

described **GWL**'s conduct as 'suspicious' and his 'political integrity doubtful'.<sup>30</sup>

On the 30 October 1861, Dr **Mackay** won the seat of North Gippsland over Mr **Wood**, 'the squatters' advocate'<sup>31</sup>, but 'turned' once he was in Parliament much to the disgust of the people who voted for him.<sup>32</sup>

In December 1861, the 'Gippsland agitator', **GWL**, appeared in Warrnambool assisting the liberal causes.<sup>33</sup> His name doesn't appear again in the newspapers until the report of his death. He died on 20 June 1864<sup>34</sup> on his own land in Upper Maffra (now Newry), land which he acquired the year before, in 1863. He died from injuries

sustained following a kick by a horse he had been treating for 'an attack of the gripes'.<sup>35</sup> He was 33 years old.

In conclusion, I believe George Williams **Lee** was 'a good bloke'. He presents as a committed, passionate Australian who believed in self-improvement, social justice, happiness, a work/life balance and jobs for all. He may have given flowery speeches that were a little 'too philosophical'<sup>36</sup>, but there's evidence to suggest that he wanted to dispel the social inequalities he would have seen in London before he emigrated. His ideal was for everyone to have equal opportunities in sharing in the delights of *Australia Felix*. ■

## References

1. *Gippsland Guardian*, 20 September 1861, p2
2. M Coghlan, 'Shades of Grey: the Colonial Wood Engraver, Edward Lee', *Ancestor*, Vol. 33 (2), 2016, pp4-7
3. Public Records Office Victoria (PROV). Probate papers for George Williams **Lee**. Died 20 June 1864
4. Passenger List for *Blackwall*. Arrived Port Phillip 2 December 1852. Second class passengers. Victoria, Australia, Assisted and Unassisted Passenger Lists, 1839–1923, *Ancestry*. Accessed 14 January 2016.
5. Transcripts of '1852-1853 Letters from George Morton to his Mother and Sisters'. Vaughan Evans Library Collection, Australian National Maritime Museum, Sydney
6. *Burchett Index* of Fitzroy Ward 'Notices to Build' (1850-1870). Compiled by the Fitzroy Residents Association
7. *The Argus*, 20 April 1854, p8
8. 'The Crisis Meeting of the National League', *The Age*, 19 November 1861, p6
9. *The Age*, 10 October 1859, p5
10. *The Argus*, 11 April 1860, p8
11. 'Melbourne News', *Bendigo Advertiser*, 30 June 1858, p2
12. *The Argus*, 9 October 1857, p6
13. *The Age*, 22 September 1857, p5
14. 'Our Election difficulties', *Gippsland Times*, 4 September 1861, p2
15. 'Requisition to Mr. Lee', *Gippsland Times*, 11 September 1861, p3
16. 'North Gippsland Election – Mr Everard's Meeting', *Gippsland Times*, 16 October 1861, p2
17. 'Reply', *Gippsland Times*, 25 September 1861, p3
18. 'North Gippsland Election', *Gippsland Guardian*, 13 September 1861, p2, *Gippsland Times*, 25 September 1861, p3
19. 'Sale', *Gippsland Guardian*, 20 September 1861, p2
20. *Gippsland Guardian*, 13 September 1861, pp2-3
21. *Ibid*
22. 'Correspondence', *Gippsland Times*, 25 September 1861, pp2-3
23. 'To the Editor of the Gippsland Times', *Gippsland Times*, 2 October 1861, pp2-3
24. *Gippsland Guardian*, 13 September 1861, p2
25. Archives, Kings College London. Personal communication via email with archivist 14 April 2015.
26. *The Age*, 3 October 1861, p. 6.
27. 'North Gippsland Election Public Notice', *Gippsland Times*, 16 October 1861, p3
28. 'The Mackay Gathering', *The Age*, 27 November 1861, p5
29. 'Election Meeting', *Gippsland Times*, 2 October 1861, p2
30. 'North Gippsland Election', *The Age*, 30 October 1861, p5
31. 'Miscellaneous', *Gippsland Times*, 11 December 1861, pp2-3
32. 'Local Intelligence', *Gippsland Times*, 18 December 1861, p2
33. Death certificate, George Williams Lee. BDM Vic. Reg. No. 6669.
34. 'Town Talk', *Gippsland Times*, 24 June 1864, pp2-3
35. 'Electioneering at Sale', *Gippsland Guardian*, 20 September 1861, p2