



OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE

NATIONAL HISTORICAL MACHINERY ASSOC.

NEWSLETTER NUMBER 175

DECEMBER 2016

Hi All,

I hope that all is good in your parts of the world as we head into yet another festive season.

Things here in SA are certainly looking great, the river is as high as I've ever seen it in early December, there's plenty of fish being caught, so it seems to be super healthy. Farmers have been doing long hours, cutting and baling hay in recent times, and now there's headers and field bins being worked hard everywhere.

I know of a few areas and farmers that made the best of a bad thing and when their "normal" crops succumbed to the late rains and floods they took a punt and plowed it all back in and ran a summer crop over the top... and from what I hear, so far so good.... Fingers crossed it stays that way.

On a sadder note, the long hours have taken their toll in a few cases of recent weeks with farmers, Tradesmen and contract workers falling victim.

Please if you know you're burning the candle at both ends, even if it's just for a couple of days, take extra care around machinery, double check that processes are done correct, grab a quick 30 min rest stop (or better a nap) when you can and take steps to be confident of making it home safe.

Your families and friends will thank you

Lastly, I hope you all have a great Festive season, I hope Christmas brings all of the things that make you happy and may 2017 be kind & generous for everyone out there reading this.

Cheers for now

Jayme M

2018 NHMA Tractor Trek

Two submissions have been received for the hosting rights of the next NHMA Tractor Trek. Presentations from both applicants will be heard at the Hamilton National Rally and then the member club attendees will vote on the preferred Trek. Thankyou and Good luck to all clubs involved!!



... and while we are thinking of tractors.....

We at the committee have received very little in the way of guidance or support when we asked for ideas and comments regarding the construction/ regulations for tractor pull sleds.

With tractor pulls becoming ever more popular and HP classes



getting bigger and more particular, we still want your input to make a usable, practical and fair document that can guide persons or clubs that want to construct or use a sled.

Ray Blain (QLD Rep) has offered his time to put into such a document, so please support him in this exercise.

Reminder to all NHMA CLUBS... NOW is your time to nominate and vote!

If you have someone that you think can represent you well (or has represented you well) as a State Rep for the NHMA.....**NOMINATE THEM!!!!** The following seats have done their time and will be up for re-election at the AGM in April.... SA 1, SA 2, WA 1, WA 2, VIC 1, VIC 2, NSW 1, NSW 2, QLD 1, QLD 2 & TAS 1

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Well 2017 is just about over and a mixed bag of issues has given all N.H.M.A. Committee Members a variety of emotional ups and downs. However, with the N.H.M.A. Rally at Hamilton next year, our spirits are on a high and we are all looking forward to this great event.

My information from the organizing group at the Hamilton Pastoral Museum indicates that accommodation in the area for visitors is very difficult to obtain, together with exhibitor registrations are rolling along.

Our recent meeting at Bombala allowed for your committee to plan and discuss future directions together with our past activities.

On a more personal note and on behalf of our committee we would like to pass on our sincere thanks to all clubs that have hosted our general meetings this year at Maitland, Leeton and Bombala. To all exhibitors and rally committee members it has been a privilege to meet you all at these events. Our recent trip and meeting at Bombala was a personal highlight, with the exhibition of many machines that had been involved with the building of the "Snowy Mountain Scheme".



The mighty "ANTAR" was suitably impressive and indicative of this historic machinery on display. From an individual who has always expressed a liking for Vintage Engines. I am almost tempted to look for a vintage truck to get around in.

Recent weeks has allowed me to attend the Yarra Valley Draught Horse Festival which is organised by my own club Yarra Valley Machinery Preservation Society. This event had lapsed after the original property was sold and it had entertained many thousands of Patrons. The resurgence of this event within the Yarra Valley near Melbourne has shown that what we do as a hobby has implications of increased tourism and of rules and ongoing goodwill from the public. Even with an increased proliferation of rules and regulations from local Shires and Councils in general our club committee's are learning how to live with these regulations and are able to comply and enhance their activities.

May I wish all exhibitors that combine to bring our personal interests and hobbies to the Australian Public a Very Happy Christmas and Prosperous New Year for 2017.

Drive carefully over the Festive Season and spend a lot of time in your shed.

Regards
Alan Shepherd



From the Secretary...

Another twelve months has slipped by - we all wonder where the time goes - but in today's world, with so much happening it is easy to forget the vast number of activities that we get ourselves into & the time we give.

