

Harry GRUGEON

13/04/2019

HARRY GRUGEON

AKA HENRY

Late of Deniliquin

New South Wales Police Force

Regd. # 'Q' 3415

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: Constable – appointed 22 February 1879

Senior Sergeant – appointed ? ? ?

Sub Inspector – appointed ? ? 1897

First Class Sub Inspector – appointed April 1903 at Hay (could this 'possibly' be 'Q' # 3036 ???)

First Class Sub Inspector – appointed 1 April 1906

Superintendent 3rd Class – appointed 1 July 1909

Final Rank = Superintendent

Stations: Narrandera (1897 – Sub Inspector), Hay (2nd Class – 1st Class Sub Inspector – 1903), Parramatta (1906 – 1909 Inspector), Deniliquin (July 1909 – Supt) – Death

Service: From 22 February 1879 to 10 January 1911 = 32

years Service

Awards: No find on It's An Honour

Born: ? ? c1855 at Edmonton in England

Died on: Tuesday 10 January 1911 about 6am

Age: 56

Cause: Vehicle accident – Horse Buggy – Driver – Ejected –
Head injuries

Event location: Mathoura Rd 3.5 miles from Deniliquin, NSW

Event date: Tuesday 10 January 1911

Funeral date: Thursday 12 January 1911

Funeral location: ?

Wake location: ?

Funeral Parlour: ?

Buried at: Deniliquin Cemetery, Wirraway Dve, Deniliquin,
NSW

Memorial located at: 1/ Deniliquin Cemetery – Marble
tombstone over grave

2/ Memorial Wall plaque – Deniliquin Police Station – 2018







HARRY is NOT mentioned on the Police Wall of Remembrance * NOT
JOB RELATED

HARRY IS mentioned on the Deniliquin Police Station Memorial
Wall – 2018

**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

Superintendent Henry 'Harry' GRUGEON

Born c1855 at Edmonton, England.

Died 10/1/1911, Deniliquin, NSW.

32 years service.

Buried Deniliquin, NSW

1881. Married Johannah HENNESSY, Deniliquin, NSW

1897. Promoted from Senior Sergeant to Sub Inspector

1898. Was a Sub Inspector at Narrandera.

15/10/1898, in the Australian Town and Country news paper.

The police district is under the control of Sub-inspector Grugeon, and the local force comprises, in addition, four footmen and three troopers. The gaol is in charge of Senior constable Bowman.

1906. Promoted from Sub Inspector to Inspector

1906-1909. Would appear that he was stationed at Parramatta as an Inspector

1909. Promoted from Inspector to Superintendent.

17/7/1909, Evening News Newspaper

Police **Superintendent Grugeon** was entertained at the **Woolpack Hotel, Parramatta,** at a farewell fraternal gathering, on the **eve of his departure** for **Deniliquin** to take charge of the **South Western Police District.** The Mayor (**Alderman Haugh**) presided, and there was a large attendance of prominent residents, magistrates, court officials, and others.

Among the speakers were **Colonel Ferris, -ex -Superintendent Brennan,** Mr. **M. S. Love, S.M., Superintendent Day,** Mr. **G. Addison,** C.P.S. and Parramatta Chamber Magistrate, **Father O'Reilly, Dr. Kearney,** and **Sergeant Lucas.**

During the evening **Mr. Love,** on behalf of the court officials, handed **Superintendent Grugeon** a **cheque with which to buy a**

buggy on his arrival at Deniliquin. (Note that he was given a cheque to buy a buggy)

14/1/1911, Nepean Times.

FATAL BUGGY ACCIDENT.

Superintendent of Police Henry Grugeon, of Deniliquin, died about 6 o'clock on Tuesday morning, as the result of a buggy accident. It appears that the **superintendent** was out driving in his **buggy**, with a **pair of horses**, accompanied by his **son Stephen** and **daughter Mary**. The horses became restive on **Mathoura road**, about **three and a half miles from Deniliquin**, and bolted, and, on **turning short**, the **buggy capsized**, throwing the occupants out.

Mr Grugeon fell on his head, and received several nasty cuts on the head and face. He was unconscious.

