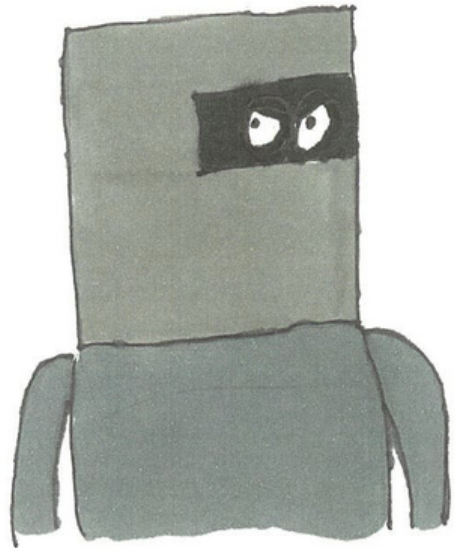


Ned Kelly's Guide to BUSHRANGING



Written and Illustrated by Mitchell

NED KELLY'S GUIDE TO BUSHRANGERS



Imagine this, you are finally finished mining. You found a huge gold nugget and now you are taking the gold back to Sydney to get paid. BANG! You hear a gunshot, and a man runs out of the bush.

You are being held up by a bushranger! They take the gold and run, but at least you still have your life.



Bushrangers are Australia's own highwaymen. Well why become a bushranger? I can tell you life in the colony was hard, especially if you were poor or a convict. Stealing was a pretty good option then, and when gold was found it was a quick way to get rich and famous! Bloodythirsty criminals and gentlemen, we had the lot!

The History of Bushranging

1788/1803 -The Bolters

Starving, poor and running from the law, the first bushrangers were mainly escaped convicts. These men stole food and goods to survive, however the law was harsh and even stealing food could be punished by death.

Known as "Bolters" because they had bolted like a horse from imprisonment. Bolters travelled on foot and in groups, to help their chances of survival and not being recaptured.



Well known bushrangers from this time were: Musquito, Michael Howe, John "Black" Caesar and Richard Lemon.

1821 – 1850 the Rebels



Matthew Brady

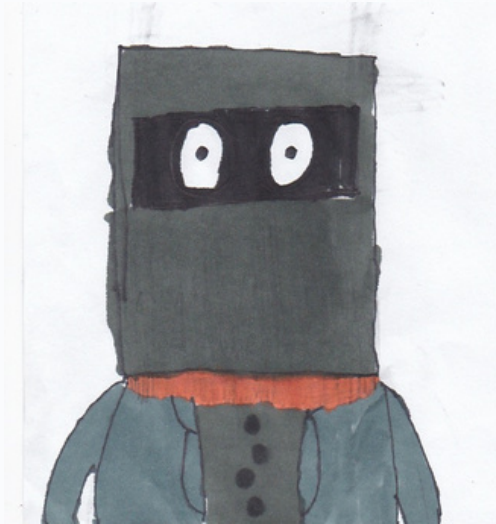
Now poor immigrants started bush ranging as well. There were more wealthy settlers, better food and also guns to steal. People saw bushranging as a way to rebel for the rights of poorer people in the colony. In fact, bushrangers led a convict uprising in 1830 in Bathurst.

Bushrangers still travelled in groups, on boats and on foot. They normally robbed merchants on roads, isolated travellers and isolated farms. They used knives and guns as weapons.

Well known bushrangers from this time were: Matthew Brady, Martin Cash, The Ribbon Boys and Jack Donahue (the "Wild Colonial Boy").



1851 – 1870: The Gold Rush



Well the discovery of gold in 1851 led to a bushranging boom. Most bushrangers now were born in Australia or free settlers. Dressed in coats, boots and pants, bushrangers were good horse riders and bushmen, travelled by horse and carried guns.

The goldrush made easy targets for bushrangers like mail coaches, gold escorts, farms and banks. But us bushrangers had a positive effect, we stole so much gold police were needed. This led to the creation of the NSW police force of the present day!!

Well known bushrangers from this time were: Ben Hall, Captain Thunderbolt, Mad-Dog Morgan, and The Clark Brothers.





1871 – 1902: The Reactionaries

By the end of the gold rush there were not many bushrangers left. The invention of the telegraph (the old telephone) and the construction of railways connected towns and cities and made news and police travel faster.