The NHMA is little different to everyday life - so much to do and so little time to do it! One should also remember that there are things that 'must be done' and there are also other things that pop-up - red herrings that take much time, but in the whole scheme of things, don't really matter!

First of all, let me draw attention to things that do in fact, really matter. !!

1. 2017 NHMA National Rally. The NHMA Committee of Management has contacted the Rally Organising Committee and are confident that all is in place for a great National in April next year. If your club (or individual members) require any further information please contact Dennis Wheelhouse (04 1971 1047) or Jacqui Francis (04 2943 0519). They will be only too happy to assist in any way possible.

2. Expressions of interest for the 2018 NHMA National Tractor Trek have closed. This event is open for any member club, in any State to apply for. As the cut off date (1st Dec) has passed, the two official expressions that have been received will be voted on at Hamilton. If you believe that you can host this important NHMA event in the future, start getting your thoughts together for a submission for the next round.



3. Expressions of interest for the 2019 NHMA National Rally have also been sought - it is South Australia's turn on our NHMA state rotation system and Jayme has flagged this event in past newsletters, and there is enough interest within the state to put in a proposal... We wait with baited breath to see final submissions at Hamilton..

4. Committee of Management Nominations. Yes, it doesn't take long for two years to come around, and at the next AGM, (April 2017) the following nominations for the NHMA Committee of Management are called:

WA, SA, Vic, NSW & Qld all have two positions requiring nominations.



TAS: One nomination required. Brian Scott was re-elected at the 2016 AGM for a two-year term, and still has one year to go. Although Adrian Dare was appointed to the Committee in August 2016 to fill a vacancy, the duration of his term is only until the next AGM.

Nominations for ordinary Members of the Committee must be:

- made in writing**, signed by **the secretary of the nominating member club** of the Association, and accompanied by the written consent of the nominee (which may be endorsed on the form of nomination); and
- delivered to the Secretary of the Association not less than 14 days** before the date fixed for the holding of the Annual General Meeting. Please do not rely on Australia Post to deliver mail within 5 days - email is acceptable.

The AGM is scheduled to be held on Friday 21st April at 7.30 p.m. at the National Rally - venue to be advised.

It would be advisable for member clubs in each of the above States to now begin considering who they wish to nominate to be their Representatives.

In the past couple of years **the nominee has offered a short resumé** of club and community experience that supports their willingness to act on the Committee - this would again be appreciated by the Committee and members alike, as this assists delegates from other States to cast an informed vote.



Notice of the AGM will be **mailed to member clubs 45 days prior** to the date fixed for the Meeting (21/04/17). **Official nomination forms, Delegate Appointment forms and Proxy Vote forms** will be included with the notice of the AGM. Please have your club secretary attend to these matters early - some member clubs tend to put things on the back-burner!

5. Insurance Matters.

It is pleasing to note that the number of those holding NHMA Insurance cards has remained consistent with last year. The Committee of Management still maintains that the easiest and most cost-effective way of having adequate cover for the Association's wide-ranging activities (collecting, restoring and displaying vintage machinery) is to be an NHMA cardholder, and contribute to the overall cost of the insurance cover held by the Association. The fact that all NHMA insured members contribute to the cost of the premiums is what enables the Association to keep the costs per member at a reasonable level.



6. Newsletter Editor: The Committee of Management is most appreciative of the offer made by Jayme to take on the position of Acting Editor of the NHMA Newsletter.

The Association is now back on track to bring you news and info via this medium, with four editions each year.

For those who would like an electronic version of the Newsletter - it is placed on the NHMA website as soon as possible after it is printed & posted to all clubs. Ralph Thomas (NHMA webmaster) also has a library of past editions on the site for all to read.

7. Communication:

The Association welcomes correspondence from any member club, should they seek input from the Executive or the Management Committee. It should be remembered that the NHMA is a volunteer association that reflects in its decisions a number of Acts of Parliament/Regulations across all States. Although the Association is self-governing, bodies such as Worksafe, OH&S, Road & Traffic Authorities, Dept. of Justice, Working With Children legislation, Dept. of the Environment, accepted Accounting Procedures for Public Bodies etc. etc. have to be taken into account when the Committee is considering issues raised. The open line of communication is :



- i) if the individual member has an issue, - discuss at club level
- ii) if the club cannot resolve the issue, - make contact with one of your State Reps;
- they will be able to offer official NHMA policy
- iii) if the State Rep is unable to resolve the issue, have your club secretary ring, write or email the NHMA Secretary, who may be able to help, or will suggest that the matter will be placed on the agenda for the next Committee meeting.

