

NHMA

NEWSLETTER

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Machinery Association Inc.

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Fellow Collectors.

Well I have suddenly realized that it's February 2013; what happened to January? As my Grandmother used to say "as you get older the time goes faster", I am now a firm believer in that old adage.

With the N.H.M.A. National Rally coming up fast, we note that Brian Jones, President of the Cudgegong Valley Antique Machinery Club advises that preparations are rolling along and Mudjee is waiting for an onslaught of Vintage Machinery for our 2013 National Rally.

Don't forget your Annual General Meeting, being held at the National rally, make sure you attend this important meeting, if only to find out details of the 2015 National Rally and the 2014 National Tractor Trek. The N.H.M.A. AGM, is an opportunity for "you" the members, to follow up the activities of your committee of management and avail yourself of an opportunity to meet the committee and also other members throughout Australia.

For more than 30 years I have attended State and National Medical Conferences within my working life, Physiotherapists, Surgeons, G.P.'s all manner of Allied Health Conferences and if there is one thing that I have learnt over this time, "Vintage Machinery People" have a damn sight more fun and enjoyment at their National Conferences.

Well as Willy Nelson says, "On the Road Again".

See you all in Mudjee

Alan Shepherd

PRESIDENT

NHMA Secretary's Report:

The membership register of the NHMA Inc. has been adjusted for this year.

The Association now has **179 Member Clubs** with **9854** nominated members being affiliated, and with **8841** of these nominated members taking up the insurance option.

The financial affairs of the Association remain sound. The Treasurer, Mrs Kym Elphick, has now completed two terms in the position and has indicated that she does not wish to nominate for the position again. I congratulate Kym for the efficient and prompt manner in which she has carried out the duties of Treasurer. Thanks Kym for a job well done!!

Although the Association is travelling well, there are two matters on the horizon that need to be watched. These are insurance and WorkSafe regulations.

As far as insurance is concerned, the Committee of Management will continue to check the needs of the hobby and the affordability of the cover that is required.

As far as WorkSafe regulations go, it is thought that much more research and consideration has to be applied to this issue, in order that that an Australia wide organisation can operate under one Act & Regulations.

Currently, there are at least six [possibly seven] Acts & Regulations that our hobby can come under, depending on which State exhibitors are displaying in. Some of these regulations can be over one hundred pages long. How can an Association displaying heritage plant be expected to successfully digest this much information??

NHMA Nominations & Elections

Election of NHMA Officers: This year **only the Treasurer's position falls vacant**. So if your club has an enthusiastic person with experience in this field, please encourage them to nominate. Access to email and a suitable accountant is essential. Please contact the Secretary for more details.

Committee of Management Nominations: Most of the C of M positions fall vacant this year, the only exception being one Tasmanian Representative [Brian Scott, who has another year to go].

Nominations are called for the following positions:

Vic: Two State Reps. **S.A.:** Two State Reps.
NSW: Two State Reps. **Qld:** Two State Reps.
W.A.: Two State Reps. **Tas:** One State Rep.

All nominations are to be on the appropriate form. This can be found in the NHMA Handbook; please copy this, complete it, and return to the Secretary, **by no later than the 5th April 2013.**

Should insufficient nominations be received by that date; further nominations can be accepted from the floor of the meeting on the night.

All positions are for a two year term. It is preferable that nominees have access to email as this is helpful for communication between the committee members & executive. Anyone seeking further information on 'what is expected' of committee of management members, please contact the secretary or anyone on the committee.

Proxy voting:

If your club wishes to vote on AGM issues and is unable to attend, please use your proxy vote option. The form for this is in your NHMA Handbook [appendix 3 in the Rules section].

The member club appointing/seeking the proxy, completes the form; is then posted/handed to the proxy voter; then the proxy voter hands the form to the secretary of NHMA at least two hours before the meeting commences. Instructions, re the intention of the non-attending club, must be clear on the proxy vote form.

Copy the form, fully complete it, and make sure that the Secretary receives it at least two hours before the start of the AGM.

