



BITS & PIECES

September 2016

The News Letter of
**THE BURDEKIN
MACHINERY
PRESERVATIONISTS**

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HOME:

**Ye Olde Machinery Place
Brandon.**

Club Working days on Mondays.
(Tuesday if Monday is a holiday.)

September 2016

Editors Notes:

Well, it is great to be back after several trips to hospital. It is now time to get back to normal. My thanks to H for the Newsletter over the past few months. Also a big thank you to the Members who are glad to see that I will be back. Work is going well on the Power House construction. Concrete floor in place, with the roof and end walls completed. Thanks to all who have worked on the project.

Good cranking, Alf.

From the last meetings:

There were two meeting in one night, on the 27th July. The AGM, and the normal monthly meeting. The AGM went quickly. In the interest of Democracy, H told the Office Bearers they were going to be re-elected, and to kick up a stink if they didn't want the job. None did. Kick up a stink, that is. The crowd agreed, and so the election was quickly conducted. However, to be official, here are the minutes, shortened up, with guilty parties redacted.

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on the 27th July 2015 at Y.O.M.P. Brandon.

Present:

Alf Shand, Tom Callow, Alan Jurgensen, Barry Geitz, John Hanson, Trevor Phillipson, Ian Williamson, Van Shockly, Jim Phillips, Nev Wood, Keith Batley, Howard Simpson.

Minutes:

The President Keith Batley opened the meeting at 8:00 P.M., and the Secretary read the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting.

President's Report:

President Keith Batley read his report for the year 2014/2015.

PRESIDENTS 2016 REPORT A.G.M. 2016

Well, Members, that time has arrived again, that is the Annual General Meeting. We have had a very busy year.

The pistons & cylinders for the Walker Engine were delivered on the 13th of August.

We had an Open Day for the Seniors Citizens on the 19th of August with 15 attending.

A few more tourists are attending the open days now.

George Christensen Federal member for Dawson attended the Y.O.M.P. on the 30th of August regarding the application for additional monies for an extension to the power house.

The Club attended the Giru Show on Saturday the 12th of September.

We attended the Home Hill Harvest Festival on Saturday the 7th of November and were awarded the best float other than a Festival Queen's Float. We used the two signs that are now erected above the Hornsby engine, that is at the corner of the Theatre, and ran a Hornsby engine in the Float.

Sunday the 8th of November was open day at the Y.O.M.P. and engines of all sizes running along with the Marshall Tractor and the Fowler Steam Traction Engine.

In early November Pioneer 1 a Hunslett Steam Locomotive was moved from Jim Phillips place to the Heritage Centre to be sand blasted, rust removed and painted.

A grant for the Powerhouse Shed was obtained again thanks to our Treasurer.

An L300 Mitsubishi Van modified to run on 2 Foot gauge rail was obtained from the Invicta Mill at Giru, this was transported to us and unloaded by Wilmar. This is a rare item and most likely the only one in existence.

Work on the form work for the Walker engine is proceeding steadily in the new year by H and his merry band of workers.

The form work for the Walker is now in place and ready

for concrete.

The form work for the Ruston has now been started.

Our treasurer has conned the workers at the OPTUS Tower to come over and excavate for the Ruston Base they did a good job for a donation of a cartoon.

On the 13th of March another visit from George Christensen to inform us that we were successful in obtaining the grant for the Powerhouse extension.

Power was run to the pole at the powerhouse on this day, the 21st March, for ease of work on the powerhouse.

Because of Easter Monday falling on the last day of the Month our working bee and monthly meeting was transferred to the Tuesday and Tuesday night.

Saint James Retirement Village members in Townsville made a visit to our club for an inspection on the 19th of April, They enjoyed our hospitality.

Pioneer 1 was sand blasted and an under coat was sprayed on by our Master Painter Bruno, who has also been painting base, cylinder heads and cylinders of the Walker.

Today the 27th of April 13 plus metres of concrete was poured for the base of the Ruston Engine.

