



NEWSLETTER

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Welcome to 2014



The New Year of 2014 has arrived and the first major event in Altona will be:

“Australia Day in Altona”
Sunday 26th January 2014.

There will be free entertainment for all in Logan Reserve, Pier Street and on Altona Beach.

The Altona Homestead Museum will be open on the day between 11.00 a.m. and 5 .00 p.m. with all invited to visit the Homestead “Australiana”, Ned Kelly and Apron Exhibitions, listen to Aussie Yarns, try an Aussie pie and more.

What has been Happening?



There has been some interesting developments, with material becoming available of a historic nature, regarding activities around Altona in past years, this includes, Audio, Video, Film and photographic material regarding a number of subjects of local historical interest.



Audio

Member and Archivist ,Ann Cassar has put many hours into converting a range of audio cassette tapes to digital format on DVD that can be replayed on modern equipment, the subjects include interviews with Past President of the Historical Society Barry Hanson recalling his experiences and memories in Altona, and Past Secretary Alan Clarke who has visited and been a guest speaker at the Homestead on several occasions. Other matters discussed include the Bike Race in Altona in 1984.

The ideal outcome would be for all of this audio material to be transcribed so that a written record of the information and memories contained in this important material more readily available for publication and research.



Photographs and Student Photos Altona High School

An amazing amount of information regarding the Altona High School from 1959 until 2012 has been made available to the Altona Laverton Historical Society this includes Class Photos, Student Names, photographs, memorabilia photos and the like.

Supplied in Excel and jpg format, this collection of data warrants being transferred into a searchable database format so that interested persons could more readily locate photographs of themselves or family

members who have attended the school over that period.

The work involved to this stage in collating this information has obviously taken a number of years, and to those involved congratulations are due for a job well done.

Class 1A-1959 is depicted above

Altona Material of Interest

Video



The “Back to Altona Celebrations” were recorded in October 1974, by members of a Community Access Video Centre called “Turtle Video.”

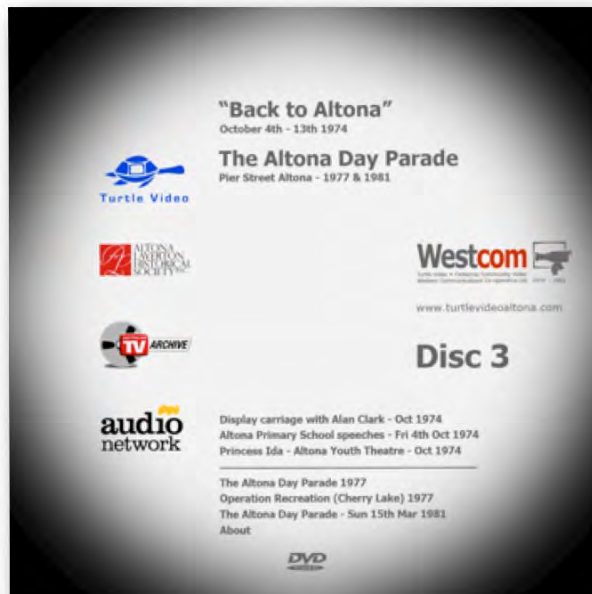
Turtle Video was located at 18 Pier Street Altona from June 1974 to April 75 and continued as Western Communications until July 1981.

Videotapes of the Celebrations have been stored in the Altona Laverton Historical Society since 1974.

In 2011 this video footage was rediscovered and with the assistance of Turtle Video and others after a lengthy period and with some difficulty in locating the necessary specialist equipment required to process the original non standard size tapes, sections of the original tapes have been recovered and restored onto Four DVD,s which are now in the possession of the Altona Laverton Historical Society.

Given the camera equipment available at the time, and the degradation of the original tapes only sections of material are available for viewing and examples include:

- Train Display Carriage and its arrival at Altona Station with commentary by Alan Clark (October 1974)
- Altona Primary School Speeches 4th October 1974
- Princess Ida-a stage presentation by the Altona Youth Theatre October 1974
- The Altona Day Parade 1977
- Operation Recreation at Cherry Lake 1977
- The Altona Day Parade 1981



Altona Primary School

Video

Altona Primary School 3923 is beginning to look forward to Celebration of the 100 years of existence, and as mentioned above the restored video contains approximately 20 minutes of recorded images and speeches filmed in a “Back to Altona Event”, visit to Altona Primary School on Friday 4th October 1974.

