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Here We Go Again – Victoria Closes it's Border

Déjà vu for all the Victorians holidaying in NSW as they received messages on their phones on New Year's Eve that the border was closing and they had a few short hours to race back to Victoria or face expensive hotel quarantine for two weeks.

It was almost to the hour last year that they all had to leave their campsites fleeing the border fire and had a year of hell following that of with Covid 19 constraints.

We watched them pack up in a frenzy, their children in tears as they again faced a terrible time losing hard won freedoms and a much needed

holiday.

As they raced for the border they joined long queues of caravans and vehicles backed up to the pulp mill turn off.

Many waited for 5 or more hours to reach Genoa only to be waved through without any interest in the documents they had managed to quickly download.

For all the businesses hoping to recover and enjoy a normal Christmas boost it was yet another huge blow to locals hit hard by the bushfires and then the virus.

Many holiday makers have since returned and picked up



Photo Antonia Kalogeropoulos

the last week or so of the school holidays, but for many their dreams were again destroyed, and families sadly disappointed.

Our 90 Years of Collecting – Out Of The Box!



Bob Egan (1901-1956) – the last of the drovers EKWM Collection

An exhibition running from the 2nd of February to the 28th of March will highlight objects selected from our extensive collection over the 90 years EKWM has been gathering local history.

Who would have thought that the skeleton of a Killer Whale could have such a huge influence on the history of a town as Old Tom has. His fame is national and international and has put Eden's Killer Whale Museum on the map as a must see destination.

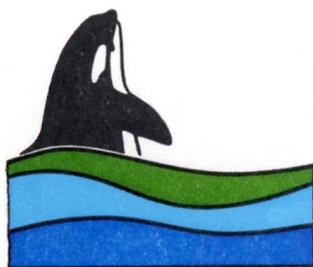
When Old Tom washed up

on the shore of Twofold Bay on the 17th of September 1930 locals set about preserving his skeleton and the history of how his kind hunted whales for the whalers of Twofold Bay. By the 17th of February 1931 a volunteer committee was formed to build a museum to house Old Tom and now 90 years later we celebrate the gift Tom and his kind gave Eden as the museum continues to gather stories and cultural material to reflect the history of the area.

As you wander through the museum, as I did a few days ago, EKWM continues to

deliver a wealth of information on the way people lived decades ago.

Thanks to our talented collections manager Jody White and her team of volunteer helpers the building houses a state of the art collection of a caliber rarely seen outside large capital city museums. *Out of the Box* brings together over 90 artifacts, documents and photographs revealing the broad nature of the collection. Themes include natural history, working on the land, blacksmithing, domestic history, weddings, sport and commerce.



The Local Blacksmith – Fred Cocks



Fred Cox far right



Viv Cocks working at the forge

While researching subjects for *Out of the Box*, curator, Jody White, found the following memoirs written by past editor of the *Magnet Newspaper*, G. Fabian Phillipps.

The blacksmith's shop held a great fascination for me, and every time I got the chance I'd turn up like the proverbial bad penny to watch horses being shod, steel tyres put onto timber jinkers, axes tempered, pinch bars made from round or octagonal steel, and fancy welding done on steps for buggies or sulkies. Fred Cocks and his eldest son, Vivian, built sulkies, drays and wagons and were often called upon to do rush jobs on tyres or axles for George Strickland's horse-drawn coaches that plied between Eden and the Yambulla goldfields or between Eden and Genoa, just a few miles south of the Victorian border. The Cocks Blacksmiths were excellent tradesmen and, before the motorized transport took over, were never short of custom.

Fred and family came to Eden when Viv was 11 years old and their first home here was on the 28 acre patch of gently-rising land where Mr Jack Wasley his wife Mavis,

are [living] happily today. Fred got his business going, he spent spare time in ploughing up the big alluvial flat on the 28 acre land just the north side of the 2 mile creek and it yielded magnificent crops of cabbage, cauliflower, potatoes, maize etc. However, time came to move out to Nethercote for a time at least, and out of our history.

Fred decided he should be closer to his business, and shifted his plant into premises in Imlay Street, formerly occupied by Young and Plumb, then the family into the premises in Mitchell Street, two doors north of the Halfway Motel and the Cottage, Viv told me, had been built by 'old' Tom Greer.

