, excellent teamwork and devotion to duty he displayed as one of the Police responsible for the prompt arrest of Phillip WESTERN, Michael STOGIO, Lawrence JOHNSON and Robert PATTEN for the armed hold-up of the Randwick Branch of the Bank of New South Wales on 29 December 1975.*

During committal proceeding at the Central Court of Petty Sessions on 28 April 1976 the Chief Stipendiary Magistrate, Mr. Farquhar, complimented him, along with all Police connected with the case while His Honour, Judge Muir, in passing sentence on the offenders made favourable comment regarding the briefs prepared by Police for the trial.

Mervyn T Wood – Commissioner"

Canberra Times (ACT : 1926 – 1995),

Saturday 24 June 1978, page 3

IN BRIEF

Fatal crash

SYDNEY: **Detective Sergeant John Henry Walton**, 37, was **killed** and **Detective Senior Constable John O'Hagan**, 33, was seriously injured when a **police car driven by Detective O'Hagan** (*NSWPF # 10524*) ran into a horse-float in **Epping** early yesterday.

24 Jun 1978 – IN BRIEF Bicentenary planning to begin soon –
Trove

First published 15 September 2014.

Updated 13 February 2026

Terry John MONCUR

27/10/2012

Terry John MONCUR

New South Wales Police Force

Regd. # 16656

Rank: Constable

Stations: Balmain (8 Division), Flemington HWP

Service: From 24 September 1974 to 2 December 1976 = 2+
years Service

Awards: No find on It's An Honour

Born: ? ? 1953 (possibly 24 September 1953) The rest of his
Class attested 23 September 1974

Date of Event: 1 December 1976

Place of event: Adderton Rd, Telopia

Died on: 2 December 1976

Cause: Motor Vehicle Pursuit – Observer – Urgent Duty –
Pursuit

Age: ?

Funeral date: ?

Funeral location: ?

Buried at: Cremated at Castlebrook Cemetery. Ashes taken by
family to Allambie Park, Gold Coast, Qld, where they are
buried with his mother, father and grandmother

Memorial at:



Touchplate at the National Police Wall of Remembrance

[alert_green]TERRY IS mentioned on the Police Wall of Remembrance[/alert_green]

On the night of 1 December, 1976 Constable Moncur was the

observer in a police **Highway Patrol vehicle** engaged in a high speed pursuit of a motor cycle in Adderton Road, Telopea. As the vehicle was negotiating a left hand bend in the roadway it skidded and collided with a parked vehicle. Constable Moncur sustained severe injuries and died the following morning.

The constable was born in 1953 and joined the New South Wales Police Force on 24 September, 1974. At the time of his death he was attached to the Highway Patrol.

Photo available on line

Deadly toll

By Jonathan Pearlman

November 6, 2004

Alone in his patrol car, **Chris Thornton** had the police siren flashing as he chased a white sedan through **Woy Woy**.

Thornton, 35, a highway patrolman, had been in the force for 15 years. He was, his mother says, "the best driver I have ever seen".

The reason for the chase that night in April 2002 is unknown. Both cars were seen travelling at high speed. Thornton was about 50 metres behind.

Meanwhile, Leonard Rowley, 56, an unlicensed driver, was

driving to his local KFC to pick up dinner. He saw the first car flash past and judged – wrongly – that he had time to turn out in front of the patrol car. Thornton tried to avoid Rowley's car but clipped the back, veered onto the wrong side of the road and hit a power pole.

Thornton died on the spot, which is marked by a permanent stainless-steel cross. Rowley later received a suspended two-year sentence.

"His life from the age of 12 was about helping people," says Thornton's mother, **Freada Thornton**. "He was in the surf club and he was there to rescue people and then he went into the force and he was doing the same thing." His father, **Barry Thornton**, says: "He loved life. He had been in Gosford for 15 years and was so popular with the community there."

Police pursuits are, says Barry, a necessary evil: "If they don't catch the criminals there will be more deaths on the roads. The ones that they're in pursuit of are the idiots that have done the wrong thing to start with."

But pursuits have come at a cost to the NSW Police Department. Fifteen officers have died as a result of high-speed chases, beginning with the death of Constable George Boore in 1937.

Details provided by the NSW Police Association show a steady stream of fatalities involving cars and motorcycles. The full list of casualties is as follows:

April 2, 1937: Constable George Boore;

June 2, 1954: Constable Cecil Sewell;

November 14, 1958: Constable Brian Boaden;

December 23, 1958: Constable William Lord;

October 14, 1961: Constable James Kinnane;

September 7, 1963: Constable Colin Robb;

December 2, 1976: Constable Terry Moncur;

January 3, 1985: Constable Wayne Rixon;

July 25, 1985: Detective-Constable Steven Tier;

October 20, 1987: Constable Themelis Macarounas;

August 24, 1988: Constable Peter Carter;

June 13, 1989: Constable Peter Figtree;

June 14, 1989: Senior Constable Glenn Rampling;

January 14, 2001: Senior Constable James Affleck;

April 13, 2002: Senior Constable Christopher Thornton.

<http://www.smh.com.au/news/Police-Pursuits/Deadly-toll/2004/11/05/1099547386960.html>

Frederick George MARTIN

27/10/2012

Constable Frederick George MARTIN

Motor Vehicle Accident

South Belmont

26 November, 1953

Aged 30

On the evening of the 26 November, 1953 Constables **Martin** and **Bacon** were returning to the Belmont Police Station after attending the Newcastle Court. Constable **Morris Bacon** (27 old) of Robert St, Strathfield, was driving his private car and Constable Martin was asleep in the front passenger seat. On the Pacific Highway at South Belmont the vehicle skidded, left the road and overturned. As a result both were taken to the Royal Newcastle Hospital however Constable Martin had sustained severe head injuries and died later that night.

The constable was born in 1921 and joined the New South Wales Police Force on 16 April, 1950. At the time of his death he was stationed at Burwood.

