

Bendigo Cemetery



Notes for James & Annie Northcott, Grave #18091 in section B7.

Annie, a sister to George Lansell, died in 22/09/1904 aged 73.  
James died in 18/12/1904 aged 67. He was manager of George Lansell's 180 mine,  
during which time it is estimated that gold to the value of a million sterling was  
taken from the mine.

But James's fame came from being a cornet player of high ability.

He was the band master of Northcott's City Band,  
one of the finest bands in Australia, and it held that distinction for many years.

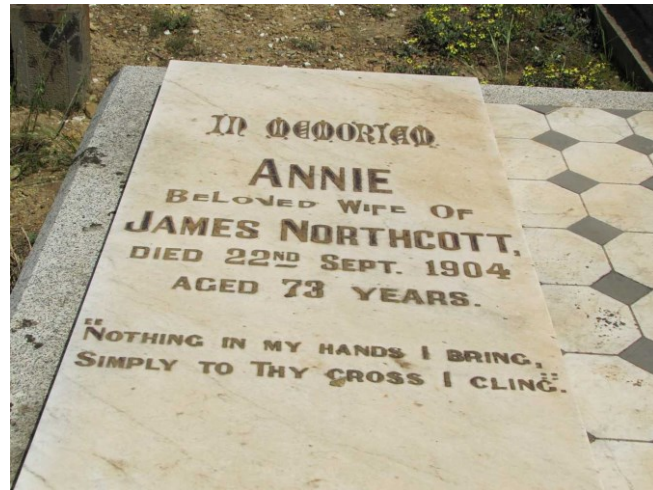
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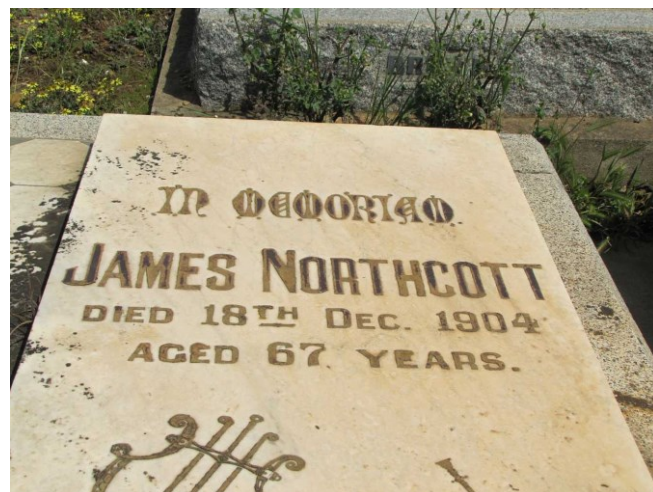
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Annie



James



**Bendigo Advertiser  
Wed 2 Nov 1904 Page  
6  
NORTHCOTTS CITY  
BAND.**

The public will no doubt be pleased to learn that Northcott's City Band will shortly re-appear in public. The band of late has been without a full complement of players, but its ranks have now been strengthened, and



its members are hopeful that the band will prove as efficient and popular as it did in its palmiest days. (*meaning marked by prosperity*).

Mr Charles Forster senr, at the last general meeting, was re-appointed bandmaster, Mr C Bartlett drum major, and Mr P J Sayer secretary. The band has engaged to take part in the series of summer concerts to be given in the park.

On Sunday, 20th November, the band will give a recital of sacred music at Lake Weeroona.

The following people were buried in this grave #18091 Sect B7 as per cemetery records.

18091 NORTHCOTT Annie 22/09/1904 24/09/1904 73 yrs

18191 NORTHCOTT James 18/12/1904 21/12/1904 67 yrs

It is sad to reflect that their interment numbers were just 100 apart.

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*Annie Northcott*

**Bendigo Advertiser (Vic. : 1855 - 1918) Fri 23 Sep 1904 Page 3**

**OBITUARY.**

The numerous friends of Mrs Annie Northcott, wife of Mr James Northcott, the well known ex-bandmaster, will regret to hear of her demise, which occurred yesterday evening at her residence, "Tivoli," Lily Street. The cause of death was general debility. The late Mrs Northcott, who was 73 years of age, was the youngest sister of Messrs George and Wooton Lansell. She was born in Margate, Kent, England, and came to Victoria in 1863, in company with her sister, Mrs George Budds, of Back Creek.

