

# Australian Icons



Lot 13 – Kate Kelly, 1881, signed to reverse

An Exhibition & Sale 2007

On View:

Saturday 27 January 10 - 5pm

Monday 5 February 10 - 5pm

Shapiro

162 Queen Street

Woollahra, Sydney 2025

Tel: (02) 9326 1588

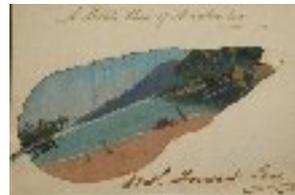
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“We Value Australian Icons”

## ICONS 1

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### 1. BEN HALL, REWARD NOTICE 1863

Reward notice published in the NSW Government Gazette, November 27 1863. 32pp, foolscap. One for 4000 pounds "for the apprehension of John Gilbert, John O'Mealley, Benjamin Hall, and John Vane", also noting a 50 pounds reward for the recapture of the convicts Frederick Brittain and Frederick Ward. Brittain was serving 16 years for robbing a mail coach – Ward escapes to become 'Captain Thunderbolt'. Includes descriptions of both outlaws.

\$300

### 2. BUSHRANGER REWARD NOTICES 1863

Reward notice published in the NSW Government Gazette, October 30 1863. 20pp, foolscap. One for 4000 pounds "for the apprehension of John Gilbert, John O'Mealley, Benjamin Hall, and John Vane", also noting a 50 pounds reward for the recapture of the convicts Frederick Brittain and Frederick Ward, both with descriptions.

\$300

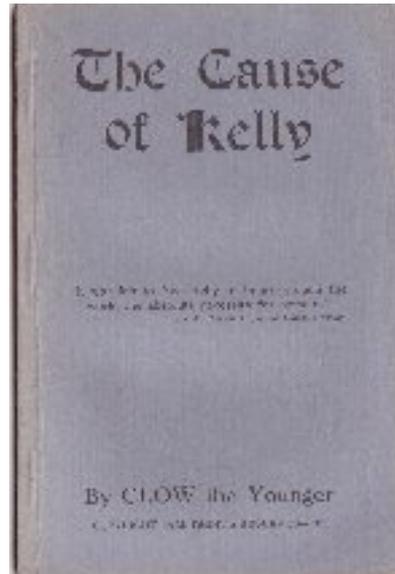
### 3. BUSHRANGER REWARD NOTICES 1863

Reward notice published in the NSW Government Gazette, October 23 1863. 18pp, foolscap. On the front page, one for 2500 pounds "for the apprehension of John Gilbert, John O'Mealley, Benjamin Hall, and John Vane", also noting a 50 pounds reward for the recapture of the convicts Frederick Brittain and Frederick Ward, both with descriptions.

\$300

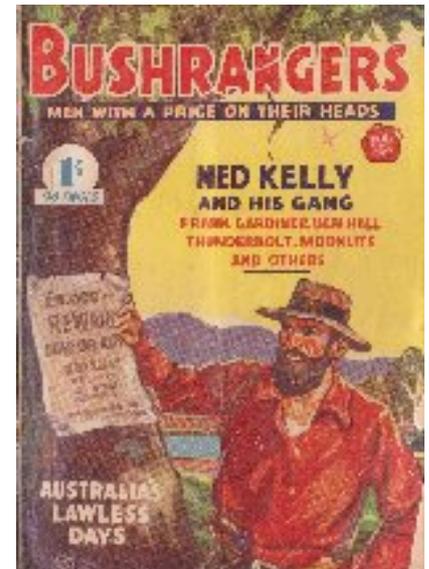
4. Bradshaw, Jack. *The True History of the Australian Bushrangers* (WJ Anderson & Co, possibly 1911). 157pp. 8vo. Paperback, with 11 illustrations, including two rare ones of Kate Kelly. Bradshaw offers accounts of Gardiner, Hall and his gang, Melville, Thunderbolt, Morgan, Moonlight and the Kelly Gang.

\$100



5. Clow, R.J. *The Cause of Kelly: A Complete History of the Primitive Colonial War and the Police*. In blank verse. Ballarat (Baxter & Stubbs 1919). 106pp. 8vo. Original wrappers. Excellent copy.

\$300

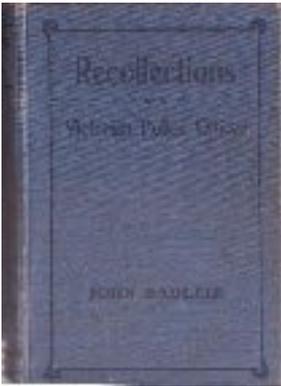


6. Fitchett, WH. *Ned Kelly and his Gang: The true story of the exploits of Australia's most famous gang of bushrangers told by a notable historian*. Also refers to Gardiner, Hall, Thunderbolt and other bushrangers. Melbourne (Fitchett Brothers, c1936). 63pp. 8vo. Paperback. Tear in the back wrapper. Good bright artwork on front cover.

