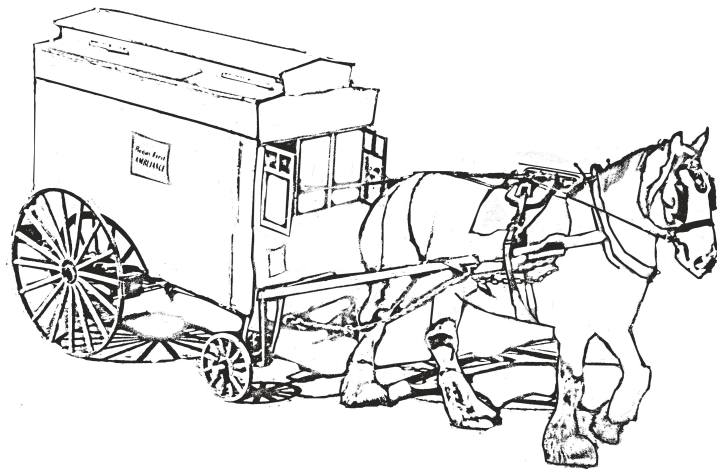


The Bega Pioneer

Voice of the Bega Valley Historical Society Inc.

September 2024 Edition



Bega Valley Historical Society Inc.

Incorporating

Bega Pioneers' Museum

87 Bega Street, Bega NSW 2550

Please address all correspondence to:
*The Secretary, Bega Valley Historical Society Inc,
 P O Box 1052 Bega, NSW 2550.
 Phone: 02 6492 0470.
 Email: museum@bvhs.org.au
 Website: begavalleyhistoricalsociety.org.au*

COMMITTEE:

President: Kaye Jauncey	Secretary:
Treasurer: Helen Jauncey	Committee: Reg Huntington, Bill Fletcher, Peter Guthrey, Nita Quinn, Shirley Sproats, Peter Ubrihien
Membership Manager: Sylvia Davey	

MUSEUM OPENING HOURS:

*Monday, Wednesday and Friday 10am to 2pm
 Saturday 10am to 2pm*

Museum Entrance Fees:

*Adults \$10, Seniors and Concession \$5, Children \$3
 Annual Membership Fee: Ask at desk*

The Society's Newsletter is published quarterly and is free to all members and to kindred societies.

The views expressed in this publication are those of the authors and are not necessarily those of the Bega Valley Historical Society Inc. The Society cannot accept any responsibility for any action taken as a result of the statements herein. Copyright: Bega Valley Historical Society Inc. If you are unable to visit us at the Museum please contact us, we will be only too happy to help with any queries that you may have. We have an extensive collection of family histories, photographs and memorabilia as well as a vast collection of files, books and journals relating to the Bega Valley and its inhabitants. Our research officer is only too willing to help you with your enquiry.

Front Page: Bega Pioneers' Museum. Drawing of Trad Wagon in opening procession



Museum News

MEMBERSHIP.

NEW MEMBERS: Stephen James, Cato-Hemi Bailey, Catherine Clery, Angela George, Michelle Russell, Gordon Beattie, Ursula Hunt, Alison Smith, Gail Gibson, Wayne Dunning, Marie Farram, Leslie & Alan Smith, Sharon Champagne, Richard Otton, Narelle Griffin, Patricia Umback, Shirley Bazley, Peter Caragher, Elizabeth & Chris Maxted, Barry Sproats, Wendy Neville, Niles Farram, Robert William Russell, Betty Lockerbie, Alison Hukins, Elizabeth McIntyre

MUSEUM HAPPENINGS.

The ceiling in the short corridor has been repaired.
Picture railings have been placed in the display rooms.
The small display room has been painted.
Plans for a mural on the Auckland Street wall are ongoing.

In Memoriam.

Claire Lupton.

Long time member, committee member and publicity officer Claire passed away in July. Our sympathy is extended to her family and friends.

Ross Umbers.

Long time member Ross passed away in August. Our sympathy is extended to his family and friends.

Joy Guthrey.

Joy was one of the original members of the society and we were saddened to hear of her passing. Our sympathy is extended to Sue, Margaret and Annette and their family and friends.