In May Bruno and offsidiers cleaned and washed the Ruston for painting.

Many thanks go to the wonderful workers who have preformed the work on the Powerhouse.

The Power House Shed was ordered today the 26th May. On Friday the 27th May the Base & Flywheel of the Walker Engine was lifted into place, and fitted perfectly as expected many thanks to all who assisted and to the firm that supplied the crane and crew.

Some members of the Club attended the Cane Cutting Championships at Home Hill on Saturday the 28th may. In all not a very successful day for us. At this event I was asked by the Mayor if the club would supply an engine to be placed at the Cane Cutters Memorial, at a later meeting this was decided to place the tidied up old Oliver Tractor there, with a sign advertising our museum.

The form setters have been hard at work again making boxes for the pedestals for the building posts, many thanks to Des, H, Lex and associates for the aligning the boxes, the concrete was

poured on the 1st June.

Cracker dust was delivered and compacted for under the floor. A fortnight later the Ruston was lifted into place and again fitted perfectly again many thanks to all who worked tirelessly on this project including the suppliers of the crane & crew and the Low loader

On the weekend of the 5,6 & 7th of August the frame, roof etc. of the shed was erected, a contractor was employed for this with help from our crew, it was considered to high for us young fellows to climb up there.

On Monday the 22nd of August all the form work and mesh was in place for the floor slab of the Powerhouse.

On the 24th the slab was poured great work by all the Lads.

Thanks to the members wives for their work on open days and for cleaning work carried out by them.

Looking around it seems that we will have another busy year with all the engine parts that have yet to put in place.

What magnificent News Letters we have had this year, Thanks to the Editor and Compiler for this.

On the sad side of things Alf has had a bad time of late, however thankfully he is well on the mend.

Another sad day was the passing of Gerry Sells wife.

I thank all the members for their dedication, and jobs well done through out the year.

If I have not mentioned any one I am sorry, you are all included and it was not intentional.

I thank you one and all again.

Yours Faithfully,

Keith Batley, President 2016.

Keith moved that his report be accepted. Seconded Alf Shand, and carried with acclamation.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Alf Shand gave his financial report for the financial year, and a copy is attached.

Election of Officers:

Alf and H assumed the chair for the election of President. Jim Phillips nominated Keith Batley and Keith was elected.

Tom Callow nominated Jim Phillips for the position of Vice President, and Jim was elected.

Tom Callow nominated Howard Simpson for the position of Secretary, and H was stuck with it.

Ian Williams nominated Alf Shand for the position of Treasurer, and Alf was elected.

Alf Shand nominated Ray Blain for the position of Safety Officer, and he was elected. (Ray had previously indicated his acceptance, should he be nominated.)

Trevor Phillipson nominated Van Shockly for the position of Deputy Safety Officer, and he was elected.

Nev Wood nominated Tom Callow for the position of Rally Marshall, and he was elected.

Alan Jurgens nominated Barry Geitz for the position of Deputy Rally Marshall, and he was elected.

Tom Callow nominated Michael Pirrone for the position of Dating Officer, and he was elected.

Tom Callow nominated Jim Phillips for the position of Publicity Officer, and he was elected.

Treasurer Alf Shand moved that Rekenen Pty Ltd remain as the Club's Auditors. Seconded Van Shockley. Carried.

Treasurer Alf Shand moved that the Club's fees remain unchanged. Seconded Tom Callow. Carried.

The meeting closed at 8:45 P.M.

The monthly meeting followed, as follows.

**Minutes of the meeting held on the 25th July, 2016 at
Y.O.M.P. Brandon.**

Present:

(Same as AGM)

Apologies

Jim Phillips - feeling a bit crook. Graham Sieb - no excuse, and a fine will be imposed in due course.

Minutes:

The President, Keith Batley, opened the meeting at around 8:46 and the Secretary read the Minutes of the previous meeting.

Business from the Minutes:

Keith said he had contacted Mobil re fuel donations to the Club, and they declined. He also contacted Lowe's (BP) with the same request, and was told they would get back to him.