\$100

7. Haydon, AL. *The Trooper Police of Australia: A record of mounted police work in the Commonwealth from the earliest days of settlement to the present day*. London, Andrew Melrose. 1911 2<sup>nd</sup> Impression. 431pp. 8vo. Original cloth, a very good copy. Illustrated with 46 pages of photographs and 6 maps. Includes chapters on Ben Hall and his contemporaries, Ned Kelly, Black Trackers, Queensland native police and much more.

\$275



8. Sadler, John. *Recollections of a Victorian Police Officer*. Melbourne (George Robertson, 1913). 312pp. 8vo. Original decorated cloth covers, some wear. Lacks frontispiece. With 47 photographs, including twenty relating to the capture of the Kelly Gang.

\$120

9. White, Henry. *Tales of Crime and Criminals in Australia: Based Principally Upon Reminiscences of Over Thirty Years Official Experience in the Penal Department of Victoria*. London (Ward & Downey, 1894). 296pp. 8vo. Original cloth. Some fraying to the endpapers at the spine. The second edition, containing 95 pages on the Kelly Gang, is rare.

\$250

NOTICE—This form to be carefully folded in six parts that the Photo. may not be defaced.

No. 2876 Name James Wilson alias Kelly Date when Portrait was taken 20 July 1879

Native place Dublin Year of birth 1835

Arrested in 1871 at Koroit

Trade or occupation previous to conviction

Indulgent R. Cottrell

Place of confinement R. Cottrell

Height 6 feet 2 inches

Complexion (On conviction) Fair

Color of hair Black

Color of eyes Blue

Mark or special brand Scar on left arm

Place of previous Portraits

Where and When	Offence	Sentence
Beechworth Victoria	Cattle Stealing	2 1/2 Years

10. JAMES KELLY, 1879

An original NSW Police Charge

Sheet, 28.5 x 20.5 cm, dated 20 July 1879 for James Wilson alias Kelly. With full hand-written details describing his original Cattle Stealing charge in Beechworth, and subsequent trial at Wagga on 29 June 1877 for Horse Stealing, with his original false birth details (Dublin 1855!), but noting he is now 6 foot, and a shoemaker. This document was created during the Kelly Outbreak, and features an original black and photograph of Jim Kelly, 8.5 x 5 cm, in prison gear. Additional remarks include "17<sup>th</sup> January 1880 – Sentence remitted". James Kelly then disappeared and was not seen till after Glenrowan. In good condition, with some loss of paper on the two folds and two small tears on left side, not affecting the writing.



11. A KELLY GANG DOUBLE SCRIMSHAW, 1880

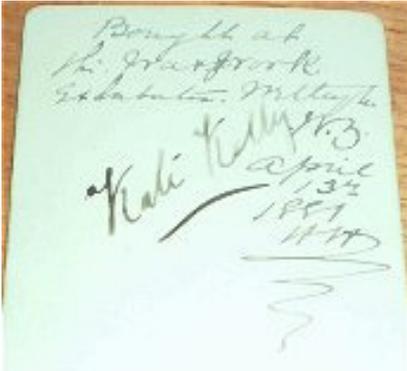
Two cowhorns, nailed to a wooden centrepiece, approximately 83 cm in total width, on a further oblong cedar base, approximately 28 x 19 x 2 cm, locked to the rest with three hand-forged nails. Each horn has been incised with portraits of Ned Kelly, gang members, and many articulated Glenrowan briar-roses to both sides. Kelly can be seen on the right horn, with his horse Daylight above, and Steve Hart dressed as a woman to the top. On the left horn, George King can be seen on the lower right, Dan Kelly above him, with Joe Byrne second from the top. Steve Hart appears again in fancy dress top left. Having sighted three double scrimshaws by this same artist, whose signature theme is the briar-rose, each set has been

connected to Irish families 1879-1881. We believe the scrimshaw artist is indeed Kelly's step-father, George King, who disappeared in 1878 and fled by ship to New Zealand. These scrimshaws are personal mementoes passed on to sympathisers.



12. A KELLY-FITZPATRICK DOUBLE SCRIMSHAW

Two buffalo horns, each approximately 45 cm long, each horn incised with symbols of lost love, adventure, horses, troopers, and threatening gestures - relating to Kelly Gang, including one with chinstrap in the larrikin Greta mob fashion, wearing a spotted shirt, being chased by a mounted trooper; a woman with a knife with the bearing of Isley's portrait of Maggie Skillion; a unicorn topped by a lonely camp and arrowed hearts; an extraordinary Austral Coat-of-Arms with an emu and kangaroo, and plough-shares; with a scrolled snake with indiscipherable inscription. The other horn with similar top and tailed decoration, and no Glenrowan briar. This one holds a finely cut young woman pointing at a scroll clearly incised 'AM Fitzpatrick'; tall ships, an American Eagle with flag, a cornstalker popping out from the other-side-of-the-world; more wild animals and arrowed hearts of lost love.



