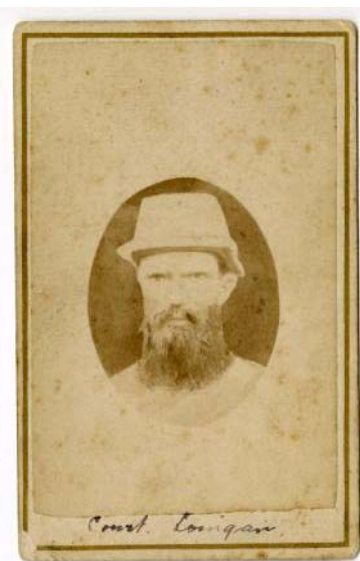
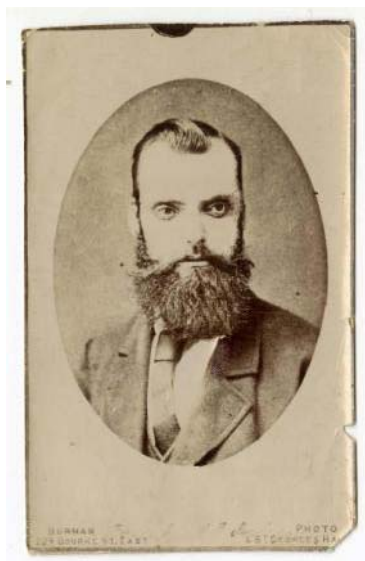
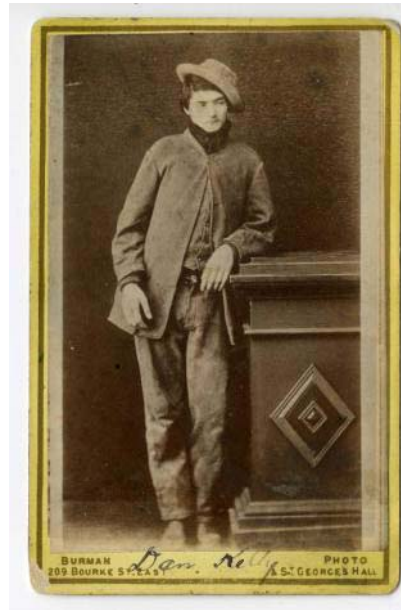


# A Forgotten History of the Kelly Gang: Stories from Victoria Police





Edward Kelly



Daniel Kelly



Stephen Hart



Joseph Byrne

# SEARCH PARTY

## Local Police Intensify Search for Kelly Brothers, October 1878

After months of inactivity following the 'Fitzpatrick Incident', a change of leadership was made in the north-east. Transferred to Benalla in July, Superintendent John Sadleir immediately set about changing personnel in the district. Plans were made to intensify the search for the Kelly brothers, with two independent parties to be sent out simultaneously, one from Greta, the other from Mansfield, with the aim of converging at Hedi.

The Mansfield party, under Sergeant Michael Kennedy, were to establish a base to enable a continuous search in the more mountainous areas. Kennedy hand-picked both Constables Thomas McIntyre and Scanlan for the operation, believing three officers were sufficient. Superintendent Sadleir, however, pressed that Constable Thomas Lonigan should also join them as he would be able to accurately identify Kelly, having seen him in person on a previous occasion.



The Police Search Party

**Sergeant Michael Kennedy**  
Age 39 years  
Place of Birth: Southmead, Ireland.  
Married to Margaret Kelly. They had three children. The youngest child was born three years after the date of Kennedy's death.