In 1866 she was married to Mr James Northcott, and after residing for two years at Leichardt, Mr and Mrs Northcott came to Bendigo and took up their abode at "Tivoli" Lily Street. Much sympathy will be felt for Mr Northcott, who himself has been ill for the last three years from chronic bronchitis. One daughter, Mrs A J Williams, is also left. The funeral will move to the Bendigo Cemetery at 11 o'clock tomorrow morning.

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**Bendigo Advertiser (Vic. : 1855 - 1918) Mon 26 Sep 1904 Page 5**  
OBITUARY.

The funeral of the late Mrs Annie Northcott, wife of Mr James Northcott, of Lily Street, which was of a private character, took place on Saturday morning, leaving her late residence for interment in the Church of England portion of the Bendigo Cemetery. Numerous beautiful floral tributes were sent by sympathising friends. Dean MacCullagh officiated at the grave, and gave a suitable address.

The mortuary arrangements were carried out by Mr T Sayer, Bridge Street.

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*James Northcott*

**Bendigo Advertiser (Vic. : 1855 - 1918) Mon 19 Dec 1904 Page 5**

DEATH OF MR JAS NORTHCOTT.

A VETERAN BANDSMAN

Regret will be widespread at the announcement of the death of Mr James Northcott, of Lily Street, Golden Square, the veteran bandsman, which event occurred at Middle Brighton yesterday morning. Mr Northcott had been suffering from chronic bronchitis for the past two years, and about a month ago he left for Middle Brighton, where he had taken a house for three months. He passed away in the presence of his only daughter, Mrs Albert J Williams, of Golden Square, who proceeded to Middle Brighton to attend him when his malady became serious.

The late Mr Northcott's career was a most interesting one. He was born at South Taunton, in Devonshire, in 1836, and was therefore, 68 years of age at the time of his demise.

When only a lad he entered the British navy, joining the warship St Jean d'Acre. He remained in the navy for several years, and his vessel was lying off Copenhagen, when orders were received to proceed to the Crimea, which was the sole topic of interest in England at that period.

Mr Northcott served all through the Crimean war, and obtained three service medals. He was most fortunate, as he did not even receive a scratch. While fighting in the trenches one day he happened to glance round, and was surprised to discover that his brother was by his side. They had not seen each other for a long time, and

the meeting under such circumstances can be imagined. Two of his brothers, John and William, served through out the war. At its close he came to Victoria, the gold fever being then at its height.

His stay in Bendigo was brief, as the New Zealand rush attracted his attention, but he returned in 1858 to Bendigo, and as the outlook was quiet he went back to New Zealand in 1859. Finally, in 1860, he settled in the Bendigo district with his father and mother and brother William. They took up some land at Leichardt, and remained there for some years.

It was about this time that he became prominent in musical circles. He came of a musical family, as his oldest brother, John, was one of the musicians to the Royal Family, and was pensioned by the late Queen Victoria. His younger brother, William, is at the present time one of the leading cornet players in the United States.

In 1867 the late Mr Northcott married Miss Lansell, sister of Mr Geo Lansell, her demise having taken place about three months ago. When he left Leichardt, Mr Northcott became Mr Lansell's general manager, and continued in that capacity for 26 years.

While he was manager of the 180 mine it is estimated that gold to the value of a million sterling was taken from the mine. It is, perhaps, in his capacity as a bandsman, that Mr Northcott was best known, as he became a familiar figure not only in the chief centres of Victoria but throughout Australia. He first became leader of the old Volunteer Band, and he was subsequently leader of the Battalion Band at Castlemaine.

It was when he became leader of the musical combination known as Northcott's Brass Band that his fame and the fame of the band became widespread, as some 25 years ago it was one of the finest bands in Australia, and held that distinction for many years. Although many changes in the personnel of the band have taken place, it still retains its old name.