Of interest to many will be the introduction by the Mayor, Education Department Officials, and a talk by John Fleming and Larry Fleming, members of the Fleming family who were instrumental in lobbying Local Parliament members and the Education Department for a school to be established in Altona to serve the educational needs of children.

It reveals that the original construction of a Hall on the Fleming property, initially for use as a Sunday School in September 1914, led on to the formal establishment of a State School in early 1915.

Early classes were held in the Progress Hall, then the Altona Baptist Church Hall, before the completion of the current Blyth Street building.

Charles Trickey, the then Chairperson of the School Council is also featured in the video clip.

Pictured below is a screenshot of John Fleming with Charles Trickey in the background



Local resident Alan Dyall who was also a member of Turtle Video, and is a keen photographer also has available amongst his personal video footage film images that would be of interest to many, this includes footage taken with permission of the Altona School, of Primary School Prep Grades 1978, and his “As it Happens Video” filmed in 1984, with permission of Principal Mr. W.M. Bartels which includes- “In the 6L Classroom 1984” (22 minutes), “School Assembly 1984” (7 Minutes) and “Class 6 O’B 1984” (23 minutes)



Society News

Information for all Members

The committee of management for the 2013 - 2014 year is shown below.

Committee 2013 - 2014

President: Peter Weaver

Vice President: Carol Winfield

Secretary: Sharon Walsh

Treasurer: Annette Stephens

Committee Members

Kim Walsh

Owen Hyde

2013 - Fact or Fiction? - Ned Kelly linked to Spottiswoode



The Hobsons Bay Leader in the issue of 29th October 2013 carried an article stating that a new computer based application Tour program, issued by Museum Victoria, states that plough sections from Lennon’s Agricultural Implement Works were used by Ned Kelly and his gang to make armour, and that the company name is clearly marked on one of the suits.

Hugh Lennon Pty. Ltd - Spotswood was founded about 1870 and was a Farm Machinery Manufacturer, marketing products mainly through International Harvester Australia, by 1884 the firm was the largest of its kind within the Australian Colonies.

In Roy Picone’s 2012 “Recollections of Early Spotswood and the Spotswood Football Club, an early manufacturers plate was reproduced with kind permission of the copyright owner Ray Voxel.(Note it carries the Spottiswoode designation)

Local wags at Spotswood are now claiming that Ned had a beer in the nearby Spottiswoode Hotel while waiting for his armour to be made.



Below is an example how a database can be set up to search on any field ,to find photographs held, this is especially good for team photos, school class photos and the like, and is ideal for the easy recall and display of photographs of all types.

Instant Search of Photos

Showing all 28 records:

Search For:

Instant Search:	Year	Sub Title	Keyword
Football	1899	Sporting	Spotswood
Air	1911	Historic Bleriot Flight	Aeroplane Altona
Soccer	1913	Season Photo	Spotswood Soccer
Medal	1915	Military	Medals,First World War
Cricket	1918 c	Sporting	Cricket
Local Identity	1927	Hospital	Doctor Louis Joel

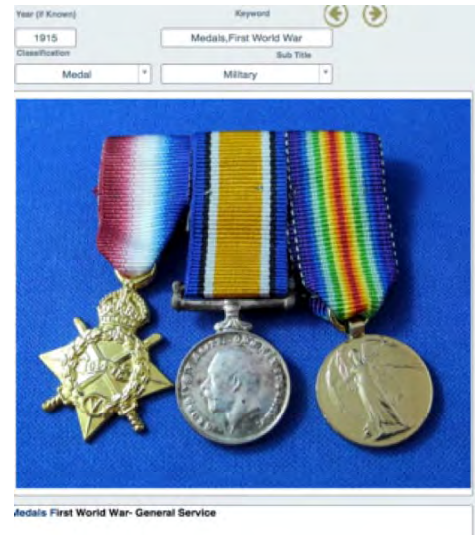
Instant Search of Photos

2 records contained "Military..." in any field.

Search For:

Instant Search: Clear

Instant Search:	Year	Sub Title	Keyword
Cricket	1918 c	Sporting	Cricket
Medal	1915	Military	Medals,First World War



Left above shows a typical list of photos, below left a search for the word “Military” reveals two photos containing that word, above is depicted one of the photos.

Thousands of photographs could be catalogued in this manner.