

CASTERTON NEW PUBLIC CEMETERY

FRIENDS OF THE CASTERTON NEW PUBLIC CEMETERY NEWSLETTER

LAUNCH OF THE
 "FRIENDS
 OF
 THE CASTERTON NEW
 PUBLIC CEMETERY"
 17TH JUNE, 2007
 QUOTE BY ELBERT
 HUBBARD
 HISTORY:
 A COLLECTION OF
 EPITAPHS

It is not how much you do, but how
 much love you put in the doing."

Volume 1, Issue 1

17TH JUNE, 2007



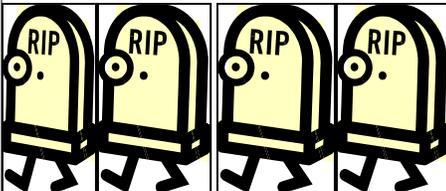
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SECRETARY: PETER GORMAN:
 TELEPHONE: 55 811381
 CHAIR: JAMES P KENT:
 TELEPHONE: 55 811414

MAY 25TH, 1875

CASTERTON NEWS

TO THE PRISIDENT OF THE GELENG SHIRE
 COUNCIL

SIR – We, the undersigned, respectfully request that
 you will, at your earliest convenience, convene a
 meeting for the purpose of appointing TRUSTEES of
 the various religious denominations required for the
 New Cemetery, and for other business, so urgently
 required in connection with the same.

We are, Sir,

Yours most respectfully,

A NEW CEMETERY FOR CASTERTON

Albert Sprigg
 James Seymour
 John Smith
 T F Blackburn
 H C James
 F Merchant
 S K McDonald
 Geo Grant

To Messrs Sprigg, Seymour, and the other gentlemen signing the
 above requisition. GENTLEMEN,-

In accordance with the above request, I hereby call a meeting to
 be held at the Court-house, Casterton, on Wednesday 2nd June, at
 2pm, for the above purpose.

JAMES ANDISON,

A NEW CEMETERY FOR CASTERTON

JUNE 8th, 1875 CASTERTON NEWS

NEW CEMETERY SITE

A Public Meeting for the purpose of considering the steps to be taken in the matter of the new cemetery site and convened by Mr Andison, the President of the Shire Council, was held on Wednesday at the Court-house. Owing to the inconvenience of the hour chosen, 2pm, but a small number put in an appearance. The business, however, was of a very formal character.

Mr Andison, who was elected to the chair, after reading the requisition to him asking him to “call a meeting”, and his reply called upon Mr Albert Sprigg to address the meeting.

Mr Sprigg said that he had visited the site next the racecourse, and that in his opinion the spot was central, dry and in every way far superior to the reserve at Bahgalah. In his opinion it only required to be fenced and improved in order to come into general use, as it had numerous advantages over the one in present use.

After some consideration of suitable names it was proposed by Mr Sprigg and seconded by Mr Peachey, that the following gentlemen be appointed trustees for the new cemetery, as representing the various religious denominations: -

Messrs A McPherson – Church of England;

Geo Carmichael – Presbyterian;

Hugh Glancy - Roman Catholic;

J G Clapham, - Ind

John Smith – Wesleyan.

Current Trustees of the Casterton New Public Cemetery

Chair: James P Kent

Sec: Peter Gorman

Members:

John Zippell

John Hughes

Jim Widdicombe

Harry Hannaford

Dick Cooper

Reg Speed

HISTORY OF THE CHURCHES OF CASTERTON

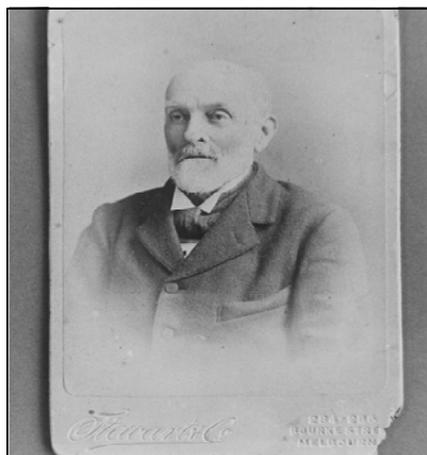
METHODIST CHURCH

Services were held in Casterton as far back as 1867 in the Common School by Rev J J Watsford, who was minister at Merino at the time. The Casterton Common School No 134 was a building that had been built by the Church of England in the 1850's.

In 1856, the Rev Henry Howard also of Merino held regular services in Casterton (possibly in the Temperance Hall) as the Common School had been demolished well before this.

At this time the circuit embraced Casterton, Digby, Coleraine, Sandford, Bruk Bruk, Hotspur, Bluff, Dwyers's Creek, Carey's and Chetwynd.