His son at once went to the **freezing works** and telephoned to **Dr. Marsden**, who went out and brought Mr **Grugeon** to his home, where he was attended by **Dr Marsden** and **Hoskin**, but **never regained consciousness**.

The **son** and **daughter** received only a few scratches.

Mr **Grugeon** was **inspector in charge of Parramatta** before being appointed **superintendent at Deniliquin**.

At the **Parramatta Police Court** on Tuesday sympathetic reference was made to the death of **Superintendent Grugeon** by Mr **E L Maitland, S.M.**, by Mr **E K Bowden** on behalf of the legal profession, and by **Inspector Bedingfield (possibly Q # 2799)** (deceased's **successor at Parramatta**) on behalf of the police.

His death was also mentioned in '**The Argus**' Melbourne. Not transcribed.

He left a wife, 6 daughters and 3 sons. His wife Johannah died 28/7/1945 at Lewisham Private Hospital.

2/1/2019, Deniliquin Times.

Eight honoured on police memorial wall' –

Seven former local police officers and a former police chaplain were honoured during a police reunion in **Deniliquin**. They were the first to be added to the police memorial wall at the **new Deniliquin police station**.

Honoured were

Constable Charles Chapman (died 5/3/1866),

Senior Const J Morrison (19/1/1898),

Senior Const Thomas Smith (19/4/1910),

Superintendent Henry Grugeon (10/1/1911),

Sergeant George Thomas Whiteley (25/3/1931),

Detective Senior Const Risto Vic Baltoski (2/1/1989) and

Senior Const Jennifer Louise Edgerton (August 2015) and

Rev David Bond.

Eight honoured on police memorial wall

Deniliquin Pastoral Times 20 Feb 2018

+1 more

Seven former local police officers and one former police chaplain were remembered as part of a reunion in Deniliquin at the weekend.

They were the first to be added to a police memorial wall installed at the front of the new Deniliquin Police Station in Charlotte St. →



Police Chaplain Rev Wayne Sheean, Deniliquin Police Commander Superintendent Paul Condon and Edward River Council Mayor Norm Brennan dedicate the memorial wall on Saturday morning.

Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW : 1888 – 1950), **Saturday 26 August 1911**, page 6

On **Sunday afternoon** (reports the Deniliquin 'Independent' of **August 18**) a large number of representative towns people, including the aldermen, of the municipality, attended at the local cemetery to witness the unveiling of the beautiful monument erected by a section of the **police force of New South Wales**, to perpetuate the memory of the **Late Superintendent Grugeon**, who was killed by an unfortunate buggy accident in January last.

All the members of the local police force were present.

Messrs. J. and H. (*Harry*) **Grugeon**, two of deceased's **sons**, had also journeyed to Deniliquin, to be present at the ceremony.

The monument is a beautiful piece of work, and was executed by **Messrs. Wilson and Co., of Bendigo**, which firm was represented at the unveiling by Mr. **H. M. Hammer**.

The design is a very choice one, being a pedestal with carved drapery, surmounted by a beautifully carved figure representing an angel with arm extended dropping flowers on the grave beneath. The pedestal and figure are worked from the best Carram marble. The monument is supported by a base of Harcourt granite, with two sets of kerbings of the same stone. Marble posts with marble kerbings, neatly moulded, take the place of the customary iron railing, while the inside of the grave is covered with black and white marble tiles.

The monument bears the inscription, 'In memory of Harry Grugeon, Esq., J.P., Superintendent of Police, Deniliquin, died 10th January, 1911, as the result of a buggy accident. Aged 56 years.

'Thy will be done, O Lord.'

Erected as a mark of esteem by the officers, non-commissioned officers, and men of the New South Wales Police Force."

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/85990366>

Bendigo Independent (Vic. : 1891 – 1918), **Monday 3 July 1911**,
page 3

POLICE MEMORIAL.

In the early part of this year, the popular **Superintendent of Police** at **Deniliquin** Mr. **Harry Grugeon, J.P.**, died from injuries received in a **buggy accident** and since then the members of the **New South Wales police force** have decided to commemorate his memory by the erection of a monument over his grave in the **Deniliquin** Cemetery.