Joke Time:

Those who may be planning travel, please remember that people in other countries sometimes go out of their way to communicate with their English-speaking tourists. Here is a list of signs seen around the world:

Cocktail lounge, Norway: ***Ladies Are Requested Not To Have Children In The Bar.***

At a Budapest zoo: ***Please Do Not Feed The Animals. If You Have Any Suitable Food, Give It To The Guard On Duty.***

Doctors office, Rome: ***Specialist In Women And Other Diseases.***

Hotel, Acapulco: ***The Manager Has Personally Passed All The Water Served Here.***

Information booklet about using a hotel air conditioner, Japan: ***Cooler And Heater: If You Want Condition Of Warm Air In Your Room, Please Control Yourself.***

Sign in men's rest room in Japan: ***To Stop Leak Turn Cock To The Right***

In a Nairobi restaurant: ***Customers Who Find Our Waitresses Rude Ought To See The Manager.***

On the grounds of a private school: ***No Trespassing Without Permission.***

On an Athi River highway: ***Take Notice: When This Sign Is Under Water, This Road Is Impassable.***

In a City restaurant: ***Open Seven Days A Week, And Weekends Too.***

A sign seen on an automatic restroom hand dryer: ***Do Not Activate With Wet Hands.***

In a maternity ward: ***No Children Allowed.***

Sign in Japanese public bath: ***Foreign Guests Are Requested Not To Pull Cock In Tub.***

Tokyo hotel's rules and regulations: ***Guests Are Requested Not To Smoke Or Do Other Disgusting Behaviours In Bed.***

New Safety Guidelines:

By now many clubs will have staged an event following the amended guidelines. How have the amendments been accepted?

Little feedback has been received. One important matter needs to be highlighted; when on a public place, all self-propelled vehicles need to be registered or on permit. This gives the owner cover for third party injury claims. Authorities are probably reviewing their regulations quite closely, as there has been a huge increase in club registrations in at least two states.

When on a public place, the NHMA insurance offers no cover, as motor insurance is a completely different field of insurance to what is offered to heritage/vintage equipment.

Secretary's Gripes:

Some clubs are still sending in renewals requesting the cards etc be posted to an address other than the club's usual postal address. **Since the 1st December 2012**, all cards have only been posted to the club address. If this causes too much inconvenience to your club, your club may include a stamped, self-addressed envelope with your request, and the cards will be returned in that envelope.

Try to save paper & my space:

Most clubs use an extra sheet of A4 paper when recording the names of new members for insurance purposes: Please use the back of the renewal form [as requested] to record the names of new members; this also keeps my files more compact!!!

Time line for affiliation & insurance renewals for 2013 – 2014:

No new affiliations/insurance for this current year will be taken after the 30th April 2013.

Renewal notices will be posted about mid – June. Don't bother to seek early advice of the insurance costs etc. as this process all takes time.

Cards/Certificate of Currency processing will commence 01/07/13. Please try and have your

club's renewals completed before this date; it saves a lot of time for the secretary and treasurer!

Last but not least:

Don't forget that the AGM, on Friday 19th April 2013 at the Rally Ground, will be deciding on the venue of the 2015 NHMA National Rally. A joint submission has been received from the three Tassie clubs who will host this flagship event. The NHMA has a policy of rotating the National Rally to all states; Tasmania in 2015 and then it becomes Victoria's turn in 2017.

The Committee of Management has received two submissions to host the 2014 National Tractor Trek. One, from the Burdekin Machinery Preservationists Inc. [In the north of Qld.] and the other one, from the Hunter Valley Vintage Farm Machinery Club Inc. [central NSW]; both of these clubs have submitted strong proposals and will be seeking your club's vote to secure this event for their area.

Come & Say Hello:

The NHMA will have an 'office' at the Mudgee National; near the 'windmill in the centre of the grounds', pop in and say your piece or offer support. The committee wants to share your thoughts on NHMA issues.

OAMPS, the NHMA insurance broker will also be at the same location. Again our broker welcomes feedback and possible future needs of the Association.

Stop Press:

Following an anonymous phone call, the NHMA Committee of Management will again be discussing the non-compliance of the NHMA Safety Guidelines. As in most instances, a few member clubs appear to be 'hell bent' on disregarding real safety issues at NHMA rallies. Injury & life are important to the Association; please think before acting in a way that may endanger participants or the public!!!