

Henry Ferris

Murchison Advertiser

10 June, 1910

Quite a shock was experienced by residents of Rushworth and district when it was learned on Monday afternoon last that Mr Henry Ferris, of the National Hotel, Moora, had met his death under peculiarly sad circumstances.

For some considerable time past Mr Ferris has been unwell, suffering from some internal complaint. His heart was also very bad, and altogether his condition was most unsatisfactory.

On Monday it would seem that he had determined to seek advice in Bendigo, and with that object in view he took the coach en route to the Elmore railway station. When the coach reached the Colbinabbin gap, however, those in company with him (Messrs H. Pepperell and Jas Potter) got out to walk up the steep pinch, as the horses seemed pretty nearly exhausted. After going but a short distance they heard the driver call out and were horrified to find Mr Ferris had fallen out on to the road, and it was apparent that he was dead.

It was evident that he had suffered heart failure, and, slipping off the seat, fell out of the back of the coach on to the road. The remains were conveyed to the Junction hotel, Colbinabbin, and word was at once sent to his relatives at Moora and also to the police at Elmore. Needless to state, the family were greatly shocked on learning of his sudden death, and much sympathy is expressed for them in their sad bereavement.

Enquiries were instituted by the police, but as Dr Heily had lately attended Mr Ferris and was quite prepared to give a certificate of death, a post mortem or magisterial inquiry was not deemed necessary.

The late Mr Ferris was a very kind gentleman, and his friends were many, he being held in the highest respect by all with whom he became associated.

It is about eleven years since he first came to Rushworth from the Kyneton district, where he had several threshing machines. He brought the machines with him, and shortly afterwards purchased the National Hotel, Moora, known as Singleton's. There he made many improvements, and as a result prospered in the business.

Nevertheless, he persevered with the threshing and chaff-cutting machines, and followed these pursuits almost up to the time of his death, when he was perforce compelled to allow his sons to take control.

Deceased, who was only 55 years of age, leaves a wife and grownup family of three sons and two daughters to mourn their loss.

The remains were interred in the Rushworth cemetery on Wednesday afternoon, when the large number of mourners, comprising one of the most lengthy funeral corteges seen in the district for years, bore testimony to the high esteem in which he was held.

The Rev. J. R. Walker conducted the funeral service.

