

# A high cost for a machinery belt

Fiddlers Green 1865 - 1866

**This is the site of the Fiddlers Green Restaurant which was assumed to have run from 1865. According to an A.B Ainsworth's Map of the mining district it was abandoned by 1866.**

**Situated near the township of Fiddlers Green is the Maid of the Mountains Mine. The mine was named after a famous musical and was not overly rich in gold. It was owned by Alex Svenson and closed after his death in 1942.**

On a beautiful winter's day in 1953, Carl Lewis (local resident and Alex Svenson's nephew) rode out alone to retrieve one of his uncle's leather belts. The two had been close and the story goes Carl had wanted to use the belt on his circular saw bench. Unfortunately, the weather turned bad in the afternoon with torrential rain and snow.

Lewis' body was found by a friend, Alan Creighton after a two day search. The search was led by police constables Ron Kirk, Neville Weston and expert bushman Les Lawson. Lewis had died just five kilometres from his home.

He was wearing only light clothes, ill suited to protect him from the unpredictable weather conditions of the region. It appeared, in his haste to return home, he had been thrown from his horse and dragged some distance. The leather belt he had set out to collect had remained wrapped around his body, despite his ordeal.

Source: Grahame Code, local historian.

Photo: Battery from Maid of the Mountains Mine  
From: Tomlin, O.F., Bosa, M., Chamberlain, P.G.,  
1979, 'Gold for the Finding: A pictorial History of  
Gippsland's Jordan Goldfield'

