

## Arthur Clarke

**Murchison Advertiser**

**15 August, 1902**

A shocking accident happened at the Welcome mine, Bailieston, on Friday last, resulting in the death of a young man named Arthur Clarke.

It appears that he and his mate, Frederick Le Deux, who had gone on the afternoon shift, were at work in the mine and at 10 p.m. charged a hole in the rise which was being put up to connect with some old workings. Clarke fired the shot and joined his mate and another man, named McKenzie, in an old drive above. They were all three standing close together and, as after events proved, were right over the charged hole and with only about two feet of ground between them and the end of the drill hole.

The charge, instead of expanding sideways and downwards, as they anticipated, went straight up, and passing through the layer of stone, struck Clarke in the face, completely shattering it and also his skull in several places.

The wonder is how the others escaped. As soon as possible Clarke was taken to the surface and Dr Christie went for. He dressed the wounds but pronounced the case a hopeless one. The deceased lived till 8 a.m. on the following morning when death put an end to his sufferings.

Clarke was a straightforward, honorable young man, and was very much liked by all who knew him.

The remains were interred in the Whroo cemetery on Sunday afternoon, the funeral being a large one.

The Rev. J. R. Walker officiated at the grave and Mr Anderson had charge of the mortuary arrangements. The Rushworth Foresters, of which body deceased was a member, attended in force and read their service at the grave.

*The central plaque in Whroo cemetery indicates Mr Clarke was 26.*