Supplementary Material

Damage to human remains attributed to scavenging by quolls (Marsupialia: Dasyuridae)

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Supplementary Table S1. Early records of corpse scavenging in Australia attributed to quolls.

In quotations, spelling and capitalisation are exactly as in the original. Accounts are in temporal order and where indicated abridged for brevity.

Abbreviations: NSW (New South Wales); Qld (Queensland); SA (South Australia); Vic (Victoria). Newspaper sources are in the format day.month.year: page number.

WARNING: The following table contains graphic descriptions of death, including murder, suicide and infanticide, and scavenging of adults, children and infants. Wathaurong people from Meredith (Vic) and Gunai/Kurnai people from Sale (Vic) are warned that ancestors are reported. Names of deceased persons are often reported and may be relatives.

Account	Year	Location	Body part scavenged	Speed of scavenging commencement	Source	Notes
'we then proceeded with the [aboriginal] women eastward about 50 or 60 yards, and found another body lying dead, which I recognized to be that of Captain Thomas; upon removing his dress, I found one wound very near the heart, and three others on the right side, one of which had bled profusely; one wound by the clavicle; I then had the body turned and found five spear wounds on the back; the upper part of the throat was eaten by crows or native cats; on the following morning the bodies were conveyed by my orders to George Town.'	1831	Northdown Beach, Tas	'upper part of the throat'	within 17 days	The Tasmanian 24.9.1831: 304	An incident in the Black/Tasmanian War.
'The grass was rough, and the country was occupied by the blacks [sic; aborigines], kangaroos, emus, snakes and native cats; the latter numbering hundreds made it almost impossible to keep any food unless it was placed in a metal lined case or hung up by means of a wire whip. The native cats would even devour the bodies in some of the station graves, and have been known to attack living persons in their beds.'	1845-1876	Walmer, Vic	Undefined	Undefined	The Horsham Times 20.1.1914: 6	A hand written account by Mrs M. Bodey, sourced by Mike Stevens, Parks Victoria, from Eric Barber. Explanation from Eric Barber, Halls Gap, b. ~1925: 'apparently back in the day, if someone died in summer they wouldn't bury the body 6ft down through the rock hard Wimmera clay but heaped soil on top of the body, thus, quolls dug in from the side and didn't open cut mine 6ft down to the body.'

'the body of a man was found lying in Headlam's Creek [Emu Creek], about two miles from the Deep Creek it lay about 5 or 6 feet from the creek, on its left side with its hands clenched on its face; the upper part of which appeared white, while the lower part was quite decomposed; the hands, and face, and eyes, and even parts of the body appeared to have been gnawed by native cats the body was clothed in a barracan coat and trousers, and seemed to have been lying there about 5 or 6 days'	1846	Emu Creek, Vic	'the hands, and face, and eyes, and even parts of the body'	'about 5 or 6 days'	The Port Phillip Patriot and Morning Advertiser 6.9.1846: 2	
'Mr. Black, superintendent to Mr. Barker, accompanied by his stockman, Charles Niblett, were driving some cattle near the station of Mr. Hastie, at the Carangamite [Corangamite] Salt Lakes, they accidentally came to a hut on the borders of the lake, entering which, they s[a]w the dead body of a man in the last stage of putrefaction, lying on some straw, on the floor of the hut. One of the man's legs was bent-the bone of the knee protruding through the skin. On our informant pulling the leg, it separated from the body, which was half eaten away by native cats and wild dogs. The stench was unbearable, whilst the decomposed state of the corpse prevented any identity being proved. It was supposed to be the body of a white manbut who? or how long he had lain there? or by what means he had came [sic] by his death? whether the result of violence or not-the brief time of our informant's stay prevented him from ascertaining. The hut is about two miles from Mr. Hastie's station.'	1850	Lake Corangamite, Vic	Undefined	Undefined	Geelong Advertiser 23.1.1850: 2	
'An elderly man (name unknown), was found dead on Thursday, by one of the servants of R. Q. Kermode, Esq., Mona Vale, Ross, on the side of a road leading from his master's house. The unfortunate deceased was lying on the flat of his back, and upon examination it was presumed he had only been dead three or four hours. The native cats had, however, scented their prey, and destroyed the lineaments of the unhappy victim.'	1854	Mona Vale, Tas	'lineaments'= facial features	'three or four hours'	The Hobart Town Courier 6.5.1854: 2	

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'On Wednesday last an old man named Garret Lynch, who has been a long time in the service of Mr. Robert McPhillamy, was found dead on the top of a ridge by a shepherd named McKinnon, about 3 miles from Charlton. It appears that on the occasion of his employer starting to Wellington with his family, the deceased left Gorman's Hill to go to Charlton, and was last seen on the 24th ult, by a person named Fitzgerald, about a mile from the residence of John Gibbons, a small settler on Campbell's River It was also furthermore stated, that the body, when discovered, was shockingly mutilated by native cats or dogs, so much so, in fact, that it could not have been identified but for certain unmistakeable marks by which Dr. Machattie recognized him, consisting of a scar on one of his temples, the want of teeth and blindness of one eye, the seeing eye having been devoured with the other exposed portions of the person. The jury found a verdict of "died from exposure."	1857	Charlton, NSW	Undefined	Undefined	The Sydney Morning Herald 22.6.1857: 2	
'Strange to say, although the whole of the flesh was eaten from the skull, face, and hands, by the native cats, there was no sign of decomposition having commenced; and our informant, a man well competent to form an opinion on the subject, thinks that it is but a day or two since death took place.'	1858	Near Meredith, Vic	'skull, face and hands'	'a day or two'	Bendigo Advertiser 21.8.1858: 3	Also in The Star 20.8.1858: 2 and Bell's Life in Sydney and Sporting Reviewer 4.9.1858: 2.
'the deceased was found lying near a bye-road from Stratford to Sale, on Friday morning, but the body was so mutilated and eaten away by native cats, crows, &c., that it could barely be recognised. Deceased was last seen at Stratford on the previous Monday, driving a bullock team, and from marks on his body it is certain he must have fallen under the wheels of the dray.'	1858	near Stratford, Vic	Undefined	3-4 days	Gippsland Guardian 23.4.1858: 3	
'On Sunday morning the dead body of a woman named Mary Ann Brown was discovered in the Tea-tree Scrub, near Pleasant Hills, on the banks of the West Tamar. The body had evidently lain there for some days, for decomposition had set in, and the neck and face were much torn by native cats. The deceased had been missing since last Sunday, the 28th ultimo, on which day she left Launceston for the purpose of going to her residence, situated in the bush about four miles distant from the spot where her body was found. The remains have been removed to town, and an inquest will be held this afternoon.'	1859	Pleasant Hills, Tas	'neck and face'	'some days'	Launceston Examiner 6.9.1859: 3	

'found the deceased [aboriginal lady] doubled up in sitting posture, with a spoon and pannikin near her with some potatoes. She was only covered with a check shirt, and appeared to be aged as the hair was partly grey, but the eyes and part of the forehead were eaten away. This witness also said that about six or eight weeks ago a great number of blacks [sic; aborigines] were in the neighborhood, and to the best of his knowledge he had previously seen deceased alive near the same spot There were no external marks of violence, except where the native cats or other animals had eaten away the flesh.'	1859	Meredith, Vic	'eyes and part of the forehead'	<8 weeks	The Star 23.9.1859: 2	
'She remained in town drinking until Sunday the 28th A general search was made for deceased, and the body of the unfortunate woman was found in the bush on Sunday, not far from where Clarkson stated he had left her on that day week. From the position in which the body was found, and marks on the ferns, it seemed that the deceased had been making towards a house for shelter, but in going down the hill, fell forward and rolled for some distance until stopped by coming in contact with some scrub. She had probably died during that wet and bitterly cold night on which Clarkson left her, but whether she survived longer and was unable to move can never be known. Her face and neck was frightfully disfigured, apparently by native cats or other wild animals, but there were no other marks of violence upon the body except two or three bruises or scratches on her arms which marks she probably received in falling.'	1859	?near Gravelly Beach, Tas	'face and neck'	< 7 days	The Cornwall Chronicle 7.9.1859: 5	

'On Friday morning last, a dead man, perfectly naked, was found on the Estate of H. F. Anstey, Esq. Many persons visited the body, and all declared that they knew him not. It is supposed this poor man must have thrown off his clothes in a fit of 'Delirium Tremens,' and then perished from the effects of cold and want. The attention of the boy who found the body was called to the spot by a number of eagle hawks, which were making an early morning's repast on the remains of the poor unhappy man. It certainly was a sad sight; The eagles and native cats had, even then, done their work, for a great part of the breast and thighs, the legs, the ears, and abdomen were eaten away.'	1859	Oatlands, Tas	'breast and thighs, the legs, the ears, and abdomen'	capacity to try and identify body suggests days	The Cornwall Chronicle 22.10.1859:3	
'On Saturday afternoon, the 18th instant, at about 6 o'clock, information was received at the Police Office, Gisborne, that the body of a dead man had been discovered lying in a pool of water, in Messrs Riddell and Hamilton's paddock [Cairnhill], about five miles from Gisborne We looked at the body and found that a portion of his right ear had been eaten away, as also a portion of his right hand He saw no marks about the body except those which he supposed had been caused by native cats George Smith Harris on being sworn stated: I am a member of the Medical Board of Victoria, and also of the Royal College of Surgeons, London. On Sunday the 19th inst., I made a post mortem examination of the body of Thomas Jones. There were no marks of violence about the body, with the exception of the face on the right side and part of the hand being eaten away by some animal: the jaw bone was exposed'	1859	near Gisborne, Vic	'a portion of his right ear had been eaten away, as also a portion of his right hand'	< 4 days	The Kyneton Observer 23.6.1859: 2	
'the body of a man, name unknown, found in the Long Swamp at Tylden. The body was in too bad a state of decomposition to be recognised, he having evidently been dead at least eight or nine weeks. The flesh of the poor fellow had been all eaten away by native cats.'	1861	Tylden, Vic	'flesh'	c. <9 weeks	The Bendigo Advertiser 22.8.1861: 3	

