

White Hills Cemetery



A compilation of Obituaries for burials at the White Hills Cemetery

William Jenkins

William went missing on Monday night 5/08/1867. He was aged 55.
The section and grave location is not recorded in cemetery mapping.

Bendigo Advertiser (Vic. : 1855 - 1918) Wed 7 Aug 1867 Page 2

A Missing Miner.

An old resident of the White Hills named William Jenkins has been missing since Monday night, and great fears are entertained that he has met with some sad accident. He was employed in the Comet Company's claim on the Redan Reef, and left work at eleven o'clock on Monday night, but although he expressed his intention of going straight home nothing has been seen or heard of him since then.

Yesterday the whole of the men employed on the claim turned out for a search, but up to late last night their exertions had proved unsuccessful, no discovery of the missing man having been made, the general opinion being that he has fallen down one of the many holes in that locality. He wore, when last seen, a blue pilot jacket, with moleskin trousers and a billycock hat.

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Bendigo Advertiser (Vic. : 1855 - 1918) Thu 8 Aug 1867 Page 2

The Missing Miner.

The search for Wm Jenkins, a resident of the White Hills, and who has not been heard of since he left the Comet Company's mine on Monday night for home, was continued yesterday by eight of the police under Senior-constable Corrigan, and about forty civilians who, furnished with ropes, drags, &c, went from hole to hole on the line of road usually taken by Jenkins to and from his home, namely, down Ironbark by the Sydenham Gardens; and a return search was made of the holes on the way across from Tyson's Reef to the Hustler's Reef, but not the slightest trace of him has been found.

The night he left the mine was very dark; it was about half-past eleven o'clock, and

he was recommended by one of the miners - Noonan - to go home by the hospital, as he had no light with him. He made a remark that he knew his way perfectly well, but instead of going from the mine at the usual side he went out of the gate leading towards the road to the hospital. It is, therefore, feared that he has fallen into some shaft in the vicinity of the Hustler's Reef, and a thorough search of the shafts there is to be made today.

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Bendigo Advertiser (Vic. : 1855 - 1918) Fri 9 Aug 1867 Page 2

Not Found.

The missing man W Jenkins has not yet been found, though search was made for him yesterday by a large number of persons. It is thought that he has fallen into a shaft in which there is water, and that the body having sunk will not rise for some days.

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THE MISSING MINER.

(To the Editor of the Bendigo Advertiser.)

Sir, - I am rather surprised to see day after day pass away with so little search being made for the recovery of poor Jenkins. The police - a few men from the White Hills - and the miners of the Comet - are, and have done all in their power in this melancholy affair. But what can some thirty or forty men be expected to do in such an extensive diggings, and amidst so many holes, shafts, and slum pits, as are to be found in this neighbourhood. I say, sir, there should be at least some 500 men under the guidance of the police, without any delay. And men of Bendigo let me ask you to rally yourselves and come to the search - come at once and let us find him, if possible, either dead or alive.

8th August, 1867. JOSIAH HAMPTON.

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Bendigo Advertiser (Vic. : 1855 - 1918) Mon 12 Aug 1867 Page 2

The Missing Miner.

In accordance with the public invitation over 200 persons turned out yesterday to aid the police in the search for the missing miner, William Jenkins. The police to the number of twenty, under the leadership of Sergeant Ennis and Senior-constable Corrigan, together with the civilians, began the search about nine o'clock in the morning, and continued it until four in the afternoon. Every precaution was taken to have a systematic and complete search.

The large number of persons were divided into parties of twenty, directed by three constables, and were furnished with ropes and drags, &c. Beginning at the Hustler's Hill, from the Comet Company's mine, from which Jenkins left for home, at the White Hills, on Monday about midnight, every hole, shallow and deep, has been searched on the hill and down Ironbark Gully, extending on the west to Jackass Flat and east to Tyson's Reef, right on to the White Hills.

One party with a boat devoted themselves to the dragging of the Alabama

Company's dams and the large dam known as Brissenden's. Each hole as it was searched was marked, so that the same ground was not gone over a second time. So thorough indeed has been the search it is considered almost certain that the body, if in any of the holes, must have been found, but not the slightest clue to it has been obtained. There is just a possibility that it is under water or covered with sludge. An opinion was hazarded that Jenkins is not lost, but no reason has been stated why he should keep out of the way purposely.