The design selected is very choice, being a pedestal with carved drapery surrounded by a beautifully carved figure

representing an angel with arm extended dropping flower's on to the grave beneath. The pedestal and figure are worked from the best Carrara marble. The monument is supported by a base of Harcourt granite with two sets of kerbings of the same stone. Marble posts with marble kerbing neatly moulded take the place of the customary iron railing while the inside of the grave is to be covered with black and white marble.

The inscription has been cut out and filled with lead, making it of a lasting character. It reads thus: – " In memory of Harry Grugeon, Esq. J.P. Superintendent of Police, Deniliquin, died on January 10, 1911, as the result of a buggy accident. Aged 56 years. Thy Will be done O Lord. Erected as a mark of esteem by the officers, non-commissioned officers and men of the New South Wales police. "

The work has been entrusted to Messrs J. B. Wilson and Co., the well known firm of monumental sculptors of this city and is being prepared by them at their works in Mitchell street.

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/226828887>

Daily Telegraph (Sydney, NSW : 1883 – 1930), **Friday 11 August 1911**, page 12

THE COUNTRY.

DENILIQUN, Thursday.

A marble tombstone, suitably inscribed, has just been completed over the grave of the late **Superintendent of Police**, Mr. **Harry Grugeon**, the cost of which was borne by the police of the South-western and Parramatta districts.

The **Inspector-General of Police**, Mr. **Day**, will unveil the monument at the cemetery here next **Sunday**.

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/238869305>

Riverine Grazier (Hay, NSW : 1873 – 1954), **Tuesday 3 September 1907**, page 4

FROM DAY TO DAY.

Happenings Outside tho District.

Mr Harry Grugeon, who is leaving **Narrandera**, after a residence of ten years, during the greater part of which period he had been engaged in the law office of **Mr Quirk**, was tendered a farewell by his many friends on Wednesday evening at the **Railway Hotel**, and presented with a valuable gold albert.

Mr Grugeon, who is a **son of Inspector Grugeon**, has accepted a position with Messrs Atkinson and Warren, solicitors, of Hunter street, Sydney.

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/141260885>

Narrandera Argus and Riverina Advertiser (NSW : 1893 – 1953),
Friday 2 July 1909, page 4

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

New Justices. –

In a batch of 260 names added to the Commission of the Peace on Monday last are included the following:– **Harry Grugeon**, Superintendent of Police, Deniliquin.....

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/99753953>

SOUTH-WESTERN DISTRICT.

Superintendent in Charge—HARRY GRUGEON.

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
| Deniliquin. | Ivanhoe. |
| Balranald. | Jerilderie. |
| Barham. | Lake Cudgellico. |
| Rerrigan. | Mathoura. |
| Booligal. | Maude. |
| Broken Hill. | Menindie. |
| Broken Hill (Railway Town). | Milparinka. |
| Broken Hill North. | Moama. |
| Broken Hill South. | Mossgiel. |
| Broken Hill West. | Moulamein. |
| Carrathool. | Mount Hope. |
| Clare. | Oxley. |
| Darling Point, North. | Pooncarie. |
| Deniliquin North. | Silverton. |
| Euabalong. | Tareena. |
| Euston. | Tarrowangee. |
| Finley. | Tibooburra. |
| Gilgunnia. | Tocumwal. |
| Gunbar. | Wentworth. |
| Hay. | White Cliffs. |
| Hillston. | Whitton. |
| | Wilcannia. |

Ramsay DOBBIE

13/04/2019

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

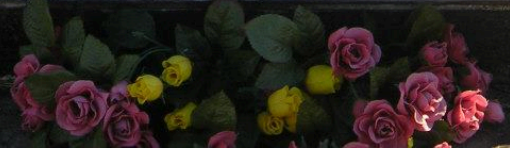
Grave location: 29°39'00"S
153°03'53"E

Memorial located at: ?



IN SAD AND LOVING
MEMORY OF
MY DEAR HUSBAND,
SERGEANT
RAMSAY
WHO WAS KILLED
11th DEC. 1917, AGED
47 YEARS 3 MONTHS
INSERTED BY HIS
MARY A DOBBIE
STELLA, RAMSAY
& LITTLE JESSIE.