'The deceased was found hanging to a tree, in a gully, about two miles on the road to Redbank [from Navarre] On Thursday last, as some two men were scouring the wood between here and Navarre in search of some lost horses, they, to their horror, found a human being hanging by a rope to the branch of a tree, the features presenting a most repulsive appearance. The cheeks and nose were completely eaten to the bare bones by native cats, and the eyes were a mass of maggots. The body lay almost on its side as the head was only two feet from the ground'	1861	near Navarre, Vic	cheeks and nose	< 8 days	Maryborough and Dunolly Advertiser 24.5.1861: 3	
'Old Kitty [aboriginal] who was so well known as almost to have arrived at the dignity of a Flooding Creek institution, died miserably in the bush during the past week [of Saturday April 26]. She was between fifty and sixty years of age On Sunday last her corpse was found on the backwater about six miles west of Sale, and the person who saw it gave immediate information to the police. Mounted Constable Feely went to the spot and found the body in an advanced state of decomposition, and seven native cats in the act of devouring it. These rushed up an old decayed tree when he approached, and he at once set fire to it and burned them in their fortress It seemed that a few days before, Mr. Clark, a farmer residing near the place of her death, had seen her in the bush almost incapable of motion. He made a fire for her, brought her food, and made her tea; and she told him that "the dead man" would come for her that night. After doing all in his power for her comfort, Mr. Clark left her, and on returning to the spot on the following morning found her gone. The place where the corpse was discovered was about half a mile distant.'	1862	near Sale, Vic	Undefined	< 3 days	Gippsland Guardian 2.5.1862: 3	

'On the 14th of April last, two shepherds, employed on the Mount Emu station, saw a man in the distance, whom they supposed to be a bullock driver in search of his cattle. He appeared to be either without a coat, or to have on a light colored jacket. When they were returning in the evening, the same figure suddenly appeared before them, as if he had sprung up from the ground, and when interrogated by them as to what he was doing there, he only uttered a muttering sound, any answer being perfectly unintelligible On the afternoon of the 30th of April, one of the shepherds, when returning home with his flock, became sensible of an offensive smell, apparently proceeding from a fallen tree or bush, and on going up to the bush, he saw a man lying dead, and from his clothes and general appearance was quite satisfied that it was the body of the same man seen by him and his companion a fortnight before The man was quite unknown to any of the residents in the neighborhood, and the body was greatly disfigured; the face, part of the left arm, and left side having had the flesh gnawed off by native cats, or some other wild animals.'	1862	Mount Emu Station, Vic	face, arm, chest	< 16 days	The Age 13.5.1862: 7	
'We learn that a man named John Clark, who has been missing from Mr Barber's sawmills, Mount Macedon, was found dead in the bush last Sunday. He was frightfully disfigured by the native cats. An inquest was held by Dr Geary, and a verdict of death from disease of the heart found.'	1862	near Mount Macedon, Vic	Undefined	Undefined	The Kyneton Observer 12.8.1862: 2	
'The remains of a little girl, who was missing some weeks since from the residence of her foster parents, a Mr. and Mrs. Pierce, at Auburn, have been found on that estate. There was only the skull and some clothing, and as they were found in a place very difficult of approash [approach], there seems little doubt that some foul miscreant took the child there, and after affecting his purpose, killed her. The body had no doubt become a prey to the native cat, native tigers, and other animals that are common in that locality.'	1863	Auburn, Tas	Undefined	'some weeks'	Launceston Examiner 21.2.1863: 3	
'Witness saw no portion of the brains lying about, and from part of the neck hanging from the interior of the skull, supposed they had been eaten by the native cats or else dogs.'	1863	Smythesdale, Vic	brains	overnight	The Star 1.6.1863:	

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'the earliest settler only showing a record of 27 years [1863] Another danger of the past is "Cassidy's Bog," where young Cassidy got his horse engulfed, but this association has a more pathetic finale. Pushing on at a subsequent date to the Detention River settlement [>1863] along the track recently opened through the dense forest beyond, young Cassidy came after dusk to where a fallen sassafras tree had barred the track. Previous travellers had forced their way round the head of the tree, but Cassidy's horse, unused to bush work, missed the turn, and plunged into the dense forest a fortnight after he was lost, they came upon the body of poor Cassidy, disfigured by native cats, where he had laid down to die, worn out with starvation and fatigue.'	c. 1863-70	Detention River, Tas	Undefined	Undefined	Launceston Examiner 22.5.1890: 3	
'On the sixth day [after she went missing] her body was found lying in a dry hole about ten feet deep; the flesh was eaten off her face by native cats'	1864	Carcoar, NSW	face	<6 days	The Sydney Morning Herald 24.5.1864: 2	
'The skeleton was that of a large-sized man, who had been dead about six or eight weeks. It was laid on its back; the legs were crossed, but the feet were wanting, and are supposed to have been removed by native cats, which are rather numerous at that place.'	1865	Mount Hesse, Vic	feet	c. <8 weeks	The Bendigo Advertiser 13.1.1865: 3	Also in <i>The Sydney Morning Herald</i> 16.1.1865: 3
'near the eighteenth mile post on the side of the road between Ballarat and Geelong The deceased seemed to be aged between 50 and 60 years, had served a sentence of seven years as a convict in Tasmania, and had been 14 years in Victoria. David Campbell, of Burnt Bridge, stated that "the old man," as he was generally designated, had been begging up and down the road for the last three years. He carried a sort of corn sack or bag with clothes, and camped generally alongside a fire witness found deceased lying on the footpath on his back with his hands by his sides, and quite dead. His cheeks and nose were gnawed as if by native cats.'	1865	near Elaine?, Vic	'cheeks and nose'	days?	The Ballarat Star 5.6.1865: 2	Also in the Portland Guardian and Normanby General Advertiser 12.6.1865: 3

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'The following horrible case is extracted from the Warrnambool Sentinel:—' An inquest was held at Mrs. Pierce's, Wolsthorpe [Woolsthorpe?], on the 18th June, into the cause of death of one James Wilson, a man servant of Mr. John Austin, the well-known settler. The evidence in the case disclosed a most horrible and disgusting state of things. The man had been taken ill a week before he died, owing to his having kept on his wet clothes for a long time after he had fallen into a creek when drunk. His wife, it transpired, had so shamefully neglected him, that she was not aware of his death, nor was any other person on the station, it is to be hoped for the sake of humanity; for the poor wretch's body was allowed to fall a prey to wild animals, the native cats apparently having eaten away most of his face. The jury returned a verdict expressive of their sense of the unnatural wife's conduct.'	1865	Woolsthorpe, Vic	face	Undefined	Hamilton Spectator and Grange District Advertiser 5.7.1865: 3	
'the body of John Flannigan, whose dead body had been found in the bush near Humewood When I went up on Monday evening with the police to where the body was lying I saw a native cat run away, and therefore, suppose that parts of the flesh which have been eaten away might have been done so by the native cats or other wild animals the whole of the anterior part of the neck is eaten away, as well as the lower part of the face, the lower jawbone of which is quite bare; the points of the fingers of the left hand are also gnawed'	1866	Humewood, near Yass, NSW	Neck, lower face and fingers	<4 weeks	Empire 28.7.1866: 5	
'Several days passed with out his appearance. Nobody seemed to think or care about him. Oh, he was all right! Days went on, the trooper of this district never receiving information all this time, till, on the 13th, Mr John Simpson came upon the body of a man lying near to the [Mount] Emu creek, his face quite disfigured by native cats.'	1866	Mount Emu Creek, Vic	face	< 2 weeks	The Ballarat Star 19.6.1866: 2	
'On the 14th ultimo the body of a man, in an advanced state of decomposition, with the face eaten away, supposed by native cats, was found on Mr. Heriot's run, Carabobla, Murray District. The following is the result of a Magisterial inquiry, held by H. Osborne, Esq., J.P.,_"That deceased was found dead, but there is no evidence to show how he came by his death.'	1866	Carabobala, NSW	face	Undefined	New South Wales Police Gazette and Weekly Record of Crime 14.2.1866	

