REARDON, James Joseph 28 February 1906

Designation	Accident Location	Accident Due to
Fettler	Kalgoorlie	Struck by train

James Reardon was 38 years of age when he died as the result of being run over by a reversing train in the "Boulder" dock at Kalgoorlie station. James was married and his wife lived in Bunbury. They had no children. James was interred at Kalgoorlie Cemetery.

FRIGHTFUL RAILWAY ACCIDENT.
A FETTLER KILLED.

A fettler named James Reardon, who has been employed on the Kaigoorlie section of the eastern goldfields railways for the past 15 months, met with his death under shockingly sudden circumstances at the Kaigoorlie station yesterday afternoon. The affair happened in connection with the ordinary shunting that takes place after the Boulder train has arrived at the station platform. It appears that the train came In from Boulder at 3.4 o'clock, according to the time-table, and it was brought as usual into what is known as the Boulder dock on the southern side of the eastern wing of the station platform. The locomotive attached to the train came to a standstill before it reached the crossover half way from the 'dead end' of the dock. It was then uncoupled from the brake van, ran forward and turned into the crossover set of roads, along which, it proceeded to be coupled up to the other end of the Boulder train. The Engine driver, in accordance with custom, then 'set back' the train to bring it closer to the dead end, so that intending passengers for it would not have so far to walk to the carriages after obtaining entrance to the platform.

The fettlers have lately been putting down heavier material for the line in the Boulder dock, and some of the new rails had to be re-bored in order that the bolts could be put through the fish plates and rails and the various lengths of the latter screwed together. The duty of Reardon was to do the boring. Seemingly when the engine was uncoupled in the first instance and run on to the crossover Reardon got on, the rails where the engine had previously stood, and proceeded with his work. All that is known of the after occurrences is that a porter, whose duty it was to search the incoming train for left luggage, was walking along the platform to carry out his instructions when he saw Reardon straddle-legged across the rails, using the ratchet with which he did the boring. The porter called out to Reardon to be careful, and saw him no more until he viewed the dead body of the unfortunate fettler. It is understood that the guard gave the signal to set back, and the driver set his engine in motion. The wheels of the brake van passed over Reardon, whose corpse was afterwards picked up in a fearfully mutilated condition. The features were barely recognisable.

The police, who were notified of the occurrence, took the body of Reardon to the Government Hospital morgue, where an inquest was formally opened at 5 o'clock in the afternoon. Mr. P. Wheian, J.P., acted as coroner, whilst the jurymen were Messrs. Arthur Burnell, George Nimmo, and Henry Trantum. The proceedings were adjourned till 2.30 o'clock tomorrow afternoon.

Reardon, who was a married man, was about 38 years of age, and his wife resides in Bunbury. They had no children.

Source: *Trove/Kalgoorlie Miner (WA) Thursday 1 March 1906 Page 6.*

A KALGOORLIE RAILWAY FATALITY.
ALLEGED NEGLIGENCE OF OFFICIALS.

Kalgoorlie, March 2.
The inquest in connection with the death of the railway employee James Reardon who was run over and killed by a train in the Kalgoorlie station yard on Wednesday last, was concluded this afternoon. A verdict of accidental death was recorded, but the jury expressed the opinion that the accident was due to the negligence of certain railway officials.

Source: *Trove/The West Australian (Perth) Monday 5 March 1906 Page 4.*