

CLUB CLIPPINGS

Face to Face Meeting



The NHMA committee held its second Face-to-Face meeting for 2022 in Queensland, on Saturday, 12th November. The meeting was hosted by the Steaming on the Downs Club with the support of the Toowoomba & District Old Machinery Society, at their building at the Oakey Showgrounds. The meeting was well attended with members from a number of Queensland heritage machinery groups.

Both clubs put on a display of operating machinery for the visitors. There was a great variety of stationary engines, tractors, and steam. It was a very relaxed atmosphere, with enough time to catch up with old friends and make new ones. A great spread was put on for morning tea, and thanks must go to everyone who brought a plate.



The Committee was invited to sit in on the Steaming on the Downs general meeting. We were made very welcome by the groups committee and members. The meeting discussed events coming up as well as other club business. One of the big discussions was about the 2025 NHMA National Rally. A steering committee was formed to look at putting in an expression of interest to hold the event in the Darling Downs region. We look forward to seeing how this develops.

The clubs supplied a fantastic BBQ lunch, and while eating lunch, more time was spent looking at the machinery on display and catching up with the club members.

Everyone was invited to attend the NHMA monthly committee meeting. It was a very open meeting with no change to the normal format because we were in a public forum. The majority of the NHMA was at the meeting, either in person or on Zoom. Some of the topics discussed were our insurance update, members' benefits, upcoming state representative elections, competency training, social media, and the national rally.



The floor was then opened to the gathering. The group was quite happy with the way the NHMA has grown and improved in recent times. One of the attendees spoke to that point, emphasising the openness of the NHMA and how the support that is coming from the committee now, is very welcome. He also asked if there were any regulations from the NHMA about the construction of tractor pull sleds. The answer was, "No, we don't stipulate how these are constructed because we are not qualified to do this". What we did recommend was a risk assessment be done to assess the item, do regular inspections and document any repairs, amongst other comments. The group was pleased with the answer, and especially with getting an answer on the spot.



The committee would like to thank everyone that came along and gave us the opportunity to answer questions at the meeting, as well as getting suggestions to help grow the hobby and the NHMA.

We look forward to receiving a National Rally Expression of Interest from the Queensland clubs if they decide to go ahead. We also encourage all NHMA clubs to contact our secretary for the New National Rally Guidelines and put in an EOI to hold the event.

Our next Face-to-Face meeting will be held at the 18th National Rally in Mudgee. See you then.

*Bill Ives

Send your letters to: PO BOX 18148, Clifford Gardens QLD 4350