'An inquest was held on Tuesday last, on the old Monaro road, about three miles from Jerrabomberra, on view of the body of Eliza Sherwood before the district coroner Dr. Morton. The first witness called was John Travers, who, on being sworn, deposed that the deceased was the wife of a shepherd in the employ of Mr. Cunningham; she had been missing for a fortnight, and as witness and Peter McIntyre were in search of deceased, they found the body where it then lay and in the same position; she was not on the road leading to her home, she should have turned off to the right; the face and hands appeared to have been eaten by native catsThis evidence was corroborated by Peter Mc Intyre William Foxton Hayley being sworn depones: I am a legally qualified medical practitioner, Queanbeyan; I this day examined the body of an aged woman; the deceased was lying with her head at the butt of a large tree, and the body was lying under a large over-hanging limb; she was lying on her right side with the knees somewhat drawn up in the position that a person would lie down to sleep the flesh of the right arm from the elbow to the fingers appeared to have been eaten away; also, the left eye and the muscle of the left side of the head and neck, I believe from the marks and tracks about by native cats; I carefully examined the body to see if there were any marks of violence, but could discover none; from the appearance of the body I should say death might have taken place about a fortnight ago, and I believe that death was caused from exposure to rain and cold' ' body of a man found on the previous evening at	1867	near Jerrabomberr a, NSW	arm, fingers, eye, head and neck muscle	< 2 weeks	The Goulburn Herald and Chronicle 10.7.1867: 3	
Warrayure, near Butler's old Hotel by a man named John McDougall, a shepherd on the Strathkeller run. The body was in a very advanced state of decomposition, and, from the medical evidence, death must have taken place about two or three weeks since. The eyes and all the soft parts have been eaten away by native cats and other vermin'	1867	Warrayure, Vic	eyes and 'all the soft parts'	< 2-3 weeks	Hamilton Spectator and Grange District Advertiser 9.3.1867: 2	

'A melancholy occurrence took place in the neighborhood of Mansfield last week. A little boy, the son of Mr Cashman, farmer, being threatened with punishment by his parents, ran away from home. Search was made, and after some days his dead body, much disfigured by native cats, was found about five miles from home.'	1867	near Mansfield, Vic	Undefined	'some days'	Avoca Mail 19.1.1867: 3	
'The [man's] body had been much gnawed by native cats and opossums.'	1868	Appletree Flat, NSW	Undefined	Undefined	Morning Herald 29.6.1868: 5	
'As Mr. Lewin, of the Bull Inn, Ballarat and Smythesdale road, was walking through Darlot's Paddock on Monday, last, he found a Chinaman suspended by the neck from the limb of a tree, his face and feet having the appearance of being partially eaten away, probably by native cats. It appeared to have been a determined case of suicide.'	1868	Nintinbool, Vic	face and feet	likely only a few days	The Advocate 5.9.1868: 14	
'the dead body of a man had been discovered on Tuesday, by a charcoal burner, in the Ironbark Forest, Paraparap, some miles from the home station of Mr Gundry. On proceeding to the forest, Sergeant Toohey, accompanied by another constable and a guide, discovered in its densest part a solitary bark hut, on entering which they were horrified by the shocking sight presented to them. On a bunk lay the remains of a man, but so mutilated by the native cats as to be scarcely recognisable as such, the face, neck and flesh generally being eaten away. It appears that the deceased, a splitter, who was an inveterate drunkard, had led the life of a hermit for the past twelve years, in the vicinity, during which he had never disclosed his name, but was known by the sobriequet [sic] of Nosey Ned, from his having himself shot away that feature accidentally.'	1869	Paraparap, Vic	'face, neck and flesh'	Undefined	The Ballarat Star 23.4.1869: 3	

'A few days ago, says the Ararat Advertiser, Mr Samuel Carter was over at Mr Robertson's station, Murra Murra, Victoria Valley, when a blackfellow came up to him and informed him that he had seen a dead traveller in the ranges. Following the aborigine, Mr Carter came to the spot indicated, and discovered the body of a woman lying in the bush. She had evidently been dead for several weeks. One of her hands had been eaten away, probably by native cats, and one of her stockings was off. She appeared to be about fifty years of age, but there were no marks upon her clothing by which she could be identified.'	1870	near Victoria Valley, Vic	hand	several weeks	Mount Alexander Mail 8.7.1870: 2	
' found the remains of the unfortunate man [Dr. Gordon] lying on the floor, with the features frightfully mutilated by the knawings of ravenous native cats, with which the place was infested.'	1871	Holbrook, NSW	'features'	<4 days	The Argus 18.5.1871: 2s	
'The remains of Mr. Crossling, who about a month ago was drowned in attempting to cross the Shoalhaven River, were found on the 26th, much disfigured by native cats.'	1871	Ballalaba, on the Shoalhaven River, NSW	Undefined	< month	The Sydney Mail and New South Wales Advertiser 1.7.1871: 17	
Melbourne court case: 'Margaret M'Crae was informed against for the concealment of the birth of an illegitimate child. The remains of the infant had been found in the bush, having been partly devoured by native cats. The prisoner admitted that she had given birth to the child, but she stated that it had been born dead. The bones of the infant were produced in court, and explained by the medical witnesses. The jury returned a verdict of guilty, with a strong recommendation to mercy. His Honor sentenced the prisoner to detention until the rising of the court.'	1873	Melbourne?, Vic	Undefined	Undefined	The Ballarat Star 2.10.1873: 3	
'A man named William Murphy, was found dead near Rydal yesterday, partly eaten by native cats.'	1874	Rydal, NSW	Undefined	Undefined	The Maitland Mercury & Hunter River General Advertiser 16.7.1874: 2	Likely to be the same incident reported in the <i>Northern Argus</i> (Clare) 31.7.1874: 3 as being 'At Bathurst'.

'On Thursday an inquest was held at Lane Cove-road, on the body of a woman named Mary Corkran, who was found dead in the bush, three-quarters of a mile from her own residence, having been missing since the 30th June. There was an empty bottle which had contained a pint of rum at her side, and her face was very much bitten and disfigured by native cats or other vermin. A verdict of death from natural causes was returned.'	1874	Lane Cove, NSW	face	< 11 days	Australian Town and Country Journal 11.7.1874: 33	
' the body of a man found in the bush about four miles from Woodstock Home Station, and about half a mile from the Ballarat and Avoca main road As the face of the deceased man had been eaten away by native-cats or other vermin'	1874	near Woodstock Home Station, Vic	face	'some weeks'	Bendigo Advertiser 23.9.1874: 2	Page 303 of 'Billis, R. V. and Kenyon, A. S. (1930). Pastoral Pioneers of Port Phillip. Macmillan & Co., Melbourne.' The station name was in use from 1840 until at least 1884. Located near Bet Bet Creek, 8 miles SW of Amherst. Approximate coordinates used.
'By instructions from the Government the steamer Pharos was ordered, on Monday last, to proceed to the scene of the wreck of the British Admiral on King's Island Arrived on the island, they were met by the kangaroo hunters, ten in number, whose occupation consists of hunting kangaroos and wallabys, living on their flesh, and selling their skins It was the body of a woman, evidently of middle age and extremely robust. She lay stretched out on a ledge of rock, her left arm bent across her forehead and her limbs hanging over the sharp edge washed by the tidal waves. The body was naked, and half eaten by the native cats and kangaroo dogs that abound on the island. A more horrifying spectacle it would be difficult to picture. The breasts were eaten away, the fleshy portions of the thighs were gone, the entrails fully exposed, the calves of the legs were eaten off, as also one side of the face'	1874	King Island, Tas	breasts, thighs, calves, one side of face	< 16 days	Geelong Advertiser 8.6.1874: 2-3	

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'An inquest was held at Mr Donald's Lexton Hotel on Saturday last on the body of a man found in the bush, about four miles from Lexton, on the previous day Senior-Constable Greene deposed to going with the young man Robertson (who came to the police station at Lexton on horseback) to the spot where deceased was lying, about half a mile off the Avoca road in the bush, nearly opposite to Bray's Dr McMahon deposed to examining the body. Found the face and neck very much decomposed. Considered the skin and flesh had been torn off by native cats or some other animal. could [sic] find no fracture on the skull or any marks of violence on the body, which was a healthy one. Had no doubt that death was caused by strangulation from hanging. Was of opinion that the body had been exposed for two weeks at the least.'	1874	near Lexton, Vic	face and neck	about 2 weeks	Avoca Mail 22.9.1874: 2	
'A well-known character, named Joseph Damino [Guiseppe Domino], was found dead in [the] Black Forest, near Woodend, with his face eaten away by native cats.'	1875	near Woodend, Vic	face	Undefined	The Maitland Mercury & Hunter River General Advertiser 9.9.1875: 2	Also in <i>The Sydney Morning Herald</i> 24.9.1875: 6 and <i>Northern Argus</i> 28.9.1875: 3.
'THIS afternoon, (says the Ballarat Evening Post of Saturday [presume 13.2.1875]) a lad named John Edwards, son of a carter at Napoleons, reported to the Ballarat city police, that, in company with another lad named Curly Scott, he had found the dead body of a man lying in the bush, between Fisher's farm and Burrough's paddocks. He appeared to have been dead some days, and all the flesh was gone off his face, probably eaten away by the native cats. He was dressed in grey tweed trousers, dark tweed coat, and had a white straw hat.' 'The dead body of a man has been found in the bush in the direction of Smythesdale. All the flesh had been eaten off the face by native cats.' Avoca Mail 16.2.1875:	1875	Ballarat, Vic	face	'some days'	The Advocate 20.2.1875:16	

