

Two Killed, Five Hurt In Crossing Smash

A young woman and her baby son were killed and her father, mother, husband, one other son and a daughter injured when their car was struck by an electric train at a level crossing 100 yards from Diamond Creek railway station at 5 p.m. on Boxing Day.

They were:--

DEAD

Florence McKenner, 26, of Hamel Street, Sunshine.

Garry McKenner, 4 months, same address.

INJURED

Laura Frith, about 56, of Hamel Street, Sunshine; head injuries, shock.

Thomas Frith, 60, same address; leg injuries, shock.

Robert McKenner, 30, same address; head, leg and arm injuries.

Beverley McKenner, 6, same address; head and hand injuries.

Robert McKenner, 5, same address; head and back injuries.

Lynette McKenner, 8, another daughter, and the only other passenger in the car, escaped injury. All the injured were taken to St. Vincent's Hospital.

The party was returning from a picnic at Hurstbridge to Diamond Creek when the car was struck by the train from Melbourne due at Diamond Creek at 5 p.m.

There is no "wig-wag" warning signal at the crossing, the only warning being the white crossing notice a few yards from the track.

Long grass and small shrubs on the land adjoining the railway track make it difficult for road

users approaching from the rail-
bridge side to see approaching
trains.

Mrs McKenner and her baby son
were thrown under the train and
dragged about 20 yards. With the
other passengers inside, the car
was hurled back on the road at
the side of the crossing.

**It was the third level crossing
smash in Melbourne within the
past week.**

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