



IN TOUCH

Newsletter of the Echuca Historical Society Inc.



Cover Photo

The Deniliquin and Moama Railway Company's locomotive No.1, with Mixed Train, at Deniliquin on the Opening Day, 4 July 1876.

The Locomotive was manufactured by Beyer, Peacock & Co. of Manchester to the design of the Victorian Railways T class tender engine. Four in total were purchased by the company with the last engine being withdrawn from service in 1927.

The citizens of Moama celebrated the opening of the railway by roasting and eating a whole bullock.

Editors Notes...

Welcome to the final newsletter of the year. As 2023 comes to a close I'd just like to take the opportunity to thank you all for your diligence and effort in supporting your museum. The members and volunteers are the lifeblood of any community group, without you we cease to exist.

A big thank you to all those who attended our Christmas party. From all reports, everyone had a smashing time and the food was fantastic.

Some of you may have noticed that Jan has once again been busy and that we have new displays running over the school holidays. If you haven't seen them, please do come in.

Lastly, have a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year. Rest up and see you all next year.



Occasionally while scouring the newspapers for research information I will come across strange or interesting articles published in the Riverine Herald.

These are just some of them...

ECHUCA : MONDAY, JUNE 1, 1914.

Two-Up Raid.—A party of Echuca youths who devote a portion of the Sunday to the pursuit of the pastime of "two up" were rudely disturbed yesterday afternoon. Their usual scene of operations is on the plains near the rifle range, and a sentry posted on the butts gives timely notice in case of interruption. For some unknown reason the school recently removed to the classic precincts of Eucalyptus Avenue, more commonly known as "Shinbone Alley." Yesterday Constable Steinfort rudely disturbed the sport while it was at its height, but as the usual watch had been posted, this time in a gum tree, he did not get near enough to capture any of the delinquents, although he recognised some of them. When the constable appeared there was a sudden and unceremonious dash for the bush, one man being so eager to escape that he left his bicycle behind. It is now at the Echuca East police station, and no doubt Constable Steinfort will restore the machine to the owner if he calls for it.

PRE-HISTORIC ECHUCA.

AXE OF THE STONE PERIOD.

INTERESTING FIND.

An interesting relic of aboriginal times was discovered on the bank of the River Murray, below the old punt gangway, at Echuca on Thursday by Mr. J. Wilson.

The relic is an aboriginal axe of a flint-like substance, such as was used by the blackfellows many years ago, before the iron era was introduced to Australia. The implement is about half a pound in weight, 3½ inches long by 2¼ inches broad, and ¼ of an inch thick. The "blade" is beautifully tapered for about an inch to a finely curved edge, the remainder of the axe head being comparatively rough.

The relic has been handed to Mr. C. Earnshaw, who says that he intends forwarding it to the museum at Melbourne. Is not this carrying "centralisation" rather far? Is there no institution in Echuca to take charge of the axe as an interesting historical reminiscent of early days in the district? We would imagine that the find might very well be placed in the Mechanics' Institute along with the other trophies of early days which find a resting place there. We recommend the suggestion to those in authority.

EHS 2024 Calendar

We are down to our last 40 calendars. Make sure you secure your copy today. All proceeds go back into our museum.

Thank you to our very generous sponsors below.



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Around the Traps

In case you haven't heard, it was announced at our Christmas party that we have a new life member. Dorothy Dean has been with us, coming close to 20 years. She has been a stalwart in reception and a dedicated committee member for much of that time. Congratulations Dorothy!



WANTED

Have an idea for an article or a photo you would like to see published in the newsletter? Put pen to paper or have a hunt through those personal archives and see what you can find. All related content welcome.

Please drop the President a line at eh.soc@bigpond.com or mawilson85@gmail.com

POSITIONS VACANT

We are looking for volunteers to help out around the museum yard for a couple of hours a month. Tasks include some light cleaning, and sweeping. Helping keep the machinery in top condition and other general duties.

Interested?

Contact the President or Treasurer.

Calendar

Coming General Meetings -

NO meeting in January
8th February
14th March



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