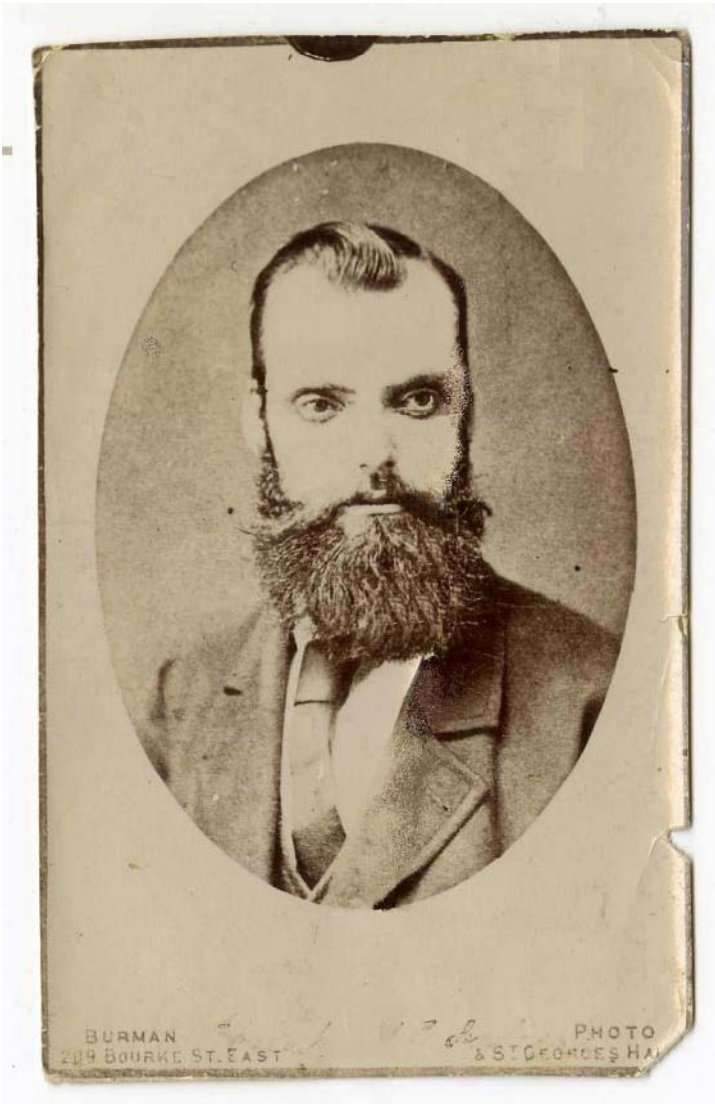
**Constable Michael Scanlan**  
Age 34 years  
Place of Birth: From Ireland.  
Scanlan did not have any family at Southmead, however, before leaving, one of his first assignments was to take a photograph, with the thought that he would appear during the first case against



**Constable Thomas Lonigan**  
Age 34 years  
Place of Birth: From Ireland.  
Lonigan was married to Mary Lonigan. They had four children, the youngest of whom was 7 years old at the time of Lonigan's death.



**Constable Thomas McIntyre**  
Age 33 years  
Place of Birth: Ballin, Ireland.  
McIntyre was the only one of the four police officers who had been in contact with the Kelly brothers before the capture of the Kellys. He reported seeing them in person on 12th May, and again in person. He had been in the police office on 10th May at 10 o'clock.



‘[I]f the character and career of the outlaws depended on tradition, I imagine that in [the] course of time Ned Kelly would come to occupy a position in history similar to that occupied by Robin Hood’.

Thomas McIntyre



Re Mrs. Festers arrangements.

Mansfield Station

29. 10. 78

29<sup>th</sup> October 1878

Mum

I start this morning, with a small party of volunteers and five Constables to search for Sgt Kennedy.

I am very unwell from wet, cold and exposure. I wish you would send me a sub Officer who understands bush life and take charge of the men, as I find in doing so myself I occupy a false position, inasmuch as after a day's riding I am thoroughly knocked up and I know nothing whatever of bush life & therefore unable to guide men as to the course they should pursue & ~~perhaps~~ might through ignorance lead them into danger & perhaps death. I think it best to make

# Victoria Police Museum



# AMBUSH



Ned Kelly and the **Stringybark Creek murders**



There's something about the way  
the light comes  
through the trees,  
the way the wind  
whistles through the  
leaves, the way the  
sunlight filters through the  
branches of the trees,  
the way the water  
falls from the rocks,  
the way the birds  
sing in the trees,  
the way the leaves  
rustle in the wind,  
the way the grass  
grows in the field,  
the way the flowers  
bloom in the garden,  
the way the stars  
shine in the night,  
the way the moon  
glows in the sky,  
the way the sun  
rises in the east,  
the way the sun  
sets in the west,  
the way the wind  
blows from the north,  
the way the wind  
blows from the south,  
the way the wind  
blows from the east,  
the way the wind  
blows from the west,  
the way the wind  
blows from the north,  
the way the wind  
blows from the south,  
the way the wind  
blows from the east,  
the way the wind  
blows from the west,

