

they thought they looked different from sheep bones. When they came home and told me I sent them back to bring the portion of the skull and jawbone, so that I could see for myself. As soon as I saw them, I put them in a box and sent the boys along to Dr. Joyce (now late Dr. Joyce). He took the boys to show him where they found them, and after groping about for some time found the 'bullet'. It had a lot of white bone adhering to it. Dr Joyce said that he was satisfied that it was the 'bullet' which caused the man's death, and that most likely he was a victim of the Pinjarra 'war'. The Dr said the skeleton was that of a young aborigine about 19 years of age, judging by the wisdom teeth in the jawbone.

It is not known what happened to the bones after they were analysed by Dr Joyce.

#### Skeleton 2:

##### Aboriginal male, aged between 30 and 45 years, with a musket ball lodged in the chest cavity

A second skeleton was discovered in 1946/7 by Mr Peter Harries (then a boy of 10), who was living at 12 Bedingfeld Road at the time (next door to the house where the Whites had lived previously). He found the skeleton just across the river from his house, and indicated the precise location to the consultant both on a map, and when walking the actual site. This location is also recorded on Map 5. It seems that this second skeleton was found in very close vicinity to the first, at a similar depth (3 feet), and the process of its exposure was the same. After a flood, part of the riverbank had broken away to reveal the skeleton, lodged in the roots of a tree. The skeleton had a musket ball lodged in the chest cavity. Mr Harries commented:

...when I found 'my Aborigine', I didn't know it was an Aborigine, nobody knew until the evidence came out. I came home and said to Dad, "I found a skeleton and can I put a candle in the skull and put it on the fence post?". And he said "No, I don't think you can, what I think you can do is get on your bike and go down and tell Mr Hamilton", who was the policeman...

He explained that the bones were then analyzed to reveal that the skeleton was of an Aboriginal male, aged between 30 and 45 years. From the evidence, it was assumed that the skeleton was that of a casualty of the Pinjarra Massacre. When asked what happened to the skeleton after the analysis, Mr Harries stated:

A report was sent to the District Coroner (in Bunbury)... (but) they (the bones) were just buried in the ground at the back of the Police Station... Look, I can't be sure, but I seem to remember (that) Mr Hamilton said 'I just dug a hole and buried them out the back'.

In initial conversations with Peter Harries, he also recalled how his next door neighbour, Trixie Johnson (nee White - aunty of Stan and Geoff White), who was now living at 10 Bedingfeld Road, told him that when they were kids, they had found 'skeletons' in their back yard. He assumed that these were discoveries separate to the find by Stan White. However, having made contact with Geoff White about his brother Stan's discovery during the course of this research, Peter Harries reflected that Mrs Johnson may have in fact been referring to her nephew's find.

#### Skeletons 3&4:

It was reported from several reliable non-Indigenous sources (locals with a long history in the Pinjarra community) that the 'Simpson kids' (who lived on a farm along the river) had found