

The Bega Pioneer

Voice of the Bega Valley Historical Society Inc.

March 2025 Edition



Lest we forget.

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

MUSEUM OPENING HOURS:

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

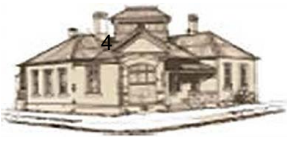
Museum Entrance Fees:

*Adults \$10 Seniors and Concession \$5, Family \$20
 Children under 12 \$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: Wolumla Soldiers Memorial



Museum News

MEMBERSHIP.

NEW MEMBER

Ken Blanchfield, Judy and Howard Filmer, Lea Powell, , Cheryl May, Blake Ubrihien, John Lehmann, Tracy Sirl, Fay Sheehan, Mary Delamare, Trevor Ubrihien

DEATH OF MARGARET EVANS OAM

Margaret Evans nee Jauncey, widow of the late Norm Evans of Kalaru passed away at the beginning of January. The committee extends the sympathy of the BVHS to her family and friends.

URSULA HUNT

Ursula passed away in January. She was a stalwart of the Bega Valley Genealogy Society and the Merimbula Old School Museum. The BVHS extends it's sympathies to her family and friends.

REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE

The posts on the outside shed have been replaced. Our thanks to Peter Ubrihien, Peter Guthrey and John Seckold for their work.

WORKING BEE.

The Bega Old Machinery Club and other volunteers held a working bee on Saturday the 22nd of March. The eastern wall protective screen was repaired. Some items were moved undercover and others repositioned. Thank you to all the people who helped.

MURAL

Plans for the proposed mural on the Auckland Street wall are currently with BVSC. The picture is part of what is proposed



NEWSPAPER DIGITISATION

The digitisation of the local newspapers will be completed thanks to a donation from Richard Bomford. They will be available on Trove once done. The committee and the historical society express a huge thank you to Richard for his generosity.

TALK AND BBQ.

Held at the museum on Saturday February 22nd.

Thank you to Robert Russell and Peter Ubrihein for their interesting reminiscences of days of long ago and not so long ago.

Thank you to

Shirley Sproats for organising and setting up the event.

Peter Rogers for running the BBQ.

Peter Guthrey for setting up and taking down the pergolas and chairs.

Peter Clancy for the loan of the sound system

Feedback has been positive and many requests were made for us to hold these talks on a regular basis.

**ANZAC DAY 2025
LEST WE FORGET**



ONE THOUSAND MEN ARE WALKING
One thousand men are walking
Walking side by side
Singing songs from home
The spirit as their guide

They walk toward the light milord,
they walk towards the sun
they smoke and laugh and smile together
no foes to outrun.

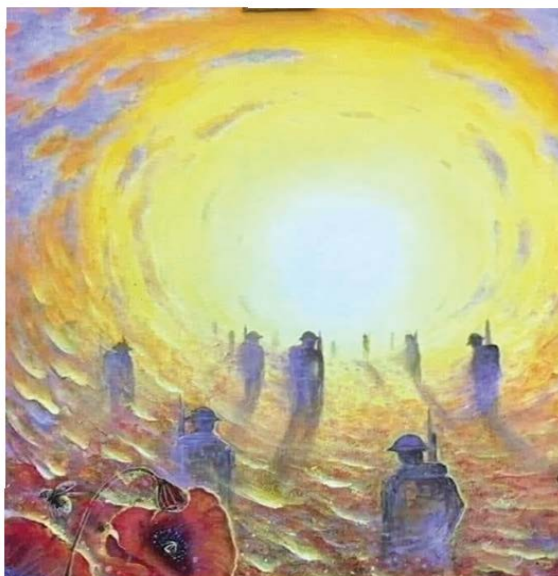
These men live on forever
in the hearts of those they saved
a nation truly grateful
for the path of peace they paved.

They march as friends and comrades
but they do not march for war
step closer to salvation
a tranquil steady corps
the meadows lit with golden beams
a beacon for the brave
the emerald grass untrampled
a reward for what they gave.

