

HENRY BEARD

Henry Beard (1823-1887), was convicted in 1849 of a “grave offence” and sentenced to 10 years transportation¹. He arrived on 3 July 1857 per *Clara*, leaving his wife and child in England.²

In February 1863, donated one pound for distressed operatives of the Cotton Districts of the North of England with other residents of the York District.³

He was a baker and occupied premises a few doors south of the post office (now the Motor Museum) until May 1863 when he became manager of the York Hotel.^{4,5}

At this time, he was living with Mary Ann Batty.

In April 1864, he was convicted (with Henry Shufflebottom) of stealing sheep on 11 January 1864 and was sentenced to 7 years’ imprisonment. Magistrate Walkinshaw Cowan said of him that he was “on the road to competency, if not wealth, but could not resist the temptation to relapse”.⁶

A friend, teamster William Marwick petitioned for his release a number of times but these petitions were unsuccessful. Henry Beard lost Mary Ann Batty because she settled in with William Marwick in York and they had six children together.⁷

In 1877, Henry Beard reappeared as a “baker and confectioner” in the building at Lot 101 Avon Tce (now the Motor Museum), when he announced his intention to take up a lease of premises for a bakery opposite the Kings Head Hotel.⁸

Later in December 1877, Henry Beard was charged with using obscene language and fined.⁹

On 16 July 1878 and again on 24 March 1879 Beard was charged with using obscene and indecent language, and was fined.¹⁰ Beard was also charged with violently resisting arrest. Police Sergeant Waldock said:

“He... said he would not go to the station if all the men on the Police Force in York were there, and that he would suffer to be murdered before he would go. I found that he would not go and James Craig came over, but he could not render any assistance as his arm was bad. I told Beard if he went quietly I would let him out on his own recognizance, but that he would not consent to. I used every persuasion, and with the excuse he made of getting another shirt, I took my hands off him. He made a rush forward and got away into his house.”¹¹

Henry Beard died in 1887.

Rob Garton Smith
President
The York Society (Inc)
February 2022

¹ Inquirer and Commercial News, 13 April, 1864, p.3.

² Rica Erikson, Dictionary of Western Australians.

³ Perth Gazette and Independent Journal of Politics and News, 27 February, 1863, p.2.

⁴ Perth Gazette and Independent Journal of Politics and News, 15 May, 1863, p.1.

⁵ Inquirer and Commercial News, 13 April, 1864, p.3.

⁶ Perth Gazette and Independent Journal of Politics and News, 15 May, 1863, p.1.

⁷ Bill Marwick: The Marwicks of York, 2011, pp.30 and 31.

⁸ Eastern Districts Chronicle, 8 December 1877, p.2.

⁹ Eastern Districts Chronicle, 22 December 1877, p.2.

¹⁰ Eastern Districts Chronicle, 20 July 1878, p.2.; 29 March 1879, p.2.

¹¹ Eastern Districts Chronicle, 20 July 1878, p.2.