8. Christmas Greetings

Over a number of years, the Committee has attended many rallies/member club events at which many friendships have been formed.

***The Committee extends to you and your club our warmest wishes for
a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!***

We trust that your family gatherings will be a time to remember; and if travelling on our roads, may your journey be a safe one!

On behalf of the NHMA Committee of Management,

Ken F Book

Secretary NHMA Inc.



News from NSW

Many thanks to the members of the Bombala Club for a great weekend for our NHMA meeting in November. This is one rally I really enjoyed looking at the many exhibits. I recommend everyone attend this rally if you get a chance.



Many rallies in southern New South Wales were cancelled this year because of wet weather. Our rally at Urana went ahead despite being a bit wet for the tractor pull which was still fun, nearly bogged the sled and only one pull per tractor.

The next rally on my calendar is at Gundagai on 25th February, 2017. This will be their first rally under NHMA membership.

I will be up for election at Hamilton in April 2017. I have been a state representative for over twelve years and will be putting my hand up for election again. In southern New South Wales, tractor pulls are a very big part of the rallies of which I try to attend most of them. Most are abiding by the guidelines and are well run. The tractor sleds are well looked after and maintained by their respective clubs.

I get many enquiries at rallies, phone calls and emails from all over Australia and try my best to get answers or responses for them.

Kevin Elphick

SOUTH AUSTRALIA POINTS OF INTEREST

With the amount of interest that has been shown at the last 3 rallies that I have been to, it has been necessary to put in a submission to host the 2019 NHMA National Rally. Planning is happening, a small committee has been formed and we will roll everything out to interested parties early in the new year. Please contact myself or Daniel Auger if you would like more details.



We also have a submission ready for hosting rights of the 2018 NHMA Tractor Trek. Our event will be a little different to most others with a 4 day event planned that has different overnight stops, showcasing some of the best that SA has to offer.... Dust off your swags, patch up your tents if we are successful with our submission.

Locally I played a part in the organising of the Lower Murray Heritage Rally, here in Murray Bridge. It was a small event, 50 engines, 15 vehicles, 8 tractors, but what we lacked in size we more than made up for with hospitality.

I don't think that anyone had any reason not to be a happy exhibitor.... Which got me thinking, You out there, The people who actually bring and display stuff at rallies,

What do rally goers consider to be the good and the bad?

What do you want to be provided with? What's your biggest gripe with rallies you go to?

What makes you go home and say "that was a great rally, They were great hosts, or That was a great idea?

Now's your chance.... I have put a bit of a survey on the last page of this newsletter. I'd love you to fill it out so I can compile a result and include it in a future newsletter.

Cheers for now JM



New Allis Chalmers Register & Blog

While at the Committee meeting at Bombala I was lucky enough to bump into Kaye & Steven Richards who are passionate about their Allis Chalmers tractors. They inform me tat a new register for AC machinery has been formed and a Blog is up and running for anyone who has / wants / likes anything Allis Chalmers.

They are also organising a mass gathering of anything Allis Chalmers at the upcoming National Rally in Hamilton, in what is lovingly called "The gathering of orange" Please get behind these passionate enthusiasts and join in!!!

The AC site can be found at aussieallischalmersregistry.blogspot.com.au and further information can be sourced by contacting either **Travis Owens** or **Kaye & Stephen Richards** on **0407 265 426** or **03 5159 4307**

More information and a copy of the first AACC newsletter is on the NHMA Website.



Sale Vintage Tractor Club (S.V.T.C.)



Proudly boasting a membership of 60, Sale Vintage Tractor Club consists of tractor owners and enthusiasts alike.

When the Club's members come together to return their treasured machinery to the turf of a vintage tractor rally they certainly draw a crowd.

Proof of this was at the annual tractor pull in March this year at the Club's home ground of Longford, Vic.

Over 70 tractors hooked up and put on a great day for the many spectators.

SVTC is also well represented with it's support to other vintage tractor pulls, including Benambra, Nyora, Darnum, Tooradin, Neerim, Baw Baw and Heyfield.

This list of notable representation also includes a static display at the Maffra Shed.

It should also be noted that the SVTC operates the sled at the Heyfield Club, due to that clubs high level of involvement in various other activities, including Steam, Motor Bike Racing and Horses.

The Sale team is now planning to take a convoy of tractors to Hamilton next April for the National Rally.

This will include a stop off for some of the members the week before at the Warracknabeal 50th Rally.

