



Carp Street Bega

Early Days

September 2021 Edition



MUSEUM NEWS

BUILDING OWNERSHIP.

BVSC have agreed to sell the museum building back to the historical society for the sum of \$1. The paperwork has been signed and returned to BVSC.

Now we wait.

Sandra Florance.

Sandra has decided to relinquish her role as front of house receptionist for the time being. We thank Sandra for all her years of service to the historical society and the museum and her presence and knowledge will be greatly missed. Sandra has been a major part of the museum as committee member, secretary, research officer, and front of house receptionist and has been identified as the face of the museum for a long time. We extend our best wishes to Sandra and Peter and hope that at some time in the future she will again grace us with her presence.



*Have You Changed your
Email Address?*



*Please let us know
call 64921453 or
email museum25@tpg.com.au*

NEW VOLUNTEERS

We are looking for anybody who would be interested in doing restoration work on the exhibits in the outside display rooms and yards?

NEW MEMBERS.

Sue Milford

Check us out on

facebook

AGM

We are provisionally re scheduling the AGM to Saturday the 30th October. This date is dependent on the Covid situation at that time. We will explore the possibility of having ZOOM attendance as well as actually being there. We will keep you updated.

RHEINBERGER BICKELMAYER WEDDING DRESS 1876.

- Grey weighted silk with cream silk satin and watermarked grosgrain ribbon trim.
- Cream needle lace trim at turned up cuffs and collar.
- Heavily gathered at centre back for bustle.
- Cotton lined bodice with metal boning.
- Centre front opening with brass hooks and decorative covered buttons.
- Left side opening skirt (hooks and eye), fully lined with cotton.

PROVENANCE:

This dress was worn by Franzisca Mary Bickelmayer at her wedding to Joseph Rheinberger on the 2nd of February 1876.

Bickelmayer family: From Oestrich, Germany. Anton Bickelmayer and his wife Anna Maria Schaefer had a son Michael who emigrated to Australia aboard the "Charles Ross", arriving on 30 August 1855. He was accompanied by his wife, Maria Anna, nee Becker, and children Anna Maria, Catherina Joseph and Franzisca Mary. Franzisca was born on 20 September 1849 at Osterich, Germany and died 9 August 1941 at Bega, NSW Australia.

Rheinberger family: came to Australia aboard the "Caesar". The "Caesar" was organised by James Manning of the Twofold Bay Pastoral Company to provide experienced vintners for his vineyards at Kameruka. The passengers were German families with a wine growing background. The ship arrived at Eden on March 19th, 1855. Joseph Rheinberger was the son of Johan and Elizabeth nee Schneider. He was born March 16, 1845 at Frauenstein, Nassau, Germany and died April 16, 1928 at Bega, NSW.

Joseph and Franzisca had seven children and have descendants in the Bega Valley today.



Horse Racing At Cobargo.

The sport of horse racing it seems started in the Cobargo district about 1872 when a select group of Cobargo citizens decided to conduct a race meeting. It duly took place on Easter Monday, 7th April, and a good days sport was had by all. The Officials for the day were Judge John Tarlinton Esq., and the stewards were P McGuiness, D Tarlinton, H Salway, James Tarlinton, William Leeman and R Coman.

The Bega Gazette April 12th 1872:

"The settling up took place at Mr. John Allen's Inn and after the prizes had been handed over to the winners some twenty of those present formed a Club for the purpose of having an annual race meeting at Cobargo".

Early race meetings were held at "Bredbatoura", 'Murrabrine', and 'Wangaruka".

As the years rolled by The Cobargo Jockey Club had its fair share of ups and downs. According to newspaper reports it would function for a few years and then disband and then come back to life and run for a short time. This was the way the jockey club operated until it faded away in the 1930's. During its life span it ran at several venues including a course behind the Cobargo Butter factory, the property "Windradeen", the Wandella Racecourse which was situated on Wandella creek at the bottom end of Wandella and the property "Berwen" then owned by James Tarlinton. It was on this latter course that perhaps the most memorable meeting was held. It was early February 1906 and trouble was looming right from the start. The Club had decided to increase the bookmakers fees and the bookmakers were having none of this and decided to go on strike. The Club despite having no Book Makers decided to carry on with the meeting.

All was going to plan and the first two races passed without incident but the whole picture changed after the running of the third race. It seems the Clerk of the Course, one E T Gourlay, whilst leading the winner back down the straight to the scales spotted one of the bookmakers paying out to a punter at the back of the stand. The Clerk saw red, dismounted from his horse and leaving it and the winner in the middle of the straight ducked under the running rail and with one punch dropped the bookie cold. All hell broke loose. The Bookies came to help their mate and the locals were not going to stand back and watch their mates roughed up so an all in brawl followed.

The lighter side was that the publican of the day, Joseph William Twyford, marched up and down in front of his booth saying in a loud voice "Don't you touch them bottles".

One more meeting was held on this course before it was declared unsafe; there were many falls as there were many wet spots so perhaps being a bookie was not the only unsafe thing.

Wandella Races 1906. Southern Star 7/2/1906.

By Mick O'Grady

The Cobargo Chronicle, the editor of which I have the greatest respect, tells its readers that there was some unpleasantness at the recent race meeting. If I owned the paper I would not show the club up like that but keep it quiet like. Some unpleasantness? They looked for gore and they got gore and very unpleasant it was too. But whatever you don't mention it.

*Things are unpleasant lots of times,
For the sorrows of life are many.
But a racecourse fight is a fearful sight,
When a chap's not having any.*

*So we will say there was not a fighting show,
Whatever else befalls.
And a pleasant day ended in love and smiles,
With nothing unpleasant at all.*

**FAMILY FILE.
AXAM FAMILY**



George Alexander Axam NX31426

Royal Australian Engineers Served in WW2 in the middle east at Tobruk (Rat of Tobruk) and El Alamein came back to Australia and went on to serve in New Guinea and Borneo.



Sergeant Frank Robert Axam.

2/24th Field Park Company Royal Australian Engineers. Fought at El Alamein. Went on to New Guinea and then Borneo.

The Axams were originally from the Port Kembla area.

George Axam Sr - miner and speculator Timbillica Fields.

Publican Great Southern Hotel Eden 1884.

He married Elizabeth Louisa Covington.

Went to the New Hebrides and managed a plantation.

A son George married Janet Watson and the Frank and George depicted above were their children.

Publications for Sale

<i>Bismark House</i>	<i>\$20</i>
<i>Bega District Band</i>	<i>\$5</i>
<i>Bega High - 50 years</i>	<i>\$5</i>
<i>Bega Primary 1860-2010</i>	<i>\$10</i>
<i>They Made this Valley Home</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>Illawarra Steam Ship Company</i>	<i>\$25</i>
<i>The Bushfires of 52</i>	<i>\$20</i>
<i>Bayleys History of Bega</i>	<i>\$25</i>



Bega Valley Historical Society Inc.

Incorporating

Bega Pioneers' Museum

87 Bega Street, Bega NSW 2550

Committee

President: Peter Rogers

Secretary: Kaye Jauncey

Treasurer : Helen Jauncey

Research Officer: Margaret Sly

Committee Members:

Doug Russell

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Regina Huntington

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MUSEUM OPENING HOURS

Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday

10am to 2pm.

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

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