The Council's request for an artefact for the Home Hill Cane Cutter Memorial is in progress. The crawler needs a bit of tidying up, and members have been busy with other projects.

Keith said the Joint Logistics Unit would still be visiting on the 9th September, and a block donation will be deposited in the Club's account before or about then.

Correspondence:

In: There was a note from the NHMA calling for expressions of interest from all Clubs, to run the 2018 Queensland Heritage Rally. It was apparent by the letter that there was no interest expressed to date. There was discussion of the possibility of the BMP having another go, but there was little enthusiasm, so soon after the previous one. Barry said that most clubs he had talked to had a similar problem to ours, in that members were getting older, and less energetic to take on such functions. It was resolved not to forward an Expression of Interest.

A Newsletter from the NHMA was tabled and had some discussion. Of note was the apparently passed motion, that any and all clubs associated or involved with a Rally, be members of the NHMA's insurance.

A letter from the Giru Show Committee, offering the club space at the show to be held on the 10th September.

A letter from the Gumlu State School, asking the Club to attend their Car Show, on the 17th September, at the school grounds.

A letter from chapter 18, of the Antique Caterpillar Machinery Owners Club, thanking the Club for the Tractor Pull event at the recent Ayr Show.

A letter from Dale last, the State MP for Burdekin, advising the Club that he had a newly purchased 3M by 4.5M marquee, and this was available for loan at no cost, to any organisations in the district who could make use of it during functions etc.

Out: Nothing.

Moved by Tom Callow that the correspondence be accepted as read. Seconded by Alan Jurgens. Carried.

Treasurer's Report:

Alf presented a report that he said was not quite up to standard, but nevertheless, gave an accurate indication of the Clubs money laundering activities over the last few weeks, during his period of incapacitation.

Alf read his report, which detailed the expenses and income since July. The report is attached.

Alf moved that his report be accepted.

H seconded the motion, and added that Alf was in no way to be seen in a poor light, for the state of the finance records, as he himself hadn't done that good a job of keeping things in order while Alf was away. There is no doubt that the situation will be rectified in due course, and Alf is to be commended for the work he has already done, even though he is still not all that well.

All Members agreed with the sentiments, and the motion was carried.

Keith said he had a small kerfuffle with a Manager at the QCCU in Townsville, who said the Club's signature records were out of date. As it turns out, the account "discussed" was not the General Account, but the Rally Account, which has not been changed. Alf is sure there are no anomalies, but will checkup with the Home Hill Branch where the Account is held.

General Business:

Alf. Alf is back at his first meeting since his operation.

Barry said that there was a good flow of victims through the place today, and the donation box had a bit of a boost.

There is a Big Boy's Toys bunfight of some sort soon - not sure when - and Barry and Michael are going along.

Barry said that he and Lex, or Lex and he, had started the Fielding on one of the visitors day, while H was away. This is good news. H said the knock in the Fielding hasn't healed up, and will need a bit of attention later on. The wobble in the flywheel has been measured, and a couple of well learned engineering gurus outside the Club see little problem with it. All sorts of mathematics were brought into play, which were far too involved to be mentioned here. So we won't.

H brought up the subject of the need for the Club's registrable machines to be managed. These are, for the time being, the compressors, the boiler (especially the boiler) the air receivers, aftercooler and intercooler on the Walker Engine. He said that over the last few weeks, Lex Kelly had taken it up, and had done a fair bit of work to correct any situations that may have inadvertently occurred. Over to Lex.

Lex said he had contacted Alan Smith, who inspects the apparatus. (Alan is the Scots bloke who no one understands a word he says.) This contact revealed that there was no documentation issued for any of the machines. There were legitimate reasons for this. He had contacted Peter Toomey, and Peter came along on more than one occasion, and very helpfully discussed the boiler with him, and passed on all the information and knowledge he had about it. Ian made the valid comment that, if it wasn't for Peter Toomey, the boiler would not be operational today.

