

LAKE VIEW- Sandergrove, SA
LIFE and WORK on the FARM – 1885, 1886 & 1887
From the Journals of Mr. Walter John Tucker
Source: Alexandrina Local History Wiki

JANUARY :...1885

- Reaping and cleaning wheat
- Digging, sorting and carting potatoes
- Thrashing and cleaning garden peas
- Cutting thistles and briars
- Raking, cocking and carting straw
- Thatching haystack
- Carting wood
- Drafting ewes and lambs
- Mending fences
- Killed sheep for family, workers and pigs
- SOLD : 8/- worth of fruit, 100 sheep @ 7/6d., 22 pigs trucked to Adelaide, lambs to town, 4 tons potatoes to W.P Dunk ex rail from Sandergrove to Milang.
- WORKMEN : Mr. Bob Nash

FEBRUARY:...1885

- Carting Straw
- Carting Manure and spreading
- Cutting chaff
- White-washing dairy
- Painted chaff-cutter
- Sorting onions
- Killed 5 ration sheep
- Weaned little pigs
- Gathered apples and pears
- SOLD : 125 lambs £ 39 /11/3d., 3 cows @ £ 5 /7/6
- BOUGHT : New Trap from French's for £ 13/2/0
- LET : Wattle Gulley to Will. Lilley for horse @ 1/6d. Per week
- WORKMEN : Mr. Bob Nash

MARCH :...1885

- Carting manure

MARCH 1885 Contd.

- Working in garden
- Burning rubbish
- Mending fences
- Washing out wine cask
- Cutting and gathering grapes and pressing wine
- Splitting and carting posts
- Soldering tea-pots, lamps and candlesticks
- Ear-marked and cut 35 pigs.
- SOLD : Stone for -/6d. Per yard, pigs Adelaide, skins Tannery
- BOUGHT : 2 Picks and one shovel for 10/- from J.Edmonds

WORKMEN : Mr. Bob Nash...garden and grapes

Mr. W. Lilley....cleaning drains and fencing

Mr. J. Edmonds..splitting post @ 25 shillings per 100

Will...sheperding, Bertie [son] & Will making wine

APRIL :...1885

- Splitting red gum
- Carting manure
- Fencing
- Sheperding sheep
- Burning logs

- Chaff-cutting weekly
- Drawing up wine in cellar
- Working at duck-house
- Oiling Harness
- Cutting broom-sticks to thatch the duck-house
- Gathering pears
- Started ploughing
- SOLD : Chaff, One hide, 17 sheep skins
- BOUGHT : Wagonette from French's
- BARTER : With Goldfinch's, 8 sheep for 3 rams + 3 ewes
- WORKMEN : Mr. J. Edmonds... fencing

Mr. Bob Nash, W. Lilley, and Bertie Tucker

MAY.... 1885

- Cleaning seed
- Harrowing
- Topping almond trees
- Ploughing
- Carting manure from pigs to potatoes
- Sowing barley and peas
- 5 ewes with twins
- Picking up stones
- WORKMEN... Mr. Bob Nash in garden

JUNE...1885

- Chaffed 116 bags
- Grubbing vines this side of creek. Carting out vines and almonds.
- Ploughing
- Cracking stones
- Cleaning pig stys
- Clearing hedge
- Ploughing orchard
- Digging in seed potatoes
- Digging around apple trees
- Making gates
- Fencing
- Cleaning W.C
- Swept 2 chimneys
- Planting new fruit trees Fry's Garden
- SOLD : 20 Pigs on train
- BOUGHT : 1 Cwt. Seed potatoes, 2 plum, 2 nectarine, 1 peach, 2 apricot trees
- WORKERS : Mr. Bob Nash, W.Lilley, Will Edmonds , and McPhersons.

JULY...1885

- Mustering sheep
- Dagging 576 ewes
- Tailed 506 lambs
- Chaffing
- Trimming Hedge

JULY... 1885 Contd...

- Trimming gooseberry bushes
- Planting potatoes
- Manure to potatoes
- Cracking stones
- Cutting vines
- Cutting mallee
- Carting posts

- Pig-proofing a paddock
- Mending gate hinges
- WORKMEN : Will Yates left, paid up in full £ 38/18/5d. [that is for a lot of week's work [Ed.]

AUGUST...1885

- Rolling wheat paddock & lucerne paddock
- Pruning trees
- Planting mangold in garden
- Chaffing
- RENTED OUT : Gilbert's Cottage to Mr. Rogers for 1/6d. Per week.
- WORKMEN : Mr. Bob Nash

W.Lilley left to the North shearing.

Edmonds left to the North shearing.