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'On Monday last the coroner, Mr Betts, held an inquest at the Frankfield Inn, Gunning, upon the body of Sarah McAlroy aged about eighty, who lived upon charity. Deceased was not quite right in her head. She frequently made Mrs Best's her home, but was often absent. On the previous Tuesday she left to go to Mr Murray's which is about two and a half miles distant. She was then quite well. Deceased was last seen alive on the following afternoon about five o'clock. She was then crossing one of Mr Peter Best's paddocks at Homewood, carrying a bundle, and walking quite strongly. On Sunday her body was found by a young man named Easterly about four hundred yards from where she was last seen. Both arms and the right leg as well as the face and neck had been eaten away, apparently by native cats. There were no marks of violence on the body nor of any struggle about the place where it was found. The jury returned a verdict that the deceased died from exhaustion. Deceased is said to have a married daughter living, it is believed, at Liverpool.'	1876	Homewood, NSW	'arms and the right leg as well as the face and neck'	<4 days	The Goulburn Herald and Chronicle 31.5.1876: 2	Also in the Queanbeyan Age 3.6.1876: 2, Wagga Wagga Advertiser 3.6.1876: 4 and Australian Town and Country Journal 3.6.1876: 27
'It is supposed that a shocking murder has been committed near Yeumburra, a station on the Murrumbidgee. The body of a shepherd was found there on the 3rd inst. with the top of the head entirely gone, and the face eaten away, apparently by native cats.'	1876	Yeumburra, NSW	face	<3 weeks	The Argus 11.7.1876: 5	
'On Thursday, the 25th ultimo (says the Wagga Express), some men in the employment of Mr. T. W, Hammon, of North Junee, found the skeleton of a man upon the run. A magisterial inquiry upon the remains was held by Mr. Hammon, and from the evidence adduced it appears that they were those of a man between forty and fifty years of age. There were no marks of a struggle about the spot, and the [man's] bones were together with the exception of portion of an arm, which was a short distance away, whither it had probably been dragged by a native cat.'	1877	Junee, NSW	arm bone	Undefined	The Sydney Morning Herald 6.2.1877:5	

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'On Sunday afternoon, 11th instant [February] Not returning at night they were alarmed, and the brother, David McGregor, rode over to Field's, and was alarmed to find that she had started [for home] at a quarter to 6. He and Mr. Field searched the greater part of the night, and, getting no trace of the child, the brother rode into Coonabarabran for the black-tracker and the police The medical testimony showed that the poor child had been outraged with the most brutal violence. I forgot to say that the nose was taken off, but for the sake of poor humanity it is hoped that it was done by native cats or some other animals rather than a ghoul in human form.'	1877	near Coonabarabra n, NSW	nose	< 24 hours	The Sydney Morning Herald 6.3.1877: 3	
'YESTERDAY, one of the sons of the Rev. Canon Druitt brought word to the police that an aged man had been found dead that day in a hut on one of the selections belonging to his father on the Nimitybelle road. The man had apparently been dead some days. The coroner, Mr. H. Dawson, will hold an inquest on the body tomorrow in Cooma, whither the body will be brought. It is said that Master Druitt entered the hut to search for native cats, when he was horrified to see the [man's] dead body with its legs nearly denuded of flesh by the ravages of the feline brutes.'	1878	Nimmitabel, NSW	leg	'some days'	Queanbeyan Age 10.7.1878: 2	
'we examined the bones a little; we then left the remains on the ground just as they fell out of the bag, and went and told our grandmother, who sent us to the police; the same night I went with Constables O'Brien and Hughes and showed them what we had found; while we had been away, which was about four hours, the native cats had got at the remains and scattered them about, and some parts of the body that we had left could not be found the place is about four miles from Collector, about a quarter of a mile on the left-hand side of the Currawang road'	1878	near Collector, NSW	Undefined	< 4 hours	The Goulburn Herald and Chronicle 27.11.1878: 2	

'On the 29th May as Mrs. J. Smith was shepherding on Gallagher's Plains [near Bombala, NSW, likely in vicinity of Bibbenluke], she discovered the body of a man lying in a creek From the appearance of the body he must have been dead some time, as the feet and hands were eaten away by, it is supposed, native cats, the neck and head were also in a frightful state Ellen Smith deposed: I am the wife of John Smith; I knew the deceased, Thomas McCarthy, I saw him alive about three weeks ago W. G. Watson, legally qualified medical practitioner, deposed The body appears to be that of a man between the ages of 60 and 70 years, but it has been destroyed almost beyond recognition or identification by having been eaten, probably, by native cats, and also by maceration in the water of the creek in which it was lying; I am of opinion that deceased has been dead not less than a week'	1878	Gallagher's Crossing, NSW	feet, hands, neck and head	1-3 weeks	The Manaro Mercury, and Cooma and Bombala Advertiser 29.5.1878: 3	
'On Saturday morning (says the Telegraph) the body of a man named Edward Eyers was found by Constable Gannon, on Dead Horse Flat, near Raywood, and close to the Inglewood Railway line. The man had evidently been dead for some days, as the face was nearly eaten away by the native cats.'	1878	near Raywood, Vic	face	'some days'	Geelong Advertiser 9.7.1878: 2	
From court case into the Ned Kelly gang: 'The proceedings against Edward Kelly for the murder of Constable Lonigan in October [Saturday 26th], 1878, were continued in the Beechworth Police Court at ten o'clock on Tuesday morning before Mr W. H. Foster P.M I ['Samuel Reynolds deposed: I am a legally qualified medical practitioner, residing in Mansfield. I went out to the Wombat Ranges on the Monday'] saw [Sergeant] Kennedy's body also. One ear was gone. I imagined it had been gnawed away by native cats. The body was very much decomposed.' [There has been discussion that Sergeant Kennedy was killed by the Kelly gang at either German's Creek or Stringybark Creek in the Wombat Ranges, Vic, with German's Creek (S 36 52.257; E 146 11.635) being selected from recent investigations.]	1878	German's Creek, Wombat Ranges, Vic	еаг	2 days	Ovens and Murray Advertiser 12.8.1880: 3	

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'An inquest was held by Mr. Candler on Wednesday at Ringwood, on the body of Charles H. Perry, who was found dead near the Dandenong Creek, Ringwood Perena Gasparo, daughter of the previous witness, stated that about half past 9 on last Saturday morning she saw a man's hat near the Dandenong Creek on the Scoresby side, and observed a man lying near a log, about a yard from the hat. He was not moving, and witness thought he was sleeping. She told her mother, who went to the creek and "cooeyed", but the man did not move Perry was 38 years of age, a native of Sweden, and had only been three months in the colony, having arrived in the ship Mistley Hall. He remained in Melbourne about a week, and then took lodgings in the house of witness's father, at Fitzroy. He remained there until last Wednesday morning, when he left, saying he was going to see some friends for a day or two, and did not return The point of the nose was apparently eaten by a native cat after death.'	1878	Ringwood, Vic	nose	< 3 days	The Australasian 13.7.1878: 21	
'Louis J. Marsden deposed: I am a constable of police, stationed at Armidale. On Sunday, the 18th instant, from information received, I proceeded to the residence of Mr. Gawthrop, of Ridgmount. I was informed by Mr. Gawthrop that his [18yr old] son had been away since the 1st May inst. I, in company with a party, commenced to search, and continued doing so until 2 o'clock in the afternoon of the 21st inst., when we discovered his body lying in a gully about a mile from Mr. Gawthrop's residence. He was lying on his stomach, a little on his left side, and was stretched at full length. His legs were also straight, his left arm was across his chest, underneath his body, and his right hand up near his face. His face and eyes, and also the scalp, were eaten away by native cats. He appeared to have been dead for some considerable time I know that it was native cats eat the flesh off his face, by seeing their tracks there; also their dung, and a portion of the hair off his head having been chewed and left there.'	1879	'Ridgmount, on the Armidale and Grafton road', via Armidale, NSW	face, eyes, scalp	< 3 weeks	The Armidale Express and New England General Advertiser 23.5.1879: 4 and 30.5.1879: 4	

'The body of a man, supposed to be a Chinaman, was found by two persons who were looking after sheep, a day or two ago, a few miles from Kiandra. The body, which was very much decomposed, a great portion of the flesh being eaten away by native dogs, cats, and crows—so much so that it was impossible to recognise it— was found by the side of a log. An inquest was held on the spot, when the Jury returned an open verdict. None of the Chinamen about were able to identify the body as one of their countrymen. It is supposed that the deceased met his death in one of the late snow storms.'	1879	Kiandra, NSW	body flesh	Undefined	The Armidale Express and New England General Advertiser 21.xi.1879: 3	
'Mr. Candler held an inquest at Sunbury, on Monday, on the remains of a swagman, aged about fifty years, whose name is unknown, and whose body was found by a labourer, named Patrick Clarke, in a dried watercourse near a fence on the Bulla road, on Saturday last. Alongside the body was an old swag, which contained a razor, on the handle of which was inscribed the name of F. C. Lewis. Deceased was about 5ft. 6in. high, dark hair, mixed with grey, with beard all over face. The body was decomposed, and one ear had been eaten by native cats. Deceased appeared to have been a "sundowner." Dr. Leggatt, who made the post mortem examination, was of opinion that death was the result of disease of the heart, and a verdict to this effect was returned.'	1879	Sunbury district, Vic	Ear	Undefined	Weekly Times (Melbourne) 11.1.1879: 19	
'the body being found resting on its right side against a small stump and sapling, in a frightful state of decomposition, a greater portion of the face having been eaten away by crows, native cats, etc. Near at hand was a common five-chambered revolver (not of the self-cocking description), each barrel of which had been discharged'	1880	East Maitland, NSW	face	< 4 days	Newcastle Morning Herald & Miners' Advocate 16.7.1880: 3	