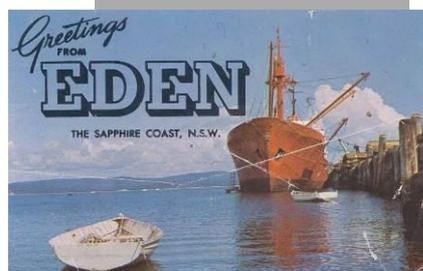
Viv served his apprenticeship with Cornelius Haigh, one of the Pambula Haigh's who were master craftsmen, and, being young and eager to learn, was soon recognized as being capable of turning out work equal to that of any smith in this [southern] area – where, in the very early years, while most famous were able to do simple repairs with charcoal fire, tongs, hammer and anvil,

men like Viv were capable of very ornate and intricate welding.

Mr Ted Berkery attended to the farriers side of the business and helped with the assembly of drays, sulkies, buggies or wagonettes. For the sleeper cutters, Fred and Viv made maul rings, pinch bars, timber hooks, cant hooks, wedges, and even, if a chopping axe was too soft to suit a man working, say, among ironbark timber, Viv would put it into the forge, then, when it had reached the right heat, take it out for tempering. This called for considerable time and skill; but the results were excellent.

Viv took sign painting on as a side line when the motor industry began to do away with the need for a blacksmith, and three of his 'masterpieces' one for Bushells Tea and two for oil companies adorned the side of local buildings. Work done on corrugated iron was not as simple as that on flat board walls.

Years were taking their toll on Fred and he finally left the now occasional work to Viv who by this time had bought out the picture show business from Phillipps and Baird.



Timber sleepers being loaded at Snug Cove wharf, c1960-1973. Published by G K Bolton

Greetings From Eden – More Than Just a Souvenir

This new exhibition will delight many who collect souvenirs while travelling. The collection of souvenirs is on display from the 2nd of February till the 28th of March and is set against a backdrop of reproduced postcard images. *Greetings from Eden* invites you to explore the historical influence and information these iconic souvenirs

supply. More than mementos to take home these items from our collection show changes in streetscapes and landscapes, and changed names of places and industries.

They also capture cultural trends and ideals at the time they were made. I particularly like the plastic fan which has gone out of vogue and is no longer used in present day souvenirs unlike

postcards and pieces of china.

Many of us continue to collect souvenirs while enjoying holidays away from home but never consider how important they are as historic items perhaps to be included in museum collections in the future. What is often viewed as kitsch will be treasure to the next generation.



Last drinks at the Pier Hotel

Last drinks – one of our 90 objects -
From the Courthouse Ledger in the Museum's collection:
 The British Hotel was also known as the Pier Hotel and was located about where the abalone processing building is today on Albert Terrace.

'At a Court of Petty Sessions held at Eden this twenty sixth day of April 1881
 Application by William Forman for Colonial Wine License under 40 Vic. No 7.

for premises known as "The British Hotel"
 The granting of the License was opposed by Sen. Constable Woods on account of applicant's wife having been seen under the influence of drink twice in one week, he only having been acquainted with her for that period, she being a stranger in the District as also her husband and unknown to the police.
 Applicant ordered to apply again in one month's time and then if no further objections

raised License will be granted.
 Court adjourned to 25th May 1881.

G.P. Keon P.M.
 S. Solomon J.P.

Twofold Bay Magnet, 13 June 1910

TO LET-Those splendidly situated premises known as the Pier Hotel building. The Pier House contains 14 rooms, and owing to its close proximity to the Eden wharf and business thoroughfare is admirably suited for an accommodation house or store. Terms moderate. Apply-Magnet Office



Tankard from the Pier Hotel - EKWM collection.

Come Shopping at EKWM

Where our EKWM shop once stocked a collection of museum souvenirs, delighted visitors and local shoppers are collecting some great upmarket, and mostly Australian made, giftware.

Shop manager Julie Williams is constantly sourcing beautifully made items making sure they reflect our museum and the history and beauty of our area.

As a result the EKWM shop is

bringing in great revenue and gaining a reputation for quality and exclusivity.

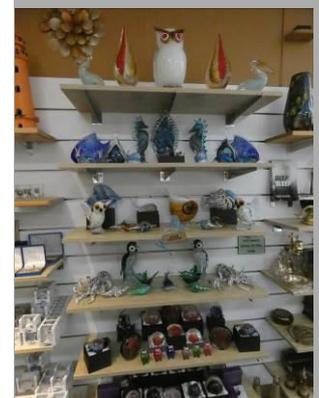
I enjoyed watching visitors gathering souvenirs of their trip to Eden which were very artistic and of great quality.

It is interesting to see how many of the gifts link well – a children's book with a soft toy and perhaps a t-shirt, all skillfully displayed to encourage buyers to add to their collection.

With ANZAC day approaching displays of historic war time books and lovely soft toys are very prominent.