WESTERN VICTORIA IN THE 1870s

WESTERN VICTORIA IN THE 1870s

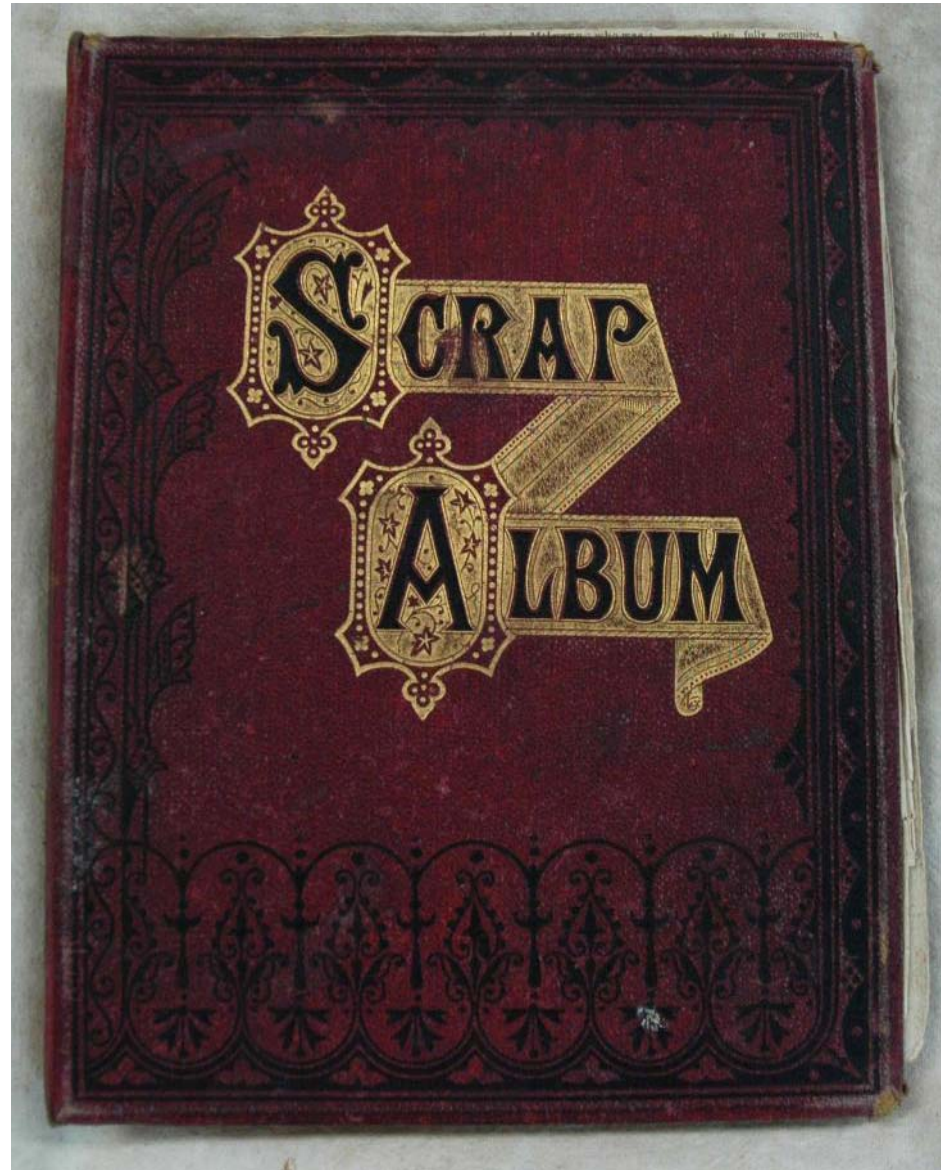
SEARCH PARTY  
Local Police Intended for Kelly Brothers

SEARCH PARTY  
Local Police Intended for Kelly Brothers





McIntyre Scrapbook



“[I]f the character and career of the outlaws depended upon tradition I imagine that in [the] course of time Ned Kelly would come to occupy a position in history similar to that occupied by Robin Hood ”

Thomas McIntyre

Since 1878, the story of the Kelly Gang of bushrangers has been re-told many times. Over the years, many points of view have been expressed, many people have been scrutinised. But in the end, one figure has emerged as the central character through which the whole story is told; Ned Kelly. His point of view is the most well known, but it will always be just a fragment of the whole.

People like Constable Thomas McIntyre have equally powerful stories to tell. Their testimony is crucial for understanding that the story of the Kelly Gang involved real people and the events that unfolded changed their lives. No one rode off into the sunset at the end; this is not a romantic tale of heroes and villains. It's a complicated and tragic set of events that happened in the north-east of Victoria one hundred and thirty years ago.

## Introductory Panel

# AMBUSH

Ned Kelly and the **Stringybark Creek murders**

# 1878

# Pages from the Greta Watch-House Book

REPORT OF CHARGES TAKEN AT										
No.	Date and Hour of Apprehension.	Name of Prisoner	Age	Calling	Country	Religion	Education.		Offence	If previously convicted, and Particulars if known.
							1. Whether read or write.	2. Read and write well.		
10	1/17/72	Ann Muddell	21	House Keeper	N. Zealand	Protestant	B		In leaving part of the carcasses of three sheep on her premises for which she is unable to account.	unknown
11	1/17/72	James Muddell	20	Plumber	N. Zealand	R. C.	B		In leaving part of the carcasses of three sheep on his premises for which he is unable to account.	unknown
14	2/4/72	Edmund Kelly	20	Labourer	Victoria	R. C.	B		Smuggling	Yes
2	3/17/71	Isabel Wright	22	Farmer	Ireland	Protestant	A		Smuggling	unknown
9	1/17/72	Arthur O'Sullivan	29	Labourer	Ireland	R. C.	C		Loaning under the	unknown
		William	25	Labourer	England	Protestant	C		Smuggled and Smuggling	unknown