Because news travelled quickly though, bushrangers became celebrities. They were usually descendants of convicts and they had criminal records.

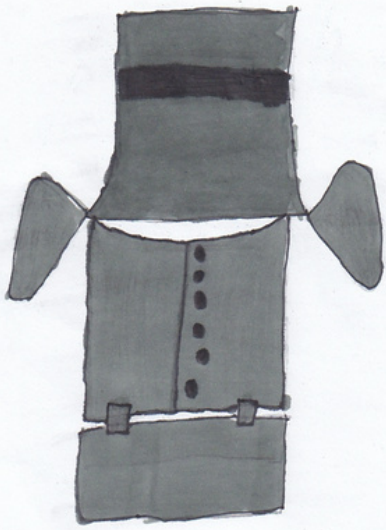
Their main form of transport were horses, as the main crime committed was stock theft (stealing horses and cattle).



This era was more brutal, as murder and shootouts were common.

Well known bushrangers from this time were: Captain Moonlite, Ned Kelly, the Kenneff Brothers and Jimmy Governor.

1902 – 1930: The last bushrangers



The bushrangers of this era were teenagers inspired by famous bushrangers (such as myself - Ned Kelly). Their careers were shorter than the other bushrangers, as there were more railways, towns and exposed space in general.

They normally robbed from trains, highway travellers and farms (cattle).

The last of the well-known bushrangers were Jessie Hickman and Henry Maple.

The Effect on Society

Australia was settled by England as a penal (prison) colony. Most people living in Australia were poor or convicts, and the law was harsh back then. Bushrangers, who were mostly from poor or convict backgrounds, were seen to be rebelling against the law, the wealthy and the government.

With the help of the telegraph and newspapers, bushrangers became heroes. They have been immortalised in songs such as "The Wild Colonial Boy", poems – "John Gilbert" by AB Paterson, and in later times numerous films. More seriously, because of the explosion in bushranging during the goldrush, police forces were created in New South Wales and Victoria.

Whether they were seen as good or bad, bushrangers became part of Australian folklore.

By now you must be wanting to meet some of these famous ruffians, so here we go.....

Musquito (1780 – 1825) – The Aboriginal Bushranger who fought for freedom

Now here's an early bushranger you may not have heard of, Musquito was born in 1780, in Broken Bay near Sydney. He was an aboriginal man from the Eora nation. He was to become known as one of the most violent bushrangers in Tasmania. Musquito didn't fight for riches, he fought for freedom of his lands from the settlers.

Musquito started by raiding settlers' farms in the Hawksbury Region with his tribe. On the 9th of June 1805, Musquito was caught and sent to Norfolk Island for 8 years.

He was transferred to Van Diemen's Land in January 1813 to track bushrangers. He successfully caught and killed Michael Howe, and was promised to be sent back to Sydney a free man. Governor Sorrel did not keep this promise.



When Musquito found out, he formed a legion of Aboriginals who wanted revenge. They were called the renegades. Due to Musquito's knowledge of English this group were like ninjas. They carried out multiple raids and killed several stock keepers as revenge for Sorrel's broken promise.

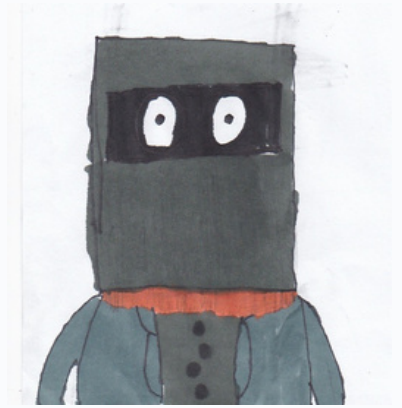
But in 1824 Musquito and his friend 'Black Jack' were caught.

They were convicted of murder in an unfair trial as they had no lawyer and could give no evidence. On the 25th of February in 1825 they were hanged.

Murderous Mad Dog Morgan

(1830 – 1865)

Have you ever thought that “dog” is a cool name? Well sometimes it means “bloodthirsty”. Daniel Morgan was born Jack Fuller in Appin NSW in 1833. While stockriding in the Murrumbidgee he became an excellent horse rider and bushman.