September 29 2017 – 4:27PM

National Police Remembrance Day ceremony in Lake Macquarie

▪ **David Stewart**

▪ **September 29 2017 – 4:27PM**

POLICE from Lake Macquarie Local Area Command have unveiled plans for a **memorial wall at Belmont** to honour the **seven local officers killed in the line of duty since 1863**.

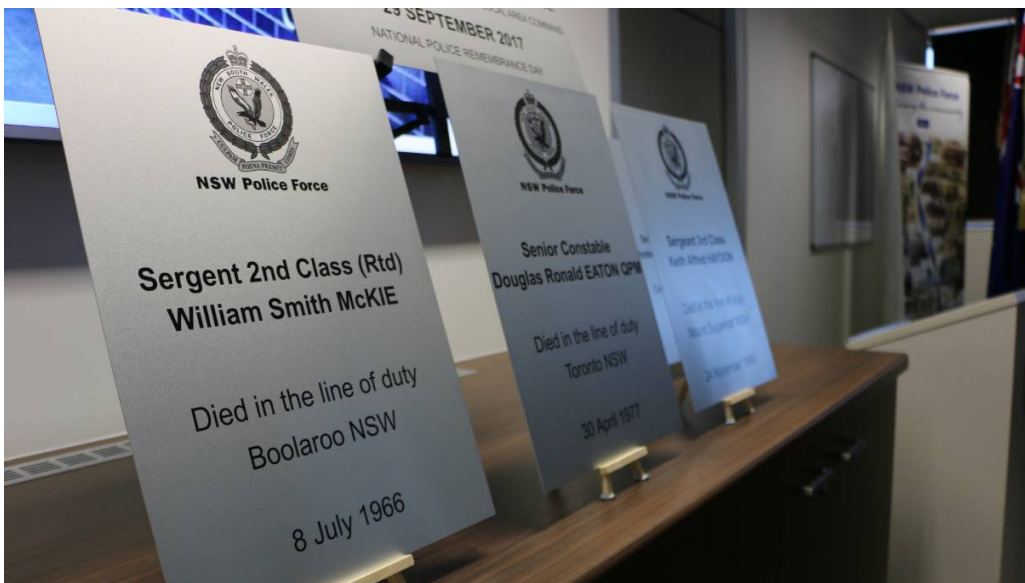
Plaques commemorating the seven officers were **dedicated to the wall** in a ceremony at **Belmont police station this afternoon**,

National Police Remembrance Day.











Chief Inspector Murray Lundberg of Lake Macquarie LAC presided over a private ceremony attended by police, local high school students, and the families of the fallen officers.

“This is a time for reflection on the ultimate sacrifice that police officers can give in the execution of their duty,” Chief Inspector Lundberg said.

Police Remembrance Day at Belmont

Post by Police Remembrance Day at Belmont.

The fallen officers honoured were Constable **Henry Rucker** (who died in 1863), Constable **Frederick Martin** (1953), Sergeant 2nd Class **William McKie** (1965), Senior Constable **Douglas Eaton** (1977), Sergeant 3rd Class **Keith Haydon** (1980), Sergeant 1st Class **Rhoderic Lindsay** (1984), and Sergeant 3rd Class **Ross Jennings** (1986).

Acting Assistant Commissioner Brett Greentree, the Northern Region Commander, said the wall of remembrance, to be created on the distinctive blue wall at the entrance to the police station, would be striking.

“It will be a sight to treasure,” Acting Assistant Commissioner Greentree said.

“I want the officers, as they are walking out the front doors of this police station, to stop and reflect on the names, stop and reflect on the sacrifice.”

He said he hoped that the inaugural plaques to be installed on the wall were also the last.

“My dream is that we never, ever, add another name to this wall. I hope and pray that our wall is now complete.”

Acting Assistant Commissioner Greentree reached out to the families of the fallen officers.

“No commemoration or recognition can make good the loss that is unfairly carried by family members,” he said.

“I can only offer you my heartfelt condolences. Please know that your loved ones, who are no longer with us, will always be remembered.”

Across NSW, ceremonies were held to commemorate the service and sacrifice of the 269 officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty, and through injury or illness, since the formation of the NSW Police Force in 1862.



Joseph John HUSH

27/10/2012

Joseph John HUSH

Late of Edward Street, Willoughby

New South Wales Police Force

Regd. # 'Q' 8759

For the purposes of this website 'Q' represents those Police joining between 1862 (commencement of NSWPF) – 23 February 1915 (Commencement of NSWPF current numbering system)

Rank: Probationary Constable – appointed
9 January 1908

Final Rank = Constable 1st Class

Stations: ?, Chatswood – Death

Service: From ? ? pre January 1908? to 6
November 1919 = 11+ years Service

Awards: No find on It's An Honour

Born: ? ? 1880

Died on: 6 November 1919

Age: 39

Cause: Motor Vehicle Accident –

Event location: Chatswood

Event date: 6 November 1919

Funeral date: ? ? ?

Funeral location: ?

Wake location: ?

Funeral Parlour: ?

