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GoodWeekend

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EXCLUSIVE

**He was Australia's most notorious son
and the fate of his bones has been the
subject of intrigue, theft and passionate
dispute for generations.
Now the truth can finally be revealed ...**



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OUR COVER PHOTOGRAPH BY MARK CREW



Features

- 16 A question of identity**
One infamous stolen skull has provoked curiosity and controversy in Australia for decades. Jo Chandler follows a forensic quest that involves one of our most iconic figures.
- 22 Lord of denial**
He might lack scientific qualifications, but Christopher Monckton is not shy about telling the world's climate-change experts where they have gone wrong. And Australians are only too keen to listen. By Jane Cadzow.
- 28 Raising Nim**
The story of Nim, a chimpanzee brought up as a boy, poses far more questions about human behaviour - and ethics - than about animals and language. Mick Brown revisits an experiment gone wrong.
- 35 Sex, drugs & fatherhood**
It was going to be the wild, carefree, creative, self-centred life for journalist Mike Sager. And then his son came along...

Starters

- 08 LETTERS**
Protests at coal seam gas mining, and admiration for quadriplegic Peter Yeo.
- 11 YOU DO WHAT?**
The ups and downs of roller-coaster upkeep.
- 11 MODERN GURU**
Danny Katz on a sauce of bad shopping habits.
- 13 MARK DAPIN**
... has three minutes to seduce a US agent.
- 14 2 OF US**
Mates, tugboat skippers, flood heroes.

Weekender

- 39 BEST BUYS, HOT SPOTS, NEW IDEAS**
Mad Men style on show, retro snaps and the perfect desk, handmade in bamboo.
- 41 FASHION**
Country comfort in luxurious fabrics.
- 43 FOOD**
Spiced pork braise or radicchio saled? Neil Perry has weekend lunch covered.
- 44 SAMURAI SUDOKU**
- 46 THE GETTING OF WISDOM**
Writer Lynda La Plante on crime and punishment.
- 46 THE QUIZ & GET IT?**
In which sport is the Presidents Cup contested?



41

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LIKE THE MAN HIMSELF, THE FATE OF NED KELLY'S SKULL - WHICH VANISHED FROM ITS MUSEUM DISPLAY CASE IN 1978 - HAS LONG PROVOKED INTRIGUE. CAN A CRACK TEAM OF INVESTIGATORS AND FORENSIC EXPERTS SOLVE THE MYSTERY? BY JO CHANDLER.

CASE 3081 IS AN ALMOST-INTACT skeleton contained in a raw, rough-hewn timber box. These bones are among an estimated 34 sets of human remains a century or more old - all of them from executed prisoners - pulled out of mass graves at Melbourne's old Pentridge Prison during building works two years ago.

The remains had been exhumed to cleanse the site of its criminal past, en route to transforming it into a respectable residential estate. But first, there are a few ghosts to exorcise. Forensic anthropologist Dr Soren Blau carefully extracts the bones from the box, laying them out on an examination table in the mortuary of the Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine (VIFM) in Southbank for closer inspection.

With a passion for justice for the mysteriously dead, Blau has dealt with innumerable bodies and random bones in her career, and coaxed from them the often invisible clues that testify to their stories - of identity, of life, the circumstances of death. Sometimes these are stories of mute horror. Like the remains she is regularly summoned to visit in East Timor, discovered

travelled many hard miles of Victoria's wild high country in a relatively short life, and the journey took its toll.

"He had incredibly robust muscle attachments on his clavicles," she explains. The muscles may be gone, but "where they attach to the bone, there's an insertion, so the bony artefact of where that was building is still there". These days, you might see something similar in the bones of serious bodybuilders. But this is the body of a serious horseman, one who traversed great distances working the reins on fast, flighty horses. The rough miles are also clocked up in the compressed vertebra of his spine. "When you get pressure from riding or from carrying very heavy loads, you can actually see a dip in the bones. You see the indicators of a lifestyle. This is a young man, very active, and it shows on the skeleton."