REPORT OF CHARGES TAKEN AT										
No.	Date and Hour of Apprehension.	Name of Prisoner	Age	Calling	Country	Religion	Education.		Offence	If previously convicted, and Particulars if known.
							1. Whether read or write.	2. Read and write well.		
44	5/17/72	James Quinn	28	Spelter	Victoria	R. Catholic	C		Unlawfully cutting and removing and reflecting given bodily harm.	Yes
55	5/17/72	William Williamson	25	Labourer	England	Protestant	C		Unlawfully cutting and removing, and reflecting given bodily harm.	Yes
66	1/27/72	Alfred De Bolleum alias B. Brown	33	Workman	England	Protestant	C		Highway robbery under arms	Unknown
74	1/27/72	Henry Cook alias Brown	22	Labourer	England	Protestant	C		Highway robbery under arms	Unknown
87	2/5/72	Lawrence Power	24	Labourer	Ireland	R. Catholic	A		Stealing a saddle	Unknown
99	2/18/72	John Jones	17	Cheyer	Wales	Universalist	C		Uttering a forged Cheque.	Unknown
110	2/27/72	Edward Mitchell	24	Steward	Victoria	Protestant	C		Disobeying a summons	unknown

# FITZPATRICK

## The 'Fitzpatrick Incident' April 1878



“Their whole attitude to the police was one of intense hostility. It was only natural that they should try and blame me for causing the trouble that led to the gang defying the law”

Alexander Fitzpatrick

On April 15 1878, Constable Alexander Fitzpatrick went to the Kelly family home to arrest Dan Kelly for horse stealing. Perhaps a sign of his immaturity, Fitzpatrick made a series of bad choices that day. He went without the official warrant and stopped at a hotel on his way, arriving at the Kelly home three hours later apparently drunk.

During his visit a fight broke out between him and the family. Fitzpatrick's version of what took place at the Kelly homestead was recorded in an official police report. In the report he accused Ellen Kelly of hitting him with a shovel and Ned Kelly of shooting him in the wrist.

There were conflicting accounts from all those involved in the incident. Given Fitzpatrick's dubious behaviour in other matters and the Kelly family's well-known criminal inclinations, both had reason and a predisposition to manipulate the facts.

The outcome of the 'Fitzpatrick incident' was the imprisonment of three people, including Ned's mother Ellen and the beginning of life on the run for the Kelly brothers.



**Constable Alexander Fitzpatrick**  
Often regarded as the catalyst for the Kelly outbreak, Constable Alexander Fitzpatrick's police career lasted little more than three years. His irresponsible and possibly illegal behaviour brought Victoria Police into disrepute, and is often unjustifiably presented as an example of the conduct of all Victorian police officers of the day.

*"The ex-Constable's conduct during the time he was a member of the force was generally bad and discreditable to the force."*

Parliamentary Debates, Vol. 10, 1878  
Chief Commissioner, Victoria Police



**Sergeant Michael Kennedy**  
Age: 36 years  
Place of Birth: Tonaghmore, Ireland.  
Married to Bridget Tobin. They had five children. The youngest child was less than 1 year old at the time of Kennedy's death.



**Constable Michael Scanlan**  
Age: 34 years  
Place of Birth: Foosa, Ireland.  
Scanlan did not have any family in Australia. However, before heading out on his final assignment he had a premonition and told a friend that he 'could have his dog if he did not return.'



**Constable Thomas Lonigan**  
Age: 34 years  
Place of Birth: Sligo, Ireland.  
Married to Maria Siggins. They had four children, the youngest of whom was 2 years old at the time of Lonigan's death.



**Constable Thomas McIntyre**  
Age: 32 Years  
Place of Birth: Belfast, Ireland.  
McIntyre was the only one of the four police to come back from the search for the Kelly brothers alive. He married Eliza Ann Fowler in 1879, they had eight children. He had to retire from the police force in 1881 due to ill health.

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- “To provide a balanced historic, up-close look at the Kelly saga”
- “You should always get both sides of the story before you confirm your opinion”
- “Re-addresses the historical facts rather than regurgitates mythology”
- “To present the facts as fairly as possible, without bias”
- “‘Tragic’ Two sides of the story”
- “I think the exhibition gave a much clearer picture of the police involvement - whereas I feel in the community Kelly is the "HERO" whereas this is absolutely NOT the case”
- “To tell the story of the Kelly Gang from different points of view”

To “present to all what perhaps was never covered: the view from the police”,

# AMBUSH



**Ned Kelly and the Stringybark Creek murders**