Wollongong General Cemetery Victims' Burial Sites Roman Catholic **Anglican** 1 Henry O. MacCabe 2-21 **Roman Catholic** 2 Denis Egan 3 Edward Egan 4 Michael Egan 5 Thomas Egan 6 Edward Gallagher 7 Michael Gallagher Church Street 8 Edward J Gill of England Stephen Gleeson 10 Patrick McCann 11 Thomas P Morriss 12 Walker J Morriss 13 John Murphy **14** Matthew Peace 15 James Purcell Snr James Purcell 17 John Purcell **18** Patrick F Purcell 19 Thomas Purcell 20 John Ryan **21** Francis Stewart Wesleyan / Presbyterian 22 William V Bray 23 Henry James Wesleyan / Presbyterian 24 William C Woodroof 22-24

Victims Buried Elsewhere

West Dapto Roman Catholic Cemetery

James Head Daniel Healey

Helensburgh General Cemetery
Anglican Portion

William Nixon

Albion Park Roman Catholic Churchyard

William Doherty

Old Bowenfels Cemetery Near Lithgow

Thomas Sylvester Best

Brief History of the Disaster

At 2pm on Thursday, 31st July, 1902, Mt Kembla Mine suffered the worst mining disaster in Australia's history, when a gas explosion killed 96 men and boys. The resulting Royal Commission concluded that a roof fall in a goafed area pushed inflammable gases into contact with a wheeler's naked lamp, triggering a series of coal dust explosions.

The disaster victims included some rescuers. At first, the great number of dead posed the immediate problem of where the bodies were to be buried. A site was chosen in Windy Gully on company donated land and a mass grave dug. Very quickly families claimed and removed their dead for burial.

Of the 33 miners buried in Windy Gully Cemetery, four unclaimed bodies were buried in the mass grave on the high side of the Cemetery making Windy Gully the resting place of most of the miners killed in the explosion.

At least 32 bodies were buried in the Soldiers' & Miners' Anglican Church Cemetery, Mount Kembla.

There were two unregistered deaths - one which is particularly poignant. Michael (Mickey) Brennan, aged 19, had begun work 4 days earlier. His body was never found maybe his remains were buried in the mass grave.

Work recommenced at Mt Kembla Mine 8 weeks later on 24th September, 1902. Many families lost the breadwinners. Some families lost all their men. Families had to be fed and clothed. Bereaved families had to be supported. And this support came from the immediate and the wider community. Donations came from overseas, especially from Britain, where the company was based and shareholders lived. Unfortunately, the majority of the funds did not reach the widows and children.

Windy Gully Cemetery was finally consecrated 100 years later on 31st July, 2002, by Rev Gordon Bradbery, during the centenary commemoration of the disaster.

Windy Gully Cemetery is recognized as a cemetery of State significance.



Historic Mining Community of Mt Kembla Village

Kembla Heights

Windy Gully





Walk 3

Soldiers' & Miners' Anglican Church Cemetery

Windy Gully Cemetery

Wollongong General Cemetery

Site of Australia's most devastating mine disaster

31st July, 1902

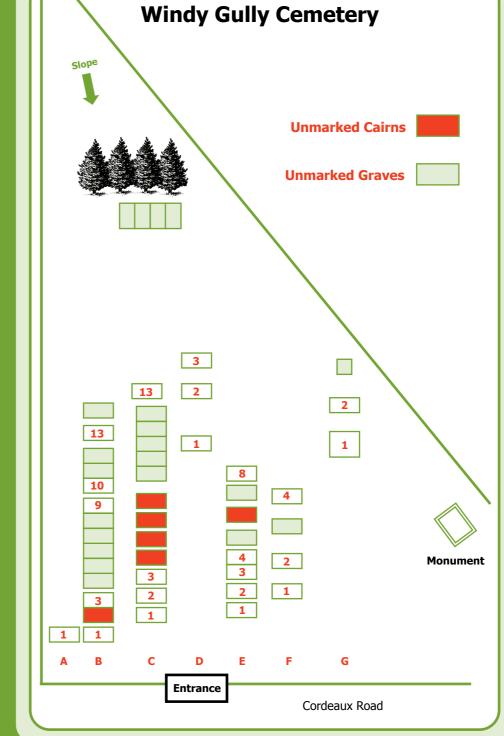
96 Souls

The past we inherit - the future we build

Soldiers' and Miners' **Anglican Church Cemetery** 271 270 260 56 371 Church Cordeaux Road Monument ?

Victims' Burial Sites

- 48 James Annesley
- 52 William Brasher
- 326 George H. Dixon
- 371 Frank Dungey
- **192** Frederick R. Dunning
- 56 Joseph F. Dunning
- 56 Thomas R. Dunning
- 49 William Filby
- 260 George O. Hartley
- 191 Jehu Hitchens
- **193** Thomas Hughes
- 51 Percy Hunt
- 51 Percy S. Hunt
- 51 William (Allen) Hunt
- 2 John H. James
- **269** Richard Lane Snr.
- 269 Richard Lane Jnr.
- 50 Henry Meurant
- 50 William Meurant
- **271** George Morris
- 324 John G. Nees
- 190 Henry Rich
- 190 James H. Rich
- 46 Albert Skilling
- **271** Frederick Smith
- 10 Claude Stafford
- **10** David Stafford
- 10 William Stafford
- 268 John Walker
- 270 Richard Walker
- 268 William Walker
- **194** George Youngman



Victims' Burial Sites

- E3 Henry Aitken
- E2 John Aitken
- **B3** Albert W. Blackett
- **B3** Robert G. Blackett
- C1 Alfred Hewlett
- C1 William Hewlett
- C2 Reynold Hume
- **G1** Robert Jones
- **E4** James McDill
- E8 William McMurray
- **E8** Alexander Morrison
- E8 Henry Morrison
- D1 George Russell
- **G1** Richard Thomas

Disaster Victims List Buried Unmarked Graves

Richard Bellis

John Bryson

Arthur Carter

Charles Church

Thomas Howell

John Jeffrey

Thomas Kindred

Hugh McLister

James McLister John Muir

Peter Muir

Jacob Nelson

William Nelson

William J. Price

Edward Robson David Scott

David Scott

William Silcock

Thomas Tost

Joseph Wilkinson



