

Miss Margaret Gunn

Rushworth Chronicle

26 July, 1929

By the death of Miss Margaret Gunn, which occurred at her residence, "Longford", Riversdale road, Hawthorn, on Wednesday morning, 17th inst., the remaining link with one of the oldest and most respected pioneering families of this district has gone.

The late Miss Gunn, who had reached the age of 82 years, was out visiting on the preceding Sunday and caught a chill and pneumonia supervened, and after an illness of two days she passed away as stated.

The deceased was born at Wick, Caithness, Scotland. Her father, the late Mr. W. Gunn came to Australia and purchased the property on the border of Gunn's Swamp, now the Waranga Basin, known afterwards as Waranga Park, in 1854. After having settled on the property the late Mr. Gunn sent for his wife and shortly afterwards Miss Gunn followed her brother (the late Mr. W. Gunn). She was accompanied by her sister, the late Mrs. Colliver.

The deceased resided at Waranga Park for some years, and about 20 years ago went to reside in Melbourne. During her residence at Waranga, Miss Gunn travelled abroad a great deal visiting Scotland on more than one occasion.

She took a great interest in all local movements in the town and district, especially the Rushworth Brass Band, to the funds of which she was a liberal donor.

She was a sister to the late Cr. Wm. Gunn and the late Mrs. Collier. The late Miss Gunn was one of the oldest and most highly esteemed residents of the town and district, and although owing to her long residence in Melbourne she was not known to the younger generation of the town and district, she will be remembered with feelings of respect by the older people.

She took a deep interest in the Rushworth Old Boys' and Girls' Association in Melbourne and regularly attended its annual gatherings.

The body was brought to Rushworth for interment in the family vault in the Rushworth cemetery. The remains were conveyed to St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church on the arrival of the train, where a short service was held at 3 p.m. by the Rev. F. G. Faram. The Rushworth Brass Band assembled at the church and as the coffin was borne from the church to the hearse, played the "Dead March", and afterwards assembled at the grave and played the "Dead March" as the body was borne from the hearse to the grave.

At the conclusion of the burial service the band played the hymn "Sun of My Soul". The burial service was conducted by the Rev. F. G. Faram, and the funeral arrangements at Rushworth were carried out by Mr. E. F. Anderson.

Amongst the floral tributes was a beautiful wreath with a card on which was written "With Fond Memories for Auld Lang Syne from the Rushworth Old Boys' and Girls' Association".

When the coffin was lowered into the grave a piece of the Gunn tartan with a sprig of heather was dropped in it by Mr. J. Burt Stewart.