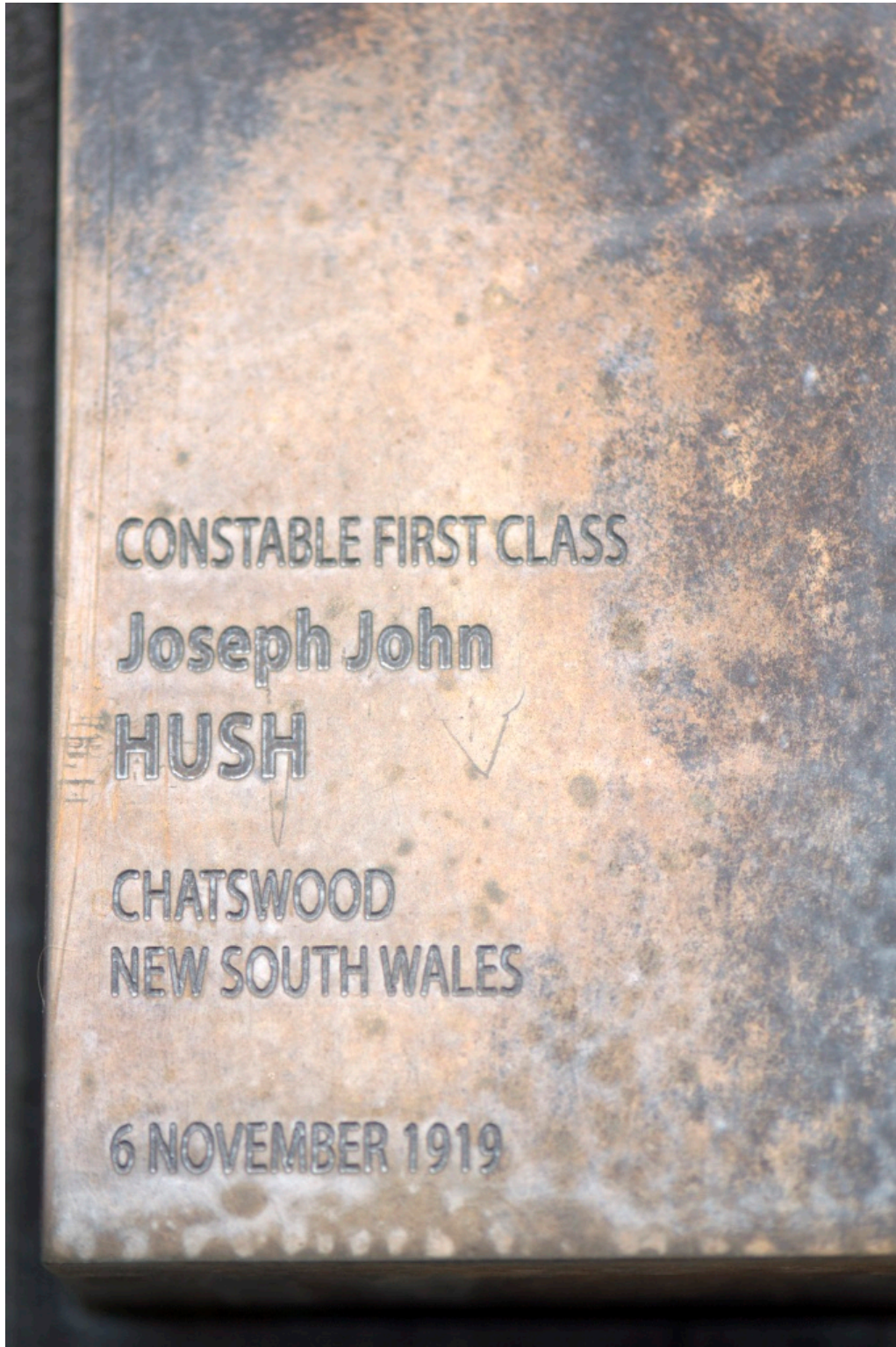
Buried at: ?, Waverley

Memorial located at: ?



JOSEPH JOHN HUSH
DIED 6. NOV. 1919 AGED 29
MARY JOSEPHINE HUSH
DIED 21. JULY 1943 AGED 81
At Rest

UNRECORDED



[alert_green]JOSEPH IS mentioned on the Police Wall of Remembrance[/alert_green]

Funeral location: TBA

**FURTHER INFORMATION IS NEEDED ABOUT THIS PERSON, THEIR LIFE,
THEIR CAREER AND THEIR DEATH.**

PLEASE SEND PHOTOS AND INFORMATION TO Cal

May they forever Rest In Peace

On 6 November, 1919 Constables Joseph Hush and Arthur (*Arthur Alfred Jacob*) Willmott (*Q 9019*) went to Roseville where they made enquiries into a robbery. On completion of these enquiries at about 5pm, they accepted a lift back to their station with a lorry driver. They had almost reached the Chatswood Police Station when a tyre on the vehicle blew out, causing it to overturn. Both constables were trapped beneath the vehicle and seriously injured. Both were conveyed to the Royal North Shore Hospital where Constable Hush unfortunately succumbed to his injuries. Constable Willmott recovered from his injuries.

The *Sydney Morning Herald* of 7 November, 1919 reported that "

*Constable Hush, who was 39 years of age, had been in the police service for **nearly 12 years**. He was known as a steady, reliable man, who had performed good work on many occasions. He lived in Edward Street, Willoughby, and leaves a wife and six children. "□*

The constable was born in **1880** and joined the New South Wales Police Force on **9 January, 1908**. At the time of his death he was stationed at **Chatswood**.

Evening News (Sydney, NSW : 1869 – 1931), **Saturday 11 March 1916**, page 6

ANSWER THE CALL.

RECRUITING IN SYDNEY. FRIDAY'S ENROLMENT. MEN READY FOR TRAINING.

The following men submitted themselves for enlistment yesterday at Victoria Barracks :-

Joseph John Hush, police constable, Myrtle street, North Sydney.

Hilary Patrick McGroder, police constable, Doris-street, North Sydney.

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/115836178>

No find with WWI records at this time.