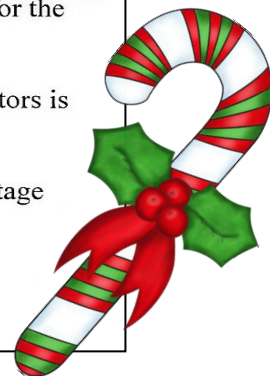
Not only will their treasured tractors be rearing to go but also the cheerful competitive spirit of their drivers.

Whether it is the intrigue and interest of the crowd in the "original" or the lovingly restored tractors of times gone by, the evident team spirit of the members of SVTC and there certainly are some memorable characters aboard, they always manage to provide a great day's entertainment for the public with their tractors.

Though the ages of the members of SVTC spans various decades, the passion for their tractors is ageless.

I am proud to be a member of this Club and to have increased the number of "female" vintage tractor drivers by one !

Chris Richardson



Birthday Party for a 'Grand Old Lady'

Ruston Hornby (size 9, Class H.R.C.E) Engine No. 181393

Yes, the Grand Ol' Lady was a migrant from England and arrived on the '*Port Dunedin*' on the 11th November 1936.



**Arthur Young, Brian Culley,
John Gamble & Ernie Pickles**



Club President, John Gamble about to 'start up'.



The Engine Still in 'Working Clothes'

Her first home in 1936, was at the 'Boort Butter Factory' - in N/W Victoria, but she tired of this home and moved to the 'Pyramid Hill Co-Operative Butter Factory', (also in N/W Victoria), in April 1951 and took up duties as the 'Emergency Power Plant'! The site is now owned by VIP Pet Food Co; the engine having been donated to the Pyramid Hill & District Historical Society and remains in the original set up and thanks must go to the Quinn family for allowing us to see the engine in action again and celebrate her milestone birthday!

Although still in her 'working clothes', she can still pack a punch - 114hp at 275rpm; is quite weighty at 11 tons and could generate up to 80 kva of power via a flat belt & also a water pump to circulate the cooling water from a tank outside the shed. An air compressor (to re-charge the air receiver) is also part of her trimmings.

With everyone ready, Arthur Young opened the air valve and surprise, surprise - away the engine went, without missing a beat, albeit that the boys had given the engine a run a couple of weeks earlier, to save any embarrassment.

With all the rain we have had, the engine soon pumped the water out of the mufflers (free shower, if you were standing too close). It is testimony to the engineers who designed and built these engines, that they still run today after 80 years of service, and tick over like clockwork - and not a computer in sight! It would be good to hear the engine running with a 'real load', and make it bark the way it would have when being used.

Thanks go to the Pyramid Hill & District Historical Society and the Pyramid Hill Pioneer Machinery Club Inc for the opportunity to see the engine running.

This was a pleasant Sunday afternoon in November for forty-plus engine enthusiasts from the central Victorian region.

From, Victorian NHMA State Representative,

Talk out of Tasmania

Adrian Dare (Tasmanian State Rep) has provided another club profile for us to read, thank you for this brief insight.

Hobart Vintage Machinery Society



The history of displays dates back to at least 1973, the first display was a 1905 5hp Marshal steam engine named Tinkerbelle, the engine drove a restored JAS A SMITH chaff cutter. This became an annual display at the Royal Hobart Show but in 1980 more help was needed so members of the Tasmanian Transport Museum were contacted and as a result some members of this organisation also displayed some tractors, engines and a pump. The displays grew from there when in 1983 the group came under the guidance of the RAST and became known as the Vintage Machinery Group over the next 2 years the group started to display at more events statewide

In 1985 some concern was raised about public liability so the club became incorporated and so the HVMS was born the first president was Frank Sharp

Over the next few years membership increased, a larger building became available for storage and displays. By year 2000 the membership had grown to around 100, heritage farm days were organized and very well patronized, in the early 2000's some members left to form a club of their own (The old bits & pieces) but with the guidance of some good committee's the club has continued to grow and we now try to encourage younger members so that it will continue into the future, at the moment a committee is working on finding suitable land to be able to crop and demonstrate machinery. The club has been involved with the NHMA since its inception with Jim Darling being an original committee member as well as later serving as treasurer

This is an abbreviated version of a history written by Jim Darling a very long serving member of the HVMS

Headlines out of Queensland

The Townsville Club NQMP have their tests completed on their site and work will start in the near future. The Land is part of the Model railway park which is operation on the last Sunday of a month. This means that the Club is committed to a regular display day for the Public each month.

