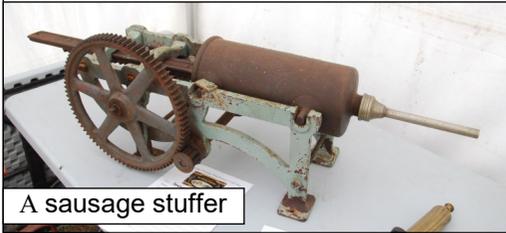


One site about making sausages in the early 1900s stated that they cleaned a twenty-foot piece of natural animal intestine casing and left it to soak in a bowl of fresh water.

Next, they used diced, fresh pork meat and fresh diced pork back fat. The fla-



A sausage stuffer

vorings were roasted fennel seed, grated onion, parsley, paprika, sugar and water. Using a coarse blade, the pork was ground and then the back fat. This was mixed with the dry ingredients and then the wet ingredients. This mix was

chilled for about two hours and then the mixture was ground with a fine blade.

The casing was fitted onto the 'stuffer' nozzle and the stuffer filled with the sausage mix. The sausages were made into links 6 and a half to 7 inches long for each sausage. Sausages that are sold raw are cooked in many ways, including pan-frying, broiling and barbecuing.

Sausage making is a traditional food preservation technique; some may be preserved by curing, drying, smoking or freezing. Fresh sausages must always be chilled until they are cooked.

During World War One, there was a meat shortage in England causing sausage makers to add a bit more water to the sausage mix to plump them up. This caused sausages to be more likely to explode out of their casings when fried, hence the British term for sausages 'bangers' was born RH

Steam Traction Society, Maewa

In October 1972 the society purchased 3 and three-quarter acres of land from Mr Stewart Dyke at Maewa. Their earlier site had been near Marton.

During 1973 a large shed in Wanganui was dismantled to provide building materials, mainly iron for wall cladding. The site was prepared and metaling completed. Planning for a 120' x 25', 10 bay Engine Shed was commenced.

The small band of workers had a lot to show by January, when the framework went up, the roof went on and the back closed in and 6 engines installed. From then on, the finishing touches were applied. Doors were built and hung, guttering and water tanks, and the shed was completely closed in by 17th August. The first Annual General Meeting on site was held on the 7th September 1974 with 30 members present and four engines in steam, to celebrate the occasion.

By the end of 1974 more engines and gear had arrived and in fact the shed was FULL. Planning began for a lean-to on the rear of

end. By May the shed was wired up and

power was on, a great advantage for restoration work.

Over the winter much work has been carried out on the engines at Maewa, from boiler inspections to stay replacements. Through the hard work of a few, this Society now has a very worthwhile asset that is going to see many hours of steaming.

This story must sound familiar to many groups, including our own, who restore historical treasures. RH

Excerpts from: *Steam Traction '75*, the Journal of the Steam Traction Society Inc. Vol 5 No1



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A collection of interesting items for friends and supporters of 'The Coach House'

We can't change the wind, but we can adjust the sails.

I write this as we are about to begin the four week lockdown due to Covid-19. Only a week ago we decided to cancel our 'Thursday smoko'. This week, just as the Trustees made the decision to close the Museum, the government announced Alert Level Four in an attempt to eliminate the pandemic in New Zealand.

It is in times like this that there are so many things out of our control. We may not be able to change those things, but we can focus on and change what we are in control of. And there are times when all that we might be able to change is our attitude. The next four weeks are likely to be challenging as we have less face to face interaction with others.

But we do have a lot to be thankful for as we face these challenges. We can be thankful that we live in a community that is resilient and supportive. We can be thankful that we have family or neighbours that will be watching out for us as

we watch out for others. We can be thankful that we live in a country of freedom and safety. No matter what challenges we face, as a nation, as a community and as a family, I am certain we will emerge from this stronger and more connected than ever.

The family of the Coach House is a big part of our community and I wish to acknowledge all of our wonderful volunteers who give so much of their enthusiasm and time to make this family what it has become. In time, we will reopen the Museum. We will once again meet for 'Thursday smoko'. We will continue to enjoy the company of each other. Until then I can only wish you the very best of health. Please let others know if you need help. Keep connected with family or friends by telephone or internet. You might even write and post a letter!

Thank you all for being a vital part of our family. I look forward to seeing you all again very soon.

Bryan Guy – Trust Chairman

Colin Trotter moves on;



A social evening was held recently, for many to say thank you to Colin, Helen and the Trotter family, for the tremendous devotion they gave to

education, social and sports interests in Feilding and districts.

Firstly, to Colin, for his foresight in assembling a local group of interested people who had the vision to establish a museum in Feilding.

In 2002, after hours and hours of hard work, a celebration was held to open the Coach House Museum in Bowen Street,

with the main theme focusing on the Horse Drawn Era of 1874 to 1940, in the Manawatu.

During this time, Peter Olsen formed a group, 'The Oroua Teamsters', who trekked 6,000 kms around New Zealand over the next few years, to raise the awareness of the museum being established in Feilding. Colin was one of the Teamsters.