Ramsay DOBBIE

27/10/2012

Ramsay DOBBIE

Late of Ulmarra

New South Wales Police Force

Regd. # ' Q '6811

For the purposes of this website 'Q' represents those Police joining between 1862 (commencement of NSWPF) – 23 February 1915 (Commencement of NSWPF current numbering system)

Rank: Mounted

**Probationary Constable – appointed 4
February 1895**

Constable – appointed 4 February 1896

Constable at Thackaringa (Broken Hill District) in December 1898. Still there Feb 1899

Constable 1st Class – appointed 1 February 1899

Constable 1st Class at Alstonville in October 1903

Senior Constable – appointed 1 May 1906

Was a Senior Constable in 1906 at Hillgrove. Still there in Oct 1912

(there was no such Rank as Sgt 3/c prior to 24 February 1915)

Sergeant 2nd Class – appointed 1 February 1915

Was a Sergeant at Coffs Harbour in May 1916

Sergeant 2nd Class at Coffs Harbour in April 1916

Sergeant 2nd Class – Death

Stations: White Cliffs (1898),
Thackaringa (1898), Grafton (Feb 1900
) , Alstonville (Oct 1903) ,

Burruga (Oct 1904) , Hillgrove (Oct
1912) , Coffs Harbour (1916) , and only
stationed at Ulmarra a few months (from
at least September 1917).

Service: From 4 February 1895 to 11
December 1917 = 23+ years Service

Awards: No find on It's An Honour

Born: 30 March 1870 in Victoria

Died on: Tuesday 11 December 1917 about
8.15pm

Age: 47

Cause: Vehicle collision – Sulkie –
Internal injuries

Event location: River St, Ulmarra
between the Post Office and past the
Masonic Hall

Event date: Tuesday 11 December 1917

about 5pm

Funeral date: Wednesday 12 December
1917 @ 3pm

Funeral location: Ulmarra General
Cemetery

Buried at: Ulmarra General Cemetery,
Coldstream Rd, Ulmarra, NSW

Grave location: 29°39'00"S
153°03'53"E

Memorial located at: ?







[alert_green]RAMSAY IS mentioned on the Police Wall of Remembrance[/alert_green]

**FURTHER INFORMATION IS NEEDED ABOUT THIS PERSON, THEIR LIFE,
THEIR CAREER AND THEIR DEATH.**

PLEASE SEND PHOTOS AND INFORMATION TO Cal

May they forever Rest In Peace

The sergeant suffered serious **internal injuries** while trying to apprehend the offender **McClennan** at **Ulmarra**. He had been called to a complaint of *Unseemly Words* (offensive language) in the street at Ulmarra involving an intoxicated male. As the sergeant approached the offender, whom he found sitting in a sulky, the offender whipped the horses into a gallop. The sergeant caught hold of the sulky and climbed aboard, however the offender then jumped clear. As the sulky rounded a corner it collided with a pole, throwing the sergeant to the ground and causing severe internal injuries. He died a short time later.


The *Barrier Miner* dated **12 December, 1917** reported the following.

At Ulmarra yesterday, Sergeant Ramsay Dobbie was killed. He was endeavouring to arrest a man who had been arguing with

some conscriptionists, when the man drove off in a sulky. The sergeant 1880got into the vehicle from the rear. The man jumped out, throwing down the reins. The horse commenced to gallop, and dashed the sulky against a telegraph post with great force. The sergeant was thrown out; several ribs were fractured and his chest crushed. He died in about three hours. Sergeant Dobbie was 47 years of age, and leaves a widow and seven children.

The sergeant was born in 1870 and joined the New South Wales Police Force on 4 February, 1895. At the time of his death he was stationed at Ulmarra.

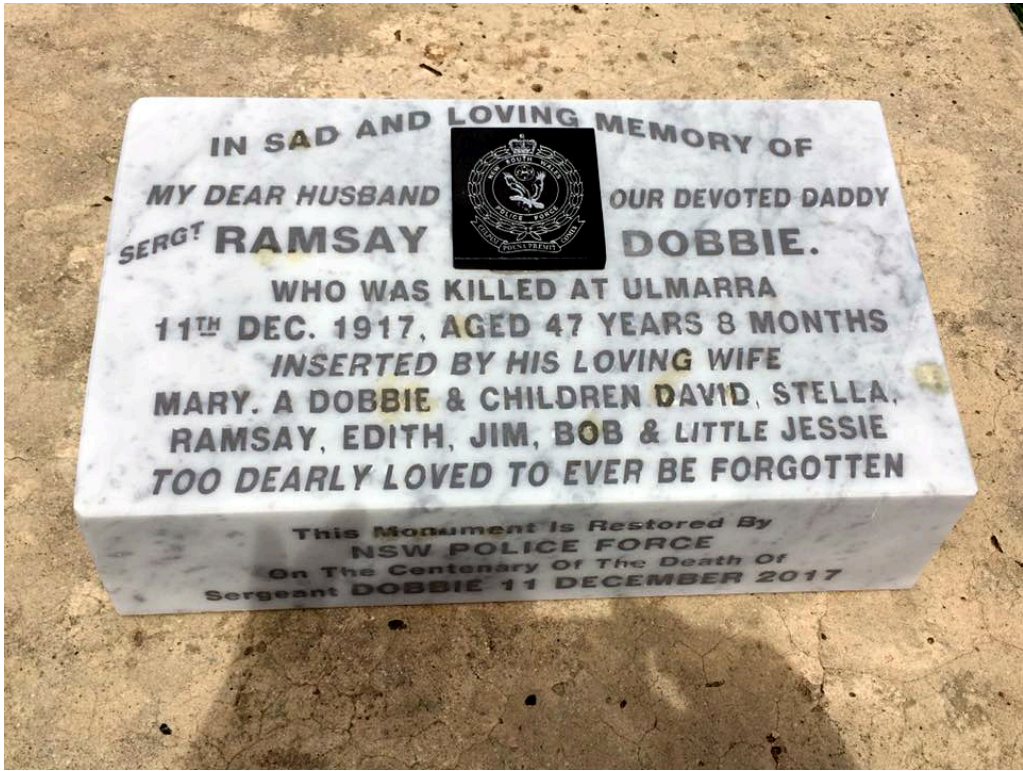
NSW Police Memorial & Historical Society Inc. added 6 new photos.

December 11 2017 . 

Attended the service today to mark the **Centenary** of the on duty death of Sgt Ramsay Dobbie on **11 December 1917**, at Ulmarra General Cemetery.