'An inquest was held at Blackfellow's Gully, on Thursday, 27th inst., before Mr. M. J. Walsh, the District Coroner, and a Jury of twelve, touching the death of one Patrick Coughlan, who came by his death under circumstances of a very painful nature. Deceased had ridden into Walcha on the Tuesday previous, transacted his business, and started on his return homewards—a distance of about eight miles. Not reaching home that evening, little fears were felt for his safety, as he had on similar occasions stayed in town all night; but when his horse returned alone next morning, his relatives began to feel uneasy, and at once despatched a messenger into town to make enquiries. This party, finding deceased had left the town, made all haste back again, and a search for the missing man was at once instituted. Though the searchers continued their efforts throughout Wednesday (day and night), all were unavailable till Thursday morning, when Mr. John Schrader discovered the body of deceased lying under a large tree, and within a short distance of a human habitation. Except that one side of the face was much disfigured by native cats, there were no marks of violence on the body. Tuesday night last will be remembered as the coldest night yet experienced this winter'	1880	Blackfellow's Gully, NSW	face	< 36 hrs	The Armidale Express and New England General Advertiser 4.6.1880: 4	
'An inquest was held, at the Royal Hotel [Walcha], on the 11th instant, touching the death of a foreigner of the name of Charles Nicolls, who had lately been employed as a shepherd at Surveyors' Creek. It appeared that, about a week before his death, the deceased bought a new rope, with the avowed intention of hanging himself. Deceased was last seen alive on the 5th instant. When found, his face was greatly disfigured by the birds and native cats. The Jury brought in a verdict of determined suicide.'	1881	Walcha district, NSW	face	< 6 days	The Armidale Express and New England General Advertiser 24.6.1881: 6	
'John Bagnall was found dead in his hut at Mount Camel. Life must have, been extinct some days, as the face and part of the legs had been eaten away by native cats. Death resulted from rupture of the aorta.'	1881	Mount Camel, Vic	'face and part of the legs'	'some days'	The Ballarat Star 20.7.1881: 3	

'A miner named Wilson, while cutting props in the bush on Tuesday about two miles from the Deep Lead, found that he was at work beside the headless trunk of a human being. The remains were lying about ten feet from an abandoned shaft. The head was severed from the body, and although a careful search was made it was nowhere to be found. The body had evidently been removed to its present spot within the last week, for there is a mark on the ground close to where the remains were. This mark corresponds with the size of the trunk, and where the neck lay were found some small tufts of reddish-colored hair. The track along the ground where the body had been drawn was of a dark hue. The grass was quite rotted away. The track clearly showed that the body was lying with the head to the east. When found the body was lying towards the west, and several tufts of hair were sticking to the neck, corresponding in colour with the hair found on the track where the body had apparently first lain. There were no bones broken in the body, which was lying on the back, the arms being stretched out from the sides. The feet and legs are entire, save that the flesh has been eaten out of the calves of the legs and thighs by native cats or dogs. The ribs are bare of flesh about the breast, and the bones are exposed about the region of the abdomen. The body appeared to be that of a male, tall and slender. Not a vestige of clothing of any description was found on or near the remains. The feet and legs are entire, save that the flesh has been eaten out of the calves of the legs and thighs by native cats or dogs.' The inquest: 'There are great numbers of native cats in the vicinity.' (The Argus 29.4.1882: 11).	1882	Deep Lead, Vic	leg, muscle from ribs, torso	Undefined	Bendigo Advertiser 19.1.1882: 2	
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'On Tuesday the body of Charles Clarke was discovered about two miles from Violettown, near the Murchison road. Dr Clarke, as he was commonly known, was last seen on the 20th inst. He was then going to the Threemile Creek to visit a patient. On Tuesday a woman was attracted to the spot by a number of crows, and discovered the body. Deceased was lying prone like one fallen in a fit, his face being partially buried in the soft clay. Both ears were torn, no doubt by native cats. The body was brought into Violettown. On Wednesday an inquiry was held by Mr Linard, J.P., and a post-mortem examination made be [by] Dr Nicholson. The conclusion arrived at was that death resulted from suffocation.'	1882	near Violet Town, Vic	ears (face buried in soil)	< 5 days	The North Eastern Ensign 28.7.1882: 2	
'William Walsh, sworn: I am a Senior constable of police stationed at Nimitybelle; on Saturday last, the 29th instant, from information received, I proceeded to Maxwell's place, about half a mile from Nimitybelle; about fifty-five paces from Maxwell's house, I went down into an old well, ten feet deep; I there found the body of a male child which has just been viewed by the jury; I saw that the body had been mutilated; the skin was off the forehead, off the under jaw, and a piece of flesh was out of the thigh as if something had been eating it; it was quite naked, and seemed a very large child; I brought the body to the police barracks; there was no water in the well; the ground was covered with snow John Clifford, sworn: I am a legally qualified medical practitioner, residing at Cooma; I have made a post mortem examination of a male infant of whose body the jury have had a view; I found external marks, one on the righ[t] hip as if it had been eaten; the lower jaw and left side of the head was devoid of skin, lost of substance in the throat, and absence of the tongue I cannot say from the marks on the body how the child died; the wounds are in my opinion caused by native cats or other animals'	1882	Nimmitabel, NSW	hip, jaw, head, throat, tongue	Undefined	The Manaro Mercury, and Cooma and Bombala Advertiser 2.8.1882: 3	

'the young father took with him his wife and growing family into the Wormbete forest, near Winchelsea, and the area is now known as Bambra, where there are immense deposits of brown coal. There he became a sawyer, and was accounted excellent. At the early age of 46 years death came to him. "I [Mr. Joseph Anderson b. 22.12.1849] might speak of our after terrible experiences there," said Mr. Anderson, "and tell you of the goodness, of my mother, but you will forgive me if I pass them by—those memories are too precious to be disturbed." He told of one man whom he saw. He had been lost in the forest, and they had found him there unable to move. The native cats and wild animals had eaten his fingers and his toes. They had bitten his face and torn his nose away. He was almost unconscious; and, reviving a little, told his story of dreadful privation, and died in agony a few hours later. Incidents similar he related'	1882-1900	Wormbete forest ('Bambra'), near Winchelsea, Vic	fingers, toes, nose	while alive	The Dandenong Journal 4.12.1930: 8	
'Mr. A. W. Christie, travelling reporter for the Australasian, was found dead on the railway line between Borung and Korong Vale on Saturday. His face was partially eaten away by native cats. Deceased had been drinking heavily.'	1883	Borung, Vic	face	Undefined	The South Australian Advertiser 6.11.1883:5	
'The deceased, an old man named Lavis, had been drinking heavily at Dundee, from whence he started in company with a man named Johnson, intending to reach Glen Innes. They separated on the road. Lavis not turning up after some days, a search was instituted, when his body was found. It was in an advanced state of decomposition, the face and ears having been eaten off by native cats.'	1883	Dundee, NSW	face and ears	'some days'	Newcastle Morning Herald & Miners' Advocate 3.3.1883: 4	
'Constable Woods, of Marysville, received information on the 29th inst. that the body of a man had been found in the bush at Donovan's Creek, with the head severed from the trunk, and the rest of the body frightfully mutilated by wild dogs and native cats. The deceased's name is Richard Crinion, alias Dick the Bear. He was about 60 years of age, and had been living a solitary life in the bush for the past 12 years. It is thought that he died from starvation. From the appearance of the remains it is thought that he had been dead about a fortnight.'	1884	Donovan Creek, above Marysville, Vic	trunk and limbs	< 2 weeks	Hamilton Spectator 31.5.1884: 3	Also in the Kerang Times and Swan Hill Gazette 3.6.1884 and 17.6.1884.

