

## Miss Jane Stewart

**Rushworth Chronicle**

**11 January, 1918**

Sudden Death.

A very sudden death occurred at the Five Mile Creek, Moora, on Friday last the deceased being Miss Jane Stewart, a respected resident of the district, 47 years of age.

After washing up the dishes from the lunch at midday the deceased, following her usual custom, intimated that she would have a rest, her health appearing to be perfectly normal at this time. A few hours passed by, and Miss Helen Stewart, considering it rather strange that deceased had not awakened, went to rouse her. To her horror she discovered that her sister was dead.

She rushed over to Mr Mortimer's residence, and the police were then informed of the facts of the case. The doctor, on his arrival, had no difficulty in arriving at the conclusion that death was caused by suffocation during the progress of an epileptic fit.

The remains were interred in the Rushworth cemetery on Sunday last, when Mr Campbell (Presbyterian) read the funeral service. A large number of people accorded the deceased a last tribute of respect by following the coffin to its resting place.

Mr E. F. Anderson had charge of the funeral arrangements.

MAGISTERIAL INQUIRY.

An inquiry, touching the death of the above, was held at Moora on Saturday last, January 5th, before Mr H. Cattlin, J. P.

Helen Stewart, sister of deceased, gave evidence that her sister, after washing up the dishes at mid-day on Friday, signified her intention of lying down for a while, this being her usual custom. At about five o'clock witness considered it time to arouse her sister, but on going to do so was horrified to find her dead. She informed Mrs Mortimer of the occurrence, and the police were then communicated with.

John Stewart gave corroborative evidence.

Dr Utber deposed that he had performed a post mortem examination of the body of deceased. The body was that of a well-nourished woman, and the internal organs appeared to be all in a healthy condition. There were indications of an old attack of pleurisy, one lung adhering to the wall. Without doubt death was caused by suffocation during the progress of an epileptic fit.

A verdict was given in accordance with the medical testimony.