

# Casterton New Public Cemetery

## Friends of the New Cemetery Newsletter



NEXT WORKING BEE  
AND  
CEMTERY MAPPING  
PROJECT  
DAY

27<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2008

8AM TO 12 NOON  
(WORKING BEE)  
10AM TO 12NOON  
(MAPPING)  
Followed by BBQ

*April 2008*

*Volume 2, Issue 2*

• *Launch of Cemetery  
Mapping Project  
Page 1&2*

• *Headstone cleaning  
techniques Page 2*

• *Obituary -Francis  
George Underwood*

### Launch of Casterton New Cemetery Mapping Project

Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> March saw a height of activity at the cemetery when volunteers for the New Cemetery Mapping project was launched.

Over 10 volunteers turned up to help the cemetery to transcribe the inscriptions from the headstones of graves in the Lawn section and Ashes repository.

Headstone inscriptions for the cemetery have previously been recorded up until 2005 and the Lawn section and the Ashes wall plaques can now be crossed off the list of "things to be done" in the transcriptions area of conservation and preservation.

They are currently being recorded onto a computer database by a volunteer from the community centre as part of the conservation and preservation of records for the New Cemetery.

On Sunday 27<sup>th</sup>, the work continues commencing at the Methodist section where volunteers will systematically walk down each row and cross reference the burial register entries with the grave site row and plot number and the name/s of the person buried in each grave.

Any inscriptions will be transcribed from 2005 onwards so that the inscriptions are up to date.

Supported by Heritage Victoria Conservation Volunteers Program under the supervision of Mr Roger Southern, this vital project will take around 6 months to complete.

The cemetery trust is very pleased to have this important area of recordkeeping undertaken by volunteers under the helpful hands of Heritage Victoria.

Continued page 2.....

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



Casterton New Cemetery Aerial View



## Mapping Project ..... continued from Page 1

Plans under the project aims to see funding opportunities sourced to have each section of the cemetery signed for each denomination and each row identified so that visitors to the cemetery will be able to find the graves easily.

Also the project hopes to eventually enable the cemetery trust to produce a brochure with a map of the cemetery so that visitors can easily identify the various areas within the cemetery.

But like everything it requires time and money, and the

project is the starting point for the long term identified needs of the cemetery and for the ongoing preservation and conservation of the cemetery itself.

If you require an details regarding this project please contact Mr Peter Gorman, Secretary, Casterton New Cemetery who would be happy to discuss the project.

**Like to contribute an article to  
this newsletter?  
Contact Mr Peter Gorman**

### HEADSTONE CLEANING TECHNIQUES – A SUMMARY EVERY ISSUE

Taken from *Conserving our Cemeteries* (Edited by Celestina Sagazio)

#### **Material Type**

#### **Marble**

Do not use copper sulphate washes on light coloured stone or marble, do not use deionised water on marble.

Use rainwater for aqueous cleaning processes of marble if available.

#### **Lichen**

Removing lichens can cause more damage — control by gently brushing loose material at an early stage will prevent growth and plan attachment to the stone.

- Initial low pressure water rinse, gently brush (with a natural fibre brush) to remove loose material;
- appropriate herbicide/biocide if necessary increase shade with vegetation to kill lichen.

#### **Moss**

- gently brush (with a natural fibre brush) to remove loose material;
- manual removal with fine tweezers taking care to observe any fragility in the stone
- appropriate herbicide/biocide remove vegetation to increase direct sunlight

## Obituary - Francis George Underwood (1877-1958)

*Casterton New Cemetery*

*Secretary:*

*Mr Peter Gorman*

*Phone:*

*03 5581381*

*Chair:*

*Mr James P Kent*

*03 55811414*

*Casterton and District Historical  
Society*

*Archivist:*

*Ms Jan Lier*

*0432 774314*

A highly respected resident of Casterton and a great church worker, Mr. Francis George Underwood, passed away on April 24 after a long illness. He was 80.

An ardent Methodist, he gave long and varied service to the Casterton Church. He was a local preacher for 37 years, a trustee for 33 years, taught in the Sunday School and rose to be superintendent for some years. On several occasions he represented the Church at district synods and at annual conferences in Melbourne.

Son of the late Eliza and Charles Underwood he was born in Penshurst in 1877.

Thirty years later he moved Casterton, where he became widely known as a carter for Chittocks and Carters Bakeries. Then he spent 21 years as an employee at "the general store" conducted by Goodman Harris and his successors Osborne and Johnson. In this latter period he drove the Harrow mail for six years.

Most of his life he was a member of MUIOOF and he was a trustee of the Casterton Cemetery until a few days before he died.

He is survived by his widow, formerly Miss May Millard, whom he married in the Casterton Methodist Church in 1909, and two daughters, Ada ( Mrs H Teague, Dingee) and Doris ( Mrs N Davis, Colac).

One son, Millard, pre deceased him.

One of a family of 10, Mr Underwood is also survived by three sisters, Miss May Underwood, Ascot Vale; Mrs Jack Beaton, Konong Wootong; and Mrs Bert Morley, Brisbane; and a brother, Mr William Underwood, Penshurst.

The service at the graveside was conducted by Rev D Ireson.

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*Newsletter  
Friends of the Casterton New Cemetery  
c/o Gormans Real Estate  
Henty Street  
Casterton, 3311*