Acquisitions

Probus Club of Candelo Presidential Chain

VIRTUAL MUSEUM UPDATE.

How we are using QR Codes in the Museum

Since the advent of the COVID-19 pandemic, the use of QR codes to check into businesses to assist in contact tracing has become a simple process for most people. Most Android and iPhones have the ability to scan QR codes built in as a feature of the phone.

QR codes work by directing a user to a web page or an online application. They can therefore be used as an extension of a label in a museum or gallery, pointing a visitor to a web page for extended information about a physical object. It also enables visitors with poor eyesight to read the information more easily on their phone by enlarging the text size.

We will eventually be attaching QR codes to all the significant items.

To see how it works, scan this code from the Gallipoli Flag with your phone :



Save the Date!

Sunday 3rd November,
2024, at 12 midday

*for the launch of two books and the
celebration of private donorship for
the digitisation on Trove of the
Bega District News – 1923 through 1954
at the Bega Pioneers Museum*



The books will be launched by
Dr Michael Holland MP
with light refreshments afterwards.

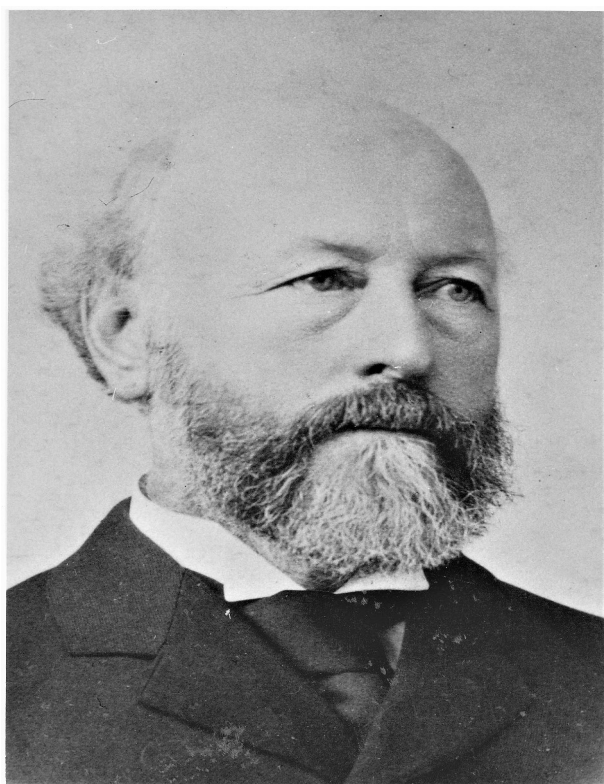
William Henry Braine (1839-1918) a forgotten European pioneer of the Bega Valley – school teacher, proprietor and editor of the *Bega Gazette* for some 27 years, storekeeper, druggist and more – cultured, cutting and eccentric.

With traces of William's life in the foreground, there is a "History of Bega" in the background.

The companion book – "**Days of Long Ago**" by William's son "Halby" Braine (1869-1951) – another "History of Bega" told in an entertaining storytelling style about people, places and events in the early days of life in the Bega Valley.



100% OF PROCEEDS FROM BOOK SALES AND THE
GENEROUS DONATION TO THE MUSEUM FOR DIGITISATION
OF NEWSPAPERS ARE GIFTS TO THE BEGA PIONEERS' MUSEUM
AND PEOPLE OF THE BEGA VALLEY AND BEYOND



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held Saturday July 20th at 10am at the museum.

Bega Valley Historical Society Inc Annual General Meeting – July 2024 Presidents Report

I would like to thank everyone for your attendance today.

I would like to thank our outgoing committee members – Peter, Bill, Shirley, Reg and Kaye for their work during the year. I would also like to thank our volunteers – Christine, Sylvia, Yvonne and Wendy who do much to digitise our collection, upkeep of the member database and cleaning.

It has been another year of steady as she goes. A small sign has been placed at the entrance to Bega to promote the museum. Visitor numbers are up on last year.

The Society applied for a grant to upgrade the outside toilet into a disabled access toilet but were unsuccessful.