Then there are the traumatic injuries. Blau finds a distinct circular hole in his right tibia. She picks up the bone, shakes it and hears the clatter of gunshot still within it. Later, a CT scan will confirm her assumption - "clear as day, a metal ball basically in there. The bullet has entered but never exited." To live with this foreign object in the

A QUESTION OF identity

PHOTOGRAPH BY MARK CHEW

trussed and broken and tossed down some hole, silenced but still eloquent. She believes fervently in putting names to the dead, especially those who still have relatives grieving for them.

What does she notice about Case 3081? It's a "he". And he is very long dead. The flesh is gone and the bones are yellowed. There will be no immediate family to claim this body, no one who knew him yearning for a final goodbye. For Blau, Case 3081, while intriguing, lacks some of the moral imperative she feels in dealing with the more recently deceased. So she is mildly perplexed by the intense interest in these bones even before word of the discovery reaches the wider world.

For now, this skeleton is quietly entrusted to the safekeeping of the state and stored in a vault in the mortuary in Melbourne. There has been no eternal rest for him, rather a series of rude displacements. Records show he has now been twice disinterred - the first time in 1929. This is his third less-than-reverential entombment. If records didn't show otherwise, Blau's expert judgment would put the age of the man whose remains are laid before her as nudging 30 years when he died. But he was only 25. These bones

body (for five months, the records show) would, she ventures, have been excruciatingly painful.

Something odd has happened to the skull, most of which is absent. There's a remnant portion from the back of the head, but "there is evidence of it being cut, consistent with what you would see for autopsy. The first and second cervical vertebrae in the neck are missing." The left elbow shows evidence that it was remodelling and healing itself after an injury and infection. "What is very interesting is that the ulna and radius have been cut and are missing," she adds referring to the two long bones in the forearm. There's also damage to the right foot, evidence of a fracture to the big toe, and again some blips on the CT scan show shrapnel lingering there.

When this skeleton first arrived at the mortuary two years ago, unidentified among so many others, Blau had used her bone saw to cut a sample of about four centimetres in length from the left clavicle, or collarbone, and it joined 33 other samples from left clavicles retrieved from site. All these pieces were carefully numbered and boxed up and dispatched to Argentina for DNA analysis at one of the most technically proficient labora-

DEAD MEN DO TELL TALES: (opposite) forensic anthropologist Dr Soren Blau with the so-called "Dexter" skull long purported to be that of Ned Kelly.



stories of its type in the world – this is a country that has learnt well from too many mysterious, anonymous dead.

Also dispatched to Argentina was a droplet of blood on a glass slide, pricked from the finger of a middle-aged suburban schoolteacher who shares a certain ghostly likeness and the unique genetic heritage of Australia's most notorious son. The historical records indicated the teacher's forebear might well be among these bones, and if DNA could be retrieved, his bloodline would find him.

It's the findings of these tests, finally concluded, that have compelled Blau to have another look at Case 3081, and what she sees gels with the genetic analysis. All the injuries she observes are reflected in the notes kept by Dr Andrew Shields, who attended the man in his final months 130 years ago just a couple of kilometres across the city, at the hospital of the Old Melbourne Gaol. "It's like he's standing there describing just what I see," she says of the doctor's observations, which found their way into the newspapers not long after his death.

The prisoner, Shields had observed, was a "muscular, well-formed young man", but suffering a severe bullet wound near the left elbow, together with gunshot wounds to the right leg and the right foot. His fever was high and his pulse racing. Shields nursed him back to health until he was fit to be tried in court, and to die.

His cause of death isn't there for Blau to read in the bones – without flesh, and with his skull and part of his neck missing, it's impossible to know for sure what became of him. Nonetheless, there is no doubt as to what killed him – it's recorded in the narrative of history and folklore.

THE NAME THAT WILL BE GIVEN TO THESE bones – on the strength of genetic testing in Argentina and Adelaide, Blau's catalogue of the physical condition and other clues teased out by her forensic colleagues, together with the discovery of previously unseen documents from the historical archive – is Edward Kelly, who was interred in the old gaol after his hanging on November 11, 1880.

