

Robert Laurie (sometimes shown as Lawrie)

Rushworth Chronicle

15 May, 1925

LAURIE. -- On 9th May (result of an accident), Robert, dearly beloved husband of Margaret, and loving father Bert, Andrew, Jennie, Leslie, Charlie, Grace and Olive. Aged 69 years. Deeply mourned.

Profound regret was expressed in Rushworth when it was learned that Mr Robert Laurie, of Wanalta, had died on the result of a buggy accident.

Mr. Laurie visited Rushworth on Thursday last week, and drove home in his buggy late in the afternoon. When within about 100 yards of his gate, the horse shied at a thistle growing on the side of the road, and Mr Laurie was thrown out on his head.

Some little time afterwards one of Mr. Laurie's sons, who was engaged with his brother cutting chaff at a farm nearby, returned home and found his father lying unconscious under the buggy still grasping the reins.

Mr. Laurie regained consciousness on Friday and medical aid was summoned from Rushworth. On examination it was found that his spine was fractured and his right shoulder broken, and his case was pronounced hopeless. He relapsed into unconsciousness on Friday night, and passed away at 10.30 on Saturday morning last.

The late Mr. Robert Laurie was born in Heidelberg, near Melbourne July 19th, 1855, and was thus in his 70th year. He left Heidelberg with his parents and went to reside at Kyneton in the early part of 1856.

In the year 1875 he left Kyneton with his father and other members of the family (with the exception of step-brother Peter, who left Kyneton earlier for Wanalta), for Wanalta, where he selected land.

On August 12th, 1885, he married Miss Margaret Stewart, daughter of Mr. James Stewart, of Rushworth. He has lived at Wanalta for 50 years, and is thus one of the oldest residents of the district.

He was of a genial and happy disposition and one of the most respected residents of the district. It is doubtful if anyone was more widely known and had more friends than "Bob" Laurie and his untimely death is deeply regretted.

He leaves his widow and five sons and three daughters. One of his sons is manager of the Commercial Bank at Wycheproof.

The other members of the family are Peter, William, David, (Rushworth), John (Glenlyon), Lizzie (Mrs. J. Douglas, Bendigo), Ellen (Mrs. C. Kiley, Kyneton), Annie (Mrs. R. Stewart, Rushworth) and Barbara (Mrs. T. Doyle, Kyneton).

The funeral took place on Monday last, the remains being interred in the Rushworth Cemetery, and was very largely attended by residents of the town and district. The funeral service was conducted by Rev. James Raff (Presbyterian), who at the close of the service spoke in affecting terms of the good qualities of the deceased and of his sudden death.