The process of rationalising the collection has commenced with the sale of two engines and a visit from the Old Machinery Club to give a report on the remaining engines. The sale of one of the Fordson tractors fell through and will need to be re-advertised. Several old display cases were also sold.

We commissioned a report on the state of the roof after several rain events left us without lights in the back area for a month. Not unsurprisingly the report concluded the roof need immediate and urgent repairs/ replacement. We are in the process of getting quotes.

The ceiling in the short hall was replaced as it was deemed to be a OH&S hazard. The walls now need to be repaired and painted.

The Bega Woodies are erecting railings in the small display room and this will house a dedicated Bega display with the pictures from the short hall and several small display cases being moved into that room. The portraits in the main display area above the large display cases will be moved into the short hall as a continuation of the portrait gallery.

The digitisation of the Bega District Newspapers is now close to completion and are available on Trove.

Work on the virtual museum and a possible mural are ongoing.

Incoming committee.

President: Kaye Jauncey

Vice President:

Secretary:

Treasurer: Helen Jauncey

Committee: Bill Fletcher, Peter Guthrey, Reg Huntington, Nita Quinn, Peter Ubrihien. Shirley Sproats was offered a committee position at the first committee meeting after the AGM which she accepted

Special General Meeting.

A motion to hold a special general meeting was tabled - see separate report

Special General Meeting Held on September 28th.

At the AGM the following resolutions were tabled to be discussed at a Special General Meeting of the Society

Pursuant to Section 27(2) of the Constitution the committee must, on the requisition of at least 5% of the total number of members, convene a special general meeting of the association – the Secretary has received written notification to hold a Special General Meeting.

The resolutions to be discussed are attached. These resolutions are intended to be passed as Special Resolutions

1. That the Society's principle focus move from operating the Bega Pioneers' Museum to being a history society – the Bega Valley Historical Society.
2. Steps are taken to sell the Bega Pioneers' Museum site unless it can be clearly demonstrated that it is in the best interest of the Society that it be retained.
3. That alternative site or sites be found for the Bega Valley Historical Society to continue to function principally as a history society.
4. That the current museum collection is rationalized and objects deemed surplus to needs be disposed of.
5. A special committee be convened to determine the pathway for the transition of the society to principally a history society, and for the disposal of the museum site, and for the disposal of the surplus to needs museum collection
6. That the above be fully implemented, if at all possible, before the Society's next Annual General Meeting.

The result of the meeting is as follows.

All six resolutions were voted against.

The amended resolution 5 was removed from the agenda and has since been withdrawn completely by the mover of the resolution.

The Society membership has been increased by 50%.

23 people have volunteered for the museum and the volunteer coordinator will be contacting them in the next two weeks.

We extend a thank you to everybody who attended the meeting.

We also thank John Watkins for facilitating the meeting.

WOMEN OF BEGA.

Caroline Howard nee Whitby.

Born 23 April 1845 at Pambula Caroline was the fourth daughter of seventeen children born to John and Mary Whitby of Rocky Hall.

John was born in Melburn, England and arrived as a convict aboard the 'Ocean 11' in 1823. He was seconded to Robert Campbell of Limestone Plains (Canberra) and received his Ticket of Leave in March 1832. He married Mary Baker, a girl from Cornwall.

Caroline married John Howard in the first wooden St. John's Church in Bega on March 13, 1866. John had come with his parents to Twofold Bay from Mongonui, New Zealand, after fleeing the maori uprising that destroyed their farm. The Howards lived in a bush shack at Pambula prior to moving to Bega where they carried goods by bullock team and wagon.

John eventually built a fine house on his Tathra Road property. He made bricks which were used in Bega buildings as well as running a dairy farm to produce 'Clealand' cheese for export to Sydney, Melbourne and England.

Their children:

Caroline and John's first child, John, was born in January 1867 followed by nine other children, on the property he had selected at Buckajo with his brother Richard.

The second child, Lizzie, married Charles A Underhill and they lived at 'Ravenswood'. Two of their daughters ran the dairy while their son Clyde was away during WW1.

Mary Ann was born in 1871 and married Alfred R Cowdroy who's father was a Bega businessman and later Mayor of Bega.

