

Bake Days in Geradstetten around 1720

In the 1719-1830 town council proceedings on wine press employees, you can find two reports about the Geradtetten bakers. [We presume the town ovens were part of the wine press installation (which at one point also housed the school!)] The minutes indicate that there were 6 bakers that were active in the town of 700 inhabitants. The townspeople often brought forward complaints that they could not buy fresh bread every day. In the first report of 1721 the bakers were summoned and told to provide for fresh bread every day, "*Alle Tag ney baches haben kan.*" As this did not work, the bakers were charged in 1725 to indicate each day which one had the responsibility to bake. This was to be determined by lottery. Otherwise they would be fined.

Anno 1721, 23 January, in this town council meeting it was decided that in the future all the bakers here together, one after the other, will on their ordinary bake days bake white bread so fresh bread is available every day, with bread rolls they have the option to bake them when they wish.

The complaints against the unreliable bakers did not cease, and the town council had to deal again with the matter in a few years. One of the bakers was the former teacher Johann Leonhard Bühler, dismissed because of misuse of his punishment rights against the children. He had learned baking in his hometown of Adelberg.

It is on the 20th of June 1725 that the townspeople complain here that the bakers, all six, want to bake bread and bead rolls at the same time, then after that you can't get bread or bread rolls.

As such a bad state of affairs has developed, legally speaking, the bakers must insure that each and every day one of them must bake bread rolls or bread, or a fine will be levied against them.