The findings of these parallel investigations, now finally public, will remove the Kelly name from a skull that was long supposed to be his, and which has been the subject of intrigue, theft and dispute for generations. That skull is now identified as possibly being one Frederick Deeming – a vile killer of women and children and, according to speculation fed by newspaper reports from New York to London a century ago, suspected of being London's notorious Jack the Ripper. He was executed in 1892 and buried in the yard at Old Melbourne Gaol with Kelly.

These discoveries will inevitably stir all the old Kelly passions, and possibly excite some new ones. Whether you regard Kelly as a bushranger, hero, terrorist, liberator, rebel, visionary, thief or murderer, be mindful that your judgment will likely betray your cultural, political and social leanings. The outlaw remains a potent presence in the national psyche – both unifying and divisive.

As the experts drawn into this historic riddle have come to learn, this case is not merely a matter of one man's identity, but of national identity. Between them, they have finally exposed the secrets of Kelly's last great adventure – his post-mortem fate. As a consequence he may well be granted his last wish, to rest in consecrated ground. But will this lay his ghost to rest, or rouse old grievances as modern society contemplates what, if anything, it still owes to long dead Ned?

IN LATE 2009, THE DIRECTOR OF THE VICTORIAN Institute of Forensic Medicine, Professor Stephen Cordner, gave staff lawyer Fiona Leahy a simple but onerous brief: to document the provenance of a human skull purported to be that of Ned Kelly.

Weeks earlier – on the 129th anniversary of Kelly's hanging – a Western Australian farmer and self-proclaimed guardian of the Kelly legacy, Tom Baxter, had negotiated with Heritage Victoria to surrender the skull that he had defiantly held hostage for 30 years. He claimed it was the one that had been displayed as Ned Kelly's in the Old Melbourne Gaol for six years, and which had mysteriously vanished from its glass museum case in 1978.

Some newspaper clippings record claims by Baxter that he, as a young man, had stolen the skull because he was appalled that any human remains – let alone those of a man he regarded as a political hero – should be displayed as a trophy. In other reports, Baxter is more coy as to how he obtained it. Regardless, there was little doubt that the skull Baxter had in his "safekeeping" was the one that had for six years – since it was released from an archived anatomy collection in Canberra in 1972 – been displayed to the paying public as Kelly's.

The State Coroner formally opened an inquiry into the relinquished remains and Victoria's then attorney-general Rob Hulls vowed exhaustive tests would be conducted to determine if the



skull was authentic. "We now have a unique opportunity, using a combination of historical research and modern technology, to test whether the remains ... are actually those of Ned Kelly," he said. "To some, he was a revered Aussie icon. To others, he was nothing but a cold-blooded killer. Whatever people's views, he is a dominant part of the historic fabric of this nation."

The relic Baxter handed over – ignominiously stored in a battered cosmetics case – was in a sad state. It had reportedly been stashed in a tree stump somewhere in the Kimberley, waterlogged during a flood, broken and glued back together. It was far more degraded than the museum piece he had acquired. But was it Kelly?

Historians such as long-time Kelly aficionado Ian Jones had long argued that the "trophy" skull displayed at the gaol, and handed over by Baxter, could not possibly have been Kelly's. Why? Because it is an intact skull – uncut – whereas newspaper reports of the day had been adamant that Kelly's skull had been cracked open and his brain removed in post-mortem procedures.