George was a natural horseman and went to Sydney as a popular jockey. He died after an accident on the track in 1909 at the age of 33.

James Nuel was born in 1879. He was nicknamed 'Charcoal' as one of his jobs was cleaning out the brickwork kilns his father had built on the Bega River property. He married Alma Ledge and they had five children. He was found dead in a waterhole on his late mothers property in 1934.

Esther, born 1881, married Walter Kirkland before moving to New Zealand. They never returned to Bega.

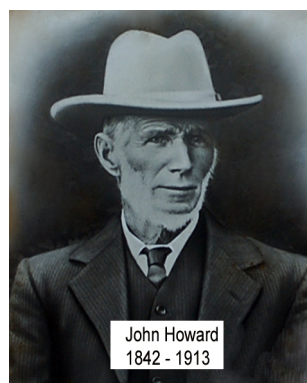
Alice, known as Dove, moved to Sydney and married Frank Robinson.

Henry, known as Wee because of his great stature, was born in 1889. He inherited the Tathra Road property and ran a successful farm there. He married three times and had seven children.

Caroline became a widow in 1913 when John died suddenly of heart failure. She lived another fifteen years and died in 1928 aged 82. Her home standing on the corner of Tathra Road and Taronga Place is a fine memorial to her.



Caroline Howard
(nee Whitby)
1845 - 1928
wife of John



John Howard
1842 - 1913

EXTRACT FROM KEVIN TETLEY'S NOTEBOOKS.

As part of the Kevin Tetley bequest we have his notebooks. This is a sample of the work

12.2.02
 PATRICK O'CONNOR
 b. Wexford Ireland 1816
 arr . 1841 Mari Mary Jane Field
 Played violin well, wrote poetry & short stories
 Was also an architect
 had 12 KIDS of which
 Mary Janes marr. Twice
 1) CLARKE 2) SIMMONDS
 She marr. Mick Clarke
 B.S. 27 Mar. 1900
 DIED 4 Mar. 1900
 Mary Jane (wife) d 29 NOV. 1889 - 69 years

BG 19 Dec 1872
 "THREE BROTHERS"
 A subscriber says:- "I noticed an error in your issue of 12th instant. The residences of the Imlays were as follow:- Dr. George Imlay had a cottage at Eden, one on Panbula Flat, and in Bega he lived in a hut that was afterwards used as a stable by old Mr White; this hut he vacated for Dr Waddell to live in, and went to live in another hut that he had built in Tarraganda garden. Alexander Imlay lived at the Murrah, and had a cottage at Warragubra. Peter Imlay resided in Candelo House, around which he had the finest garden in the district. George, a son of Peter died, and was buried in the garden at Candelo, and this may have led to the erroneous statement that he resided at Kameruka. Kameruka House was not built until the Walkers foreclosed their mortgages. A man named W. Thompson lived in a hut at Kameruka, and farmed for the Imlays, on shares.

FROM MRS. DAWSON'S PRIVATE DIARY - (4 JAN 2003) 'OLD BEMBOKA

1 APRIL 1863 - "FROM MORAN'S a lot of Chinamen came"
 2 APRIL 1863 "Chinamen gone."
 9 MARCH 1862 --- "HILL came for cows"
 10 MARCH 1862 --- "Harry & men gone to Wolumla"
 2 MAY 1862 ----- "Brought salt from Merimbula"
 6 MAY 1862 ----- "Armstrong loaded ready to start to Merimbula."
 7 MAY 1862 ----- "Armstrong started for Merimbula"
 10 MAY 1862 ----- "Armstrong came back. Brought no things. Lots of visitors."
 15 MAY 1862 ---- "a STRANGER CAME. Jenny showed him the way up the mountain"
 9 JUNE 1862 --- "TUESDAY.. Harry and men fetched. the Maneroo cattle from Boggy Swamp."
 5th ? "Edward bought our things from Bega. A case of Hops from Tarraganda."