'A miner named John Jewett committed suicide, by cutting his throat with a pen-knife at Twist's Creek, on Saturday night last The windpipe was severed, and the left cheek and eye had disappeared, as if eaten away by native cats. There were no other marks on the body'	1884	Twist's Creek, Vic	cheek and ear	< 3 days	Ovens and Murray Advertiser 27.5.1884: 1	
'What seems at first sight to be a case of suicide occurred at Longley, Huon-road, on Monday last (says the Mercury). On 5th instant, a young man named Harry Wilson, came to the Half-Way Inn and remained there during Sunday. On Monday morning he asked the son of the landlady, Mrs. Tabor, to lend him a gun to shoot parrots in the bush. The request was complied with and he went out. He did not return all night, but no fears were entertained for his safety. Early on Tuesday, however, as Mr. O. Creane, of Allan's River, was proceeding with his horse and cart along the road, his attention was called to an object lying by the roadside by his horse shying at it. He got down to make examination, and discovered it to be the body of Wilson. The head was completely shattered, and one hand clutched an empty gun, which rested between his legs. The face appeared as if native cats or some other animals had gnawed away the flesh after death had ensued. Wilson came originally from Richmond, and had been staying in Hobart, out of work. He was of eccentric habits.'	1884	Longley, Tas	Face	< 24 hours	Launceston Examiner 10.4.1884: 2	

'Penrith.—On the 4th instant the body of a man, name unknown, was found in a blind creek at Rooty Hill, and at an adjourned inquest held on the 18th instant, before the District Coroner, the following verdict was returned: "That deceased, name unknown, was found dead at Rooty Hill, on the 4th February, 1884, and such death was caused by a bullet shot from a revolver, but there is no evidence to show how or by whom such shot was fired." Deceased was apparently about 30 years of age, 5 feet 7 or 8 inches high, medium build, fair complexion, brown hair, sandy whiskers, and small hands; dressed in a slate-coloured sac coat, brown trousers and vest, blue striped cotton shirt, black soft felt hat, and elastic-side boots. The body was much decomposed, the face mutilated (supposed by native cats), and a bullet wound in the head, the latter supposed inflicted with a revolver which was found near the body. The deceased when last seen alive was under the influence of drink, and it is believed that whilst in that state he committed suicide.'	1884	Rooty Hill, NSW	Undefined	Undefined	New South Wales Police Gazette and Weekly Record of Crime 27.2.1884: 86	
'The dead body of a man was found yesterday in an empty house on Mr. Podger's farm near Mount Noorat. A magisterial inquiry was held to-day before Mr. J. Thomson, J. P. Dr. Marchbink was called in, but he found the body in such a state from putrefaction and the ravages of native cats that the cause of death could only be surmised. The man must have been about 14 days dead. His body was on the floor, but his swag was in a bunk. He was about 50 years of age, and 5ft. 7in. high. Nothing was found on his person that could lead to his identification.'	1885	Mt Noorat, Vic	Undefined	<14 days	The Argus 12.5.1885: 5	

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'The dead body of a man, supposed to be about sixty years of age, was, on Friday morning, discovered on Eurambeen station, near Beaufort. The body was conveyed into Beaufort by the police, and from its appearance the deceased was a swagman, who had laid down on his opossum rug to rest himself, and had quietly passed away. Two pipes and a billy were found alongside. Some letters were also found, but so obliterated by the weather that nothing at present can be extracted from them. The deceased is about 5 feet 7inches high, and from the appearance of the remains, when found, it is thought a month must have elapsed since death occurred. The flesh from the face and hands were eaten away by native cats.'	1885	Eurambeen station, near Beaufort, Vic	face and hands	a month	Mount Alexander Mail 31.10.1885: 2	
'It proved to be that of James Kennedy, who has been missing from his hut at Glory Hole since last June The homestead of the Peppercorn station was four miles further on, but off this track. The body was covered with two shirts, trousers, and socks, but there was no coat and no hat, the hat having been found close to the hut from which Kennedy was lost; the boots of the deceased were close to the body. Decomposition was entirely absent, though one side of the face was partially eaten away by native cats. Trooper Fraser, who was accompanied by Mr. Blundell, a selector in the neighbourhood, being fully convinced that the body was that of James Kennedy, who had evidently been frozen to death through exposure Decomposition was entirely absent, though one side of the [dead man's] face was partially eaten away by native cats.'	1886	Peppercorn Creek, NSW	face	3 months	The Sydney Morning Herald 18.9.1886: 14	Also reported in the <i>Queanbeyan</i> Age 21.9.1886: 2.
'A Chinaman named Chin Sing recently disappeared from Ballarat. The police failing to discover any trace of him it was supposed he was murdered. The mystery was cleared up by the finding of the body hanging from a tree near Napoleon Lead [Napoleons] on Sunday. When discovered the body was in a terrible condition, a great portion of the flesh having been eaten away by native cats. It is supposed the body has been hanging where it was found since the day he disappeared.'	1886	near Napoleons, Vic	body flesh	Undefined	Mount Alexander Mail 23.3.1886: 2	

'An inquest was held before the Coroner, Mr. J. O. Dodd, touching the death of an old man named Robert Hargraves, 77 years of age, at Number One [now Neville]. It appears that deceased wandered from Number One on the previous Sunday, a very wet day, and got lost in the bush. After a search of four days his body was found in the bush four miles from Number One. Dr. Kelly in his evidence said deceased had died from exposure and cold. He had been dead four days. The body [human cadaver] presented a frightful spectacle, the face and hands being eaten away by native cats and birds.'	1887	Neville, NSW	face and hands	< 4 days	Goulburn Evening Penny Post 21.4.1887: 2	Also in the Bathurst Free Press and Mining Journal 23.4.1887: 3.
'A horrid discovery was made yesterday afternoon in the bar of the grand-stand on the racecourse On striking a light the police discovered a horrible spectacle. Lying on the floor was all that remained of an old man apparently between 60 and 70 years of age. Every particle of the flesh of the face had been eaten away by the native cats which infest the neighborhood, and the eyes also had been devoured. His right arm was lying across his chest, and from the finger tips to the elbow, every particle of flesh had been eaten by the cats and rats. The vermin had also begun to feed upon the flesh of his left hand and arm. The left arm was drawn up and the hand lay across the face as though the miserable man had died while trying to defend himself from the attacks of his voracious assailants The legs were in an advanced state of decomposition, and the condition of the body served to indicate that death had taken place about ten days ago.'	1887	Kyneton, Vic	face, eyes, arms and hands	<10 days	The Kyneton Observer 4.6.1887: 2	
'an old man, named James Goodson, 50 years of age, found dead in a paddock at Leichardt on Sunday. Deceased it appears was missed from his employer's place at Woodstock for the last month. The face of the deceased when found was eaten by native cats.'	1887	Leichardt, Vic	face	< 1 month	Bendigo Advertiser 19.7.1887: 2	
'An old man named George Senior has been found at Cootamundra with his eyes picked out and his face eaten away by native cats.'	1888	Cootamundra, NSW	face and eyes	Undefined	Bathurst Free Press and Mining Journal 17.4.1888: 2	Also in <i>The Sydney Morning Herald</i> 17.4.1888: 8

'A girl named Annie Hammond, nineteen years of age, was brought before Mr. T. S. Cooper, at the police court, yesterday, charged with the concealment of the birth of a child at Lake Tyers about the 7th of July. Constable Bolton gave evidence to the effect that he had proceeded to Lake Tyers on the 4th of September, and had an interview with the prisoner, who admitted to him that she had been confined on the 7th July. There were other persons present. She said it was a male child, and had been born dead, and there was no one present when she was confined. She said she had buried the body in the ash-heap about midnight, after the inmates of the house, where she was servant, had gone to bed. She accompanied the constable to the place, and pointed out where the body had been buried. She said the heap had been removed and placed in the garden, but the constable found that had been done prior to the date of the birth, and afterwards the prisoner took the constable into the bush, about 250 yards away, and there the body of the child was found, on the surface, and lying face down, there being no clothes on the body, and the right arm of the child was missing, probably being taken away by rats or native cats. The constable took possession of the body, and then arrested the prisoner.'	1888	Lake Tyers, Vic	arm	< 9 weeks	Bairnsdale Advertiser and Tambo and Omeo Chronicle 6.9.1888: 2	
'The body of an infant partially devoured by wild dogs, native cats, or other animals was discovered in a garden at Elaine, near Geelong, to-day. The body had evidently been buried a considerable time ago and unearthed by the animals.'	1888	Elaine, Vic	Undefined	Undefined	South Australian Weekly Chronicle 11.2.1888: 9	

'We mentioned in a recent issue [14.iv.1888, pg. 2] that Mr George Wall, formerly of Piper's Creek, and latterly of Violet Town, had been missing, and that subsequently his dead body had been found. Mr Wall had been away from home for a couple of days, but as it was known that he had attended a sale some distance from home, no anxiety was aroused for two or three days. As he did not soon return home a search was instituted, and during this the horse Mr Wall had been riding returned to its home, having the bridle fastened to the saddle. Seven days after Mr Wall had left home his dead body was found lying a short distance from the road, and in a spot where scores of persons must have passed it. The flesh of the face and hands had been eaten away by native cats, but there was nothing to show how death had been caused.'	1888	near Violet Town, Vic	'face and hands'	<7 days	The Kyneton Observer 21.4.1888: 2	
'On Monday afternoon, 25th ult.,a woodcutter named McLean, working for Mr. J. Rule, contractor, found, carefully concealed in a log and brush fence, about 38 yards from the hut in Robertson's paddock, on the Barndown road, formerly tenanted by the late Mr A. Atkins, a bran bag containing a number of articles of clothing—a pair of trousers, and a shirt being stiff with congealed blood. Some of the others also bearing stains During the week Senior constable Salts and Constable Axtill were assiduously engaged in unravelling the mystery, and on Saturday afternoon succeeded in discovering the body of a man in the fence where the clothing had been found, about 36 yards further up from the [Campaspe] River, and only 12 yards distant from the hut. The body was that of a man with a bald head, and brown hair, lying face downwards, rolled in a dark colored blanket, and in an advanced state of decomposition The body, on being exposed, presented a most ghastly appearance, some parts having been eaten away by native cats. The neck had almost entirely disappeared, and the head was nearly detached from the trunk.'	1888	Elmore, Vic	'some parts', neck	< 19 days	Elmore Standard 6.7.1888: 2	