Daniel "Mad Dog" Morgan



In 1853 Morgan went to the goldfields. On the way he realised highway robbery was an easier way to make money than prospecting. In one incident, Morgan held up shepherds near Castlemaine. He came out of the bushes and waved his pistol at four men sitting around a campfire, then robbed their hut. His behaviour here earned him the name “Mad Dog Morgan”.

But in 1854 he was caught and sentenced to hard labour for 12 years. When he got out in 1860, he was a hardened criminal and did some work, but he found bushranging an easier way of life. As he had been a stockrider, Morgan had a great love for horses and horse theft was his most common crime.

One time this crime got the better of him. He was bushranging with a man called German Bill, and they stole a horse from a man, Henry Bayliss, who was a judge. When they realised he was a judge, they set him free. But the judge wanted to get them and he set out with troopers, they soon found Mad Dog's camp and opened fire. German Bill was shot and killed and Morgan escaped. After this there was a 200 pound reward for his capture.



"Mad Dog" hands out cash

In the shootout, Morgan shot and injured the station manager and a stockman and killed another stockman.

By 1865, Morgan thought he could never get caught and moved into Victoria near Glenrowan to test the police. On April 8 1865 he held up Peechelba station, holding the family hostage and forcing one of their girls to play the piano. A maid who escaped, raised the alarm about Morgan. By morning, unknown to Morgan, the house was surrounded. When he came out to prepare his horse, he was shot in the back and died later that day, his luck had run out.

With nothing to lose now, Morgan went on a bushranging streak, robbing stations. He thought station employees and swagmen were treated unfairly and shared some of his riches with them. By 1864 his bushranging life began to affect him. When he raided the gin supply at Round Hill Station, a shootout started when his gun misfired.

Captain Thunderbolt (1835 – 1870)

"It must have been a THUNDERBOLT!"



Have you ever heard a big BANG outside your house? Well one man back in the day did, and it was the bushranger Fredrick Ward. That also got him the name "Captain Thunderbolt".

Born in 1835 (the exact date is unknown) in Windsor, Sydney, Fredrick Ward's horse skills were spectacular as a kid.

This did help him later in life, as he became a horse breaker and drover, working on the Lower Paterson River in the Hunter Valley, NSW. His first attempt at crime was horse theft in April 1865, for which he was caught. He spent four years in prison on Cockatoo Island.



Once he got out, he met Mary Anne Bugg in 1860. Mary Anne Bugg was an educated Aboriginal woman from the Worimi Tribe near Gloucester. She was an expert horse rider and bush navigator, who teamed up with Thunderbolt for a lot of the time he was bushranging. She was a bushranger in her own right and later became known as "The Captain's Lady".

Mary Anne Bugg

Captain Thunderbolt bushranged from the Hunter Valley to the Queensland border. He was often helped by Bugg and her tribe, and sometimes Thunderbolt bushranged with Bugg and their three children – what an exciting life! The public liked Thunderbolt as he avoided violence, and did not kill anyone while bushranging. Because of this he was known as “The Gentleman Bushranger”.

**Fred Ward aka
"Captain Thunderbolt"**



Thunderbolt continued his bushranging for several years around Gloucester and Uralla. He worked with many others robbing stage coaches and inns in the area. Thunderbolt was finally caught fleeing a crime near Uralla.

He was seen to leap with his horse from a cliff into the Allyn River, but was eventually shot down by an off duty policeman named Constable Walker.

After he was killed, his dead body was put on show and you could buy a postcard, for a shilling showing his dead body. What a harsh end for the “Gentleman Bushranger”.

Captain Moonlite (1842 - 1880)

The wealthy young bushranger



Let me introduce you to Andrew George Scott better known as "Captain Moonlite". Born in Ireland in 1842, Scott was well educated, unlike most of our bushrangers.

In 1861 Scott went to New Zealand to take part in the war against the Maori. It was here that his friends named him "Captain Moonlight". Scott then went to Mount Edgerton, Victoria as a preacher.