They dream of those they left behind
and know they dream of them
forever in those poppy fields
there walks one thousand men

Joshua Dyer 2019 (aged 14)

Lest we forget
This has to be shared. An incredible poem from
14 year old



I SPOKE TO YOU IN WHISPERS

By
Neill Andrew

I spoke to you in whispers
As shells made the ground beneath us,quake
We both trembled in that crater
A toxic muddy bloody lake
I spoke to you and pulled your ears
To try and quell your fearful eye
As bullets whizzed through the raindrops
And we watched the men around us die
I spoke to you in stable tones
A quiet tranquil voice
At least I volunteered to fight
You didn't get to make the choice
I spoke to you of old times
Perhaps you went before the plough
And pulled the haycart from the meadow
Far from where we're dying now
I spoke to you of grooming
Of when the ploughman made you shine
Not the shrapnel wounds and bleeding flanks
Mane filled with mud and wire and grime
I spoke to you of courage
As gas filled the Flanders air
Watched you struggle in the mud
Harness acting like a snare
I spoke to you of peaceful fields
Grazing beneath a setting sun
Time to rest your torn and tired body
Your working day is done
I spoke to you of promises
If from this maelstrom I survive
By pen and prose and poetry
I'll keep your sacrifice alive
I spoke to you of legacy
For when this hellish time is through
All those who hauled or charged or carried
Will be regarded heroes, too
I spoke to you in dulcet tones
Your eye told me you understood
As I squeezed my trigger to bring you peace
The only way I could

And I spoke to you in whispers.....



NAMES FROM GREVILLE'S 1872 P.O. DIRECTORY

DANSEY	Richard	clerk	---	Bergalia
DANSEY	Richard	teacher	Tuross Lake	Bodalla
GRADY	John	farmer	Brushy Hill	Braidwood
SURNAME	CHRISTIAN	OCCUPATION	ADDRESS	POST TOWN
ANDERSON	Frederick	farmer	Tom-boy	Charleyong
ANDERSON	James	farmer	Tom-boy	Charleyong
HART	Frederick	miner	Mongarlow River	Charleyong
HUSH	Elizabeth	farmer	Marlow	Charleyong
HUSH	George	farmer	Marlow	Charleyong
HUSH	John	farmer	East Field	Charleyong
HUSH	Joseph	farmer	Marlow River	Charleyong
HUSH	Peter	farmer	Mogo Mogo	Charleyong
HUSH	Ralph jun.	farmer	Cookanalla	Charleyong
HUSH	Ralph sen.	farmer	Marlow	Charleyong
HUSH	Thomas	farmer	Cookanalla	Charleyong
HUSH	William	farmer	Tom-boy	Charleyong
LEACH	Charles	miner	Mongarlow River	Charleyong
LEACH	John	miner	Mongarlow River	Charleyong
LEACH	Wm. jun.	miner	Mongarlow River	Charleyong
LEACH	Wm. sen.	bootmaker	Mongarlow River	Charleyong
BLYTON	Charles	farmer	Jillimabong	Cooma
BLYTON	George	farmer	Jillimabong	Cooma
BLYTON	Henry	farmer	Jillimabong	Cooma
BLYTON	Jeremiah	farmer	Jillimabong	Cooma
BLYTON	William	selector	Jillimabong	Cooma
KEEVERS	George	farmer	---	Jamberoo
KEEVERS	Henry	farmer	---	Jamberoo
KEEVERS	John	farmer	---	Jamberoo
KEEVERS	Richard	farmer	---	Jamberoo
KEEVERS	Thomas	farmer	---	Jamberoo
KEEVERS	William	farmer	---	Jamberoo
KEEVERS	William	---	---	Jamberoo
HILL	Joseph	carpenter	Manning St.	Kiama
BOAG	David	farmer	Burril	Milton
DANSEY	D. J.	chemist	Moruya	
COCK	Edwin	farmer	Macquarie Swamp	Mount Macquarie
BOAG	David	farmer	Ulladulla	
GARDNER	James	farmer	---	Ulladulla