The Mackay club PVMS have found a suitable patch for a Rally. It is proposed to have an Inter Club Day with the BMP Burdekin, NQMP Townsville and Mackay at the beginning of May 2017.

The BMP Burdekin are well on the way to completing their Power House building. Walls are up on 3 sides. Major parts of the Walker Engine are to be placed in position on the crankcase and then the last wall can be finished.



Two of the displays at Bombala that we considered worthy of note, The first was a display of Tractors using an old Sewing Machine. The hand wheel of the sewing machine became the steering wheel. This idea has a lot of merit and it could be used as exercise for younger generation to make & display.

The second one was the use of Engine tappet covers with 4 wheels attached and the placed on a dual ramp and see who was the fastest down the slope. Foam is used to stop the covers progress. This is another that could appeal to the younger generation.



With the year drawing towards a close, the membership clubs are taking the opportunity of the great weather to hold their annual Christmas parties. Whilst a little hot, the combination of fine food and drink compensates the small discomfort.

The premier event this year in Queensland was the seventh *Queensland Heritage Rally* hosted by the Toowoomba and District Old Machinery Society (TADOMS) and was held in the spacious grounds of the Oakey Racecourse.

Together with a noticeable number of interstate visitors the majority of the 24 membership clubs in Queensland attended in large numbers with feedback to date has been nothing but positive .

With the health and wellbeing of exhibitors and spectators being a strong focus of the host club, safety was paramount.

Safety briefings under the commanding voice of John Kummerow were held each morning prior to start up. The interest in ongoing safety and enthusiasm of exhibitors to engage in same was demonstrated by the large attendance numbers at each briefing.

The rally showcased the ongoing interest in collecting, restoring, exhibiting and the comradery that goes with being associated with stationary, tractors, machinery and vehicles. It also set the stage for all enthusiasts to come together as one and enjoy.



On the grounds there were 112 caterpillar tractors dating from 1920 to the most recent available. The numbers supported an idea to better the world record for the most caterpillar tractors assembled at one time and place. The record was well and truly broken and Aussie (Queensland) now has its name in the record book.

A further 322 stationary engines, 220 wheel tractors and 92 vintage / veteran cars complemented the numerous verity stalls and displays dotted across the grounds .

A number of steam exhibits were also working.

There was also a large collection of chain saws and some drag-saws on display, cutting slabs and rounds from logs.

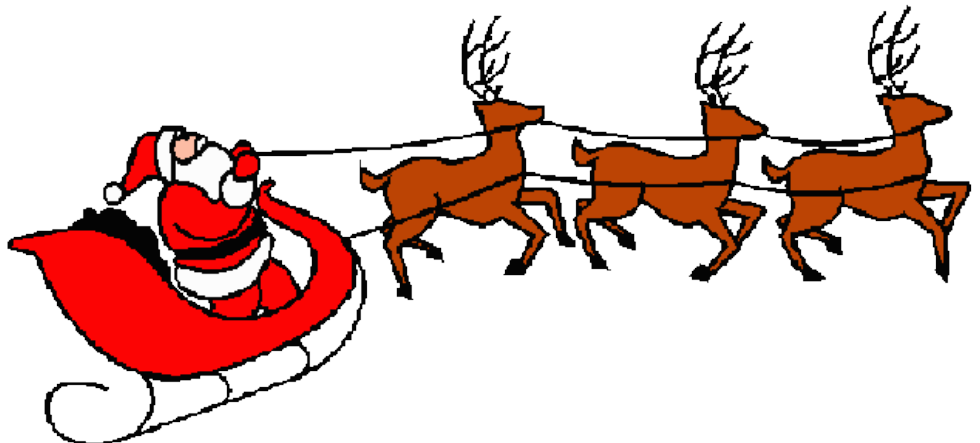
The number of model engines on display is slowly increasing. I don't know what this means, perhaps some of us are getting a bit too old to handle the real ones.

A small foundry, which attracted a great deal of interest, was carrying out some casting demonstrations. With conversation still strong on the good times had by all those attending, you can be assured that the 2018 QHR to be held in Biloela will just as good.

Whilst early days as yet, it is expected that the aforementioned rally will be held in mid-July and with this being a great time of the year to come north diaries need to be marked.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New
Year

Alf and Ray



NEWS FROM THE WEST, by RALPH THOMAS. (STATE REP)

Recently I sent out this letter to all West Australian NHMA Member Clubs. Replies have been a bit thin on the ground, judging by this result one has to assume that no news is good news and all are happy with the way the NHMA Committee are conducting the business in the interest of the Member Clubs.