MRS. MARY ELIZABETH GUTHRIE
 b. JULY 17th 1868 at JELLAT JELLAT
 d POTTS POINT APRIL 1969 aged 100 YRS bur. Bega
 Ex BDN

EASDOWN
 BDN FRI. 14 OCT. 1994
 GORDON Easdown's 80th B/D on 11.10.1994
 G. delivered for 30 yrs for Tisdale's Bakery and later for Pearce's. He would pick up his bread from Tisdale's (ANZ Bank is now) about 6 am & deliver around Springvale, Tarra. Angledale, Murrays Flat.

BEGA CHRONICLE NOTES - January, February and July 1874

Project commenced by Ruth Gowing - her notes recently electronically transcribed.

1874

January

John Jagers was a collector in Gipps Street.

No issue of the Gazette on 12/1/1872.

W Thompson in Carp Street was the agent for the Sydney Insurance Co.

W G Hearne was a chemist in Gipps Street.

Mrs. Sparkes needlework business opened in either Mr. Sturah's saddlery or Mr. Lenehan's saddlery.

William C Coulter of Bombala married Anne Jessie Baddeley of Pambula 10/1/1872.

W H Braine was an auctioneer, commission agent and land agent.

Gold was discovered at Towamba.

Public meeting held to discuss land bill.

February

Bega's First Annual Show held 15/2/1872.

Mr. T Kelly was appointed agent for the Gazette at Cobargo.

Mr. I M Rosenthal, royal oculist optician and aurist, visits Bega for 8 days.

Mr. Joseph Twyford of Pambula is killed by a falling tree 9/2/1872.

The Rev. Thom of Pambula was leaving the district and had an auction of his residence.

Forty acres at Montagu were leased to Maurice Laycock and Isabella Barclay for a whaling station.

Mr. W Clements of Moruya visits Bega – standing against Mr. Clarke.

John D'Arcy offers to be a candidate for the Electorate of Eden.

John Ward was carrying dairy produce to the Sandy Creek and Tantawangalo Dairy Station.

Richard Bligh was paying cash for horse hair and hides.

March

The opening service of the Wesleyan Church at Tantawangalo was held with a meeting afterwards – 5/3/1872

July

Constable McCarthy leaves Bega for Moruya.

Cobargo Union Church opened.

Pambula Courthouse – Schafer v Walsh.

Nelson Prospecting Co. held a shareholder meeting at the Bega School of Arts.

Improvements to the Wesleyan Church at Tantawangalo were to start.

W Neilley was an accountant and arbitrator in Bega.

Mr. Fred Hand had portion of his left foot amputated.

Constable Goff was transferred to the Monaro. He was replaced by Constable Preston of Adaminaby.

Mr. Thomas Mooney left the Royal Hotel.

James Ewan was a candidate for the office of director of the Australian Steam Navigation Co.

Mrs. Clarke of Gipps Street was advertising board and residence.

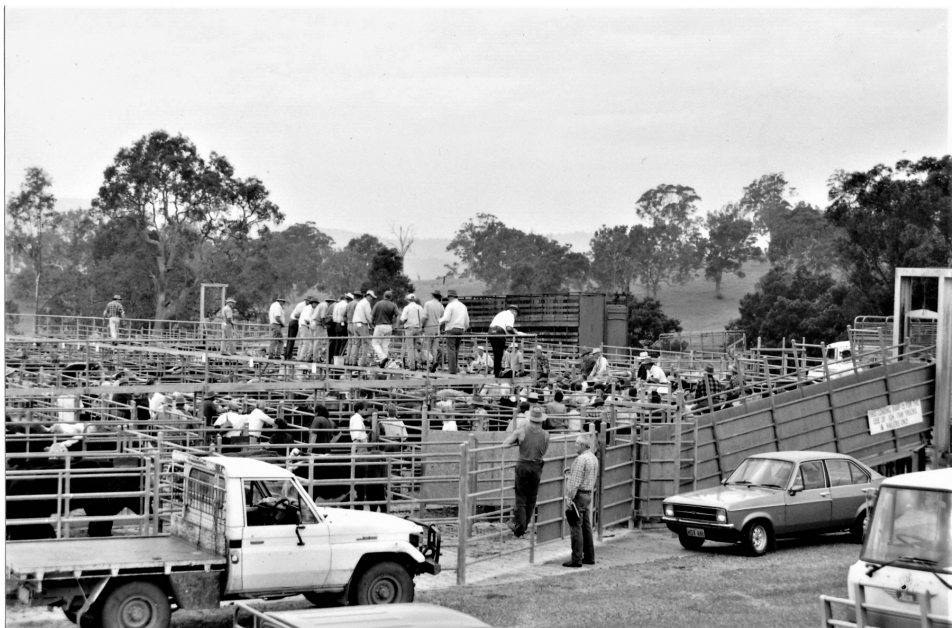
Messrs. L and I Rixon purchased Mrs. Malcolm's dressmaking business in Gipps Street.