'I [publican] found the body lying beside the fence, where the jury saw it; he was quite dead, and had been dead two or three days; I think I saw him alive some day early last week I am Government Medical officer of the Braidwood district; I have made a post mortem examination of the body of the late Thomas Murphy a large portion of the calf of the right leg was apparently eaten by native cats I think he had been dead about twenty-four hours.'	1889	Braidwood, NSW	leg	< 24 hours	The Braidwood Dispatch and Mining Journal 24.7.1889: 2	
'Neither the missing skull nor the minor bones of the skeleton found in the bush near Faulconbridge can be traced and it is supposed they have been carried away by dogs or native cats. A bone was wrapped up in a Penrith obituary poem, and the skeleton was photographed for illustration in the Penrith print. At the magisterial inquiry, held in the Royal Hotel, Springwood, on the 16th instant, by Mr. King Lethbridge, the evidence of Constable Illingsworth, Dr. Brady, and Mr. Champion was heard, but there was nothing to indicate the cause of death or to the identity of deceased.'	1890	near Faulconbridge , NSW	skull and 'minor bones'	Undefined	Katoomba Times 24.5.1890: 2	
'ON Thursday last (writes our Oatlands correspondent) a man named Peter MacDermott was found dead at Fonthill. He was an employe[e] of Mr Bacon, who left him to all appearances well and hearty on Monday last. He then seems to have gone to look round his rabbittraps and never returned. His dogs, however, coming home on Thursday without him roused the suspicions of a man named Ned Myers, who immediately went in search and found MacDermott lying dead. Life appeared to have been extinct for some time, as his body was partly eaten by native cats. His age was about 25, and according to the surrounding circumstances, death seems to be due to heart disease.'	1891	Fonthill, Tas	Undefined	<3 days	Launceston Examiner 13.4.1891: 2	

'A magisterial inquiry was held at the Bridge Hotel, Dandenong on Monday last, 2nd March, before Mr. W. H. M. Hyslop, J.P., on the body of John Heffernan, who died at Edithvale-road, Keysborough, on or about the 24th February, 1891, to ascertain the cause of death I last saw deceased on the afternoon of Thursday, 19th February, 1891, and he then complained of being unwell Robert Henry Deverall, sworn, said: I am a police constable stationed at Dandenong. From information received I proceeded to the hut of John Heffernan, at Keysborough on Saturday last, 28th February, 1891. I entered the bedroom and found Heffernan's dead body lying half under the bed on the right side of its face There were wounds at the back of both hands and at the back of the left arm, in all cases exposing the bone. These were caused by vermin of some sort, probably native cats or ants or other insects In my opinion the deceased died from serous appoplexy, and probably lay on his floor totally paralysed for some[]days before his death. I should judge that he had been dead for three or four days prior to my post mortem examination.'	1891	Keysborough, Vic	hands and arm	< 4 days	South Bourke and Mornington Journal 4.3.1891: 3	
'Carlo La Franki, an old Swiss, found dead in his hut at Charcoal Gully, near Taradale. He was 85 years of age, and had been dead several days when discovered, native cats having attacked the corpse.'	1891	Charcoal Gully, Vic	Undefined	< 'several days'	Weekly Times 5.9.1891: 4	

'Information has been received at Geelong of the discovery last Friday of the headless body of a man in a secluded nook on the top of the You Yangs, a mountainous range close to Little River, Lara, and Geelong, and a few miles from the railway line which runs between Melbourne and Geelong. The body is reported to have been found by a man named Thomson, lying between two large rocks in an unfrequented part of the You Yangs, and upon an investigation being made, it was discovered that the head of the man, as well as his two hands, were missing. There was no sign of these in the vicinity of the body, although it was thought that foxes or native cats may have gnawed them off. Particulars with regard to the discovery are of the most meagre description, and, so far as can be ascertained, the police have not as yet entertained any suspicion of foul play. There were not any papers in the pockets of the clothing of the deceased which might give any information leading to the identification of the remains.'	1891	You Yangs, Vic	head and hands	Undefined	Mount Alexander Mail 16.7.1891: 2	
'Jessie Joiner, a young woman who resided at Kamarooke [Kamarooka], is to be proceeded against for concealment of birth. Some time ago she was suspected of having given birth to a child, but she denied it. A few days ago, however, she admitted the fact, and stated that the child was stillborn, and that she had buried it in the bush. The police visited the place, and found only a few bones, crows and native cats having evidently eaten the body.'	1891	Kamarooka, Vic	Body except a few bones	Undefined	The Albury Banner and Wodonga Express 15.5.1891: 29	

'On Saturday last Mr R. Witton, of Delegate found the body of a man known as Paddy Haley, near the [Vic/NSW] Border. The deceased, it is supposed, had been drinking and had fallen dead on the previous day. The body when found presented a horrible spectacle as the native cats had eaten out the eyes and tongue.'	1892	Delegate, NSW	eyes and tongue	< 24hrs	The Snowy River Mail and Tambo and Croajingolong Gazette 27.2.1892: 3	
'An old man named Thomas Olivant was last week discovered by the Nathalia police dead in a hut near the river, and the dead body of his dog was lying on the floor. The peculiar circumstances surrounding the case are that only that portion of the body from the waist downwards was discovered on the bed in the hut, but the skull was found lying 60 yards away with all the flesh eaten off it, evidently by native cats, and other bones of the upper portion of the body were discovered in the vicinity. As the body was severed clean in two it is supposed that the case must be one of murder, as no wild animal in the district would have been able to pull the upper portion of the body off the bed, and, moreover, if such were the case, it is unlikely that the other half would have been left behind in the position it was. The sum of £1 0s 3d was found about the hut. Olivant was a fisherman, and, with his dog, came to the district about a month ago.'	1893	Nathalia, Vic	flesh off skull	< month	Ovens and Murray Advertiser 22.7.1893: 5	
'Mr. Pinhey subsequently held an inquiry at the morgue on the body of the female infant found dead in the bush at Coogee on Friday afternoon. Constable Brown, of Randwick, found the body naked, with the arms eaten off at the elbows and the legs at the knees. Dr. Jamieson made a post-mortem examination, and formed the opinion that the mutilation of the limbs was caused by native cats, which abound in the vicinity of Coogee beach. Owing to the advanced stage of decomposition, the body having been lying where it was found for about five days, the doctor was unable to certify to the cause of death. The infant had not lived long after birth. Mr. Pinhey recorded a finding of found dead.'	1894	Coogee, NSW	arms and legs	<5 days	The Australian Star 29.1.1894: 5	

'A report has just arrived here that a man has been found dead about three miles out of the town, his face being partly eaten away by birds or native cats. No one has yet identified him.'	1894	Rutherglen, Vic	face	Undefined	The Albury Banner and Wodonga Express 2.3.1894: 16	
'A sensational find was made on Saturday evening last in Whitaker's bush at Guildford by a Mr. John Clark. He was searching for his cows, when he came upon the skeleton of a man, lying at the foot of a tree near the Guildford Church of England. The spot, where the discovery was made is a thick ti-tree scrub Close by the remains was a nickle-plated [sic] five chambered revolver, two of the chambers of which were loaded. Near the skull was found a small quantity of light brown hair. The skeleton was that of a man apparently about 5ft 7in or 5ft 8in in height, and some of the bones had been scattered about, probably by native cats or some other animals As the skull was quite perfect the authorities think it not unlikely, that the unfortunate man shot himself through the body. The bones were bleached and mouldy from exposure to the weather, and the remains must have laid in the spot where they were discovered, for a very considerable time. The remains were removed to the morgue at the Parramatta District Hospital and enquiries were at once set a foot to obtain if possible, some clue to the identity of the deceased A finding was recorded that Arthur John Silvester Marks came to his death between the date of September 6, 1894, (the day he disappeared) and March 13, 1895.'	1895	Guildford, NSW	bones	< 6 months	The Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate 30.3.1895: 2	

'At Yarrawonga, on Thursday morning, the police received information that a man was lying by the roadside, 4 miles out along the railway line, with his throat cut and apparently dead Dr Denis identified deceased as a man seen by him riding along the road on Wednesday afternoon from Yarrawonga. The suicide was apparently committed during the night, as the body appeared to have been gnawed by dogs or native cats. Deceased was about 35 or 40 years of age, with dark hair and moustache, height 5ft 10in. He wore a black serge suit, black soft felt hat and heavy lace-up boots.'	1895	Yarrawonga, Vic	body gnawed	< 12 hrs	Ovens and Murray Advertiser 12.1.1895: 7	
'Last Wednesday two miners were looking down a deserted shaft at Araluen and saw two native cats eating at something in a bag. They drew the bag up and found it contained the body of a newly-born female infant. An inquest was held on the remains next day and the medical evidence showed that the child was born alive, the umbilical cord appeared to have been torn away and death resulted from hemorrhage [sic]. The neck and face were eaten away by the cats. A verdict of wilful murder was returned. A young man named long [Long] has since been arrested in connection with the affair.'	1895	Araluen, NSW	'neck and face'	<24 hours	The Daily Telegraph 24.6.1895: 5; The Queanbeyan Observer 25.6.1895: 3	

