

THE GISBORNE VINTAGE MACHINERY SOCIETY INC.

# “The Steam Whistle”

President: Noel Smithwick  
54296316  
Secretary: Robyn Smithwick  
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Treasurer: Trevor Dunn  
97441591  
V/Pres: Tim Reid  
4404 6018  
Committee: Lindsay Elliot 5427 3113 James Carter 57951011  
Rob Barrie 0407 883475 Mac Reynolds 5429 3161  
Drew Morrissey 5428 7451 Rodger Payne 5428 3878  
Grievance Off/r Rob Barrie 0407 883475  
Editors: Barry Thomas 9726 8673  
General Meetings: Last Friday of the Month, 8PM at the club grounds  
Committee Mtng: Second Friday of the month 7 PM at the club grounds  
Working Bees: First Sunday of the month.  
Club website [www.netneeds.com.au/gisbornevintage](http://www.netneeds.com.au/gisbornevintage)  
Club email [gisbvms@yahoo.com.au](mailto:gisbvms@yahoo.com.au)  
Miniature Train Rides & Tram [Pavilion] Hire. Tel. 4404 6018

**No 243 November 2013**

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## Presidents Report

The club has grown in strength in the last 12 months. The rally was great success with more exhibits , after a false start the raffle was a success( many thanks to Robyn for all the paper work with various Government Departments) and also the ticket sellers.

We still have few projects on the go (park benches & tables) boilers to be inspected & returned to service. The club grounds are in good shape ,also thanks to and others that have been working on other projects .It was great to see the Tony Evans Museum running again . so keep up the good work. We have 3 new committee members Drew Morrissey, Rodger Payne , Lindsay Elliot

Looking forward to seeing you all at the Christmas dinner and in the new year as we keep on with our club activities.

## Christmas Get Together

The club will be having XMAS function at the BLACK HORSE HOTEL in Bulla on Friday the 13th of December at 6:30 pm please reply to the secretary if you wish to attend by the 29th November. (I hope this newsletter gets out in time for that little deadline)

## Compound Clean up- Action Required!

A reminder if you haven't spoken to Noel about anything you have in the compound or sheds to let him know before it ends up as a candidate for SIMS.

We need to uphold our leasing obligations and keep the site as pristine as possible. In recent times the amount of material within the compound would test the resolve of an inspector!

## Editor Whinge.

Yes I back in the hot seat, to fill in the void for a short term, I am hoping that some one local to Gisborne wants to have a go at this Editor Gig. It needs a small amount of patience to chase up articles and a bit of keyboard skills to put it together. - let Noel know if want to have a go—Barry will help with getting started. In the meantime I want articles and even one liners of what members have been up to—this is your newsletter—you place to brag, your place to sell, your place to find out etc.. Note it has gone from a note last newsletter to a whinge—see you at the rallies and such.

## **Get Well**

There were a number of get wishes in the last newsletter and again we have a number of members are suffering from various illnesses and best wishes go out to them.

## **Kilmore Show Saturday 7th December.**

At the present time contact has been made with the Show Society and we are attending. In the lead up to the show Bob Hemp has asked if I can assist him as he is having an eye operation on the Thursday before the Show.

The set up is the same as in the past, we will be going to the site on the Friday morning around 10 -10.30 and ensuring stakes and tape are in place which will set out the boundaries for Saturday. As in the past engines etc will be placed on site on Saturday Morning.

One of our members is providing a BBQ and a light lunch will be provided.

If you intend to come and bring an engine, tractor etc could you let me know as we have a limited amount of space.

I can be contacted on 03 57841763 or 0428 841763. Bobs phone number is 03 57 831274.

Any questions give us a ring.

## **Broadford Australia Day**

This is on again, the contact points are Ron Bradshaw or myself.

Australia Day in 2014 is on the 26th a Sunday. Some calendars show it as the 27th. I will confirm the date with the organisers and let people know via e mail or phone as soon as I know.

At this event we have more space but it is handy to know in advance if you are coming so we can allocate you a spot.

Again a lite lunch will be provided.

As more information comes available members attending will be notified.

## **Seymour Expo/Field Days**

This event is on the 14th - 16th Feb 2014.

Following on from our Club meeting in Sept I have made contact with the organisers and started discussions on the site size and our remuneration. I have visited the site and have details on the area that has been allocated in the past.

For members who intend coming please let Rod Roberts or myself know as again we have limited space. Members can come for one to three days but we need to know in advance.