SMITH	John	innkeeper	Nimitybelle	
SMITH	Joseph	farmer	Glen Bog	Nimitybelle
SMITH	Mary Ann		Nimitybelle	
SMITH	Mrs. John		Nimitybelle	
SMITH	Sophia ---	---	Nimitybelle	
WARD	James	farmer ---	Numeralla	
WARD	Joseph	farmer ---	Numeralla	
WARD	Joseph jun.	farmer ---	Numeralla	
WARD	William	farmer ---	Numeralla	
GRADY	Cornelius	selector	Yarrowlumla	Queanbeyan
GRADY	John	selector	Winiassa	Queanbeyan
CHUNG	Ah	fisherman	Jervis Bay	Tomerong
COW	Hen	fisherman	Jervis Bay	Tomerong
HUNG	Ah	fisherman	Jervis Bay	Tomerong
HUNG	Pho	fisherman	Jervis Bay	Tomerong
YET	Ah			

GREVILLE'S POST OFFICE DIRECTORY

1872

BEGA

Page 33

Distance 253 miles South of Sydney

Mail closes at General Post Office by Merimbula, Clyde or Eden steamers, as opportunities offer, and Friday 4 p.m. via Cooma.

Mail arrives at Post Town Sunday, Monday, 6 p.m. via Cooma.

Mail leaves for Sydney Thursday 11 p.m. via Moruya, and by Merimbula steamers.

Mail arrives at Sydney Monday 7.15 a.m., and by Merimbula steamers.

Route – Steam Clyde River, or via Eden, or via Merimbula 20 m. Bega.

SURNAME	CHRISTIAN	OCCUPATION	ADDRESS	POST TOWN
ADAMS	Joseph	labourer ---	Bega	
AH UNG	William	farmer ---	Bega	
ALLEN	William	squatter	Warrgubra	Bega
ANDERSON	Charles	tinsmith	Church St.	Bega
ARMSTRON	James	farmer ---	Bega	
ASKEN	James	farmer ---	Bega	
ATFIELD	James	labourer ---	Bega	

WOMEN OF BEGA.

by S Florance

Mrs Jane Underhill nee Kirkland.

Known as Granny Underhill in her old age, Jane Kirkland was born 11 August 1824 in County Donegal Ireland, daughter of Henry and Sarah Kirkland.

The family came to Australia in 1839 and lived at Moruya prior to her moving to Bega after her marriage.

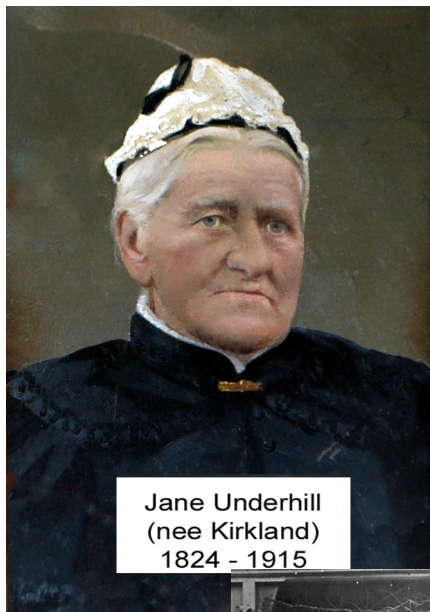
Jane married Thomas Underhill, an ex convict, at Mount Oldrey, Moruya on 2 March 1842. Her wedding present was a side saddle which she rode seventy five miles to her new home which was rented from the Imlay Brothers at Tarraganda.

The side saddle is on display at the Bega Pioneers' Museum.

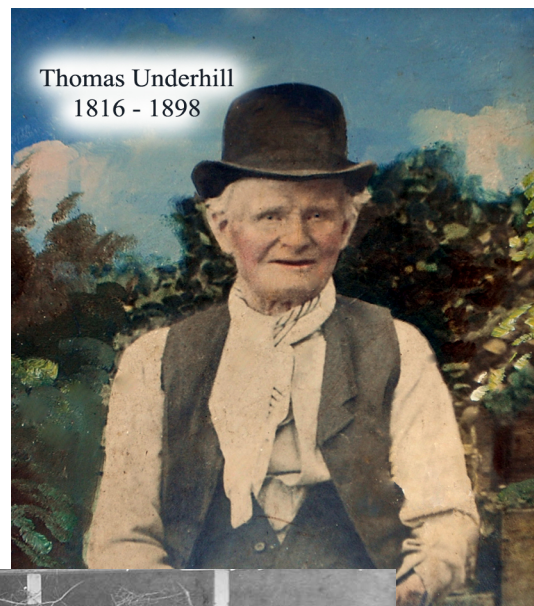
Thomas, a blacksmith for the Imlay Brothers, and Jane had thirteen children.