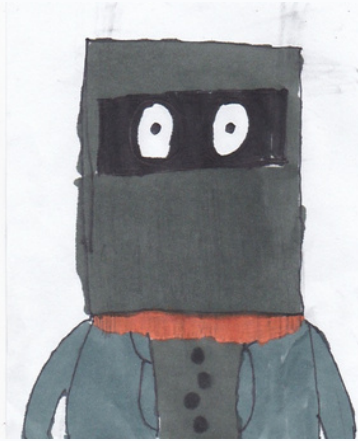
With two friends he robbed the town bank and left a note signed "Captain Moonlite", not a very good preacher I think! Moonlite continued with a life of crime, but was caught in 1870 and sent to Pentridge Prison for 9 years. In prison, he met James Nesbitt, who became his best friend and crime partner.

On his release, Moonlite and Nesbitt formed a bushranger gang. Their careers were short lived, as they were caught by troopers when they held up a sheep station near Wagga Wagga in November 1879. James Nesbitt and one of the other gang members were shot and killed. Scott was so upset he gave himself up.

Captain Moonlite's last request before he was hanged was to be buried next to James Nesbitt. This request was denied by the police, and he was hanged on 20 January 1880. Over a century later in 1995, at the request of the public, Captain Moonlite's body was moved to Gundagai and re-buried next to James Nesbitt. Finally he was re-joined with his best friend.

Ned Kelly (1845-1880)

Our Most Famous Bushranger



Now I will talk about my favourite bushranger, ME!!! If you didn't know I'm the most famous bushranger, Edward Kelly ("Ned" is short for Edward). I was born in December 1854 (date unknown) in Beveridge, Victoria. I moved when I was nine to Avenel where I saved a classmate, Richard Shelton from drowning.

His parents were so happy they gave me a green sash for my bravery, which I wore until the day I died.

By the time I was 16, I had been in trouble with the law twice, once for fighting with a Chinese man and another for helping Harry Power (a bushranger). They couldn't prove anything and I got off. By 1871 though I was in prison for horse theft.

Prison gave me a dislike for the law and when Police Officer Fitzpatrick came to arrest my brother Dan, for horse theft (a horse was like a car back then), I had to protect him, so I shot Fitzpatrick in the arm. Dan and I were now wanted men and had to go into hiding.

We were joined by our friends Joe Byrne and Steve Hart. From this moment on, we were known as the Kelly Gang.

Aren't we a handsome bunch ?

The Kelly Gang





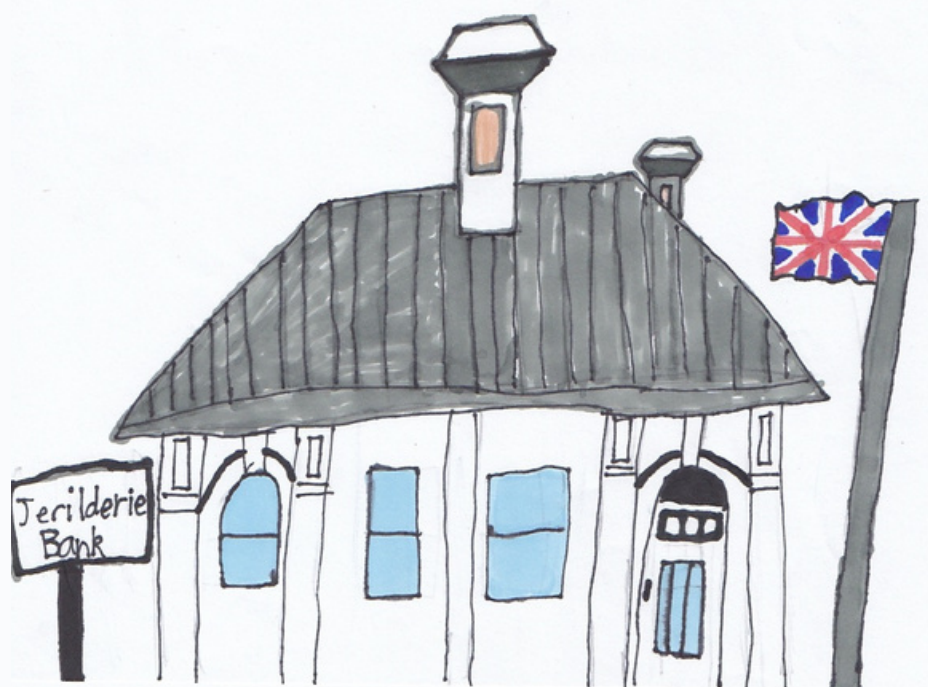
We went to Bullock Creek to make some money, but we heard that the police were looking for us. We caught them first, camping at Stringy Bark Creek. We surprised them and there was a gunfight. Three of the police were shot and the last one surrendered, so we let him go. But frustratingly he reported us to the police. Little did I realise, that mistake was to get me hanged. After this we were declared outlaws with a 500 reward for each of us.

