

**IN MEMORY OF SAMUEL WALKER OF
PEGG'S GREEN WHO DIED AS THE
RESULT OF AN ACCIDENT AT
COLEORTON NO.3. COLLIERY
(AKA - 'BUG & WINK')**



BY SAMUEL T STEWART - JUNE 2025

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Samuel Walker, is thought by the author to be the last fatality at Coleorton No.3. (Bug & Wink) Colliery before it closed in 1933 - See list of fatalities on page 4.

INQUEST

**Transcribed from the Leicester Daily Mercury -
Wednesday 21st May 1930**

RUNAWAY PIT TUBS FATALITY

INQUEST STORY OF CLIP THAT SLIPPED

How Samuel Walker (51), a miner, of Pegg's Green, was fatally injured in a tub accident in Coleorton Colliery, was told at the resumed inquest at Leicester this afternoon.

The Coroner said Walker was pushing seven tubs, laden with stone down an incline, when the cable clip slipped, the tubs ran away and Walker was over-powered when he tried to stop them.

George Smith Wheatley, of Swannington, said when Walker called out to him he tried to stop the tubs, but in vain. Walker was picked up between the first and second tub, and gasped "Get me Out".

SAFEGUARD SUGGESTED

Benjamin Thomas Redburn, the deputy manager, said he saw Walker fasten the tubs to the haulage rope with the slip, and use a hammer to 'tighten up'.

In answer to the Coroner, he said that the only feasible explanation he could offer to explain why the rope slipped was that there might have been a little dirt on the bottom of the rope. "I have never known a clip to slip before", he said.

Mr. Steele (Inspector of Mines) said that "the accident might have been prevented by keeping the block in position, until the couplings between the trams were tight, and then removing the scotch".

In the context of coal mining, a "scotch" was a piece of wood, often with a triangular shape, used to slow down or stop a wagon or tub on the rails. It was typically placed on the rail in front of the wheels, and a handle allowed it to be moved out of the way when the tub needed to resume its journey. The rope would have been attached to the scotch to allow it to be pulled out of the way easily

The Coroner observed that Walker had obviously failed to undertake this method, and the Jury therefore returned a verdict of 'Accidental Death'.

YET ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF THE EMPLOYER NOT HAVING ANY RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE ACCIDENT.....Had Samuel Walker received adequate training etc ??

**KNOWN FATALITIES AT COLEORTON No.3. COLLIERY
1875-1933 (AKA - BUG & WINK)**

John Ward	19	January 1878
William Horne	20	February 1881
Frederick Curtis	20	June 1889 (Drowned in pit reservoir whilst swimming)
Benjamin William Johnson	14	January 1890
Frederick Allen Philips	22	March 1890
Harold Fern	21	January 1891
Jim Robinson	13	May 1895
Joseph Springthorpe	27	June 1897
John Edwards	44	June 1898
John Marsden	71	February 1899
George Otter	?	March 1905
William Rossell	19	May 1910
Charles Marshall	23	December 1910
David Gardiner	51	December 1910
Thomas Lord	32	August 1911
Nathan Lord	30	April 1912
James Bailey	50	November 1917
Samuel Matchett	48	December 1918
Samuel Robert Fretsome	21	January 1919
George King	45	March 1923
Charles Henry Watson	50	June 1929
James Turner	64	January 1929
Samuel Walker	51	May 1930