In the 1851 floods Jane, with four young children and another on the way, was stranded on a hill whilst her house and possessions were washed away. They built a new house at 'Yarranung' where Thomas set up his forge and later opened a blacksmiths shop at Stony Creek.

Their eldest son, Henry, bought the Bega Family Hotel in about 1869 and Thomas and Jane came into town and managed it for the rest of their lives. Thomas died in 1898 and Jane on August 6th 1915.



Jane Underhill
(nee Kirkland)
1824 - 1915



Thomas Underhill
1816 - 1898



JANE Underhill's 90th Birthday.
Standing: Thomas, Charles, Joseph, James,
Samuel, George, Robert and John.
Seated: Ann Rixon, William, Jane, Henry,
Jane Rixon.

EXTRACT FROM KEVIN TETLEY'S NOTEBOOKS.

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

BLACKA

Wm & Sarah Blacka & 10 CHILDREN arr. 1841 on ship 'Margaret'. Brought out by A.B. Smith Esq. Wm died in Bega 1866.

CHILDREN:

Anne m Thomas Wills

Charlotte m George Suttciffe

Sarah Anne m Samuel Mead

Rose m William Thomas

Mary Emma m James Maples

Margaret b 1833; Elin Elizabeth b 1835,

William m Janet Spence

Sarah Anne Blacka b 1823 in Gargrave, Eng. Marr. Samuel Mead 6/12/1841 in Bega

Rose Blacka b 1824 in Gargrave m William Thomas 1841 in Sydney

Wm Blacka b 2/4/1829 Bolton Engl. m Janet Spence 21/9/1853 at Cathcart

Mary Emma Blacka b 1831 Gargrave marr James Maples 3/1/1844 in Sydney

Samuel Mead b. 1810, the son of James & Margaret Mead of Essex or Sussex, Engl. He was a labourer & stole some geese & was sentenced at Chelmsford in 1831. Sent to Aust. On 'Portland No 1'. He died Bega 29.12.1860 Ran the 'Traveller's Rest' Inn North Bega.

George Blacker from Clutton, Somerset arriv on sailing ship 'Gold Conda'. Left Liverpool in 1858. Geo Blacker worked firstly for Trustees of Parramatta Park then came to Bega in 1861. They worked a farm on Tathra Rd for 7 yrs (later owned by Mannings) and purchased 'Woodstock' in 1868.

Family

John E, Alice (Mrs Otto Sturah), Edith (Mrs Geo Underhill), Jane (Mrs John Otton 1st), Mabel (Mrs John Otton 2nd), Oswald m (Miss Love), George died 25 yrs, May - unmarried, Mrs Cooney, Mrs J McPaul, Mrs H Hetherington, Maud (Mrs W.H. Childs - Comm Police)

Bega Cemetery" - White Book

Sarah Wren d 17.10.1903 - 80 bur Tarraganda 19.10.03

Henry Wren d. 28.4.1898 - 81 bur Tarraganda 30.4.1898

Samuel Mead d 29.12.1861 - 50

William Blacka d 14.9.1866 - 73

Beatrice Priscilla BLACKER d. 3.6.1956 71 yrs bur 4.6.1956

John Evans Blacker d. 21.5.1961 - 86 bur 22.5.1961

John Athol Blacker d. 14.7.1998 - 85 bur 17.7.1998

Stanley Evans Blacker d. 8.1.1998 bur 11.11.1998 - 89

Ethel Maud Desially Blomfield (nee Wren) d 16.1.1953 - 73 bur. 17.1.1953

William EBZERY - 93 yrs. D. 8.9.1973 bur. 11.9.1973 died at Thorn HILL, Black Range

(BILLY HERBERT

FROM KEVIN TETLEY NOTEBOOKS

AH HEE

Market gardener at Candelo.