Continuing as bushrangers, in December 1878 we went to a sheep station near Faithful Creek. We took 22 workers hostage, and as Joe kept guard we robbed the bank, taking 2000. When we returned to Faithful Creek, we entertained and ate with the hostages. After this the reward for our gang doubled.

Jerilderie

I felt really strongly about how unfairly ex-convicts and Irish Catholics were treated and I wrote a letter about it.

On the 8th of February 1879, our gang went to the police station near Jerilderie. We locked them up and stole their uniforms as disguises. We headed to Jerilderie, telling everyone we were sent to protect the town from the Kelly Gang.



Sneakily, we took all the townspeople hostage in the Royal Mail hotel and gave them free drinks. Then we cut the telegraph wires so the police couldn't be contacted.

After this we robbed the bank of 2400, and burnt all the mortgage deeds. I gave the bank attendant my letter. The people of Jerilderie loved us! The reward for our capture went to 2000 per person and we went into hiding.



Glenrowan - The Last Stand

While in hiding we were told that our friend Aaron Sherritt had become a police informer. So, we plotted to do away with him and rob the bank at Glenrowan. To do this we knew we had to stop the police so we planned to force train workers to destroy part of the tracks so the police train would crash. We figured this would give us enough time to get away.

When we got there, we didn't realise that police were "protecting" Sherritt as they hid under his bed. We killed Sherritt, and his death was not reported for a day. This caused us some trouble, as the townsfolk, who we held hostage in the hotel, were getting restless. To entertain them, we put on a gun show and a dance, letting one of them, Thomas Curlow go free. This act of kindness was our downfall as Curlow warned the police train.



The police surrounded the Hotel and there was a shootout. All the others were shot dead, so I went out for a final showdown. Unfortunately, I was shot in the leg and captured. I was then taken to Melbourne and tried for the murder of the police at Stringybark Creek. For this I was sentenced to be hanged.

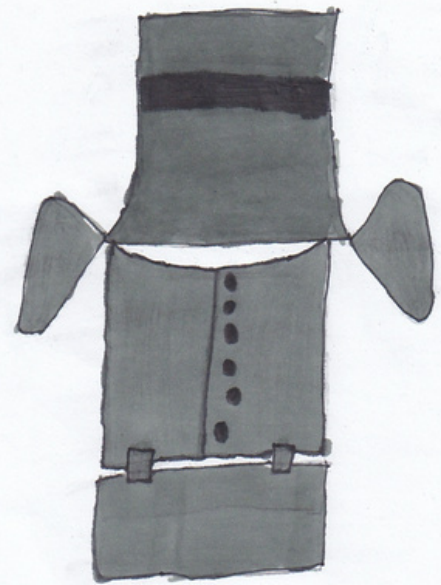
You may have read my last words to be "Such is life" but they really were.

"Ah, well I suppose it has come to this".

My Famous Armour

One thing I was famous for was my armour. Very proud of it, designed it myself!

It was made from the metal on the sides of a farm's plough and protected me from bullets. My armour made me look bigger and more menacing, intimidating for the police



Some people said it looked like Samuri Armour and I was nicknamed the last samuri. It covered my head and my chest, but in the end I was shot in the legs !

Jessie Hickman (1890-1936)

Have you ever thought of running away to the circus? Well hold onto your hat, I'm going to tell you about one the last of the bushranging kind, Jessie Hickman - The Wild Woman of Wollemi. Born Elizabeth Jessie Hunt in NSW in 1890, Jessie Hickman was SOLD to the circus when she was 8 YEARS OLD!!!!!!