'The discovery of the body of Mrs. Down was made by a swagman named Edward Power, at about 10 o'clock this morning. He was in the vicinity of Kerosene Bay, and when passing along the gully at the end of Edwards road he came upon the body, which was lying on its back, with the head turned to the right hand side. The spot where the corpse was lying was very secluded, being at the bottom of a deep ravine, thickly overgrown with scrub and dense undergrowth. Near where the body lay there were evidences of a severe struggle having taken place, as the undergrowth and grass was all trampled down, and in some places the ground was torn up. The body, which was fully clothed, presented a fearful sight as it lay in a large pool of thickly congealed blood. There was a gaping wound in the neck extending almost from ear to ear, the direction of the wound apparently being from left to right. The face was partly gone, all the flesh of the left cheek, the chin, ear, part of the scalp and the nose being eaten away by rats or native cats. The locality is infested. The hands were clenched tightly, and the hair was in a very dishevelled condition. The swagman informed the North Shore police of the discovery, and Inspector Cotter with Senior-constable Glanville and Constable Roden repaired to the spot where the body lay. A cursory inspection of the surroundings was made and the body was removed to the police station, where it was seen by Dr. Newmarch, who stated that death had ensued about forty-eight hours previously afterwards, the body was taken to the Circular Quay Morgue.'	1896	Balls Head Bay, NSW	'The face was partly gone, all the flesh of the left cheek, the chin, ear, part of the scalp and the nose being eaten away'	< 48hrs	Evening News 16.4.1896: 5	
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'The magisterial inquiry held at Kiandra on the body of the Chinaman found dead in his sluicing claim, resulted in a verdict of accidentally killed through a fall of earth. The body was partially eaten by native cats.'	1896	near Kiandra, NSW	Undefined	Undefined	The Albury Banner and Wodonga Express 26.6.1896: 31	
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'A magisterial Inquiry was held at the Lloyd Hotel, George-street North, today, regarding the discovery of the mutilated remains of an infant, at Redhand Bay, opposite the Quaker's Hat [Northbridge?], Middle Harbour, on Saturday. A man named Charles Miller saw the body intact, informed the police at Mosman, and guided Constable Taylor to the spot[.] They reached the bay after sunset, and saw several native cats feasting upon the remains. The animals were frightened off, and the remnants of the child were removed to the North City Morgue. The limbs were entirely eaten away. Dr. Taylor, Government Pathologist, said the portion remaining weighed about 2lb [910 g]. There was, however, sufficient of the internal structure to enable him to say the child had been born alive. It was impossible to pronounce the cause of death. The	1897	Northbridge, Sydney, NSW	limbs	< 2 weeks	The Australian Star 12.7.1897: 5	
'native cats were plentiful in the district in the early days, it is most likely that the [human] bones were pulled about by them.'	1897	Mount Sugarloaf, Vic	bones	Maybe 20 years	Bendigo Advertiser 10.7.1897:5	
'A somewhat startling discovery has been made on a piece of land known as Johnston's paddock at the corner of Fotheringham-street and Stanmore-road. A lad named Andrews, while crossing the paddock, came upon the mutilated remains of what appeared to be a newly-born child. He at once reported the matter to the authorities, who took charge of the remains. It was found impossible to decide the question of the sex of the infant, as portions of the body were missing. The remains were removed to the South Sydney Morgue by Constable McBride, of the [sic] and information of the discovery forwarded to the City Coroner, who gave an order for burial. An examination of the remains was made by Dr. George Henry Taylor, Government Pathologist, who came to the conclusion that the subject had been stillborn. The missing portions of the body are supposed to have been devoured by animals, probably stray and starving dogs, or native cats.'	1899	Enmore, Sydney, NSW	Undefined	days?	The Australian Star 8.3.1899: 5	

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'Whilst searching for cattle in the thick-timbered country beyond Clifton Morass, some seven miles from Bairnsdale, a young man named Michael Grady noticed something white fluttering above the dense fern bracken. He rode over to investigate, and was horror struck to discover the headless trunk of a man. The body, which was clothed, was in an advanced stage of decomposition, and was lying in a comparatively clear space amongst the fern, disposed on a bush bed made of bracken and covered with a blanket. A bare skull was lying on the ground some little distance from the body Further examination of the remains showed that the feet were missing, having apparently been eaten off by wild dogs or native cats Appearances indicated that he had either been overtaken by sickness or that he had lain down to die of starvation, after hoisting a towel on the end of a stick to attract attention. There was a supply of water within three miles, but a person might have wandered for a week without discovering it. The body was brought in to Bairnsdale, where it will form the subject of an inquiry on Monday. The only person missing from this district, as far as is known, is the mysterious Chinese who posed as a kind of soothsayer, and who some four months ago left Bairnsdale for Boggy Creek and was not afterwards heard of.'	1901	Bairnsdale, Vic	Feet	4 months?	Geelong Advertiser 10.12.1901: 4	
'From appearances death must have occurred soon after he had reached the hut. The body was lying on a piece of bark, and was very much decomposed. It had also been tampered with by dingoes and native cats'	1903	Rosenthal Creek, QLD	Undefined	Undefined	Warwick Examiner and Times 28.3.1903:	

'Le Franchi's remains were recovered almost on top of the high hill between the town [Queenstown] and Mount Owen The body was almost completely hidden away beneath a log, and was partially covered by dry branches and twigs, under which Le Franchi had crawled, or which had since fallen across him. The body was in a reclining position as far as could be judged, partly on the left side and partly on the back, with the legs doubled up. The hands, the left foot, and the head were missing, this latter having been noticed by W, Deegan, a woodchopper, and which led to a look about for the remainder of the frame. Probably it and the other parts were taken away by native cats, or other wild animals As will be remembered, poor Stephen Le Franchi disappeared on October 18 of last year.' 8.3.1905: 4 - 'There were wild animals, such as native cats, in the locality.'	1904	near Mount Owen, Tas	hands, foot and head	Undefined (missing for months)	Zeehan and Dundas Herald 7.3.1905: 4	
'On the 21st June last Essington Charles Fleeton, a child of nearly three years, while playing about his parents' residence at Sutton Forest mysteriously disappeared. At the time a diligent search was made by the police and a large number of residents, but without success. Nothing further was heard of the infant until Tuesday afternoon last, when a man named Frederick Weeks, whilst out shooting, discovered his dead body in a paddock about two miles from his home. When found the body was partly eaten by native cats.'	1904	Sutton Forest, NSW	Undefined	< 17 days	The Kiama Independent, and Shoalhaven Advertiser 8.7.1904: 2	

'The dead body of a man was found last evening in the ranges near Mount Clear, a portion of the head and face having been eaten away by ants or native cats. It was rumored in Ballarat last night that the head of the deceased had been smashed in, but it appears that there is no grounds for the statement. The body was taken on by train to Buninyong. A young man named Henry Morris, aged 25, has been reported as missing from the Buninyong district since the 1st inst., on which date he left Buninyong in a dray for Ballarat in company with a lad. The boy missed the man in Ballarat, and nothing has been ascertained since regarding his whereabouts. The dead body it is thought by the Ballarat police, is that of the missing man, but no particulars had been received up to a late hour last night by the police.'	1905	near Mount Clear, Vic	portion of the head and face'	< 5 days	The Ballarat Star 6.7.1905:	
'In the scrub at Casula yesterday afternoon Private Heir discovered the partly-decomposed body of George Foster, 38, a former inmate of the Liverpool State Hospital. Foster was discharged from the institution a month ago. There were signs of a struggle, and the body bore signs of having been attacked by native cats.'	1916	Casula, NSW	Undefined	< 1 month	The Sun 16.8.1916: 3	
'I remember once being in a party that was searching for a young fellow who had been out after a mob of brumbies near Warialda. The men tracked the shod horse amongst the hoof-marks of the brumbies, till it got too dark. So we camped. Shortly afterwards we heard a dog bark only a quarter of a mile away, and when the men went over, they found the young fellow dead, while his faithful cattle dog was barking at a native cat up a sapling, that he had driven from the dead body. His horse was lying dead not twenty yards away. It had evidently misjudged the height of an overhanging limb.'	pre-1940	near Warialda, NSW	None	Undefined	The Shoalhaven News 24.7.1940: 1	
'Mr Bob Warneke, research officer at the Fisheries and Wildlife Department, relates a story told him by an old-timer from south-eastern South Australia concerning the time a stockman was thrown and killed while mustering. A companion had to remain with the body overnight to guard it from the native cats, which would apparently tackle anything.'	pre-1965	south-eastern South Australia	Undefined	'overnight'	The Herald 27.3.1965	Assuming the "old-timer" is >70 years old, the account is probably pre-1895.