

## **Mr. Louis Bertram**

**Rushworth Chronicle**

**27 June, 1941**

The death occurred at the Rushworth Bush Nursing Hospital early on Thursday morning of Mr. Louis Bertram, an old and highly respected resident of Rushworth, in his 77th year.

The deceased gentleman, who had been in indifferent health for some considerable time, had of late become seriously ill and on Monday was removed from his home to the Rushworth Bush Nursing Hospital where, despite every care and attention, he passed away. During his long residence in Rushworth, the late Mr. Bertram, by his integrity, upright disposition and unfailing kindness, had accumulated a wide circle of friends who will greatly regret the passing of one who might justly be termed one of nature's gentlemen.

Born in Bendigo, in 1864, he was the second son of the late Christian and Georgina Bertram, and went with his parents to Costerfield where his youth was spent. While at Costerfield he began working as a miner and he continued this occupation when he came to Rushworth over 50 years ago, having an extensive knowledge of the mines and reef formation in this district, his advice and knowledge being frequently availed of by those interested in mining in the district. After giving up mining he worked in the forest as a timber worker for many years and was highly skilled in this work being recognised as one of the most proficient sleeper hewers in the Commonwealth. To such a state of perfection did he obtain in this work that some sleepers hewn by him were sent to England for the Wembley Exhibition and the late Mr. Bertram was justly proud of this fact.

Entering the employ of the Forestry Department, the deceased gentleman became Forester in charge of the Rushworth district and during his many years work in this capacity he proved himself a capable and efficient officer and was held in high esteem by Department officials and forest workers with whom he was associated. He retired from this position eleven years ago and has lived privately at his home in Murchison road ever since.

The deceased was twice married, his first wife, who was formerly Miss. Isabel McLeod, predeceasing him some 19 years ago, there being three children of the union. In 1927 he was married to Miss. Florence Leeman who is left, with his three sons, William (West Brunswick), Lewis (RAAF Laverton) and Edward Alan (AIF abroad), to mourn the loss of a devoted husband and father.

Among the many bodies which receive the assistance of the late Mr. Bertram during his lifetime was the Wood Day to aid Mooropna hospital funds. For many years he had made a walking stick from locally grown timber and donated it to the committee to dispose of. These were excellent pieces of work and were greatly admired and showed great skill on the part of the manufacturer.

The funeral will be conducted to the Rushworth Cemetery today (Friday), at 3 P.M.