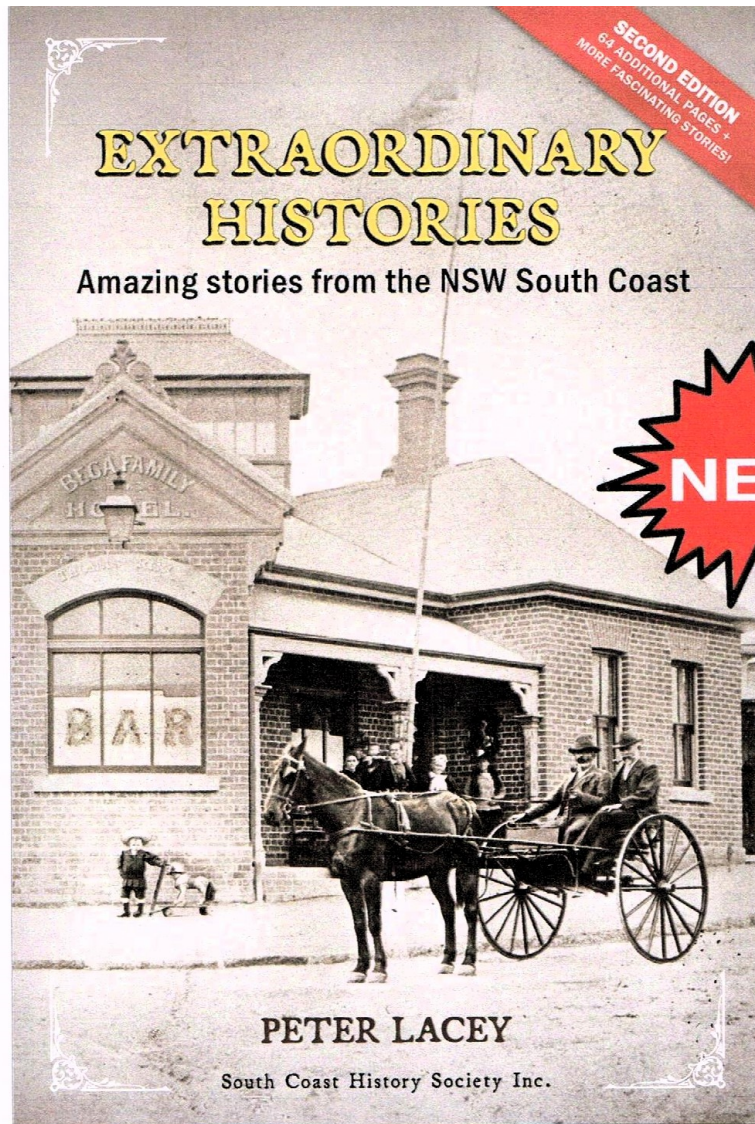
C Jagers was charged with stealing cattle.

Bega residents began raising money to acquire a bandmaster for the Bega Band.

John van Hemert was granted an auctioneer's licence at Eden.

Bega Saleyards photographs





384 pages of FASCINATING South Coast stories. Just \$34.95

AVAILABLE HERE

Publications for Sale

Bega District Band \$10

Bega High - 50 years Free

Bega Primary 1860-2010 Free

They Made this Valley Home \$10

Illawarra Steam Ship Company \$25

The Bushfires of 52 \$20

Bayleys History of Bega \$20

A Walk Along Carp Street \$2

Fascinating Bega \$20

The left over military books from the centenary of ANZAC are free to a good home.

