



# Welcome to the NHMA News Page



To all our valued members and supporters, we will have an update on what's happening at the NHMA in every issue of TOMM – this will include the latest news and updates.

## President's Toolbox Talk

It gives me great pleasure to write this report in the lead up to the National Rally and AGM.

It has been sometime since a full AGM has been held, as due to Covid we had to do them by correspondence, and whilst we covered all our statutory requirements, we have missed the personal contacts with our members.

This last year has been packed with activity that came about with the election of a new secretary and treasurer, and this has created the largest impact/shake up of the NHMA for as long as I can remember. It has entailed changing the way clubs interact with us and the way we manage the Association, as well as streamlining our approach with technology in all our transactions. For example, we no longer use cheque books/receipt books, and whilst we still receive cheques, it is becoming the exception rather than the norm these days. All our files are now cloud-based (I am still learning all this) plus we are meeting monthly over Zoom to allow faster interaction with both the committee and member clubs. This has all come with voting in the executive with the skill to take our association into the future and make dealing with us easier and more convenient.

The NHMA is now not just seen as an insurance provider – we are driving an association that provides support and benefits to our member clubs, by moving to our new insurance provider we have ensured our policies are fit for purpose and cover all our activities, and we have increased our offering (Marine Transit Insurance) to fit within our budget. This means more value for members at no extra cost. We have entered into an agreement with Red Tape Busters to assist member clubs in applying for grants for their projects. I have seen two applications forwarded to RTB and await the outcomes. Once again, this is at no cost to the members as it has come from savings made by the management committee by reducing the number of face-to-face meetings from four to two per annum (with one being the AGM). Our committee

members also appreciate this as they are not being taken away from their families and activities for these meetings. Our monthly committee meetings are held via Zoom on a Thursday evening, so it doesn't impact on weekends.

We have had three quarterly all-club Zoom meetings, and these are proving to be popular. I recommend that your club participates in the upcoming ones, just send an email to the secretary and David will include you into the meeting request.

We are also working on tools to assist clubs in their ability to train and upskill members and for when working in the OHS space that many club sheds now need to do – so watch this space for future assistance with this.

We are now looking to the future, and I am excited about the pipeline looking forward. We have already been speaking to the insurers about further expansion of our policies, we have great nominations for the next National Tractor Convention, and the next National Rally. We have had three committee members step down at this AGM, being Ben Burdett from Queensland, Phillip Morrison from Tasmania, and Brain Culley from Victoria. I wish to thank them for their commitment and assistance in transforming the association.

It would be remiss of me not to thank Cudgegong Club in Mudgee for the National Rally. It is not the first National that they have hosted but the rally being held this year was originally cancelled in 2021 due to Covid, so they have hung in there and ridden the storm and re-organised to allow us to gather as an association.

This year we also have two nominations for the Ian Stewart Award, one from SA and the other from QLD. They are both great youngsters that will go far in our hobby and I encourage every club to look to their young members and submit a nomination for next year. This award is available in each state.

I would like to thank the NHMA Committee for their hard work, commitment, and passion for the hobby and, their willingness to participate in the various teams and subcommittees for the various projects that we are working on.

You all amaze me, and I feel humbled and proud of what we have achieved and the direction we are heading.

I would like to thank the clubs that have hosted our meetings, and our committee members for making themselves available to attend rallies in their area. For myself, it was the Wedderburn Club for the tractor convention, and TADOMS for our meeting at Oakey in QLD.

Lastly, to my wife Kelly and family for allowing me to be part of this exciting association.

\*Peter

## Ian Stewart Award

The NHMA is always looking for ways to encourage young people to get involved in the hobby. We have put together the Ian Stewart Young Restorers Award which is named after the founder of The Old Machinery Magazine. Ian was always encouraging young members to get involved and have a go. We want to continue this by asking all our clubs to look at their junior membership and encourage them to step up and get involved. Part of the criteria is club involvement, so get involved in the day-to-day operation of a group. This will help in the future when the time comes to pass the baton on to the next generation. We want to see the day when we have two or three young members from each state and territory send in applications. This is to help maintain the knowledge that our older members have learned with years of experience.

We want to be able to give \$1,000 to the best applicant in each state and territory. Please speak to your committees about this great award.

## Club Operating Resources

Thanks to another large group we have been given approval to use their Standard Operating Procedures as the basis for ours. These SOPs are not viewed as a 'must do' but as a resource that your committee can use as a guide. We are not here to tell you the way to operate equipment or tell your committee how to run your club. We are here to help and provide as much information as we can to help your group keep up to speed with current work

practices. The SOPs can be found in the Insurance and Safety section on the NHMA Website.

### **Club Newsletters**

The NHMA have been looking at more ways to reach you, the members, of our Member Clubs. We are going to ask your club to publish a small snippet that the NHMA will send to you, in your newsletters. We can't make clubs do this, but we would encourage them to publish this information as a resource for you, the member. The plan is to email the snippet once a month and then it can be published in the next available newsletter. We hope this works out so you can see a more direct input from the NHMA.

### **National Tractor Run 2024**

At this stage there has only been one entry for the 2024 Tractor Run. The Deniliquin Collectors Club has applied to hold the run at Deniliquin. The last run at Wedderburn was a great success and the team involved in planning the 2024 National Tractor Run will certainly put on a great event. This will be voted on at the AGM. More details will be published on our website and Facebook page as they become available after the AGM. The NHMA is committed to these great events

and would like any feedback about how we can assist clubs to hold these events.

### **National Rally 2025**

At this stage, there has only been one entry for the 2025 National Rally. The application for the 2025 National Rally has been put together by three Queensland clubs – Steaming on the Downs, Toowoomba and District Old Machinery Society, and the Queensland Steam and Vintage Machinery Society – they will be working together to put on the National at the historic Jondaryan Woolshed. The event will be held in late August to fit in with the Queensland weather, from Saturday, 23rd to Monday, 25th with two days of tractor and steam engine road runs leading up to the opening on the Saturday. The feature of the event will be 'Steaming under the Southern Cross', and the plan is to bring together as many steam exhibits as possible to the site. This will complement the many stationary engines, tractors, vehicles, and other exhibits. The group wants to highlight the important part our engines and machinery played in forming our country. The other change from the normal National is that the 'Steaming under the Southern Cross' feature will continue for another six days, wrapping up on

the following Sunday, 31st. Everyone exhibiting at the National will be welcome to stay if they wish. This will be voted on at the AGM. More details will be published on our website and Facebook page as they become available after the AGM.

### **Quarterly State Meetings**

We will be holding the next quarterly State Zoom meeting after the AGM at Mudgee. We encourage all member club members to ask their committee to get involved and join the meetings. The dates will be 15th/16th May. David will send the link to all clubs with all the details.

### **Communications**

We want to hear from you. Below are the main contact details, however, if you want to contact your state representative directly, their details are on our web page.

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#### **NHMA Secretary**

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