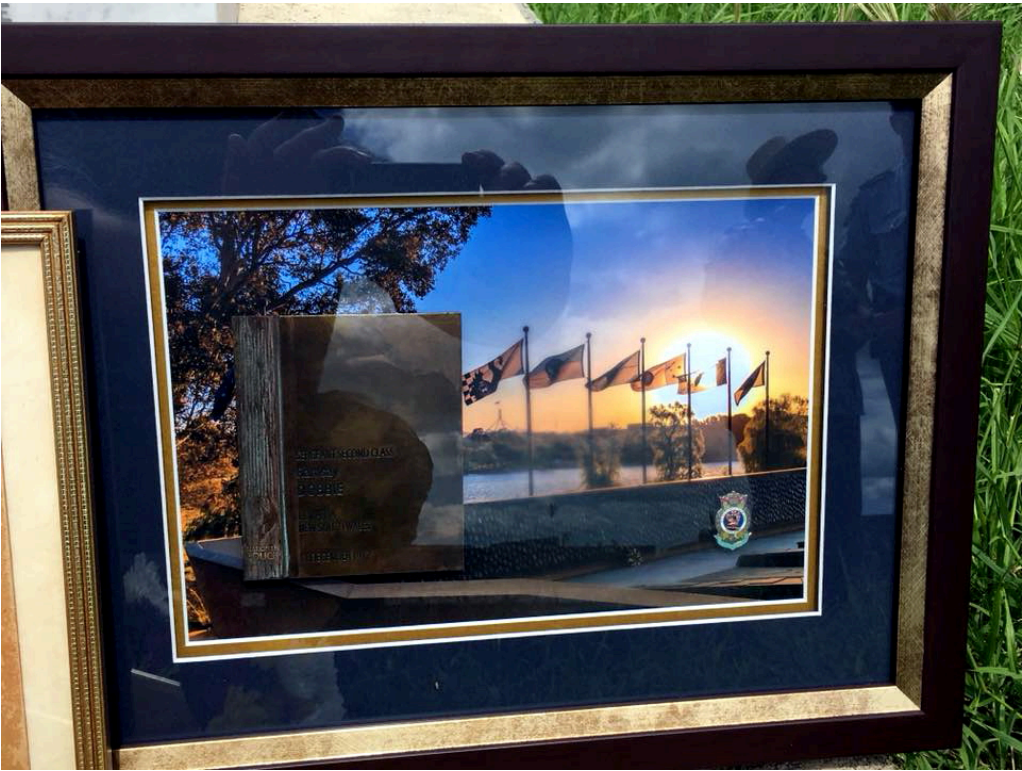
Several descendants of Sgt Dobbie were present and members of the Coffs Clarence Command who organised the service to ensure Sgt Dobbie is appropriately remembered.

The grave site was recently restored, with additional monument stone. Our thanks to John McDiarmid for carrying out this work.











At the time of joined the NSW Police Force, Ramsay was described as:

6' 1/4" tall, 11 stone 8 lb, Grey eyes, light brown hair, "fresh" complexion, Native of Victoria, Single at the time of Joining the NSWPF, later married twice, previous calling is hard to decipher but similar to Kai? houseman, Presbyterian, 'District Sent to' – South Western.

'Cause of Leaving Police "Killed in execution of duty". Date of leaving Police 11.12.1917

Daily Examiner (Grafton, NSW : 1915 – 1954), **Wednesday 12
December 1917**, page 2

FUNERAL NOTICES.

DOBBIE. – The friends of the late Sergeant Ramsay Dobbie are respectfully invited to attend his funeral, to leave his late residence, Ulmarra, at 3 o 'clock THIS DAY (Wednesday), for Ulmarra Cemetery.

H. H. SANDERS,

Phones 27 and 68.

Undertakers.

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/195823550>

Daily Examiner (Grafton, NSW : 1915 – 1954), **Thursday 11
December 1919**, page 4

IN MEMORIAM.

DOBBIE.– In sad but loving memory of my dear husband, and our darling devoted daddy, **Sergeant Ramsay Dobbie**, who was killed in the execution of his duty at Ulmarra, 11th December, 1917,

aged 47 years and 9 months.

Too dearly loved, too sadly missed, To ever be forgotten.

Inserted by his loving wife, Mary and children, David, Stella, Ramsay, Edith, Jim, Bob, and Jessie.

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/194701698>

Daily Examiner (Grafton, NSW : 1915 – 1954), **Wednesday 11
December 1918**, page 2

IN MEMORIAM.

DOBBIE. – In sad but loving memory of my dear husband and our darling, devoted daddy, Sergeant Ramsay Dobbie. who was killed in the execution of his duty at Ulmarra, 11th December, 1917, aged 47 years and 9 months, The shock was great, the blow severe, To part with one we loved so dear. 'Tis sad, but true – we wonder why – The good are always first to die.

Inserted by his loving wife, Mary, and children, David, Stella, Ramsay, Edith Jim, Bob, and Jessie.

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/195553006>

NSWBDM – Marriage 1 = 2102/1898 Bride = MACKENZIE, Annie
Beatrice District = Wilcannia Died 19 March 1899

NSWBDM – Marriage 2 = 1043/1902 Bride = McALPIN, Mary
Ann District = Casino

NSWBDM – **Death** = 17097/1907 Father = James
Mother = Janet J District = Ulmarra

Armidale Chronicle (NSW : 1894 – 1929), **Saturday 22 December
1917**, page 2

Sergt. Dobbie's Death.

CORONER'S INQUEST

The inquest into the cause of the death of the late **Sergeant Ramsay Dobbie** was opened at **Ulmarra** on **Tuesday afternoon** before the **Coroner**. **Mr. McGuren** appeared for **William McLennan**, who was present **in custody**.

