

Mrs W. H. Evans

Rushworth Chronicle

12 October, 1923

A SAD OCCURRENCE

MRS. W. H. EVANS BODY FOUND IN THE CHANNEL

A most distressing occurrence took place on Wednesday night, and one that caused a painful sensation in Rushworth. Mrs. Evans, wife of Mr. J. H. Evans, the well-known contractor of the Waranga Shire Council, left her home on Wednesday night.

When the members of her family returned home and found that she was not there, and that she did not return, fears were entertained for her safety, and a search was made. The police were also communicated with, and the search was continued all night.

About 11 o'clock on Thursday morning Constable McMillan, in company with Mr. F. Jolly, recovered the body of the unfortunate woman from the main channel near the bridge on the Corop road. An enquiry will be held.

Very deep sympathy has been expressed for the husband and family of the deceased.

Rushworth Chronicle

12 October, 1923

EVANS. --- On the 10th October, Ellen Laura Mary Evans, wife of J. H. Evans (well-known contractor to Waranga Shire Council), grand-daughter of the late Captain Hollyoake, of 22nd Regiment of Foot, Worcester, England, Aged 55 years. --- English papers please copy.

THE RECENT DROWNING FATALITY

MAGISTERIAL INQUIRY

A magisterial into the death of the late Mrs. J. H. Evans, whose body was found in the irrigation channel on Thursday last, 10th inst, was held before Mr. E. A. Coyle, J.P., on Thursday evening, when the following evidence was given: --

J. H. Evans deposed that he was the husband of the deceased. He left home for Stanhope, where he had a contract for the Waranga Shire Council, on Wednesday 9th inst. His wife was in her usual state of health and made no complaint. He received a message on Thursday and returned home. He found the house locked up. He got inside and found a letter.

King Evans stated that he was a son of the former witness and deceased. He left home about seven o'clock of the 10th inst. [surely 9th]. His mother was then in her usual state of health. He returned about 5 p.m. and found his mother was absent. He informed the police.

Frederick Collins stated that at about 12 noon on the 10th inst. [surely 9th], he saw a tall lady, answering the description of Mrs. Evans, going towards the bridge on the Corop road. Later he heard that a lady's coat and hat had been found at the channel. He went to the spot, but could see nothing. He reported to the police that a hat and coat had been found.

W. A. Crilly stated that he found a lady's coat and hat on the handrail of the bridge on the Corop road. He brought them to the police at Rushworth. King Evans identified the articles as belonging to his mother.

Constable K. I. McMillan deposed that he went to the irrigation channel on the 10th inst and dragged it. The following morning he found the body of Mrs Evans floating in the channel.

A verdict was returned of "Found drowned", there being no evidence as to the state of deceased's mind at the time.

The funeral of Mrs. Evans took place on Friday, the remains being interred in the Rushworth Cemetery. The burial service was read by Rev. R. G. Mitchell (Presbyterian) in the absence of Mr. F. Grist (Anglican), who was prevented from officiating through illness. The deceased, who was 55 years of age, was much respected, and deep sympathy was expressed towards the sorrowing husband and family.