Lex said there is work to be done. Peter had pointed out some repairs that were needed to pipes, and Lex and Peter Smith had worked on them today.

There was a need to remove or open up some brickwork on the end of the boiler, to allow a full inspection, and he intended to do this. Some more pipes would likely be repaired.

After he and Peter talked, he has started and run the boiler during a display day.

The Walker Air Receivers and Coolers would need to be tested to one and a half times operation pressure, and the Club could do this with care.

Lex said the time scale was that Alan Smith would pass by the Club in February. It would be desirable to have all these items available for inspection on the same day, including the Air Receiver and Cooler pressure tests. Certificates could then be issued, which would mean the Club would have to pay for Alan's inspection time, possibly about 300 dollars.

H moved that Lex be appointed as Manger of all the Club's registrable items, and that he be given all assistance as required. Seconded by Ian Williams, who fully endorsed the motion, and Lex's comments, with the addition that appreciation be given to Peter Toomey for his work. Carried unanimously.

The next Meeting is the 26th September.

Meeting concluded after 10:00. which was a bit of a marathon session.

News:

The Power House construction is going along steadily, and it looks good. The two end walls have been erected. The side walls will have to wait until the Walker engine is further assembled. The concrete floor is complete with trenches for water, air and fuel lines. The dirt that was dug out of the foundations, has been spread around the site.

The Club went to the Giru Show again this year.

John Hanson had his Felix and disk sharpener. Bruno Fabbro had his Cooper. Alf took along his Lister 6 and pipe threading gadget.

Overall, there was about twenty exhibits between the Club and the NQMP.

Also, there was a TE20, and a 1982 Land Cruiser in mint condition, five restored Army Jeeps, fifteen Motor Bikes from Townsville. Gary Crowdy's just completed Model T, and Dave Martin's Rio represented the Vintage Cars.

It was a fine display for a Country Show, and thanks to the NQMP for the fence.

This is what the Advocate said about the Giru Show. (With permission from the Burdekin Advocate. The format has been changed to suit the BMP Newsletter format.)

Giru goes gaga for the show

SATURDAY'S Giru's Show has been labelled the "best ever" by organisers as more than 1300 visitors and residents flocked to the pavilion.

Although the number of exhibitors was down this year, Giru Show secretary Betty Corradi said the quality was something to marvel at.

“By the atmosphere, the amount of people that turned up and the stalls, the whole day was just excellent. It was the best show we’ve had,” Ms Corradi said.

“Inside the hall, even though we were a couple of exhibitions down, there were so many talented exhibitors.

“The needlework and cooking came up. I thought it was going to be a dying element of the show, but it was right up there.”

Ms Corradi said the highlight for her was the vintage machinery and woodwork.

“The old machinery, the industrial and agricultural side of it out in the yard was so great to see,” she said.

“We had the army guys bring their Jeeps in and all the old and restored machinery from the Burdekin Machinery Preservationist was good as well.

The visit by the Army Logistics Unit went well. They were on site very early, and was shown around by Keith. Lex Kelly had the boiler steamed up, and was able to show off some steam engines in operation. Lex and Barry started the Fielding engine. They had a hiccup or two, but the blokes cheered when it gave it's first bumping noise. The Marshal got a start too.

Tom and Jan Callow are away down south on a Car Rally.

Keith and Jeanette Batley, along with Trevor and Carol Phillipson, are traipsing around down south too.

Ray Blain has almost finished his Waterloo Boy engine, and should be at Oakey for the QHR Rally.



Here's Alf at the Giru Show, with his threading machine.

Howard's Bit and Piece:

H was away for a couple of Mondays. He and S went to Sapphire and Barcaldine, to poke holes in targets at a distance.

Back to Brandon. Lex in his discussions with Alan Smith, revealed Alan would be most kind with his account to test the equipment. Another save is that Lex offered Alan a park overnight at his abode. Nice!

