FRIENDS OF THE CASTERTON NEW PUBLIC CEMETERY NEWSLETTER



NEXT WORKING BEE 7th OCTOBER 2007 9AM-12NOON Followed by a BBQ All Welcome

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

Volume 1, Issue 3

7TH OCTOBER, 2007

Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church



Photographs from our working bees

OBITUARIES MURDOCH MCLEOD

JIM KENT AND MURDOCH MCLEOD'S **PLAQUE**



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

Funding News

Sacred Heart Church Casterton Circa unknown



Catholic Church of Casterton, Sacred Heart

Standing on a commanding sight on Toorak Hill is the Roman Catholic Church, erected in the year 1886.

The Roman Catholic Parish was established in Casterton as early as 1875 with Father P Cavanagh as the first Parish Priest.

It is recorded that a Priest from Adelaide was the first minister to travel the district. This ma refer to the Rev. Father Rowe, who is recorded as having performed a marriage at the Inn in 1846. Father Farrely, also appears in the records as an early arrival.

Taken from Gleanings by Doris Milward.

Photos from the working bees



Julie Gorman, **Evelyn Pevitt** and Vanessa Smith

and



TRUSTEES SAY THANK YOU

EXTRACT FROM CASTERTON **NEWS**

Chairman of the Trustees of the Casterton New Cemetery, James P Kent, has expressed his thanks to all the volunteers who turned up at the last two working bees held at the Cemetery.

About 20 "Friends of the

Casterton New Cemetery" have been involved in a major clean up of the cemetery.

"Volunteers turned up with ride on mowers, hoes and shovels and a remarkable transformation had taken place".

The New Cemetery Trust has been successful in obtaining funding to seal the trafficable area into the cemetery.

These works will be undertaken over the coming summer with help from the volunteers and contractors.

To all the volunteers involved with the New Cemetery

THANK YOU!!!!!

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MURDOCH MCLEOD PLAQUE BY JAMES P KENT

OBITUARIES

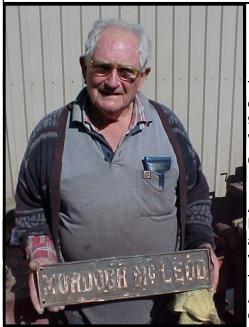
The starkness of his grave site had my attention for a number of years.

It was identified by a rust surround of angle iron, and the only evidence of who occupied this grave was a number place sized piece of copper, upon which his name was stamped.

No other information was offered at the grave site, like a lot of others my curiosity eventually won over, I removed his name plate with a view to polishing it, and replacing it on a more eye friendly anchor. And of course I desired to know more of the origin, and life of this grave occupier.

Our Historical Society has now in place some very sophisticated IT machines, and by using one of these, in a matter of minutes, Murdoch McLeod's life was in evidence, recorded in the Casterton News edition

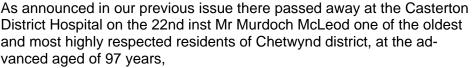
of July 1st 1920, and viewed per medium of film. (Continued Page 4)



Murdoch McLeod, Died 22nd June, 1920

The death occurred in the Casterton Hospital on Tuesday of Mr Murdoch McLeod, a well known resident of Chetwynd, who gave his age as 94 years, although other old residents of the district consider he was well over the century.

Casterton News, June 28th 1920.



The deceased was a native of the Isle of Skye, Scotland and came to Australia in the ship "The British Empire" landing at Portland in the early 50's. He spent his early pioneer days on Tallarris and other stations in the south east. He was a fearless rider and could tell many tales of his early experiences of station life.

About the year 1870 he went to Chetwynd and settled on the land. He was always noted for his kindly disposition and being ever ready to lend a helping hand.

Though welcomed in many homes, he lived a solitary life when home, having never married. The last three months of his life he spent in Casterton Hospital under the kind care of Matron McKae, where passed away as above.

He was buried in the New Cemetery Casterton, Mr W Peden carried out the mortuary arrangements and the Rev J Meers conducted the burial service

Casterton News, July 1st, 1920



MURDOCH MCLEOD DIED 22/6/1920



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

Some time back I was saddened to see the grave sites of the very first couple to be married and raise a family in Casterton, namely John and Ellen Richardson.

I mentioned this matter to a descendant of this pioneer couple, who immediately put Into place a trust for the receipt of monetary donations for the purpose of erecting a more pleasing and permanent monument, over the remains of Casterton's first married couple.

Today in the New Casterton Cemetery the grave site of Jack and Ellen Richardson is a great credit to their descendants.

Sadly, our 10 acre Cemetery, which received its first internment in 1870, contains numerous grave sites in a very sad state of disrepair. Quite a number of these graves are occupied by pioneers of our town and district, some have no longer any descendants living in the Casterton district, whilst on the other hand, in many cases, there are still quite a number of the descendants of these pioneers, still around the town and district.

Currently the New Cemetery is being maintained by the volunteer efforts of a group of local citizens, and the Trustees, this situation has been bought about by the financial restraints of the Trust.

The Trustees would like to express their sincere appreciation for the work being done by these Volunteers and to remind all interested parties that the next working bee at the Cemetery will be on Sunday October 7th.

CONTRIBUTED BY JAMES P KENT
CHAIR: CASTERTON NEW CEMETERY

LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE TO THIS NEWSLETTER????? CONTACT PETER GORMAN

FUNDING NEWS!!!!!

The Casterton New Cemetery Trust has been Successful in receiving funding of \$1000.00 From the Glenelg Shire Council Community Grants Program

To have the Cemetery Maps scanned and Reproduced as working copies so that The original maps

Now over 130 years old Can be preserved.

These maps are the only true record of burials in the

Cemetery as the Burial Register

Does not record all of the burials.

THIS IS GREAT NEWS for the

HISTORY OF THE CEMETERY

CASTERTON OLD CEMETERY
Has also received funding of \$3000.00
For the creation of a cemetery
Walk and Brochure
Through the
Glenelg Shire Toursim Grant.

Perhaps

Next year the Friends of the Casterton New Cemetery

Might like to do the same and create a walk

Through our New Cemetery

Something to think about?????

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