Mr Northcott was a cornet player of high ability, and in 1871 he was presented by the citizens of Bendigo with a handsome silver cornet, in recognition of his services as a musician. His home contains a great array of trophies, photographic groups of bandsmen etc, which serve to indicate in a sense the reputation he enjoyed as a bandsman.

During his career in Bendigo he invested in mining a good deal, but was not very fortunate in this respect, as he lost a good deal of money on the New Chum line. Naturally he was well known and warmly respected, especially by bandsmen, who have, however, not seen him about much for some time, owing to ill-health. He

was a genial citizen, and made a large circle of sincere friends.

Owing to the desire of bandsmen from all parts of the State to attend the funeral, it will not take place until Wednesday. The deceased gentleman was a member of the Zenith Lodge of Masons, having passed through the chairs twice. He was also a member of the A.O.F., and formerly a member of the School of Mines Administrative Council.

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**Bendigo Advertiser (Vic. : 1855 - 1918) Tue 20 Dec 1904 Page 4**

Family Notices

FUNERAL

NORTHCOTT.

The Friends of the late Mr JAMES NORTHCOTT are respect fully invited to Follow his Remains to the place of interment, the Bendigo Cemetery. The Funeral is appointed to leave his late residence, "Tivoli" Lily Street, on Wednesday, the 21st inst, at half-past three o'clock. THOMAS SAYER, Undertaker, Bridge street.

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NORTHCOTT'S BENDIGO CITY BAND

The Members of the above Band are respectfully requested to Attend the Funeral of their late Bandmaster, Mr JAMES NORTHCOTT. The Funeral will leave his late residence, "Tivoli" Lily Street, at half past three o'clock on Wednesday, 21st inst. Sister bands and bandsmen cordially invited. Uniform.

PERCY J SAYER.

Secretary N.B.C.B.

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COURT HAPPY VALLEY, A.O.F.,B.U.D.

The Officers and Members of the above Court and Order are requested to Attend the Funeral of our late Bro, JAS NORTHCOTT. from his late residence, Lily street, on Wednesday, 21st, at 3.30 pm. JOHN H STEWART, Secretary.

ZENITH LODGE, No. 52.

Brethren of the above Lodge are requested to Attend the Funeral of our late Wor Bro J NORTHCOTT, on Wednesday, the 21st inst. Assemble at Lodgeroom at 3 pm. Members of sister lodges fraternally invited.

A DUNSTAN W.M.

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**VEHICULAR NOTICE.**

PRIVATE VEHICLES attending the Funeral of the late Mr JAMES NORTHCOTT are requested to take their position on the west side of Mackenzie Street.

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**Bendigo Advertiser (Vic. : 1855 - 1918) Thu 22 Dec 1904 Page 2**

THE LATE MR J NORTHCOTT.

## FUNERAL OBSEQUIES.

The funeral of the late Mr J Northcott, Bendigo's veteran bandmaster, who died at Middle Brighton on Sunday last, took place yesterday, the cortege moving from his late residence, "Tivoli," Lily Street, to the Bendigo Cemetery. Long before the cortege started Lily Street presented an animated appearance with the large number of vehicles and the uniformed members of half-a-dozen district bands, fire brigades and other public bodies.

The respect in which the departed gentleman was held was clearly evidenced, and many expressions of sincere regret at his demise were overheard. The late Mr Northcott was popular, not only with musicians who indeed loved him, but also with all who had the privilege of associating with him, no matter in what capacity.

The deceased gentleman was given a typical bandsman's funeral. Shortly after 3.45 pm the cortege, headed by a massed band, consisting of representatives of Northcott's, Flight's, Hopetoun, Eaglehawk, Hibernian, and the Half-Battalion A.I.R. Bands, moved off to the solemn and impressive strains of the "Dead March in Saul."

Drum-major V Byrne, one of the oldest surviving comrades of the deceased, with the drum-majors of the bands mentioned, led the procession, and the members of Northcott's Band wore crepe armllets out of respect to his memory.

The district fire brigades turned out in large numbers to do honor to the memory of their old co-worker, the bodies represented being Bendigo (Captain Andrew), Long Gully (Captain Eva), and Golden Square (Captain Houston). Court Happy Valley, A.O.F., was represented; also the Masonic craft. The late Mr Northcott was a member of the Zenith Lodge for over 30 years.