MEMORY OF
OUR DEVOTED DADDY
DOBBIE
AT ULMARRA
47 YEARS 3 MONTHS
LOVING WIFE
& CHILDREN, DAVID,
EDITH, JIM, BOB,
TOO DEARLY LOVED TO
EVER BE FORGOTTEN.







[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.**

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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.

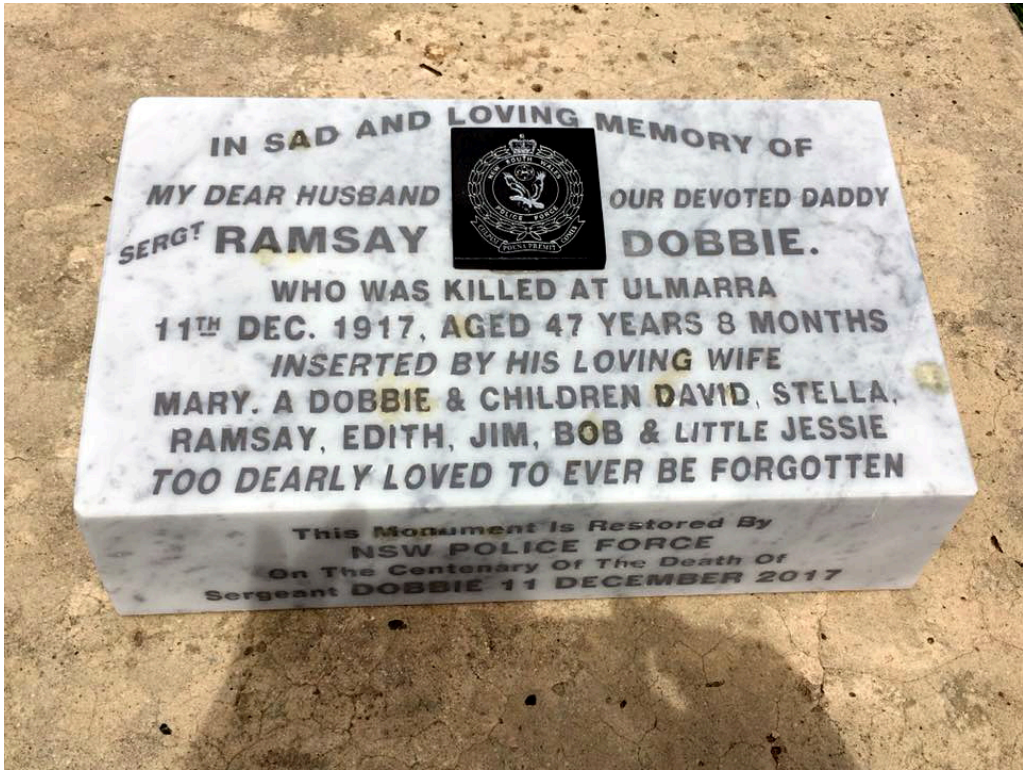
NSW Police Memorial & Historical Society Inc. added 6 new photos.

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.