SEPTEMBER...1885

- Nash in garden
- McPherson working on road
- Others carting wood
- Hoe-ing potatoes
- Fencing
- Sheepwork
- Richardson's sire brought to Tucker's mares
- "Nero" to Strath – shod all round. "Sult" one shoe
- SOLD : 5 Horses to Adelaide market – valued at £ 80
- WORKMEN : Nash, McPherson, W.Lilley recommenced

OCTOBER...1885

- Cutting strainers & struts
- Boiling bullock for pigs
- Tailed lambs

OCTOBER... 1885 Contd.

- Transplanting onions
- Carting wood
- Chaff and sticks for beans
- Cleaning Barn for shearing
- Began shearing 28th.-shore 325, 336 on 29th., 280 on 30th.
- SOLD : 5 Steers @ £ 5/10s. Per head at Cheriton's Monthly Sale.
- BOUGHT : Wool bales, twine, oil and other shearing requisites from Milang, collected from Sandergrove Railway Platform.
- SHEARERS : J.Edmonds, J.Kerslake, G.Hogarth, C.Westley, R.Hibbard
- WORKMEN : B.Nash, W.Lilley ,wool-pressing, Tucker Children helping.

NOVEMBER...1885

- Shearing....2nd. Nov. – 301 sheep shorn, 3rd.- 329, 4th.-106, Total for Shearing was 1,677 sheep.
- Cleaned up Barn
- Started mowing
- Raking and cocking
- Chaff-cutting
- Mowing and cocking peas
- Carting Hay
- Thrashing white peas – got 4 tied bags ,[about18 bushells]
- Reaping Barley
- Minding pigs on the peas
- Digging potatoes
- SOLD : 1 Ton, 2 Cwt., 50 lbs. Chaff to Mr. Sissons
- WORKMEN : B.Nash, W.Lilley and young Tuckers

DECEMBER...1885

- Reaping, treading & cleaning barley
- Minding pigs

- Digging potatoes
- Mustering sheep
- Killed pig
- Gathering fruit

DECEMBER...1885 [Contd.]

- Scrubbing Chapel seats after Christmas Day Tea-Meeting Proceeds of day £10 /6s.
- SOLD: To Adelaide – Filly £ 12, Colt £ 11, Colt £11/ 10s.

Trucked lambs, ewes, wethers and wool for sale in Adelaide. Merino wool brought 5 and half pence per pound. Another truck to Adelaide of 100 lambs, 5 wethers, 25 pigs.

All of above was by train.

15 bags potatoes to W.P Dunk for 4 pounds / 10 s. Per ton. To Milang by train.

60 Doz. Apricots and 6 gallons plums to Mrs. Woolfitt.

- WORKMEN : B. Nash, W.Lilley

End of 1885

JANUARY 1886

- Ploughing on 5th. and 6th.
- Rested on extremely hot days
- SOCIAL : to Victor Harbor New Years Day / Evening ride around Strathalbyn

FEBRUARY 1886

- Thatching haystack
- Gathering fruit
- Council Meeting
- Strath. Show - Feb. 25th

Roadworks : Fitch successful tender for Chapel Hill - 25/- per chain, and for Greenways - £ 2/15/-

- BOUGHT : 5 Bags flour from W.P Dunk, Milang per rail Sandergrrove Platform.
- WORKERS : Bob Nash , Tucker boys

MARCH 1886

- Mt. Barker Show on 4th. Couldn't go, fearful hot, large fires everywhere – one at McHarg's Creek.
- Plastering and cementing in house
- Raising and carting stones
- Gathering Quince
- Clearing stumps from Turkey Flat
- SOLD : One bag peas to I.Coad 18/- , Received cheque from Luxmores 41 skins total 15/-.
- BOUGHT: 25 bags peas & 5 bags seed wheat from I.Coad, 12 bags seed wheat from McCallum
- WORKMEN : Bob Nash, W.Lilley, Tucker boys

APRIL...1886

- Carting manure to lucerne
- Gathering winter peas
- Carting post and pegging out new fence line
- Burnt rushes
- White-washing store room and milk house
- Sorting peas for seed
- Ploughing
- BOUGHT: 5 bags seed barley W.P.Dunk ex. Milang train

MAY...1886

- To Strath. for bread
- Special Meeting of Council re- contracts for metalling Turkey Flat Road. J. O'Connor's tender accepted £ 2/12/6d. Per chain. Next Council Meeting, Fitch's tender at £ 2/17/6d. Accepted to metal section of road by Greenways.

JUNE...1886

- June 1st. Shock of an earth-quake, baby Arthur Harold Tucker born that night. Mrs Murray, the Midwife stayed 15 days.
- Caught 6 wild cats in traps in 6 days. Also a kangaroo rat.
- Cleaned out Chapel stable
- Sowing peas

- Grubbing vines

JULY...1886

- Clearing out water holes in Coad's Gulley
- Started planting potatoes
- Driving cockatoos off the peas
- Planting rose hedge
- SOCIAL : Went to Strathalbyn – too much whiskey about
- BOUGHT : Apricot and plum trees , 5 for 6/-. From monthly Sale.

