

## MR BENDALL HANDICAPPER AND ALL THINGS HORSES

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### COUNTRY SPORTSMAN DEAD

#### MR A. G. BENDALL'S CAREER

The death of the well-known handicapper, Mr A. G. Bendall, removes from the turf one of the best informed racing men in the Western District. He died after a fortnight's illness, and the announcement of his passing away was received with expressions of keen regret by a large circle of friends. The late Mr Bendall was a native of the Caramut district, where he spent the early years of his life. As a young man he acted as manager of the "Green Hills" estate at Winslow, then owned by his father, who conducted a livery stables in Caramut for many years, and ran coaches from Caramut to Wickliffe and Hamilton. After the father's death the business was carried on by Mr A. G. Bendall until about 20 years ago, when he retired and went to Warrnambool to live. A lover of horses, Mr A. G. Bendall as a youth was an amateur rider of note in the Western District. Subsequently he owned several racehorses, the most notable being Lady Peri, dam of Decoration, a V.R.C. Grand National Steeplechase winner; Floater, Error and other good performers. He also owned Novice and Rifleman, who won the Terang Gup in the early eighties. For many years he took a keen interest in coursing, and owned and bred some exceptionally good dogs, with which he won big stakes. After settling in Warrnambool he went in for trotters and owned several fine performers on the track, including Jim Cleve, who won a number of important races. For the last 16 years Mr Bendall acted as handicapper for most of the Western District racing clubs, and his keen judgment and knowledge of horses enabled him to carry out his onerous duties in this respect to the general satisfaction of those most concerned. Though his adjudications were at times criticised, results generally confirmed his judgment, and the excellence of his handicapping was evidenced in the keen contests so often witnessed on district courses. Mr Bendall was ever ready to lend a helping hand at district meetings, and on various occasions he acted as judge, starter or timekeeper. Acknowledged to be one of the best judges of thoroughbred horses and ponies in the State, Mr Bendall's services were much sought after as judge at agricultural shows. He acted in that capacity at most of the principal agricultural shows in this and other States, going as far afield as Perth. Mr Bendall was a man of genial temperament, and a general favorite with all with whom he associated. He was a keen student of Shakespeare, and he could quote freely from any of the immortal bard's great plays. He leaves a widow and one daughter. There was a large and representative attendance at the funeral, which took place at the Warrnambool Cemetery on Saturday. A beautiful show of floral tributes from racing clubs and friends, gave some idea of the respect in which the late handicapper was held.

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