An Enerpac pump which appeared at the Club, was tried out, and found to be admirable for the job of pumping up the cylinders for testing. It easily gets to the pressures required.

Des and the team had a fine old time while H was away, and had the concrete floor completely finished when he came back.

H was going to list the people who have worked most assiduously on the Power House shed, but

concluded that this would be at the risk of leaving someone out. ALL Monday suspects worked on the shed at various times, and ALL are worthy of recognition.

Yes, individuals get a mention from time to time, and perhaps that's the best that can be done.

Viv's back, and he and Des have worked together, along with Arthur, KeithM, and Bruno to get things moving along.

Hanso came to the fore, and floated around in the little cherry picker, which the Club recently scored, and they put one end wall up on Monday the 12th, and came back on Tuesday, and put the other end on.

Barry robbed the bank to buy some refreshments at the end of busy days.

This is a great effort, as we all knew we would not have been able to put the roof on, and were wary about the walls. But it's turned out really good. We can do the side walls too when the time comes.

On the engine itself, JimH, and KeithM worked on the heads, assembling valves and such. H came mooching along, and one head needed a valve seat cut, which was known about anyway. The cutter Van made didn't perform as expected, nor adequately, and the process was abandoned for a while. H asked Van to have another go, with a different design, and this worked well enough the following Monday. KeithM wasn't there, which was a shame, as he had been in on the cutting process from day one.

While all this was going on, Lex and Peter Smith were hiding behind the boiler, pretending to be busy. Surprisingly, they must have been busy enough to cut an inspection hole in the brickwork at the back of the boiler, and had repaired some steam piping. Well done, fellers.

Speaking of money, the Club has sold quite a few Rotary Raffle books, which should be a bit of a welcome boost to Alf's coffers, which have suffered a bit of late.

Last Wednesday, Bruno came in and cleaned out the Walker jack shaft bearing block. It was disappointing just how much dirt came out.

Perhaps this is something we all should be a bit more attentive to, and that's dirt getting into the bearings of the Walker engine. Oil is *not* flushed through these bearings, as in a modern engine, and any dirt in there, stays there.

Lex and PeterS disassembled and marked, two sets of rocker gear, and on the Wednesday, a 44 was cut down, and the bits thrown in with Kero, to soak.

D2 has made a sort of shadow board for the bigger sized sockets that just float about the place.

On a sadder note, Ireland 's worst air disaster occurred early this week when a small two-seater Cessna plane crashed into a cemetery. Irish search and rescue workers have recovered 2826 bodies so far and expect that number to climb as digging continues into the night.

Lex's joke! (Shortened up.)

A Swaggie was lying back, under a tree at a fork in the road. Boots off, and hands behind his head.

A tourist came along.

"Which way to town?" he asked.

The Swaggie just moved one big toe, ever so slightly, towards one of the roads.

The tourist said, "If you can show me a lazier gesture or action than that, I'll give you five dollars!"

The Swaggie said, "Put it in me pocket!"

Here are a couple of pics.



Magnificent old Bottle Tree at Blackall. It would have a few tales to tell, if only...

H asked the lady at the museum how old it would be, and she said a hundred. So H and S sang "Happy Birthday." etc.

Events coming:

The Seventh Queensland Heritage Rally at Oakey
28th, 29th and 30th October, 2016

Home Hill Harvest Festival
Sat 5th November.

Open Day at Brandon

Sun 6th November. This is to be a big day, with all the enthusiasts from other disciplines, such as Car Clubs, Bike Clubs, Military Clubs, and the Amateur Deep Sea Prawn Benevolent Society, being invited.

Events gone: (Ya missed it!)

Giru Show.

Next Meeting:

Monday 27th June, 2016. (Ah! This was an error in the last Newsletter! Should have said 25th July. Apologies. Doesn't matter. Gone now! Come to think of it, what happened to the August notice? Lucky no one reads this far.)

OK, the next meeting is the 26th September.

At usual time 8:00 P.M. At usual place - YOMP. With usual banter thrown about. And sangers! Lots of sangers!