Sergeant Swan was the first witness. He deposed as follows:— I was present when the Coroner viewed the body of **Ramsay Dobbie**, a police sergeant. From what I can learn, on the **11th inst.** a man, **William F. McLennan**, now in Court, and his brother, **Donald**, had some altercation with the **Mayor of Ulmarra, Ald. G. W. Fitzgerald**. **Fitzgerald** had complained to the deceased sergeant in reference to the insulting and abusive language of **William McLennan**. Deceased made an attempt to arrest **McLennan** for Insulting words or behaviour. Upon the sergeant's approach **McLennan**, on being spoken to, put his horse into a fast gallop, upon which the deceased caught hold of the back of the sulky, running along a few paces, still holding the sulky, and attempted to get in the sulky to arrest **McLennan**.

On turning a sharp curve at the **end of River-street** the pace was so great the sulky was capsized, the horse being then in a gallop, the sergeant being thrown against a telephone post, and so seriously injured, that he died. I went to **McLennan's** residence, and saw **William McLennan** I said, "I want you, McLennan." He said. "Yes, I believe you do. What is the charge?" I replied, "I am going to charge you with causing the death of Sergeant Dobbie." He said, "I am very sorry. Sergeant: I was drunk, and don't know what happened.

Mary Dobbie. widow of the deceased, gave formal evidence regarding deceased's family history. She heard loud talking in the street near the post office, where one man was in a sulky without a hat on, whilst another man was on horseback. She recognised the man now in custody as the person she saw in the sulky. At this time she saw her husband walk over to the sulky, the driver shaking the reins and forcing the horse into a gallop. As the vehicle passed where she was at her home, the sergeant was holding on to the back of the sulky. She came out to the street, and **McLennan** immediately passed her walking back up the street. Deceased was at first conscious. He said, "**Mr. Fitzgerald** gave **McLennan** in charge, and I was going to arrest him, and when he saw me coming and I got alongside of **McLennan**, he (**McLennan**) drove off. When **McLennan** saw me getting over on to the seat he threw the reins on the horse and jumped out." He said no more.

Dr. S. L. Cook gave evidence. It was found that **seven ribs** on the **left side** were **fractured**, the **pleura torn**, the **left lung perforated** by the **broken ribs**. The **spleen** had also been **ruptured**. The other organs were healthy and uninjured. Death was due to **shock and the injuries mentioned**.

C. W. Fitzgerald, .J.P., Mayor of Ulmarra, deposed: On the 11th instant I was at Ulmarra. I saw **William McLennan** that afternoon as I rode into **Coldstream** at about 5 p.m. He was in front of **O'Brien's hotel**, in company with his **brother Donald**, and **Chas. Lee**, and **Thos. Mawhinney**.

As I turned into the street I heard **William McLennan** talking excitedly, but could not hear what he was saying. When I got within 100 yards I heard **McLennan** say, "I'll talk to the **Puddicombes** ; I'm Irish and I don't give a **** for them." I then heard him say, "Who is this **Fitzgerald**? I will talk to him." I then went on to the public wharf, being on horseback at the time. I could then hear **Mr. Lee** trying to quieten **McLennan**. I almost got past the group where **McLennan** was when the latter said, "Oh ! I want to have a talk to you." I rode on, making no reply. **McLennan** said, "I'm a Catholic and not-a ***** turncoat like you." I turned round and said, "Now, you be very careful, young man, or you'll get yourself into trouble." I rode on, **Donald McLennan** saying "I'll fight you, you ****. " He then said, "I'll throw you into the — river." I then continued on to the wharf, where I remained a few minutes. Returning up the street, **Donald McLennan** was in front of **Spring's Hotel**, and **William** some 75 yards further away.

I came down towards the **post office**, where I spoke to **C. Goode** and **E. Cameron**. After speaking for a few minutes, **Sergeant Dobbie** joined us. I said to **Dobbie** that he should be down the town, where the **McLennans** had possession, and were using Insulting and obscene language. In reply to his question, I said **Donald** and **William McLennan** were there. He asked if I was sure **Donald** was in town and I replied that I was certain, because he had been challenging me. Later, **Mr. Cameron** said, "There's **Donald** crossing the road now." The sergeant later came into the post office. A few minutes later **William McLennan** again drove up and exclaimed excitedly, " I want to have a word with you" (the witness), I replied, "No, you don't, **Billy**, I won't talk to you;" **McLennan** said, " You'll have to talk to me." I again said I would have nothing to say to him. He jumped up in the sulky and said I was not ***** well game to talk to him. I said, "Go about your business. " He said I was trying to send him away to the war, but was not game to go myself.

Sergeant Dobbie then came out of the **post office** and endeavoured to catch hold of **McLennan's** horse. **McLennan**, on seeing the sergeant close to the horse, sat down in the sulky and hit the horse with the reins and started off down past the **police station**. **Dobbie** caught the back of the sulky with his **right hand** and then with both hands. **McLennan** looked back and, seeing the sergeant hanging on to the sulky, furiously flogged the horse with both reins. After going a little over a chain the sergeant placed both feet on the back springs. The pace of the horse still quickened as they approached the corner, until the horse was in a furious gallop. When within **a few yards** of the **corner Dobbie** sprang into the sulky which **then turned the corner** and was lost to sight. I then heard a crash, immediately before which I started to move. I was about 150 yards from the corner.

To the Coroner: McLennan was either in a great rage or drunk.

Witness, continuing, said he passed **McLennan** coming back, on foot. He (**McLennan**) then said: " He's done through you ; my horse is gone ; go up that way and you'll get him." I hurried on and saw **Sergeant Dobbie** lying on the ground against a telegraph post on the left side, of the road. I jumped off my horse and saw **Dobbie** appeared badly injured. A number of people were around him.

Percy O. Jones deposed: I know **William McLennan** and saw him at **Betallick's store** about 4.30 or 5 p.m. on the 11th instant. **McLennan** came in and said, " I want a hat, I've done mine. I've left the big fellow asleep round the corner. " He then bought a hat. He was under the influence of drink.