This assertion was the start of Leahy's historical



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KELLY COUNTRY
Fiona Leahy, a lawyer, is the author of the book 'The Kelly Country' which details the search for Ned Kelly's skull and how it was identified as a post-mortem.

detective work. While the scientists began their forensic investigations, with no certainty that they would be able to retrieve a DNA sample, Leahy – enlisting the help of Melbourne historian Helen Harris – set to work on the paper trail, turning over old ground in the hope of finding new clues. The story that Kelly had been dissected, which would rule out the Baxter skull being his, was based on a widely syndicated report that appeared in Melbourne newspaper *The Herald* on November 19, 1880. "Ned Kelly's body was given over after the execution to the medical men, and a nice mess, I am told, they made of it," the reporter wrote. "The students particularly went in heavily taking part of his body and generally examining every organ. It was a ghastly sight – indeed hardly ever paralleled... The skull was taken possession of by one gentleman, and it is probable that he may hereafter enlighten us upon the peculiarities of the great criminal's brain."

Harris began by tracking back the report to its original source, the *Bendigo Independent*, which credited the piece to its "gossipy correspondent", a disclaimer the other papers neglected. It got her wondering about the story's veracity. "No offence," she says as she leads the way through the archives of her favourite haunt, Victoria's Public Records Office, "but never believe what you read in the newspapers."

She asked herself how such a story would have been received in those incendiary, anxious days around the time of Kelly's capture, trial and execution. This was an era of painful transition. Melbourne's new Royal Exhibition Building was hosting an international extravaganza, telephone poles were going up across the city and the 20th century was coming, but Victoria's heady gold-rush years were gone, crops had failed in poor seasons and the colony was in the grip of depression, with unemployment and bankruptcies devastating country towns. In these grim times the revolutionary, anti-authoritarian rallying call of the Kelly gang had rung loud and wide, fomenting unrest and stirring the Irish/English divisions brought



over to this young country from the old ones, and deeply worrying Victoria's colonial government.

"The police would not have liked this," explains Harris, pointing to the gleeful newspaper report of Kelly's dismemberment. It would have riled up already agitated Kelly sympathisers. "They would have tried to find out if this was true because it would be a public relations nightmare if it was."

Superintendent John Sadleir well knew the power of the dead to a grieving constituency. He had overseen the end of the siege at Glenrowan, where Kelly was wounded and captured, and had effectively been forced to hand over the remains of Dan Kelly and Steve Hart to a keening, angry mob rather than risk them turning on his outnumbered ranks. Harris had got to know Sadleir's story intimately during her many years delving into Victorian Police history. She has methodically worked her way through some 400 boxes of early police archives, and still has hundreds to look forward to. Knowing him as a diligent, ethical operator, Harris reckoned Sadleir would likely have inquired into the truth, and perhaps the legality, of the dissection of the outlaw.

"I figured there would be a letter from someone, somewhere," she says as she leafs through huge bound volumes of police correspondence – pages of close, faded, often illegible copperplate scrawled over fragile parchment. "I was just about to give up when I turned over a page and found it."

The reference, in an index of police letters, led her to a note written by Sadleir to the chief commissioner two weeks after Kelly's hanging.

THE POLICE WOULD NOT HAVE LIKED THIS. THEY WOULD HAVE TRIED TO FIND OUT IF THIS WAS TRUE BECAUSE IT WOULD BE A PUBLIC RELATIONS NIGHTMARE IF IT WAS."

CLOSE TO THE BONES – Forensic anthropologist Dr Richard Bassed (left) examines Ned Kelly's skull with VIFM's Dr Richard Bassed. The skull was discovered in a treasure trove.

Referring to reports of his body being cut up, Sadleir observed that "his friends will be greatly infuriated". He advised that a statement contradicting this report would be "very desirable".

The acting chief commissioner forwarded the letter to the governor of Melbourne Gaol, John Castieau. "Would Mr Castieau be so good as to inform me what truth there is in the attached para... I quite concur with Mr Sadleir that if the statement is untrue, or if it contains a grossly exaggerated account of the disposal of the body, steps should be taken to contradict what in it is wrong."