Dear All Western Australian NHMA Member Clubs.

I have just returned from Bombala NSW where I attended the NHMA Committee Meeting. Like all meetings, lots of NHMA business was discussed with decisions being made in the interest of our hobby and members' enjoyment of the same. The NHMA National Rally at Hamilton, Victoria, seems well in hand and the organisers seem happy with their progress. For further information go to their website for contact details.

It is intended to produce the next edition of the NHMA Newsletter before Christmas. To that end I would like to edit a report on the West Australian Clubs, and ask if you would like to send me a short report on your Clubs news. I would need the articles by no later than the first week of December.

I might also add here my term of office as WA rep ends at the next AGM in Hamilton, and I have not yet decided whether I will continue. However there are two vacancies for W A reps and I have been the only one for quite some time now, so if any of your members would like to nominate for a position, they are welcome to contact me for more information. I would also make myself available to attend your Club meetings should time and distance permit.

Have a nice day

Ralph Thomas

NHMA West Australian State Rep and Web-master.



One response as follows:

Hi Ralph,

Below is a short report for your next newsletter from the **Northampton Friends of the Railway Inc. and Northampton Motors and Machinery Group Inc.**

Firstly, both groups completely endorse the NHMA as our representative Insurance Group with their extensive policy cover. Any incursions from outside will not be heard from these groups.

Brief History of our two organisations.

The railways have the historical significance of being the First Government Railway in WA opened in 1879. The 'Friends' have given this significant piece of history recognition with the two former rail stations (Gwalla & Mary Street) being given a total revamp. Some 13 pieces of historical rolling stock and extensive railway memorabilia items for display have been acquired. This group was formed in 2005.

The Machinery group started in 1995. It boasts a big shed and another being built, and a great assortment of farming machinery memorabilia. There are 200 plus stationary motors in working order, variety of tractors, harvesting machines (earliest 1904) - grain graders and picklers – shearing section – 32 volt generators etc – old outboard motors and a variety of work tools.

The above two groups wish all WA members a Merry Christmas and a successful 2017.

Thank you Ralph.

Bob Taylor. (President. Northampton Friends of the Railway)

Hey again All, Last bit from me,

Hope you all have a great Christmas, and an even better New Year, Keep safe, reflect on the “goods” that happened in 2016, ring someone you haven't spoken to for a long time, and do at least one good deed a day, even if it's a smile at a stranger. All too often we get lost in the rush of the day to day things, Make a bit of time for yourself & close family, eat way too much and “have to” have a nanna nap (I will be), have a drink or two for me (because I wont) and most of all, come out the other end fit and well ready for all that 2017 has set out for us.

Again, Keep safe and well, have a great Festive season, Cheers JM



Editors Feedback Form, Id like individuals to fill this in please,
Can any club secretaries copy this page for members. Many thanks JM

Your Club? (optional).....What State are you from?.....

How many Rallies would you attend per year?.....What type do display do you take?

What are the top 4 things that make you say "that was a great rally?"

1).....

2)

3).....

4).....

What "site" things make a great rally?.....

What "Host club" things make a great rally?.....

.What "extra" things make a great rally?

what are the spoilers of a good rally?

The things I would say to organisers to make a rally better for me are?.....

If you need more room, or want to expand on anything please grab another sheet of paper and write away.

Send all responses back to: Jayme Marshall, PO Box 235, Murray Bridge, SA 5253.

Thankyou for your input, If the response to this survey permits I will write a report in an upcoming newsletter.



A few pics form my recent outings.



A Country Laugh

A Sign of good Humour

Penny a blonde city girl, marries a Yorkshire dairy farmer.

One morning, on his way out to check on the cows, farmer John says to Penny, 'The insemination man is coming over to impregnate one of our cows today. I drove a nail into therail above the cow's stall in the barn. You show him where the cow is when he gets here, OK?'

So then the farmer leaves for the fields.

After a while, the insemination man arrives and knocks on the front door.

Penny takes him down to the barn. They walk along the row of cows and when she sees the nail, she tells him, 'This is the one...right here.'

Terribly impressed by what he seemed to think just might be another ditzy blonde, the man asks, 'Tell me lady, how did you know this is the cow to be bred?'

"That's simple; by the nail over its stall", Penny explains very confidently.

Then the man asks, 'What's the nail for?'

She turns and starts to walk away and with complete confidence, says over her shoulder,

'I assume it's to hang your trousers on.'