Marr. White woman - 2 dau.

Mother died and left 2 dau - one was taken and reared by Brays at Pambula.

BEGA RATEPAYERS = SHEET

John AH HEE LOT 2, Sec 5. Fairview St, Bega 1885 UI

TOMMY AH HEE HOUSE LOT 4 See 33, 35

AH MOY High St, Bega Sheet 22

AH TING Carp & Upper Bega Sheet 26

J. AHEE Lot 13, Sec 6 Valley St UI

Tommy AH HEE in Meringo St - owned by Ferdinand Back

AH TING - Carp & upper St. owned by James Kirkland LOTS 17/18 & 3/4 Sec. 40 - Cultivated Land

AH MOY High St, Bega SEC. 85 House & Land owned by Ernest ZINGEL

AH TING 1886 Carp St. CULTIVATED LAND Lots 17, 18, 19 Sec 40 - J. BUCKLAND

Tommy AH HEE - FAIRVIEW EST - OWNER Lot 1 Sec 5 unimproved

Tommy AH HEE - FAIRVIEW EST - owner Lot 13 Sec 6

1887

AH TONG Fairview Est High St Lot 12 & 4 Sec 2, GARDENS Mrs Rheinberger owner

1887 - AH YOW Meringo St Lots 6 & 7 - House - Thos. Rawlinson owner

1887 - TOMMY AH Hee Meringo St Lots 6 & 7 - House - Thos. Rawlinson owner

1889 THOMAS AH Hee Meringo St Lot 4, Sec 51 UI Ferdinand Beck owner

1889 - 1890 CHUM LANG HIGH St. House & Land PT. Sec 85, 4 acres Ernest Zingel owner

1889 1890 AH HOW HIGH & Ravenswood St 5 acres Gardens - Est Late Henry Walker

1889 JAN ONE - Ravenswood St Gardens - Mrs Rheinberger owner

1889 1890 AH TONG - Ravenswood St GARDENS - Mrs Rheinberger owner

1889 AH TING East St Bega Gardens - Ernest Zingel owner

1889 AH HUN East St, Bega GARDENSLOTS 5 TO 8, 11 & 12, Sec 1. Patrick McGuiness

1889 AH TIE HIGH ST Bega took over from CHUM LANG - E ZINGEL

1890 AH TING Still in East St.

1890 GEN WON - Ravenswood St owner E ZINGEL

1890 AH SHING Ravenswood St owner Mrs Rheinberger

1886 AH YOW Meringo St, House & Land Lots 6 & 6, Sec. 51 - Thos. Rawlinson

1886 AH WANG High St House & Land Sec 85 Cultivated Land - E Zingel

1886 AH LING High St Sec 86 Cultivated Land - Rawlinson & Walker

1886 OHE JEAN Walker St Cultivated Land - John Priess

1886 AH KEE Fairview Est, High St Lot 5, Sec 2 Cottage - J.R. McDONALD

1886 CHONG WAY & CO. Church St Portion 10 General Stores - Thos Rawlinson

1886 WALTER REEVE - Springfield Subdiv - House - Thos Rawlinson

1886 TUCK LEE Gipps St, Shop all shops PORTION 6 - Mrs Dennis

Publications for Sale

<i>Bega District Band</i>	<i>\$10</i>
<i>Bega High - 50 years</i>	<i>Free</i>
<i>They Made this Valley Home</i>	<i>\$10</i>
<i>Mllawarra Steam Ship Company</i>	<i>\$10</i>
<i>The Bushfires of 52</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Bayleys History of Bega</i>	<i>\$20</i>
<i>A Walk Along Carp Street Fascinating</i>	<i>\$20</i>
<i>Bega Scrummaging On The Sapphire</i>	<i>\$20</i>
<i>Coast</i>	
<i>The "Braine" Book</i>	<i>\$30</i>
<i>Days of Long Ago by Harold Braine</i>	<i>\$20</i>
<i>The left over military books from the centenary of ANZAC are free to a good home.</i>	