Harris has not been able to locate a full copy of Castieau's response, but the archive indicates that the governor – a man with a solid reputation as a compassionate gaoler, if one with a fondness for drink – soon wrote back. "Govr Melb. Gaol reporting no truth in attached newspaper stating that body was given to Medical men after the execution and no students at examination after execution. In the face of Mr Castieau's memo I am of course debarred from making any formal official contradiction to the rumour. If however a suitable opportunity should present itself there is no objection to Mr Sadleir stating how little truth there is in the paragraph. It should of course be done in an informal way and without giving unnecessary details." Media spin, it might be called today.

For Harris, this discovery in July 2010 was a eureka moment – new material for the Kelly archive, new insights into the era. But what did it mean for Leahy's investigation? That the uncut Baxter skull may well be that of Kelly.

By this time, forensic odontologists – who use the teeth and facial bone structures to identify the dead – at VIFM had been through an exercise comparing the "fit" of the Baxter skull with photos or death masks of all the executed prisoners they could locate and whose remains were buried in the pits at the old jail. "You line up the orbits over the eye sockets, see where the nose fits," explains VIFM's Dr Richard Bassed. "You can see where the chin fits within the jawline, where the cheekbones are in relation to the rest of his face, the shape over the top of his head, of the brow ridges."

The process, craniofacial superimposition, cannot positively identify a body, but it can tell you who it isn't. After comparing the Baxter skull with images of 29 of the 37 prisoners (there were eight for whom they couldn't locate death masks or photographs), all were ruled out except two – "Ned and Fred [Deeming]. And Fred was the more likely. None of the others came close."

MEANWHILE, LAWYER FIONA LEAHY HAD another breakthrough. Kelly's body, and those of other executed prisoners, had first been disinterred from the Old Melbourne Gaol site in 1929 when excavators began work on what is now part of the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology. This was an infamous occasion, a crowd gathering to see whether bodies might be exposed – maybe a glimpse of dead Ned? – and when coffins were dug up and broken, some souvenir hunters had made off with trophy bones.

A photograph taken that day shows a young construction worker standing on the site holding up a skull retrieved from the grave marked as Kelly's. He was Alex Talbot, who would later become the mayor of South Melbourne. After a public appeal last year for his family descendants, his grandson, Chris Ott, came to see Leahy at VIFM and brought with him a tiny wooden box containing a tooth that his grandfather had souvenired from the skull that day.

It had been preserved as a family curio, with a typed note from Talbot on the circumstances of his collecting the tooth. As a kid, Ott took it to school show-and-tell days, telling impressed mates and sceptical teachers it was Ned Kelly's tooth. After Talbot's death, the family felt a bit uncomfortable about keeping the relic, and so embraced the opportunity to hand it over to the forensics team. Bassed tried it in the Baxter skull and it fitted perfectly. This didn't prove it was Kelly's skull, but it did provide Leahy with a critical piece of evidence – that the Baxter skull was indeed the one disinterred from the gaol site that day in 1929.

Leahy also learnt that Talbot must have given the skull to his boss, builder Harry Lee, who took it home for safekeeping from the bone scavengers. A mark on the wall near where he found it – "E. K." – persuaded Talbot it was Kelly. Lee put it on his bedside table for a day or two, where his daughters later recalled being ushered in to view the infamous bushranger. This story came from Harry Lee's grandson Lee Franklin, whose mother told him the skull had then been returned by her father to an unnamed government official.

From there it joined a collection of other bones and skulls held by the Australian Institute of Anatomy in the 1930s, where it resided until 1972 when it was handed over to the Old Melbourne Gaol Museum for display as Ned Kelly's skull, ultimately finding its way into Tom Baxter's custody.

At this point, the historical evidence seemed to strongly support the case that the intact Baxter skull was indeed Kelly's. But the parallel forensics investigations were by now yielding new clues,

and science was exposing a different narrative. It had become clear that the riddle of the skull would likely not be resolved without rattling the other bones of the prisoners brought in from the old Pentridge site. Could Kelly's lost remains be identified among them?

In October last year, then attorney-general Rob Hulls provided funding and a directive to the VIFM to begin analysing the Pentridge remains in the hope of locating the bushranger: "If his bones could be identified, that would be another chapter you could close on the Ned Kelly story." Certainty would only come from DNA analysis of the Baxter skull and the Pentridge bones, and now there was a budget to find it.