AUGUST...1886

- Sheperding on roads
- Fencing
- Trimming hedge and pruning trees
- WORKMEN : Bob Nash, W.Lilley – his wage £1/0/0 per week

SEPTEMBER...1886

- Sowed 2 bags wild oats on sand hill in sheep yard paddock
- Grubbing and planting melons
- Harrowing lucerne ground
- Minding sheep on Turkey Flat
- Sheperding by Tucker boys
- Bob Nash in garden
- Cutting acacia
- Burning hedge

SEPTEMBER...1886 Contd.

- Preparing ground for cucumbers
- Mr. Sipson's stallion served "Diamond", and "Talk of the Glen" served "Prima Donna".
- Children curranting
- BOUGHT : 25 Wool Packs, rubble and bottle of Turps from W.P.Dunk, Milang.

OCTOBER...1886

- 5 Days fencing
- Hoe-ing potatoes
- Shearing 14th. to 28th.

NOVEMBER...1886

- Mowing lucerne. Unsuccessful with mowing machine – had to use scythes.
- Carting hay, finished 6 loads lucerne.
- Mowing peas
- Reaping barley
- Stacking sheaves
- Painting kitchen
- SOLD : Horses to Barker & Chambers in Adelaide
- BOUGHT : ½ Ton flour from W.P.Dunk ex Milang per train 12 pounds per ton.
- WORKERS : Bob Nash, W.Lilley, W.Yates, Miss Raggat to sew.

DECEMBER...1886

- 1st. to 6th. Carting and thrashing peas
- Engaged a sheep truck [train] for next week plus one for Taylor and one for Goldfinch for potatoes.
- Bert and Lionel [eldest Tucker boys] drove 110 sheep to Strath. for Adelaide – very hot day
- Digging potatoes
- SOLD : 7 Bags Potatoes and 3 bags onions to Strath. for W.P.Dunk
- SOCIAL : Everyone helping prepare Chapel for Christmas Day Tea Meeting. Social in Barn on 27th.

END of 1886

JANUARY...1887

- Reaping and cleaning wheat
- Raking and cocking straw
- Carting, pulling & straightening straw for thatching.
- Thatching the stack
- Mustering ewes and lambs

- Gathering plums
- Greasing and screwing up wagons and drays
- SOLD : 100 Dozen apricots @ 2 ½ d. Per doz., 21 Pigs to Adelaide for £ 34/19/7d.
- BOUGHT : Tarpaulin from Bells 25/-.
- ROADS : Tenders to be called for repairing Fords by Greenways [on old Main Rd., also called the “top road” Sandergrove which was Closed 1907.] Also 5 Chains Metal on Sandergrove Road, and for 14 Chains to Railway Platform.
- WORKMEN : Bob Nash, W.Yates, Tucker boys

FEBRUARY...1887

- Gathering pears and apples
- Putting concrete floor in cellar
- Cleaning out Wells in Reserve [Water Reserve No.7] for Council – discovered something obnoxious in one.
- Put concrete floor in trap house.
- Tarring cellar
- White-washing trap house
- Washing and greasing traps
- STRATHALBYN SHOW : “Poppett” took 1st. Prize for Jumping, and “Topsy” won 1st. Prize in pony race. Prize one guinea[21/-]
- WORKERS : Bob Nash, W.Lilley, W.Yates, Tucker boys.

MARCH...1887

- Carting post for Chapel Ground
- Chaffed 35 bags
- Mr.Milnes and self putting an oven in the kitchen
- Shelling Almonds
- Fire broke away from W.J.T – burnt uprights of pig yard
- Harrowing around fences
- Burning prickly pear
- Manure carted to lucerne
- SOLD : 28 Sheepskins , Grapes to Mrs. Kirkham

MARCH... 1887 Contd.

- BOUGHT : One pair boots from Thomas 9/6d., 2 Tons of No. 8 Steel Round Wire from Harris Scarf & Co. For £ 9/5/0.
- WORKMEN : Bob Nash, W.Yates – squared up his a/c at £1/0/0 per week for 25 weeks. Tucker boys.

