

Benjamin BALDWIN (1827-?)

Benjamin migrated to Tasmania on the 'Trade Wind' in 1858. He was described as aged 30 (born about 1827), single. CE, no education, and a collier from Staffordshire. Benjamin was sponsored by John Foster of Hobart Town. His age was shown as 24 (born about 1834) on the Destination List. Benjamin was discharged from the Quarantine Station, Impression Bay to TG Gregson of Risdon on the evening of 27 March 1858.

In the 1841 and 1851 England Census for Brierley Hill, Kingswinford, Staffordshire a Benjamin Baldwin was the son of Edward, aged 45 (1806) and Maria, 35 (1806). In 1841 he was recorded as being aged two, born 1839 and in 1851, aged 7, born about 1844.

No further records could be found for Benjamin on the public records available on-line. It is possible Benjamin returned to England. There was a Benjamin Baldwin, born 1827, aged 33, who married on 29 July 1860 to Ann Boudler, born 1834, aged 26. Benjamin's father was William Baldwin (dec). They married at St John, Wolverhampton, Staffordshire. Benjamin was a widower and a miner.

Benjamin also may have been a miner at Bendigo around 1873. An Article in the *Bendigo Advertiser* on Friday 19 September 1873 (p2) reported:

His Honor Judge Molesworth today delivered judgment in the Sea Queen Quartz Mining Company v. Sea Quartz Mining Company on a rule nisi to require the judge of the Sandhurst Court of Mines to reserve, or state, a special case. His Honor, after reviewing the case at some length, made an order that His Honor Judge Dunne should state a special case as to the propriety of the Warden's decision in regard to the non-production of a miner's right by Benjamin Baldwin, one of the complainants.

In later reports about the case the name was shown in the press as 'Balaam' and not 'Baldwin'.

A Benjamin Baldwin, born 1827, aged 55, died at Wolverhampton, Staffordshire in 1882.

If a reader has any information about the 'Trade Wind' Benjamin Baldwin, it would be appreciated if they contacted bettypilgrim@hotmail.com.