To the Coroner: I previously heard of the accident and took it that the words "**big fellow**" referred to the **deceased sergeant**.

The Court, at **7 p.m.**, was adjourned **until 10 a.m.** on **Wednesday**, at **Grafton**.

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/19189071>

LATE SERGEANT DOBBIE.

ADJOURNED CORONER'S INQUEST. ENDS IN A COMMITTAL.

An inquiry into the circumstances surrounding the death of the late **Sergeant Ramsay Dobbie**, which was **adjourned from Ulmarra** on the **previous day**, was re-opened at the **Grafton Coroner's Court yesterday** morning before **Mr. J. L. Shropshire, Coroner.**

Sergeant Swan conducted proceedings on behalf of the **police**, while **Mr. F. McGuren (McGuren and Pollack)** appeared for **William Freeman McLennan**, who was present **in custody.**

Dr. T. J. Henry, Government Medical Officer, stated that on the 11th inst., about 5.45 p.m. he received a telephone call from **Dr. Cook** at **Ulmarra**, asking him to go down and see **Sergeant Dobbie**. Witness arrived at the residence at **6.45**, and saw the **sergeant lying on a bed** in the front room, with **Dr. Cook** in attendance.

Witness said to **Sergeant Dobbie**: "What has happened to you?" and he replied: "I was thrown from a sulky." Witness was unable to obtain any further statement, as it obviously gave him **great pain to breathe**, and he was suffering from the **effects of shock** to such an extent that he could only speak **a few words at intervals**, although he was perfectly conscious.

Pointing to his left side, he said: "All the trouble is there." Witness placed his hand on the left side of deceased's chest, and found that **several ribs were fractured**, and there was a **crack in the tissue**, showing that the lung had been pierced and **air had escaped into the tissues**. There were no marks of violence visible, with the exception of bruising

about the waist.

Dr. Cook and witness administered several drugs to stimulate the heart and ease the pain. The dressings usually used in cases of broken ribs were then applied. Deceased rallied after about an hour, and witness then went for tea.

In answer to a call witness returned with **Dr. Cook**, and **Sergeant Dobbie** complained of **suffocation** and that the bandage was too tight. Witness diagnosed this as internal haemorrhage. The **bandage was released** in the hope that some relief might be given. **Deceased rapidly became weaker, and died about 8.15.** Deceased was conscious till, about five minutes of the end.

Next morning with **Dr. Cook** witness conducted a **post-mortem** examination at the **Ulmarra Court-house**. The **left lung** was **lacerated in several places**, and witness found that the lacerations corresponded with **fractures of seven ribs.** - **Witness** came to the conclusion that **death was due to the injuries to the lung and spleen.** The injuries were consistent with the deceased's statement that he had been thrown from a sulky.

Witness was told by an eye witness that deceased had struck the telegraph post with his left side, and seemed to double round it.

By **Mr. McGuren**: I made an examination of **William McLennan** on **Friday, 14th inst.**, at the **Grafton Gaol**. I found that he had a small abrasion on the back of the left ear. The skin had been torn, and the abrasion was about the size of a sixpence. He also had two bruises on the left hip, and requested me to look at his mouth. I did so, and found indication of a tooth having been drawn from the upper jaw on the left side. He also showed me his trousers, and on the outside of the left leg were some greenish marks, such as might be made by contact with grass. The marks are consistent with a fall from a vehicle.

To **Sergeant Swan**: These marks and bruises could be caused by

anyone falling about under the influence of liquor.

To **the Bench**: In my opinion deceased was mentally capable of making a statement to within five minutes of his death, He was so lethargic from the shock that unless spoken to he rarely made any remark, and it was obviously impossible to interrogate him.

Henry Moran, a **carrier**, residing at **Ulmarra**. said that he **knew** the **deceased**, and **William McLennan**. On the 11th inst., a little after five o'clock, witness saw a sulky with a horse attached going down **Coldstream-street** without a driver. The sulky had **turned right over** and was being **dragged along wheels upwards**. Witness caught the horse and stopped him. The horse was then taken out of the shafts and the sulky righted. The horse was then put back in.

Donald McLennan came along shortly afterwards, followed by **William McLennan**. The latter said, " My sulky is broken, and I can blame ' **Fitz** ' for that. " Witness understood him to mean **Mr. Fitzgerald**, the **Mayor** of Ulmarra. Witness advised **William McLennan** not to drive but to give the reins to " **Donny**. " . They both got in and drove away. **William McLennan** appeared to be excited, and under the influence of drink. When the horse was pulled up the reins were found entangled in the lamp on the driving side of the sulky.

By **Mr. McGuren**: The reins were pulled tight, and the horse was going very steady, The horse appears to be a very flighty animal.

Sergeant Swan, again in the box, gave evidence to the effect that from inquiries made he elicited the information that when at the post office on the day in question, **Sergeant Dobbie** was in uniform.

By **Mr. McGuren**: I have known **William McLennan** for seven or eight years. I have always found him steady and a hard worker, and have never seen him under the influence of liquor. I give

him a good character.

The police intimated that this was all the evidence they had to put forward.

THE FINDING.

The Coroner found that **Ramsay Dobbie**, then a sergeant of police in the **New South Wales force at River-street, Ulmarra**, in the Grafton Police District, in the State or New South Wales, on the **11 th day of December, 1917**, died from **injuries received** on the same day through being thrown from a sulky attached to a horse then and there being **negligently and recklessly driven** along the aforesaid River-street, Ulmarra, by **William Freeman McLennan**, and he further found that in the manner aforesaid the said **William Freeman McLennan** did **feloniously slay** the said **Ramsay Dobbie** while in the **execution of his duty** as police officer as aforesaid.

The Coroner then proceeded to read out the committal in terms of which the case would be heard in **Sydney**.

Mr. McGuren objected, and stated that accused was a poor man, and would be at a big disadvantage in regard to his witnesses.

The Coroner said that he was looking at the matter from the view of expedition.