APRIL...1887

- Burnt old hedge in Eldon House paddock [half house]
- Chaffed 121 bags and another chaffing of 144 bags
- Started ploughing
- Shelling almonds
- Gathering quince
- Carting earth from Evan’s old house [?]
- Sowed 3 bags oats in sheep yard paddock
- WORKMEN : Bob Nash, W.Yates, W.Lilley

MAY...1887

- Boiling down dead filly for oil – took 3 days
- Sowed barley
- Digging around apple trees
- Notice from Dan. Lilley in the Sandergrove Village Settlement – All dogs, pigs, goats & poultry will be destroyed and stock impounded, found trespassing on his Allotments.
- RECEIVED : T. Mannion paid for stones and paddocking of bullocks £7/5/0.
- WORKMEN : Will’s Wages 15/- per week [? Yates, Lilley or both]

JUNE...1887

- June 6th. every day mail started today from the Platform
- Pulling down old building in School Ground [?]
- White-washed kitchen

- Cutting struts and strainers for School ground rails
- W.Lilley working on road to Platform
- C.Smith's Tender for grubbing accepted – 1/8d. Per chain at Platform
- W.Fitch Tender for forming and spreading metal at Windmill 11/6d. Per chain [? Tucker Rd. area by Windmill Paddock]
- W.J.TUCKER with wife ANNIE, on behalf of Council, gave every child in Sandergrove Ward a Jubilee Medal – handed out 70.

JULY...1887

- Sowing white peas
- Pruning apple trees
- Carting manure for potatoes
- Planted 4 apple trees
- Tailed 503 lambs
- Planting potatoes in garden for 3 days
- Planted mangolds in lucerne paddock
- Sons – George and Lionel shepherding sheep
- W.J.Tucker re-elected as Councillor. With wife, Annie took 300 Jubilee Medals to children in Strathalbyn.
- SOLD : 14 Pigs, 4 Calves and Horse, " Captain " to Mr. Sipsons for £17/0/0.
- BOUGHT ; Potatoes from Railway Station at Strath. 6 Cwt. 3 Qts. Paid 5/2d. Cartage.

AUGUST...1887

- Trimming pear and quince trees
- Grubbing vines
- Sons – Lionel and Jim shepherding sheep
- Bags around apple trees – the hares destroying them
- Chaffed 17 bags
- Digging holes for trees in Chapel ground and School ground.
- Planted a total of 40 trees – 29 Chapel, 11 School
- Cutting stakes for trees
- Carting stones and wood, one load for Schoolmaster
- Planting melons and pumpkins in lucerne paddock
- Manure to new trees & Fry's Garden
- ATTENDED MEETING : Re – Tax on imported cattle and sheep. Proposed to put one Pound per head of cattle and 2/6d. on sheep.
- WORKMEN : Bob. Nash, W.Lilley and Tucker boys

SEPTEMBER : 1887

- Made bird cage
- Helping Annie in her garden and with churning butter
- To Adelaide Show

OCTOBER : 1887

- Hoe-ing potatoes
- Helped Annie make 34 ½ lb. Butter
- Carting lucerne hay and finished it. Horses bolted from the stack with the wagon.
- Started shearing 24th. to 31st. Total shorn – 1,593 for 15/- per hundred.
- SHEARERS : McPhee, Drysdale, Hibbard, Edmonds and Gardiner. Will Yates pressing wool

NOVEMBER : 1887

- Mowing
- Haymaking
- Reaping barley
- Mowing peas
- Watering trees Chapel & School
- 12 bales wool to Strath. rest another day. Total 22 bales plus 5 sacks
- Elders Wool Valuation – Crossbred 8d. per lb. , Merino 6 ½ d. per lb. , Lambs 4 d. per lb.
- SOLD : 44 Fowls to Mr. Gibbons
- PAID : Marey Cooper £3/0/0 for sewing and to Jessie McPhee for sewing.

DECEMBER : 1887

- Mowing peas with scythes
- Drafted 50 lambs for Adelaide
- Harvesting Sugar Cane
- Reaping barley – 29 bags off 11 acres
- Castrated and ear-marked pigs
- Reaping wheat – broke a tooth took it to Daniels in Strath. to repair

Received wool cheque £40/3/0.

- BOUGHT : One Scythe & handle 7/6d. , Hook 1/11d. , Pr. Boots from Thomas 8/7d.

END of 1887

AGRICULTURAL / LIVESTOCK RETURN for SEASON 1892 to 1893

At W.J.TUCKER 'S "LAKE VIEW", SANDERGROVE

LAND– Freehold– 1,883 Acres : Leasehold– 117 Acres

Total Enclosed– 2,000 Acres

Wheat - 50 Acres [310 bushells]

Peas– 8 Acres [140 bushells]

Potatoes– ¼ Acre [½ Ton]

Hay – 20 Acres [25 Tons]

Lucerne– 4 Acres

Garden – ¼ Acre

Orchard– 1 Acre

Almond Trees– 200

Orange Trees– 9

Olive Trees– 500

Vines Bearing– 1 ½ Acres

Horses– Working 7, Other 14

Milking Cows– 19

Other Cattle– 18

Sheep– 1,500

Pigs - 37

Poultry of all kinds – 100 [includes geese]