

Merry Christmas

Inc # A0038764

TRACS TORQUE

Trucks too.

December 2024

Newsletter for
Members of the Tractor
Restoration and Appreciation
Club Sunraysia Inc.



PO Box 569 Irymple 3498 www.tracsmildura.com.au 436 Wilga Road, Red Cliffs

We have come to the end of another year.
Thankyou to all the TRACS members who have made it a successful year.

We completed the main upgrade at Wilga Road and now have a facility to be proud of.

The Tractor Pull, Chamberlain/Australia Day, Ferguson Club Trek, our own trek to The Scotia Country, The Junction Rally, The Wentworth Show, Mildura Field Days—the list goes on.

Unfortunately, our wheat crop has failed—so our Sunshine Strippers are having a year off.

We wish all members a productive and healthy new year.

At our last meeting we had an extensive discussion on planning for next years events.

- The Tractor Pull will be on Sunday 5th October.
- Australia Day will continue but the date is not confirmed. There will be a focus on increasing participation.
- We intend to note the 100 year anniversary of Caterpillar. Likely to be in the first half of the year at Belvedere.



Our Christmas 'End of Year' Celebration is on Sunday 1st December. 5pm start at Wilga Road.

BBQ meal at cost and bring a salad or sweet.
Bring a toy. (The mechanical type.)

Next meeting 11th December—7.30pm at the Irymple Bowling Club.

TRACS—What's On in The Next Few Months.

December 2024

- **Sunday 1st**—TRACS Christmas. 5pm at Wilga Road.
- **Wednesday 11th**—TRACS Meeting 7.30 at Irymple Bowls Club.

January 2025

- **Wednesday 8th**—TRACS Meeting
- **Sunday 12th** - 40th Annual Korumburra Swap Meet
- **Sunday 12th**—Geelong Classic Truck and Machinery Show
- **Sat and Sunday 25th and 26th**—Quambatook Heritage Working Harvesting Machinery Days

February 2025

- **Wednesday 12th**—TRACS meeting
- **Sunday 23rd**—American Motoring Show at Mornington Racecourse.

March 2025

- **Sunday 9th**—Clunes Historic Vehicle Show. Ph 03 5469 1239 for more info.
- **Wednesday 12th**—TRACS Meeting

April 2025

- **Sunday 27th**—Wangaratta Historic Motor Show and Flyin—at Wangaratta Airport.
- **Sunday 27th**—Federation Scoresby Picnic

August 2025

- **Australia Day**— date and format to be confirmed.

October 2025

- **Sunday 5th**—Tractor Pull at Wilga Road

As a club—and like many others—TRACS has a challenge to attracting new and younger members to our group.

So—how do we do this?

One suggestion has been to introduce a **Lawn Mower Class Tractor Pull**. Maybe as **Lunch time activity at the next Tractor Pull?**

Murray has offered to put together a suitable sled.

What do you think?

Please let us know.

The Club's future depends on attracting new members.



A bit of space here to introduce Charlie. He brings Leon Wittwer to many of our events and joined us at Belvedere on the Scotia Trek.

Wanted to Acquire or Surplus to Requirements.....

- A set of Linkage Arms from a DB Cropmaster are surplus to Andrew Hudson. Ph. 0427 256 276
- John Cook would like to sell a TE20 Ferguson and a baby Quinn trailer. John's phone number is 0428 165 355
- Alan Whyte is looking for a set of front steel wheels for a Farmall H. Would also be interested in a 4 cylinder land rover engine. Ph. 0428 528 136
- Ian Keens list was in the last Newsletter. Some equipment moved but more to go.

This newsletter has been printed on a copier supplied by OEDigital. We thank you for your support.

TRACS Inc. PO Box 569 Irymple, Vic 3498 Website www.tracsmildura.com.au

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**At our last meeting there was discussion about the format and content for next years Australia Day.
Murray has put these notes together. Comments welcome.**

There was a discussion at the General Meeting on the 13-11-24 regarding the future of our "Made in Australia Day"

It was acknowledged that this events participation has been in decline for the last few years.

I would like to put forward the following proposal for all members to consider.

For the purpose of creating an event

For all trucks, cars, equipment and tractors to be divided to three categories.

Category One.

Anything manufactured in England and Europe.

Category Two.

Anything manufactured In USA and South America.

Category Three.

Anything manufactured in Australia.

Each year will focus on a category to be showcased at the proposed event in the first part of the year.

I would like to submit this proposal for discussion at the next general meeting

Thanks for your time

Murray Green

**On our Scotia Trek we visited Nialla Lake on The Anabranh as the crop was coming off.
Leon Wittwer put these notes together. Thanks Leon.**

Visit to Nialla Lake

Nialla Lake is on the property Willow Point Station-situated east of the Silver City Highway in New South Wales.

The lake is one of many which are on the flood plain of the Darling River Anabranh.

The area was totally inundated during the 2022/23 flood event and plans were made to plant cereal crops when the water subsided.

