

Casterton and District
Historical Society Inc
Newsletter
OCTOBER 2015

Historical



Casterton Community Museum

Next General Meeting

OCTOBER 14TH at 2pm at
the Glenelg Hotel

Do you recognize these?



Welcome to our newsletter for October 2015.

New Office Bearers

President: Karen Stephens
Senior Vice President: Bob Mitchell
Junior Vice President: Dawn Black
Secretary:
Minutes Secretary: Dawn Mill
Treasurer: Heather Mullen

We desperately need a secretary, if you think you can take up the challenge please let Karen or Heather now. You will be welcomed with open arms!

The Historical Society has been invited to set up a display at the Collections Exhibition in aid of Glenelg House. I thought a display of things we no longer use would be a good idea, if you have a suggestion please let me know.

There will be a meeting at Alexandra House, Hamilton on the 24th October for people interested in getting railway services restored to country areas. Cost of the night is \$20.00, and it starts at 6.30. If you plan on attending please call Jan Welch on 5571 2339 at least a week before.

A gentler reminder that subscriptions are due now please. For those who have paid, receipts should be available this week. As yet the auditors have not quite finished with the books, but they should be back this week.

Finding the newsletter boring? Here's your chance to fix it. Send in some tales, anecdotes or stories of your history in town, doesn't have to be very old. One day your descendants will want to know what sort of things you did in your day.



Casterton Community Museum

KENT'S CORNER:

Copies available at the VIC of
Volume 2: **Roamin' Round the
Town by Jim Kent**

Volume 1 is being reprinted.

CDHS is located at the **Casterton
Visitor Information Centre
on Racecourse Road**

e-mail:
castertonhistorical@hotmail.com

**PO Box 4
Casterton 3311
Phone: 5581 2070**

**To visit the Casterton
Community Museum:**
call Heather Mullen on 0466 833
878 or email at
heathermullen@bigpond.com

To contribute to **this newsletter,**
**please contact Heather on 0466
833 878 or e-mail at**

heathermullen@bigpond.com

Gordon Malee has lived on the corner across from the railway station for 80 years. In a recent conversation he offered these memories:

During the depression there was no money for entertainment, so the biggest social occasion in town was the arrival of the train. Everyone would walk down to see the people coming and going, the goods being delivered and associated actions. They'd watch the engine being driven up to the turntable, rotated and reattached to the other end to depart.

If anyone in town had sheep or pigs to sell, they would walk them to the station and put them in yards next to the sheds, to be loaded and taken to market.

The train crew would start firing up the engine around 3am, to make sure they had a full head of steam when it was departure time. The neighbours would get an early wake up call around 4 when they let the steam go.

During the war a train arrived at night to take the lighthouse to Melbourne to be sent to war. A number of young children from a certain family across the road snuck out of the window to watch the loading, then snuck back before mum and dad found out what they were up to.

October Happenings:

- 1852 Site of township approved.
- 1858 Robert and Mary Hunt murdered.
- 1865 Overland telegraph extended to Casterton from Penola.
- 1886. Railway Station opened.
- 1892 Goodman Harris bought Rapkins.
- 1907 Convent opened.
- 1908 Foundation stone laid for Presbyterian (now Uniting) Church.
- 1919 Jeffreys Bros cordial business registered.
- 1941 Scout Emblem lit by cans of oil.