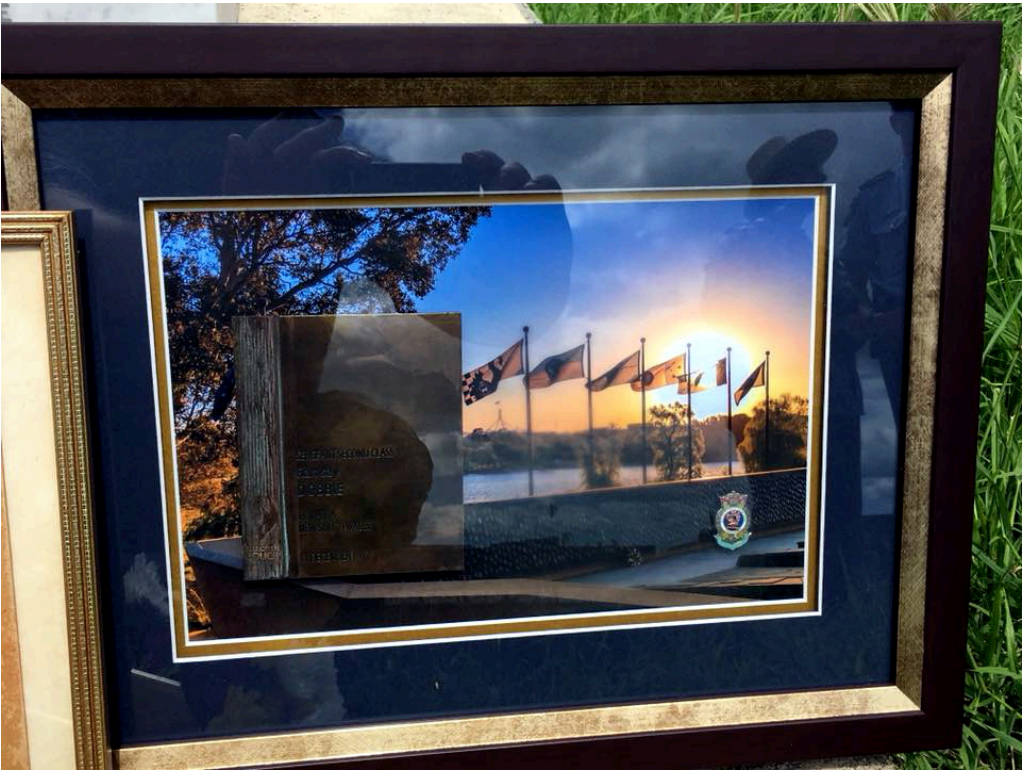
Several descendants of Sgt Dobbie were present and members of the Coffs Clarence Command who organised the service to ensure Sgt Dobbie is appropriately remembered.

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**.

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>

Chief Constable Patrick KINSELA

13/04/2019

Chief Constable Patrick KINSELA

Horse & Cart Accident

Queanbeyan, NSW

23 February, 1841

On 23 February, 1841 Chief Constable Kinsela and Constable John Scott were travelling in a cart returning to Queanbeyan. While they were crossing a dry creek bed near the Elmsall Inn the cart overturned, killing Constable Kinsela. Scott luckily survived the accident and was later able to give coronial evidence. It is not known whether this accident occurred while the constable was on duty or not, however it is believed that he *was*, and research is continuing into this aspect of the incident. In those days police were considered to be always on duty.

Rumours were apparently circulated at the time that both

Kinsela and Scott were drunk when the accident occurred, however this was soon discredited. The *Sydney Gazette* of 11 March, 1841 printed information from a correspondent who informed the readers that he had seen a person who has just come from Limestone; he reports that the Chief Constable and another man were killed by the upsetting of a dray in a creek in that neighbourhood; it is said the parties were drunk, but this is contradicted, as Kinsela was a sober man. (In other words, Kinsela did not drink alcohol at all).

The *Australasian Chronicle* of 4 March, 1841 reported the following.

QUEANBEYAN, FEBRUARY 27- There was an inquest held here on the 24th instant, on the body of Mr. Patrick Kinsala [sic], chief constable, who came by his death by the upsetting of his cart in crossing a creek close to his own house. The night was very dark, and he was thrown with such force on his head that his neck was dislocated. Kinsala was a very active officer, a friend to the poor, and always ready to attend when called on. He had obtained a few enemies for himself by being zealous in the discharge of his duty. He has left a wife and two children to deplore his loss, the youngest only nine days old..

Patrick Kinsela was a native of Ireland and had arrived at Queanbeyan in 1836. On 1 January, 1838 he became the first Chief Constable of Queanbeyan and Limestone Plains (Canberra) on an annual salary of £75. His appointment as Chief Constable was published in the Colonial Secretary's Notice dated 7 February, 1838 which also listed ordinary constable appointments to Queanbeyan as James Pegg, Lockup Keeper, and Peter Connel and James Crossley. Captain Alured Tasker Faunce was also appointed as the Police Magistrate to Queanbeyan about the same time. Kinsela married Joanna Wigmore (nee Mehegan) on 6 February, 1838 and the couple had two children James and Mary. The constable is thought to have been buried

in the Oaks Burial Grounds at Queanbeyan.

At the time of his death the constable was stationed at Queanbeyan and had been a police officer for a little over three years.

Source: Beyond Courage