The first portion of the church (now the transept) was built in 1877 on a block of land measuring 30 feet by 40 feet which was donated by Mr. John Peachey after intensive organisation by a few of its members.



**JOHN SAUNDERS WYLD
PEACHEY**

**Buried in the Casterton Old
Cemetery (unmarked grave)**

Such was the vigor of the cause that within 10 years more land was purchased and the church was enlarged to its present dimensions.

Before long it was obvious that Casterton would be the major centre and the building of a parsonage was planned. A tender of 590 pounds was accepted and the house was completed in 1891.

The financial strain of this act was the occasion of a great deal of sacrifice until after the turn of the century.

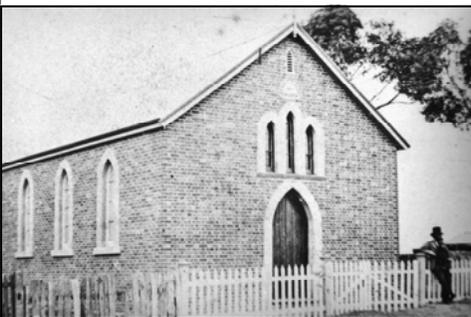
During the thirties, the Sunday School Hall was enlarged and a new tennis court was made. The court was made by Spurrell Bros, this job was financed by Mr. Russ Trewin .

Just after WW2 a vestry was added to the church and a tennis pavilion was built; the bricks for these projects being taken from the demolished Merino parsonage.

From "Gleanings 2" by Doris Milward

A unanimous decision by both Presbyterian and Methodist congregations on September 17th, 1958 saw the union of the two Churches. become part of the Uniting Church in Australia.

Methodist Church, circa 1880's



**Peachey family buried in the
Casterton New Cemetery:**

Alice Peachey –Buried January 1st 1931, Aged 64 years, Church of England Section.

Enid Jean Peachey, - Buried December 6th 1951, Stillborn.

Charles Peachey—Buried December 18th 1955, Aged 60 years, Church of England Section.

Elizabeth Peachey—Buried February 13th 1995, Aged 102 years, Church of England Section, H 27

There are only two Peachey headstones in the Cemetery, those of Charles and Elizabeth.

Headstone Inscriptions

Headstone inscriptions have been done up until March 2004. These are available from the Secretary Peter Gorman and also the Casterton and District Historical Society.Inc.



There is a need to continue the process of transcribing the headstones from March 2004. Any persons interested in becoming involved in this project, please place an expression of interest to the Secretary , Mr Peter Gorman.



PASSED AWAY

From the Merino Chronicle, 18th May, 1939

News of the death of George Scott Grant, proprietor and licensee of the Albion Hotel Casterton will be learned with deep regret and with a measure of surprise as it was only his relatives and immediate friends who were aware that he was seriously ill. He had been in his usual health and attended the Sandford Races on the 6th inst. But took ill a few days later and despite the most attentive medical and nursing attention he gradually failed and death ensued at 6 o'clock last night.

He was 63 years of age on the 27th of January last and had spent the whole of his life in Casterton, with the exception of about 12 months spent in Mildura.

He took over the Albion Hotel on the

retirement of his father and for many years conducted same as an exceptionally high standard. The hotel being known far and wide as one of the best conducted throughout the state.

Deceased was keenly interested in racing and other sport and was an outstanding figure being one of the best known men of the Western District.

Though of a quiet and retiring nature with his wife he was a strong supporter of many movements for the benefit of the town and district.

He was for many years a member of the Glenelg Lodge of

Freemasons and held the office of Worshipful Master in 1906 and 07.

George Scott Grant
Buried
Casterton New Cemetery
1876-1939
Aged 63 years
Church of England Section



GRAVESITE SYMBOLS

Like antiques, every burial ground is a treasure of the past, which needs to be protected and preserved.

Conservation is better than restoration.

WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM A CEMETERY?

GRAVES: Special Skills required to Conserve Monuments

The care of monuments usually requires the skills of specialists such as monumental masons and letter cutters. Works to stone monuments and historic graves could require the skills of trained conservators. Unskilled persons should not attempt to clean or restore a monument without first obtaining appropriate advice.

RECORDS: Cemetery records

The records relating to a cemetery are essential to the story it tells. The records must be conserved as well as the monuments and graves.

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- Altar** **Symbol of sacrifice, worship thanksgiving, remembrance**
- Anchor** **Marine symbol signifying Hope and an object to cling To for safety. Usually has an Elaborate rope or chain. Sometimes combined with a Cross or an angel**
- Animals** **Lambs depict the innocence Of children or the sacrificial Lamb of God. Serpents are ramped in triumph over Sin and death, or eat their Tails in the old Celtic symbol Of eternity. Doves are for the Holy Spirit, love, peace or Renewed life.**