In the absence of Bro A Dunstan, Worshipful Master, Wor Bro J B Edwards conducted the Masonic rites. Bro W E Brown WM, of the Golden and Corinthian Lodge, was also present, as well as numerous members of the district lodges. Mr Northcott's lengthy association with the mining industry was testified to by the large attendance of gentlemen, who were representative of every phase of the industry.

The Bendigo Stock Exchange representatives were:

- Messrs A J. Taylor (chairman), W J Wood (secretary), J Beattie, T Williams, H L Ralph, G Miller, W Donovan, and J Wills. Included in the cortege were numerous mining managers and former employees of the deceased gentleman.

Amongst those who attended in private vehicles were:

Sir John Quick MP, Crs. Andrew, Semmens, Abbott, Curnow, and Long (Strathfieldsaye), Messrs Alfred Hicks, M.L.C. (Mayor of

Eaglehawk), and J. Sternberg, M.L.C., Geo. and W. Lansell, I. E. Dyason, W. C. Kidd, S. J. Williams, T. Horsfield, Jas. Swift, J. Hooper, J. Jewell, J. Prior, J. Duustan, J. Rogers, W. Rickards, J. Langdon, G. Schaefer, W. Bolitho, R. Stephens, C. H. Williams, W. Milburn, T. J. Doolan (Melbourne), H. M'Devitt, J. E. Wilkins, G. Carwardine, J. Norris, S.H. M'Gowan, J. Collins, A. Beeson, A. S. Lane, R. H. Y. Allen, C. H. Allen, N. Andrea, R. Manallick, W. Bullen, T. Knight. W. and E. Casley, G. Matthews, J. Datsou, J. Whitford, R. Grenfell, N. and P. C. Pentreath, S. Thomas, W. Hampton, A. Osborne, W. G. Jackson, J. H. Crump, J. Hancock. W. J. Hoskins, E. Hocking, L. Badge, R. J. Meakin, J. Sandow, F. and J. H. Youlden, A. Roberts, Chas. Andrew, W. D. Brown, A. Little, W. Goddard, D. W. Bayne, H. Iser, J. Ebbolt, H. Godfrey, G. N. Elliott. J. Polkinghorne, T. Tupper, J. Vincent, J. and B. Taylor, J. Keating, J. Punch, Mr. and Mrs. T. Connor (Leichardt), and others.

The pall bearers were Messrs J Swift, J Trounce, J Reed, and T Ash, old comrades of the deceased gentleman in the band.

The coffin, which was of beautiful polished oak, was laden with choicest floral tokens and resting upon it was the scarlet cap and uniform of the dead musician.

Upon arrival at the cemetery the coffin was borne to the grave by the following members of Northcott's Band:

-Messrs G and C Foster, D Scott, W Partridge, C Foster junr, and F Guest.

The chief mourners were Mr and Mrs A J Williams, Mr and Mrs Wootton Lansell, Mr and Mrs Budds, and nephews of the deceased gentleman.

The Very Rev Dean MacCullagh conducted an impressive service at the grave, and the Masonic rites were solemnised by Bro J B Edwards. Bro W J Parry acted as master of ceremonies. The Masonic Choir, under the direction of Bro A G Finster, sang with much feeling the choruses, "Holy Night", "What Sounds of Grief," and "Solemn Strikes the Funeral Chime." A pathetic incident was the rendition of "The Last Post" by two buglers at the graveside. The massed bands then played the sublime composition, "Vital Spark of Heavenly Flame."

The funeral arrangements were carried out by Mr T Sayer, of Bridge Street.

The deceased conductor's love of music was eloquently indicated by immense lyres, which were appropriately fixed to the black cloth trappings of the horses.

A beautiful floral cross was sent by Mr and Mrs G Lansell and family, and handsome immortelles by Major and Mrs Linton and the members of Northcott's Band.



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Compiled by Pat & Ian Belmont  
in June 2019  
for the Bendigo Cemetery Obituaries & Notes