Some highlights Colin spoke of were their family's involvement with Feilding Pony Club, leading to the 1990 New Zealand Pony Club Championships; hosting at the 1990 Commonwealth Games in Auckland; a teaching exchange to Three Lakes School, Wisconsin in America in 1992;

Final Episode: Pioneer Days in New Zealand

Our dairy was a short distance from the house. We had big, steel milk pans to set the morning and evening milk in. When set for a day the rich cream would be skimmed off and put in a stone jar for a few days, then churned in a wooden churn for butter. It was washed in cold water, salted and made up into one-pound lots and wrapped in butter paper. Butter those days cost 6d a lb; eggs only 4d to 6d a dozen. Churning the butter was a slow job in the wooden churns. These held about 6 to 8 lbs at one churning. The butter was made by the housewife in the time fitted between all the sewing by hand for the children, and baking, preparing meals besides working in the garden. It was also their job to milk their few cows.

All the water for inside use had to be taken in, in buckets, and outside again after use. Having no bathroom in the early days they had to have their bath in a tub in the kitchen.

Sewing machines came into New Zealand about 1884 and before that sewing was done by hand. A simple taffeta dress with flounces and a full circle skirt reaching to the floor, were often braided or trimmed with lace or beaded trimmings. They were buttoned as well as fastened with small

initiating and reforming the Feilding Historic Society and establishing 'Settler's Day', and building their barn-designed home on Mangaone Road, Halcombe, Feilding.

Residents in Feilding for 52 years, a common theme of the night was how much the Trotter family could pack into a day, with their involvement in so many activities.

In 2002 Helen and Colin were awarded a Manawatu District Council Community Award, which was well deserved.

We wish Colin well as he becomes settled in his elevated abode, in Orewa, north of Auckland. RH

hooks and eyes. The bodices were often stiffened with whale bone, as were the very high collars. Mother used to do quite a lot of her sewing during the evening and all by hand.

As time went on, the paddocks were plug drained using a team of 12 horses. Later, all were hand drained using scrub, etc. Later still tiles were made, and the work was much easier. The ground was then ploughed and worked up for crops of oats and wheat. In those days the crops were cut with reap hooks and scythes, and sheaves were made by hand tying with some of the straws of corn. These were stoked up with about 8 sheaves to a stook and dried before being stacked.

In 1878 Father donated land for the Mt View School and the Mt View Cemetery Grounds.

Our first 'Puffing Billy' arrived in Marton at the railway in 1878.

Father was very interested when the railway was started in the Rangitikei district. When the railway line started going from Marton to Hunterville it went through bush, flax, scrub and toitoi. My parents boarded several of the men working on the line.

In 1897 wages were only about one shilling an hour. One harvest time a farmer

found it hard to get men in the busy time, so he raised the wages to 1/3 an hour. In earlier years one farmer would help the other on their farms in the very busy times. Years later a flour mill was started down near the Porewa Stream, towards Onepuhi. There was also a pit sawmill down that way too.

An incident occurred at the Marton Railway Station when an employee coupled the two mail trains together. The mail train from Palmerston North going south, and Wanganui backed together with the two vans nearly touching one another. The gentleman reached over and coupled them together. The one signal must

have meant for the both trains to leave at the same time. At that time the employee got excited, waving his hands and shouting, "I back Wanganui"! Constable Moon was on duty at the time and soon cleared matters up.

'Blue Gum Corner' as it was known, was a corner of Mr Meyer's property, and when the corner was realigned the tree remained for many years.

An abridged copy of notes written by Gertie Meyer – daughter of Sarah and Johann Christian Meyer. *Great grandparents to Sandy Hardy, a museum volunteer.*

Marsh Horseshoes



They were also known as Marsh Horseshoes in Finland where efforts to drain the watery bogs would have seen horses sink deep into the bog. They were similar to Snowshoes which prevented the horses hooves sinking deep into the snow. It was thought it took some time for a horse to become used to walking with these.

The 'shoes' were made of pieces of board, a few centimetres thick and rounded in the front. A groove shaped like a horseshoe was often carved in the middle of the 'shoe'. These were attached to the hoof with an iron bar which was tightened to fit the hoof. Sometimes a further iron peg was fitted on the front of the board to help keep the shoes in place.

Many may have noticed two large board 'shoes' hanging on the back wall of the Blacksmith's Workshop.

It may have been unusual to see these in New Zealand, but the idea could have come from America, where heavy draught horses worked peat quagmires to drain and cultivate them. These 'shoes' prevented the horses from sinking into the peat, as they walked safely on the surface. The shoes were clamped on by means of small iron rods, curved to fit the hoof.

In Wales, the Llanwrthwl Horses Walk, a challenging 10 mile walk through mountain moorland and peat bogs near Abergwesyn Commons is held to raise funds for the National Trust, UK. R H

Sausage Making in the 1900s.

An antique sausage making machine on site at the Vintage Machinery Show made me wonder how sausages were made. My father supplied meat to a

butcher who produced sausages for us, and my mother often said, "Reg must have swept the shop floor and added it to the sausages." But we thought sausages were a tasty treat.

(Continued on page 4)