By age 17 she was a champion buckjumper (rodeo rider) and ring mistress at Martini's Buckjumping Show. She left the circus in 1913 and became a stealth thief in Sydney. In 1918 she headed west to the Wollemi Plains and took up cattle duffing (stealing cattle).

Arrest Warrant - Elizabeth Jessie Hickman



A Warrant is out for the arrest of Elizabeth Jessie Hickman, known in these parts by the "The Lady Bushranger". She is wanted for several counts of cattle duffing. She will escape at any means necessary, as she once rode her horse off a cliff into a river. She even jumped from a moving train's locked bathroom. She is known to hang around with a gang called the young bucks. She is expert in the wild bush in these parts and is to be kept in town at all costs.

After a close call with the law, Jessie quit bushranging in 1928. Sadly, she died of a brain tumour in 1936.



I hope you have enjoyed learning about us bushrangers. Regards, Ned.

Bibliography

- Washington, E. (date unknown). Were bushrangers villains or heroes?. Sydney. Sydney Living Museums. Website.
<https://sydneylivingmuseums.com.au/stories/were-bushrangers-villains-or-heros>
- Author not given. (date unknown). Timeline.
<https://aguidetoaustralianbushranging.com/timeline/>
- Author not given. (date unknown). 1788 - 1888. Parramatta, NSW Police Force.
https://www.police.nsw.gov.au/about_us/history/history_pages/significant_dates
- Author not given. (date unknown). CBHS Year 5 History.
<http://cbhsyearfivehistory.weebly.com/musquito.html>
- Author not given. (date unknown). Jessie Hickman. Hobart. Terror Australis Readers and Writers Festival.
<https://www.terroraustralisfestival.com/>
- Author not given. (date unknown). The Bushranger "Mad" Dan Morgan. Culcain NSW, Greater Hume Shire Council.
- <http://www.murrayriver.com.au/about-the-murray/bushranger-dan-morgan/>
- Author not given. (2019). The Bold, The Bad and The Ugly. 1788 - 1888. Canberra, Royal Australian Mint.
<https://www.ramint.gov.au/bold-bad-and-ugly-australias-wild-colonial-bushrangers-2>
- Peter and Ellie Hunt. (date unknown). Bushrangers of NSW, Captain Thunderbolt. Sydney, NSW. State Library of NSW.
<https://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/stories/bushrangers-new-south-wales/captain-thunderbolt>
- (Author not given). (date unknown). Bushrangers of NSW, Ned Kelly information sheet. Melbourne, Victoria. State Library of Victoria.
<https://www.slv.vic.gov.au/search-discover/explore-collections-theme/australian-history/ned-kelly/ned-kelly-fact-sheet>
- Barry, J. V. (2006). Kelly, Edward (Ned) (1855-1880). The Australian Dictionary of Biography.



Stage 3 Assignment
History Project – Term 2

Name: Mitchell

Very creative
writing from
the perspective
of Ned Kelly!

Marking Criteria	Basic	Sound	High
Information included in their book	Information is inaccurate and simple.	Selects one migrant group or person. Sufficient information has been provided on their group/person. Information is accurate.	Selects one migrant group or person. <i>More than one person</i> Concise and detailed information is included and is written in their own words.
Structure	Little/no structure. Text doesn't flow according to timeline of events.	Some evidence of structure and flow of timeline events. Information is related to the illustrations on the page.	Story is consistently written according to the timeline of events using small captions. Information is always related to the information.
Uses visual literacy techniques	Little/no attempt on using visual literacy techniques.	Attempts to use visual literacy techniques in their picture book. Example: colour, text size and font. Easy to follow layout of images and text.	Successfully uses a range of visual literacy techniques to engage the audience. Example: salience, vectors, shape, texture. Layout of images and text are organised to allow for logical flow.
Audience	Book is not appropriate for primary aged students (including vocabulary).	Book include some aspects that are appropriate to primary aged students.	Book has been created using effective language choices appropriate to the audience.
Creativity	Book is unoriginal.	Completion of book includes some original images (self-drawn/digital illustrations).	All illustrations in the book are original and demonstrate unique and original images.
Bibliography included	No	Yes	
Handed in on time	No	Yes	

A very interesting guide to bush-ranging Mitchell! I really enjoyed your illustrations!

Miss Stevenson 15/6 Q.