But retrieving DNA from weathered old bone is always a long shot. Mitochondrial DNA, the genetic signature we all inherit from our mothers and that tends to endure more robustly than nuclear DNA used in cases involving the more recently deceased, was the best bet. VIFM molecular biologist Dr Dadna Hartman took a tooth from the Baxter skull and sent it to Argentina, where it was bleached, decalcified, ground into a powder and the DNA successfully sifted out.

The sample was compared with one supplied by Leigh Olver, an art teacher from Melbourne's west, whose great-great-grandmother was Ellen Kelly, Ned's mother. Historian and Kelly expert Ian Jones had suggested to the VIFM that Olver was the best candidate from Kelly's matrilineal line to supply a genetic sample, and Olver, a keen student of his family history, happily provided a drop of his blood in the interests of finally resolving the mystery.

They were not a match. The Baxter skull was not Ned Kelly's. It was a validation for historians like Jones who had long claimed the Baxter skull was

not that of the bushranger. But it was something of an anticlimax for the investigators who had solved a mystery but not found their man. Then came the next surprise – a message from Argentina. DNA yielded from one of the 34 Pentridge clavicles, Case 3081, matched that provided by Olver. Bingo.

THERE REMAINS A FINAL TWIST IN THE TALE. Fiona Leahy, like Soren Blau, is a mother of young children with a working life that sends her deep into hidden history and the rights of the dead. But where Blau interrogates the bones, Leahy delves into the legalities and letters that document the circumstances of a life.

When her research brief spread from the case of the skull to the identity of the Pentridge bones, she became intrigued by some ambiguity – and frequently some dispute – emerging in regard to who had custody and control over the bodies of executed prisoners. Leahy became increasingly curious about the rights of a condemned prisoner: if they did not want their body meddled with, did the law require they be heard?

This question became critical in the context of some previously overlooked evidence about Ned Kelly's last wishes. It is well documented that in the last of three letters he dictated to the Victorian governor justifying and explaining his deeds and appealing for his life to be spared, Kelly also asked that if the execution went ahead – as he now seemed to understand was inevitable – for "my friends to have my body that they might bury it in consecrated ground".

Hitherto unrecognised in the annals of history is the moment at the end of that same day when Kelly received a visit in his cell from Shields, the doctor who had cared for him since he was

IT GOES BACK TO THE DAYS WHEN PEOPLE WERE HUNG, DRAWN AND QUARTERED – THIS CONTEXT THAT DEALING WITH A BODY BADLY AFTER DEATH ... WAS ONGOING PUNISHMENT."

brought by train to Melbourne after the siege at Glenrowan, injured and fragile, feverish and depressed. Dolly MacKinnon, a historian with a particular curiosity about early dissections of prisoners and asylum inmates, unearthed a newspaper report, which she passed on to Leahy. It reports that Kelly, on that last night, asked Shields "not to touch his body after death", and that the doctor – being interviewed by a reporter from *The Argus* more than a decade later – said he "gave the required promise".

The anecdote is buried in the account reporting the execution of another murderer. It was inspired by questions regarding the treatment of the killer's body after death. Shields argued that it was the sheriff who had charge of the body, and "he could instruct anyone to make a post-mortem examination". The inference was the sheriff had effectively overruled Shields. Regardless, the evidence is that the doctor's promise was not kept.

"I think Kelly was betrayed," says Leahy – not just personally, but possibly legally. "We concluded from these sources that Kelly tried to object to being dissected by the medical men as allowed under the schools of anatomy provisions in the Medical Practitioners Statute 1865."

This was an era when there was little regard for the rights of the likes of Kelly after death. As the *Bendigo Advertiser* wrote at the time of the hanging, "the body of the last Victorian bushranger was laid to rot in unconsecrated ground". This, says VIFM pathologist Dr David Ranson, reflects the notion of a kind of perpetual punishment for serious wrongdoers "going back to the days when people were hung, drawn and quartered – this context that dealing with a body badly after death ... was ongoing punishment". Denying the con-



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demned the comfort that they might be returned to their families, or interred in keeping with their religious beliefs, was part of that.