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Bendigo Advertiser (Vic. : 1855 - 1918) Wed 14 Aug 1867 Page 2

The Missing Man Jenkins.

Yesterday several of the police, accompanied by a number of civilians, renewed their search for the missing man, Jenkins; but, although, nearly all the other holes not searched on Sunday were examined by them, no trace of the missing man was found. There was a rumour yesterday that his body had been found in an old hole, behind the Hospital, but on making inquiries, we ascertained that there was no foundation for the rumour.

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Bendigo Advertiser (Vic. : 1855 - 1918) Fri 23 Aug 1867 Page 2

Found at Last.

The body of the miner, William Jenkins, who was lost while going home from the Comet Reef, about a fortnight ago, and for whom active search was kept up by the police and large numbers of civilians for so many days, has at last been found. Yesterday, a carter named John Banford, while watering his horses at Crawford's dam, at the back of the hospital - an open cutting like a quarry, filled with about twenty feet of water - saw the head of a man floating above the water and information was at once given to the police, when Senior-constable Corrigan proceeded to the spot, and had the body dragged out and taken in Mr Aiken's dray to the Baker's Arms Hotel, Irishtown, where it was identified. This hole had been twice dragged by parties who were in search of the missing man. An inquest will be, held today on the body.

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Bendigo Advertiser (Vic. : 1855 - 1918) Sat 24 Aug 1867 Page 2

CORONER'S INQUESTS.

DEATH BY DROWNING.

The District Coroner held an inquest yesterday forenoon at the Bakers' Arms Hotel, Irishtown, on the body of the man William Jenkins, who was long missing from his home. After a jury had been impaneled the following evidence was taken :- Josiah Hampton, manager of the Comet Company, Redan Hill, deposed that on the 27th or 28th day of July last the deceased was engaged by him to work in the Comet Company's claim, and during the time that he worked there witness had always found him to be a sober and well-conducted man. On the 5th instant deceased and a man named William Bradley were engaged working below at the 390 feet level, on the second or afternoon shift. There were eight men besides deceased working on the same shift, which leaves off work at eleven o'clock pm.

The last time witness saw deceased alive was about three p m. on the 5th instant, when he was descending the shaft by the ladder to commence work. He was then quite sober, and appeared to be in his usual health. Next morning, on hearing of deceased being missed, he collected a number of men and searched all the holes which deceased would be likely to pass on his way home to the White Hills, but without success. On Thursday witness was informed that deceased had been seen floating on the water in Crawford's quarry, Ironbark ranges, and upon proceeding there found a number of people, and saw the top of a human head above the water, which on being taken out was found to be that of the deceased.

William Bradley deposed that at eleven o'clock pm on the 5th instant, he and deceased ascended in a cage from the Comet Company's shaft. Whilst coming up witness told deceased that if he was him he would go into Sandhurst by the Government road down by the hospital, as it was such a dark night. Deceased replied that by going his old road he would be half way home before he got to the hospital if he took the other road. The Government road, witness said, was a quarter of a mile from the quarry where the deceased was found. Witness was of opinion that deceased had crossed that road, and in the dark had gone too much to the right, and so got into the quarry, at the off or west end of which there were public tracks.

John Banford, a carter, residing at Long Gully, deposed that on the 22nd instant, while giving his horse a drink at Crawford's quarry, he saw on the other side a man's head floating on the water. Witness suspected that it was the deceased, and having given information to the police, the deceased was taken out with a drag grappling.

Dr H L Atkinson deposed that he made a post mortem examination of the body of the deceased, and was of opinion that death was caused by drowning. The jury returned a verdict that deceased came by his death from drowning on the 5th instant, having accidentally fallen into the deep water in a large cutting known as Crawford's quarry, which place they considered most dangerous to life, and, being close to public tracks within this municipality, ought to be fenced in by the owner or occupier, or by those having control over it.

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A reference to William Jenkins was made at the SANDHURST BOROUGH COUNCIL Meeting on 6th Sept 1867.

A link to these notes is [here](#).



Compiled by Pat & Ian Belmont
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