

## KAMERUKA (WEB PAGE)

THE BEGA VALLEY GENEALOGY SOCIETY holds full records covering **THE KAMERUKA ESTATE** for a period of over 140 years

These records deal with financial matters, employment records, dairy herd, cheese making records and everything to do with a varied and substantial Estate. It was professionally managed where everything was meticulously recorded for the benefit of absentee owners.

The Estate was developed along the lines of an English Village and was largely self-sufficient. It had up to 67 houses as well as public buildings, a Church, School and Sporting facilities. In 1914 the population was about three hundred and fifty, of whom thirty five men went to the Great War.

In the 1850's, the Walker Brothers brought in a shipload of German workers and many of their dependants are still living in the district.

During its history Kameruka was used for beef and tallow production, later for dairying, sheep and wool and for a while fruit, with an extensive peach orchard. It suffered from all the usual farm problems, many of which sound familiar even today, including drought, flood, poor markets, price squeezing, transport difficulties and even a serious rabbit infestation. It is all in the papers

The Kameruka papers are complete, covering a long period and provide an original source of social and farming history