Ian Jones would like to see Soren Blau's Case 3081, now positively identified as Ned Kelly, get the Christian burial he craved. "I think that's important. We've come some distance from the 19th century, and this would show a level of humanity and maturity as a society."

But he wonders whether Kelly will ever find eternal rest, and is fearful that if he is interred in a marked grave, he will be at risk of being dug up yet again – for some Kelly tragics, there are no boundaries. What becomes of him will likely be determined by the will of his blood descendants in negotiation with the modern incarnation of the state that hung him.

AS FIONA LEAHY CLOSES THE FILE ON THIS 130-year-old mystery, she allows herself to contemplate not just the legal and historical threads of the case that has been her obsession these past two years, but questions of blood and culture and the narrative of national identity.

History is not remote but intimate and real to Leahy, whose great-grandmother very likely knew Ned Kelly. Her birth in 1851 preceded his by only four years, and she grew up among the Irish-Catholic diaspora doing it tough on the farmland around Greta in Victoria's north-east – the community where the newly widowed Ellen Kelly settled with her strapping 12-year-old son, Ned, and the rest of her brood.

"There are stories of the Kellys visiting the Leahy family farm," says the lawyer. "It's part of my family history, and I do feel a very strong cultural connection to that part of Victoria."



She discloses this intriguing connection only at the end of several long sessions painstakingly laying out the evidence that she, with the historical and forensic specialists, has drawn together. "My training is to be dispassionate about these things. And I wanted to be very objective looking into the story," Leahy says. Her professional task didn't require her to reach any verdict on the outlaw's life. "My research really is into such a narrow slice of the whole Kelly story – it really started with the execution."

But while she has realised her aim of a methodical and ultimately successful investigation, her heritage proved too powerful to allow her to be unmoved as she trawled through the archive and found evidence that offended her notions of fairness. She has the luminous complexion, fiery hair and unforgiving memory of the Irish.

"What strikes me, going back reading the history of the Kellys in that area, is the grinding poverty, the hardships, the large families, the deaths of children – I find it all quite distressing. And I think that was probably my family history,

too. These were hard times. So I can understand why someone like Kelly might become a hero, even though he was a lawbreaker and a murderer. To me this is a tragic story. These men [the Kelly gang] backed themselves into a corner which they couldn't quite get out of."

She observes that policeman Sadleir – an Anglo-Irishman, but one who had no sympathy for the Kellys and saw no romanticism in their cause – still showed a commitment to proper process and fairness in his pursuit of the stories of inappropriate dissection. And in his own book recollecting his life as a police officer, Sadleir conceded that lack of prevention and poor policing in that era by a depleted force had contributed to the problems that underwrote the Kelly gang's deeds.

Does it matter, all these years later, to unearth these lost fragments of a story? Absolutely, argues David Ranson. He and his VIFM pathologist colleagues have, over recent years, been dispatched to help tell the stories of the dead in places such as Bosnia and Iraq. "Historical narrative, historical truth, has deep implications for any culture," he argues. The stories of history, of folklore are very powerful, but are often based on misconceptions. "Setting the record straight – in some cultures – is hugely important for future safety and security."

The truth of what became of Kelly, in modern Australia, may exist in a much more benign reality. Nonetheless, it is a story that shapes Australian identity. "There are people who think Ned Kelly was just a police killer and shouldn't be given any status whatsoever," says Ranson. "Others see him as an example of the Irish oppressed, abused by the state. In a sense, both those narratives are correct. It is very important for us to know what happened... There is intrinsic value in knowing the truth." GW

DAMIEN PLEHING

SUCH IS LIFE. (above) Fiona Leahy. (below) Leahy's great-grandmother, whose DNA Leahy used to solve the mystery.



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