

Mrs Susan Cochrane

Rushworth Chronicle

5 May, 1933

The death occurred on Monday, April 24th, of one of the old and highly respected pioneers of this district in the person of Mrs. Susan Charlotte Cochrane, relict of the late Mr. Donald Cochrane, and mother of Cr. W. E. Cochrane, Stanhope, President of the Shire of Waranga.

The late Mrs. Cochrane was born in Wellington, N.Z., on 14th July, 1853, being well on in her 80th year at the time of her death. She came to Victoria with her parents in 1854 and therefore a colonist of 79 years.

In the "gold rush" days, her parents (Mr. and Mrs. John Clarke) came to Rushworth, where Mr. Clarke carried out a blacksmithing business about the spot where Dr. Heily's surgery stood later. Later on John Clarke opened the famous Welcome Reef at Redcastle, where he also had a hotel and stores for many years. The building is now occupied by Miss McKee.

The late Mrs. Cochrane was married to the late Mr. Donald Cochrane, of Costerfield, in Heathcote, on July 14th, 1875, and after living in Costerfield, moved to Bailieston, where she lived the remainder of her married life, Mr. Cochrane dying in August, 1898.

Some few years after the death of her husband Mrs Cochrane, with her daughters, lived in Nicholson street, Rushworth, where she took an active interest in the Methodist church, being well remembered for her work in that connection.

About 22 years ago she built a home in Essendon, where she resided until five years ago with her daughter Nellie, when they went to Upwey to live until the illness which eventually caused her death necessitated her removal to Sister Anderson's Private Hospital, in Flinders Lane, where she was until a few weeks prior to her death at the Aged Care Home in East Melbourne.

She was known and loved by a wide circle of friends, and it can also be said that the whole of her life was spent in doing good in whatever direction she could, and anyone in trouble or distress always had a word of comfort or a helping hand from her.

The respect felt for her was evinced by the number who came long distances to the last rites, from Moama, Numurkah, Nagambie, Seymour, Melbourne, Costerfield and Heathcote, as well as the many who knew her from the surrounding district.

The Rev. Mr. Dawes, of Diamond Creek, Methodist minister, conducted the burial service at the Whroo Cemetery, and came all the way for the purpose.

Two sons (Donald and Gilbert) predeceased her, and the living are William Ernest (Stanhope), Lillian (Mrs. Horsburgh, Ascot Vale), Nellie (Upwey) and Eva (Mrs. Davies, Canterbury).

Crs. Walbran, Taylor, Borger and Finlay and four grandsons of deceased (Messrs Leslie, Gilbert and Keith Horsburgh and Gilbert Cochrane) acted as pall bearers.

The funeral arrangements were conducted by Messrs. Alison, of Melbourne.