The lake is 1200 hectares (3000 acres) and was prepared for planting in March 2024, and seeded in May/June 2024.

400ha. was planted for hay, and the balance for grain, seed grain and milling grain.

The milling grain is trucked to a mill at Smeaton near Ballarat Victoria for processing to various types of cereal food.

The hay and seed are sold to some private farmers, and some under contract to several companies.

The crop is not irrigated, nor has it had any significant rainfall during the growing season, there is sufficient residual moisture in the soil from the flooding, and this has resulted in excellent yields, some of the crop standing up to 1.4m in height!

To prevent wind damage flattening some of the oat crop or shaking the grain from the heads a machine known as a windrower is used to cut the stalks just above ground level and leave the crop on the ground in windrows and then harvested with a conventional harvester.

The property is owned by Gus and Kellie Whyte and family and the farming operation with the Harmer family as share farmers.

The two daughters were in charge of the John Deere harvester and the "chase tractor and bin"

In Gus's opinion the girls are easier on the machinery than most male drivers! 👍

The Scotia Trek— 25th to 30th October 2024.

Our trips are only possible with the assistance of the properties we travel through. Thanks to Leo Pinnington at Big Bend, The staff at Scotia Sanctuary—Garth, Emily and Piers—and the families at Belvedere, Wyndham/Willow Point and Glen Esk.



Clockwise from top left—its not all dust and bumps, the Scotia Fences are Phil proof, the group at Scotia Sanctuary, Oakvale Stn's rather unusual mailbox ornament, and a German cyclist we met on our travels. He thought we were a bit weird driving old tractors around....





Clockwise from above—old yards on Glen Esk, towers old and new, an original SA Border gate assembly with hand adzed pine posts, driving onto Nialla Lake, a windrowed oat crop, first light at Belvedere and the TRACS group at Nialla lake.



TRACTOR RESTORATION & APPRECIATION CLUB SUNRAYSA

Inc # A0038764N

Minutes of Meeting November 13-11-24 at IBC

MEETING OPENED: 7.30pm

APOLOGIES: As per attendance sheet dated 13-11-24

PRESENT: As per attendance sheet dated 13/11/24

PREVIOUS MINUTES: Taken as read and correct
Moved : Max Midgley, Sec Barry Foster, Carried.

BUSINESS ARISING

Nil

CORRESPONDENCE

Inwards

- 1 HCVC September Monitor.
- 2 Deniliquin Collectors Club, Oct & Nov News-letters
- 3 Hit & Miss newsletter
- 4 Lower Murray Water, rates invoice
- 5 Findex Insurance Brokers, Wilga Rd building insurance invoice.

Outwards

Nil

Moved Murray Green, Sec John Porker, that correspondence be accepted. Carried

BUSINESS ARISING:

Nil

TREASURERS REPORT

No Treasurers Report Tabled.

General Business

(a) Acceptance of New Members

Nil

(b) Clearing Sales/Auctions

22nd Nov on the Auction-Plus site

(c) Restoration Activities

Nil

(d) Additional Purchases/ Confessions

Member 1, 10 tractors of various types in the last month.

Member 2, Bulldog KL.

Member 3, Series 1 Landrover.

Member 4, 10/60 Nuffield

Member 5, Farmall A.

Member 6, KB truck.

e) Newsletter

All Good

(f) Wilga Road. No pending working bee's

(g) TRACS Website

Up to date.

(h) NSW Registrar

1 x renewal submitted at the meeting.

(i) Vic Registrar

5 x renewals submitted at the meeting.

(j) Future Club Events.

Christmas BBQ Dec 1st at Wilga Rd at 5.00pm.

Jack Droffelaar has volunteered to provide the catering for this event.

Members are encouraged to bring along vehicles or equipment for viewing.

Lake Coleraine Folk Festival March 2025.

There will be no participation for this event

Tractor Pull, Sunday 5th October 2025.

100 years of Caterpillar, there will be a "by invitation only" event to be held at a private property/ collection next year, date to be confirmed. Further details to follow.

(k) Any Other Business.

Alan Whyte, gave a update on the success of the Scotia Tractor Trek and the options for further treks within the same area.

A discussion was held as to the possibility of holding an additional event within the 1st third of the year at Wilga Rd.

There is a 100 year of Caterpillar event at Murray Bridge on the 23rd, 24th, 25th May 2025.

Alan Whyte spoke of the need to encourage young person's participation in club events . Murray Green suggested that the club could look into the feasibility of creating a junior section for "tractor pulling" , involving using ride on lawn mower type tractors. Murray is to contact the NHMA regarding the feasibility and for guidance from the NHMA.

Ken Creighton spoke about club member participation at events, he advised that a motion of minimum participation was passed approximately in 2009. Murray Green is to research the past minutes and advise at the next meeting.

Dave Beard advise that Ian Cook (non member) 0428 165 355 has a Gray Fergy with a baby quinn trailer for sale.

Next Meeting Wednesday 11th November at IBC

Meeting closed 8.40pm