Young Man Killed by Hit-run Driver

A young West Australian who had been living in Sunshine, lost his life at Bacchus Marsh on Sunday after being knocked down by a stolen car.

The man, Eric John Trotter, 23 years of age, had driven to Bacchus Marsh with two friends, Ern Showell, of Sunshine, and Don Allen, of Brunswick St. Fitzroy.

While in a Bacchus Marsh cafe, three men picked a fight with them and blows were struck.

Trotter and his two friends went outside and just after getting into their car the three men from the cafe came up, and smashed the windscreen cutting Allen's eye. They drove up the street, stopped, and got out to look at the damage.

The three hoodlums then came up the street in a car and swerved towards Trotter and his companions. Showell jumped clear but the other two were knocked down and Trotter died shortly after being admitted to Bacchus Marsh hospital. Allen received severe lacerations and shock.

After a cross-country chase on Monday, the police arrested at gunpected family in Norseman, w.A.

Prior to coming to Sunshine, he had met Ern Showell in Perth and they had worked their way round Australia together.

The funeral was to take place today at Footscray Cemetery at 19 a.m. after a service at Nelson's funeral parlour,

Trotter's parents were unable to make the journey from Western Australia. the accident.

They were later charged with manslaughter, with inflicting grevious bodily harm, with the larceny and illegal use of a car and with two counts of shopbreaking and stealing.

Trotter had resided with the Showell family at 133 Devonshire Road, Sunshine, for the past ten months. He was employed at I.C.I. where he was popular and had made many friends. He came from a respected family in Norseman, W.A.

National Library of Australia

http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article74982060