A new collection of art glass adds splashes of colour and I was pleased to note that scrimshaw is still available.

Don't forget to shop at EKWM for that special birthday gift or simply the indulgence of adding to your own collection of fine art.



Celebrating Special Days

With so many events being cancelled due to Covid restrictions it's a relief to hear that **International Women's Day** is still going ahead at the Uniting Church hall, but with restricted numbers allowed to attend. Tickets are available Thursdays and Fridays from the front of the Eden newsagency for the 8th of March event with **Choose to Challenge** as the theme. Guest

speaker Vivienne Hughes will talk about life after 70 and swimming at the Adelaide Masters Games.

The great ESSCI boys are again catering the event.

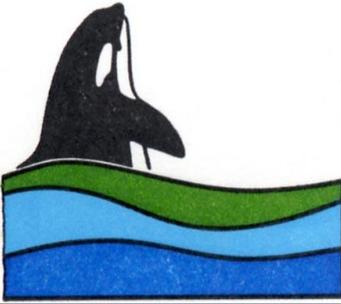
ANZAC day has been a controversial subject thankfully with most states other than Tasmania going ahead with dawn services and marches again with

reduced numbers and Covid restrictions.

Many recall last year when we stood at dawn in our driveways with a candle to remember the fallen.

At Wonboyn Lake locals stood in silence watching the sun come up over the ANZAC display outside our post office. The sound of the last post drifted down the hill from a loudspeaker – it was quite eerie but beautiful.





COMING EVENTS:

OUT OF THE BOX
2ND FEB – 28TH MARCH

GREETINGS FROM EDEN
2ND FEB – 28TH MARCH

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY
8TH MARCH

SEGHI MEETING
15TH MAY
CANDELO SHOWGROUNDS

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WE'RE ON THE WEB!

SEE US AT.

www.killerwhalemuseum.com.au

SEHGI meet for a Picnic at Candelo

SEGHI has had a forced recess for 18 months due to the COVID 19 pandemic and the bushfires.

The picnic meeting at Candelo on Saturday the 13th of February was a wonderful day for everyone who attended.

The beautiful parklands along the river provides a lovely setting for family groups to enjoy picnics and get together.

SEGHI members enjoyed the informal nature of this meeting and watching all the groups having fun around them.

Colette Moorhead of

Merimbula handed Jenny Drenkhahn the residual paper files from the Bridges Project to be placed for safe keeping in the Custodial Archive at the Eden Killer Whale Museum.

Shirley Bazely also of Merimbula and Jenny Drenkhahn spoke to the BVSC meeting in November 2020 regarding the then proposed unreasonably increased leasing fees being asked of museums and genealogy societies. A meeting is to be arranged by council with lessees before May 2021 for discussion regarding the leasing of all premises. Shirley suggested that SEHGI should write a

statement to present to Crown Lands lobbying for support from them to council to ensure SEGHI members who lease properties are not burdened with commercial charges for rent.

The Bega ABC *Object Lesson* program continues on air at 9.20 each Tuesday morning. All members are very happy with this program and the opportunity it presents to give listeners a taste of the collections in our museums. Jenny Drenkhahn is writing to Jen Hunt thanking her for this



Around the Museum

EKWM Manager Graham Stubbs has reported that visitor numbers from NSW have been high compensating a little for the missing mobs of cruise ship tourists. Work commenced on the 15th of February on the intersection near the museum with traffic still able to reach our parking areas. They are hoping to have this completed in May.

Collection Manager Jody White hosted ANMM curator,

David O'Sullivan on a visit and took him to Boyd's Tower to inspect regrowth after the Black Summer Bushfires of Jan 2020. It was an interesting experience as they could compare photos taken of the fires with what they could now see.

EKWM Friends met on Wednesday the 17th of February exactly 90 years on from the forming of the EKWM committee. To commemorate this they sang

Happy Birthday. The scout hall mural is ready to be installed and a opening event with artist Stan Squires and printer Brian Hunt will be arranged before Easter.

While walking around the museum I was aware of just how much work Jody and her crew of helpers face when setting up new exhibits – all the timber cutting history has moved to make way for the Fireflies exhibit – I enjoyed the way the timber items are now shown especially the wattle barking.



Photo Jody White



EDEN KILLER WHALE MUSEUM

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS:

| | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| BUSINESS MEETING | 3PM 2 ND WEDNESDAY | MUSEUM LIBRARY |
| CURATORIAL MEETING | 2PM 3 RD MONDAY | MUSEUM LIBRARY |
| FRIENDS MEETING | 9AM 3 RD WEDNESDAY | MUSEUM LIBRARY |