13. A PHOTOGRAPH OF KATE KELLY, 1881, SIGNED

A sepia cartes-des-visite, 5.2 x 8.8 cm; being an original mounted photograph from a Sydney studio showing Kate Kelly in full riding habit, including hat and veil, facing the camera; this being a variant of one of a series (noted by Keith McMenomy in his *Ned Kelly*, 1984 p239), another being reproduced in the *Argus* noted as owned by Mr A Skinner of Victoria. This photograph on offer is previously unknown and unpublished in any form, and is signed to the reverse 'Kate Kelly' with the following: "Bought at the Waxwork Exhibition (signature); (then) N.Z. April 13 1881 H.H." Originally owned by Harold Hobson. Unique.



14. KATE KELLY'S REVOLVER

A Henckell & Co, Solingen.32 calibre revolver, with a wooden stock, inscribed with the initials KK, uncovered some years ago in the demolition of a house in Forbes, NSW, occupied by Ned's younger sister, Kate. Found in the cavity of her family home, it was covered in lard and wrapped in leather strapping. The revolver bears the insignia of the Royal Constabulary, associated with the

police force who hunted the Kelly gang in the period 1878-1880. Such relics were on show as early as 1880 at a display known in the popular newspapers as the Kate Kelly Exhibition in Sydney 1881: *'The brother and sister of notorious bushranger Ned Kelly have paid a visit in Sydney for the purpose of exhibiting themselves and some of the relics of the bushranging conflicts; but the police interfered, and the exhibition has been stopped...'*

Kate's story, ending in her tragic early death in 1898, has lain in the long shadow cast by Ned. This revolver, be it the fated Fitzpatrick weapon or one of the many appropriated by the Kellys during the Outbreak, helps reclaim her story, till now the subject of contemporary ballads like *Ye Sons of Australia*:

The daring Kate Kelly how noble her mien

As she sat on her horse like an Amazon queen,

She rode through the forest revolver at hand

Regardless of danger, who dare bid her stand.

As a teenager Kate Kelly rode the ranges taking ammunition and food to her brothers, being wounded in the legs and hip. She carried a revolver in 1879 and by 1880 was exhibiting revolvers and rifles in Melbourne and Sydney. One of the most significant women in the Kelly saga, this young woman, assuming the names Ada Hennessy and Kate Ambrose, performed equestrienne displays at shows and circuses in Adelaide, Sydney and Central NSW. She would later work at the Promenade Hotel in Albury in 1884, at Glendore as a domestic, and at Cadow Station, in 1885. In Forbes, she worked as a domestic, where she met her husband, William 'Brickie' Foster, whom she married in 1888. Ten years and six children later she was dead, reported missing on

the 6th October 1898. Her body was found in a lagoon off the Condobolin Road. According to the death certificate, there was no evidence of foul play.



15. JESSE DOWSETT'S REVOLVER

A .38 calibre revolver and leather carrying pouch owned and used by Jesse Dowsett, the Railway Guard who overpowered and captured Ned Kelly at Glenrowan. Dowsett had accompanied the police railway transports sent out in pursuit of the Kelly Gang. He was there when the schoolteacher, Curnow, waved them down with a red handkerchief, to warn them the Kellys were derailing the train. He was there in smoking bush outside Mrs Jones's Inn, and it was Dowsett who pulled hostages Mrs Reardon and her baby to safety, after police had repeatedly fired on her, taking her to safety at the Railway Station before returning to the fray.

Dowsett returned fire with Kelly outside Glenrowan, watching in amazement as the bullets bounced off his armour, like "parched peas." He saw Ned sit to reload, he saw Constable Kelly shoot him and Steele wrestle him to the ground. But it was Dowsett who successful took Ned's weapon from him, watched as his helmet was removed and prevented Steele from shooting him in an excess of passion. He received a little over 175 pounds, the second largest civilian share of the 8,000 pounds reward. The Railway granted him a raise of 1/-

per day and Superintendent Sadler offered him relics from Glenrowan, including the pistol he'd seized and Ned's boot. This bulldog revolver recalls this seminal moment in Australian history and the figure of "little Dowsett, what a plucky fellow he is," as Dr Nicholson recalled in his narrative of that unforgettable morning.

For a list of the full 53 lots please contact Tom Thompson on [ettimprint@veritel.com.au](mailto:ettimprint@veritel.com.au) or download it direct from [www.ettimprint.com/gumquest.htm](http://www.ettimprint.com/gumquest.htm)

A LARGE GROUP OF ORIGINAL POLICE CHARGE SHEETS FOR CONVICTS 1880-1897 EACH WITH ONE OR TWO PORTRAITS ON A4 COLOURED PAPERS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR SALE DURING THE EXHIBITION FROM \$350 EACH.