

Casterton and District  
Historical Society Inc  
Newsletter

APRIL 2012

# Historical Happenings



Casterton Community Museum

*Items in our newsletter:*

*Memorial Avenue of Honor*

## Planting of a World War 1 Soldiers' Memorial Avenue of Honor

According to the following news items from the "The Casterton News and the Merino and Sandford Record", Casterton commenced the planting a World War 1 Soldiers' Memorial Avenue of Honor on the Coleraine-road, Casterton, S-W Victoria, Australia, commencing at Pearce's Bridge.

"The Casterton News and the Merino and Sandford Record" (Vic.) Thursday, 22nd August 1918.

### *Soldiers' Memorial Avenue : Start Made at Casterton.*

Following upon the preparations of the previous Saturday the Coleraine road from Pearce's Bridge again presented a busy appearance on Saturday last. In the morning the members of the trees' and guards' committees tackled the work in real earnest, and had a large number of guards erected and the soil properly prepared for the reception of the trees before noon.

In the afternoon quite a crowd of workers, consisting of returned soldiers, Councillors, members of Committee, and others were in attendance, together with a large number of lady visitors, relatives of soldiers and others, and soon had the preliminary work carried out.

An apology was received from Cr. J. J. Durack, and Mr G. T. Graham, Digby. The trees planted consisted of Lambertianas, and though small were healthy and in the congenial soil of the district it is expected they will soon develop into substantial specimens of cypress trees. The trees were numbered, and a record kept by the secretaries, Messrs W. A. W. Kell and H. S. McBean, of each one who planted a tree. Farrier-Sergeant W. J. Gavan was the first to plant a tree, as the footballers required his services as an umpire, he having failed in health whilst assisting to adjudicate in the glorious struggle for freedom on the other side of the globe.

The planting was officially opened by the President of Glenelg Shire (Cr. J. Little) who said he was proud that day to have the honor of officially planting the first tree in the Soldiers' Memorial Avenue. Honor was due to the A.N.A.,

## NEXT MEETING

There will be no meeting held in April.

May meeting details will be advised

Casterton New Cemetery Mapping Project:





Unknown Soldier – Can you identify?  
Casterton Historical Society Archives



Unknown Soldiers 8<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Can  
you identify?  
Casterton Historical Society Archives

the members of which had originated the movement and were responsible for the start that was made that day. It was not, however, the ceremony proper. It was the start of the Avenue, and he hoped that it would be continued to the boundary of the Glenelg Shire, and then the avenue could be further continued on the Mount Gambier road. He had himself favored the Sandford road site, yet though beaten he was satisfied to go on with the movement, and assist in as that small way to honor their brave soldiers. When the trees planted that day were named, they would be in honor of fallen soldiers, and when sufficient had been planted a tree would be named for each soldier. He thanked Messrs Peden and Tytherleigh for their extra work which enabled the guards to be completed in time, the public and the workers who had attended on that and the previous Saturday.

Cr. J. W. Murrell said he had not come to speak. He was proud to be there, and to see that a start had been made with the Soldiers' Avenue. The trees would keep in their memories the heroic deeds their soldiers had done for them. He thanked all who had worked so hard.

Trees were planted as follows by the Councillors present, returned soldiers, and relatives of soldiers :

1. Cr. J. Little
2. Cr. J. W. Murrell
3. Cr. L. T. Koch
4. Cr. R. F. Hedditch
5. Cr. H. J. Munro
6. Cr. G. L. Young
7. Cr. A. Mitchell
8. Mr R. E. Robinson
9. Sergeant L. T. O'Neill, M.M.
10. Mrs J. McLaughlin (per D. V. West)
11. Private G. Peachey
12. Driver W. Burchell
13. Mrs Jelly
14. Sergeant W. J. Gavan
15. Mrs A. Murrell
16. Lance-Corporal H. L. Fell
17. Miss McLennan
18. Private A. J. Doyle
19. Mrs J. McDonald
20. Mrs J. Boyd
21. Mrs J. Critchlow
22. Mrs W. Smith
23. Miss Harris
24. Mr A. Patterson
25. Miss Pearce
26. Lieutenant H. Patterson (per Mr A. Patterson)
27. Private J. McIntyre
28. Miss Patterson
29. Private W. Munro
30. Private A. Lowe
31. Mrs W. G. McKinney
32. Private G. Davis (per Mrs J. Davis)



Unknown soldier, 8<sup>th</sup> Battalion  
Can you identify?  
Casterton Historical Society  
Archives

We're on the Web -  
visit us at:

[http://www.swvic.org/  
castertonhistoricalsocie  
ty.htm](http://www.swvic.org/castertonhistoricalsociety.htm)

To contribute to this newsletter,  
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or contact Ros at  
[roscov48@bigpond.com](mailto:roscov48@bigpond.com)  
tel 5581 2875

33. Mrs J. Greenham
34. Private C. Davis (per Mr J. Davis)
35. Mrs W. Gavan
36. Mr J. McKinnon
37. Mr J. Davis
38. Mr H. Hornibrook
39. Mr W. Clayton
40. Mr G. Holmes
41. Mr J. Glancy
42. Mrs J. Meers
43. Mr A. G. Cowland
44. Corporal. E. Fell (per L.-Corporal H. L. Fell)
45. Mr C. Smith
46. Mr A. McDonald
47. Mr W. R. Corney
48. Mr W. H. Zimmer
49. Miss Gazzard
50. Mr T. R. Tytherleigh

The Secretaries desire that special thanks be tendered to Mr J. Greenham for carting done and assistance rendered.

Additional information appreciated. Compiled by Daryl Povey - [EMAIL](#)

Casterton & District Historical Society.

### Victoria Wiki Warrior

The Public Record Office Victoria's Wiki website is an online space for researching, as well as sharing your own information on the PROV collection. Accessible to everyone, all you need is a willingness to contribute and you can become a PROV Wiki Warrior!

If you would really like to share your great find with family and friends but you'd like to have it all in the one place. The Wiki allows you to do all this and more!

Sounds a little difficult? Well it's not really because all of this information can be entered into an online form on the Wiki and hey, presto! It does it all for you – well almost. Why not start today by following the step-by-step guide on the Wiki homepage on how you can contribute.

*If you're keen to learn more about the Wiki, you can also attend one of our training workshops. Check the Public Record Office Victoria website at [www.prov.vic.gov.au](http://www.prov.vic.gov.au). We are also looking to mentor a number of groups in creating content for the Wiki and happy to discuss with you your ideas for content. [wiki.prov.vic.gov.au/](http://wiki.prov.vic.gov.au/)*