If, as **Mr. McGuren** had suggested, the case was committed to the next **sessions at Grafton**, the accused would have to wait until **9th April**. ' **Sergeant Swan** said that one of his witnesses was on the point of leaving the district and would be unable to wait for the sessions.

Mr. McGuren intimated his willingness to allow the witnesses' depositions to be put in at the trial.

Sergeant Swan: If the case is committed to the **Grafton sessions** the authorities will take the same action as they did in the last case.

Mr. McGuren: That was altogether different. The accused was unable to get bail.

The Coroner (to Mr. McGuren): Suppose it is sent to **Sydney**, then you can make representations to the **Attorney-General**.

Mr. McGuren: I would prefer it to be the other way.

The Coroner (to Sergeant Swan): You can make application to the **Inspector-General of Police** to have the case taken to **Sydney**. **Accused was committed** to the next **Grafton Quarter Sessions**, to be held on **April 9, 1918**.

Bail was allowed, self in £200, and two sureties of £100 each, or one in £200.

The sureties were forth coming.

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/195823704>

Daily Mail (Brisbane, Qld. : 1903 – 1926), **Thursday 11 April 1918**, page 3

Grafton tragedy.

Accused acquitted.

GRAFTON, Wednesday.— At the quarter session to-day, **William Freeman McLennan** was charged with **feloniously slaying Ramsay Dobbie**, a sergeant of police, at Ulmarra, on December 11.

Accused was acquitted.

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/220494870>

Warwick Examiner and Times (Qld) Saturday 15 December
1917 page 6 of 8

Police Sergeant Killed Near Grafton.

An unfortunate tragedy occurred at Ulmarra on Tuesday afternoon, by which Sergt. Ramsie Dobbie lost his life. It is alleged that an individual was using strong language towards the conscriptionists, and information was sent to the Sergeant, who attempted to arrest the offender, but the latter got into a Sulky and drove off. The Sergeant endeavoured to climb into the back of the vehicle, and eventually did so. The offender then jumped out, throwing the reins on the horses back. The animal went off at a gallop and dashed against a telephone post with terrific force. Sergeant Dobbie was thrown out, sustaining several fractured ribs and injuries to his chest, and he succumbed three hours after. He leaves a widow and seven children. The eldest is only 13. He was a very popular officer, and had been only a few months at Ulmarra, having come from Coff's Harbour, and formerly from Hill Grove. He was 47 years of age.

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/82836423?searchTerm=%20police%20sergeant%20kill%22&searchLimits=l-australian=y#pstart8269261>

Mary Ann DOBBIE (nee McALPIN) – Wife to Ramsay, passed away 7 September 1967 – aged 87 years. Buried at Grafton General cemetery, Villiers St, Grafton.



Ramsay Vickers DOBBIE – son to Mary & Ramsay. Storeman – late of Alice St, Turramurra. Died 21 February 1953 Buried at Grafton General cemetery, Villiers St, Grafton.

Stella DOBBIE – daughter to Mary & Ramsay. Died 1961 – aged 58 years. Buried at Grafton General cemetery, Villiers St, Grafton.

WEDDING: At St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church on Saturday, November 4, 1939, **Jessie Mary**, youngest daughter of the late Sergt. Ramsay **Dobbie** and of Mrs. M. Dobbie, 48 Clarence St, Grafton, to Percy Samuel, youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel.

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/191660470>

AN ULMARRA FATALITY.

An unfortunate tragedy, resulting in the death of Sergeant Ramsay Dobbie, occurred at Ulmarra on Tuesday afternoon. It seems that a man named W. McLennan, a resident of the Coldstream, aged about 30, who was said to be more or less under the influence of liquor, had during the afternoon been waging wordy combat on certain conscription advocates. About 5 p.m. he appeared in front of the post office in a sulky and again verbally attacked some well known residents standing there. His language was very lurid and Sergt. Dobbie hearing it, hurried out of the Police Station near by. As soon as he saw the sergeant approaching him, McLennan whipped his horse and drove off, but the sergeant, after calling on McLennan to stop, caught hold of the sulky and commenced to climb in as it was careering down the road. It is said that McLennan then jumped from the sulky, and before he could get possession of the reins and pull up the horse Dobbie was dashed against a telegraph post as the vehicle swung round the corner in the narrow roadway. Quite a number of horrified residents witnessed the whole affair and medical assistance was speedily forthcoming, but the sergeant, whose left side was frightfully smashed,, died about three hours later.

Deceased, who was a most efficient and popular official, had only been stationed at Ulmarra for a few months, having been transferred there from Coff's Harbor. He was 47 years of age and leaves a wife and seven children (ranging from 15 years down to a few months old), for whom the deepest sympathy is expressed, McLennan was arrested at his home at Lower Coldstream on Wednesday, and on the same day was brought

before the Ulmarra Police Court. Sergeant Swan gave evidence that he visited defendant's residence, and with Constables Walklate and Warburton, arrested accused. McLennan replied : " I am very sorry, Sergeant, I was drunk at the time and do not know what happened." He then brought McLennan to Ulmarra, McLennan was then charged with, that on the 11th December at Ulmarra he caused the death of Sergeant Ramsay Dobbie. Accused applied for bail. Sergeant Swan said he would strenuously oppose the application. A man had been killed, and it was his duty, in the circumstances, to object to bail, The bench refused the application, and accused was then remanded to the Ulmarra Police Court on Tuesday next.

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/121281342>

Barrier Miner (Broken Hill, NSW : 1888 – 1954), **Monday 19
March 1900**, page 2

IN MEMORIAM.

DOBBIE. – In loving memory of my dear wife, Annie Beatrice Dobbie, who died **March 19, 1899** ; also my dear little daughter, **Beatrice Irene**, who died **March 28, 1899.**

As the ivy clings to the oak, My memory clings to thee.

Inserted by her loving husband and father, Ramsay Dobbie.

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/44252826>

