

William G. Boyd

Rushworth Chronicle

2 September, 1892

DEATH.

BOYD — On the 27th August, William George, killed accidentally by a falling tree in Long Gully, Rushworth, aged 7 years and nearly 4 months. Deeply regretted.

SHOCKING FATAL ACCIDENT.

An accident with more than ordinary painful surroundings, resulting in the death of a boy aged 7 years, named Wm. George Boyd, son of Mr Wm. Boyd, of Moora Road, Rushworth, occurred on Saturday morning last.

It seems that the youngster, in company with an older brother and a lad named Phillip Rice, adopted son of Mr Groom, of the Waranga Hotel, went up Long Gully. A tree had been burning for a couple of days on the side of the road, and Mr Steward, brickmaker, warned the lads against going near it.

The deceased did not heed the warning, but stayed behind his companions, and endeavoured to light a fire at the roots of some scrub close to the burning tree. From the appearance of the place it would then seem that he must have heard the tree cracking and started to run, but while stepping over a small log, one of the limbs of the falling tree caught him and crushed him into the earth.

Hearing the tree fall, the other boys returned to look for the deceased, and found him lying with his body under the fallen limb and his legs on the other log.

A miner named Kane was called, who found him giving his last gasp. Dr Eadon was sent for, and in the meantime Messrs Groom, Steward, and Kane removed the remains to the residence of the parents.

On examination the doctor found that fully half a dozen separate injuries received by the unfortunate lad were each sufficient to cause death. Scarcely a bone escaped fracture.

A magisterial inquiry was held later in the day by Mr W. Wigg, J. P., and a verdict of accidental death returned.

The remains were interred in the Rushworth cemetery on Sunday evening, nearly the whole of the residents attending, a pretty feature being the number of the school mates of the deceased who attended out of respect to their deceased companion.

The Rev. J. Weir officiated at the grave.

Footnote: The Rushworth cemetery records include reference to two William Boyds.