DAVIS, William 27 January 1931

Designation	Accident Location	Accident Due to
Repairer	Claremont	Struck by passing train

William Davis was 48 years of age when he was fatally injured by being rundown by a passing train while doing track work near Claremont Station. Witnesses said that he appeared not to have heard the approaching train. William lived in a railway cottage at the Subiaco station yard with his wife and 10 children, six of whom were totally dependent on him. William is interred at Karrakatta Cemetery (ANGLICAN/NA/0214). A coronial enquiry determined that his death was an accident.

LEVEL CROSSING FATALITY.
Perth, January 28
At the level crossing near the Claremont railway station yesterday morning, William Davis (48), married, a line repairer, residing in a railway cottage in the Subiaco railway yard, was fatally injured when run over by a train. He has left a family of 10, of whom six were fully dependent on him.

At lO.3O a.m. a goods train of about 30 trucks, travelling from Fremantle to Midland Junction, approached the crossing, where a gang of line repairers were at work. The fireman was busy stoking, and the driver (Mr. Stock) blew the whistle. The gang moved off the track except Davis, who was out of sight from the driver's side of the cab. The whole train passed over the man. Both his legs were severed below the knee, and he received a severe scalp injury. He was picked up unconscious, but regained consciousness a few minutes later. He was taken to Hospital where he died last night.

Source: *Trove/Northern Times (Carnarvon) Thursday 5 February 1931 Page 3.*

STRUCK BY TRAIN
Fettler's Death
William Davis (43) railway fettler, who was struck by a Perth-bound goods train and shockingly injured yesterday, died in Perth Hospital about 6 p.m. In the collision both his legs were severed and his skull was fractured.

Davis leaves a wife and ten children, six of whom, it is said, were wholly dependent on him.

Source: *Trove/The Daily News (Perth) Wednesday 28 January 1931 Page 8.*

FUNERAL NOTICE.
DAVIS. The Friends of the late WILLIAM DAVIS, Railway Employee, are respectfully invited to follow his remains to the place of interment, the Anglican Cemetery, Karrakatta. The Funeral is appointed to leave his late residence, Railway Yards, Subiaco, at 3.45 o'clock TOMORROW (Thursday) AFTERNOON, per motor. Friends wishing to attend the Funeral may proceed by the 4 o'clock train leaving Perth and Fremantle.
C. H. SMITH and CO., Undertakers,
2SI Newcastle-street, Perth, Tel. 131233;
175 Albany-road, Victoria Park, Tel.

Source: *Trove/The Daily News (Perth) Wednesday 28 January 1931 Page 10.*

FETTLER KILLED
Struck by Goods Train
TRAGEDY AT CLAREMONT

"I think all possible inquiries have been made into the causes of this occurrence. In some way deceased working on the line was unaware of the approach of the train. Possibly on account of the strong wind blowing at the time he was prevented from hearing what in normal times would have been a very definite warning of the approach of the train." In these words the Coroner (Mr. H. D. Moseley, P.M.) concluded an inquest today on William Davis (48), repairer, employed by the Railway Department, who died In the Perth Hospital on January 27, from injuries received when he was struck down by a goods train while working on the railway line near the Claremont station. At the conclusion of the inquiry Mr. Moseley found that no blame was attachable to any person.

Phillip Joseph Martin, signalman, said he was in his signal box at Claremont about 10.50 a.m. on January 27, he noticed a gang of workmen spread along the line as far as the subway. Two or three were near the gates. He saw a goods train come into view. Witness saw one man, who was still working near the gates when the train was passing the home signal. The man was about75 yards from the approaching train, with his back to the oncoming engine. The whistle of the engine had been blown, said witness, half-way between Swanbourne and Claremont but apparently the man did not hear it. He had worked with his pick right up to the time he was struck.

Sydney Stock, the driver of the engine that struck Davis, said that as. he was passing the Claremont signal cabin the witness Martin called out to him to stop. Witness did so and sent the fireman back to find out what had happened. He had returned with the news that one of the fettlers had been hit. Witness said he had been driving for 15 years. Stock said that his view had been obstructed by the bulk of the engine owing to the fact that the bend was to the left.

The terrible injuries suffered by Davis were referred to by Clive E. Riley, Stationmaster, of Claremont, who said he had been called to the scene of the accident. He had found! Davis lying across the rails with both legs practically severed. He had also suffered severe injury to his head and was unconscious.

Source: *Trove/The Daily News (Perth) Monday 23 February 1931 Page 4.*