Another important point is all machines have to be inside the compound pre 9am.

The club provides a lite lunch on the Saturday.

As time gets closer and more information becomes available, the club and members attending will be advised.

**Finally: Any questions give somebody who is listed in the above report a call and we will try and help**

## **Christmas Wishes**

It is that time of year already = The committee would like to pass on best wishes for Christmas and new year to all the members and people associated with our club. Please have a safe and happy Christmas and New Year.

## "Around The Grounds"

Congratulations to Lindsay, Roger and Drew who were recently elected to the general committee. Welcome Gents to the "sharp end" and we hope you enjoy steering the club forward and upward! Lindsay is our new "membership liason officer" so beware those who are "not financial". A letter will be coming!

Our newsletter has recently been again in the capable hands of Barry Thomas who graciously took over the role on a "temporary" basis to assist and relieve our "editor".

Barry very kindly agreed to help out again in a role that he had fulfilled previously for a very long time. We are wishing to relieve Barry of the temporary role that he has covered, and applicants were sought recently for a permanent editor but no takers were forthcoming.

The club is in debt to Barry who has agreed to continue on a SHORT TERM basis only!

We desperately need an editor! Training and assistance will be provided and the cost of all materials covered.

Can you help! You will basically fill in a template provided with stories and articles provided by club members.

Dave Hubbard is the newly appointed head of the upcoming inaugural swap meet. Thanks for your efforts Dave! Please let him know if you wish to assist in the organisation of this important fundraising event. It will be here before we know it! It promises to be a great event. Lets get behind Dave and his event for the club.

A shiny new whipper snipper awaits members who wish to use it to cut our grass! First in best dressed on working bee days.

A big group of members and partners met at Gisborne railway station to see the arrival of Steamrail's train to Castlemaine. Spotted at the station was Club President Noel, Vice President Tim plus Roger Payne and his wife as well as Dave Hubbard, Rob Barry and his wife Deb and not forgetting Bill!

The train stayed for half an hour before climbing the grades further north.

Club member Anthony captured it later in the day on film near Elphinstone tunnel on its return trip.

A certain member "keen" on trains saw it not only at Gisborne in the morning but also during the day at Castlemaine and as it powered back through Gisborne late that night at around 80kmh. (you just cannot get enough!)

The club got great exposure on Nov 3 when our grounds were hired out for a car event. Despite passing squalls and breaks of sunshine, some 200 people attended and were pleased with our surrounds. A repeat performance is promised next year.

Ironically the weather the day before was sunny with no wind and a pleasant 25 degrees.

Contrast that with 9 degrees, cold winds up to 70kmh and driving rain and hail in passing squalls on the day of the event.

That's Gisborne in Spring!

Christmas is coming! Lets hope we see you at our end of year working bee or club night out.

Club stalwart and legend Rob Barry continues unabated. As promised he has secured the use of a "bobcat" to work on our grounds. The delivery was problematic with a blown trailer tyre and a three hour wait on the outskirts of Gisborne. (as a result he missed out on going to the Goldsmith event)

Once on site the following week he said that he would just "start it" to see that it was in "tip top" shape.

Four hours of running later after refreshing our compound of tree debris and rubbish he turned it off.

WOW! The area looks great and a sign of things to come! Dead trees removed and large areas levelled.

Noel and Trevor marked out the areas for the new picnic benches which was then sprayed by Tim. Pouring work for the bases should commence soon.

A metal scrap bin will also be on site soon and our grounds will divest themselves of our surplus items. Be sure to inform the President of any personal items lest they be given the order of the...

Our final working bee for the year will have a XMAS touch at lunch. Come down and see us! And more importantly come down and see your fellow club members!

If this is the last communique for 2013, Best Wishes to All for a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year....

See you... Around the grounds....

That's all, Over and Out!!! (Local Reporter number 45)

# Vintage machinery turns heads

The Weekly Times, February 6, 2013

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## SEYMOUR ALTERNATIVE FARMING EXPO



**C**OMMUNITY groups and clubs from across Victoria have become regulars at the Seymour Alternative Farm Expo.

The Gisborne Vintage Machinery Society will fire up engines, tractors and working farm machinery belonging to at least a dozen members at Seymour.

The society first exhibited in 1993 and has become a regular drawcard after two decades of continuous involvement, expanding its display from a handful of old tractors and engines to a large working exhibit.

Some of the engines are connected to water pumps and other implements in working displays.

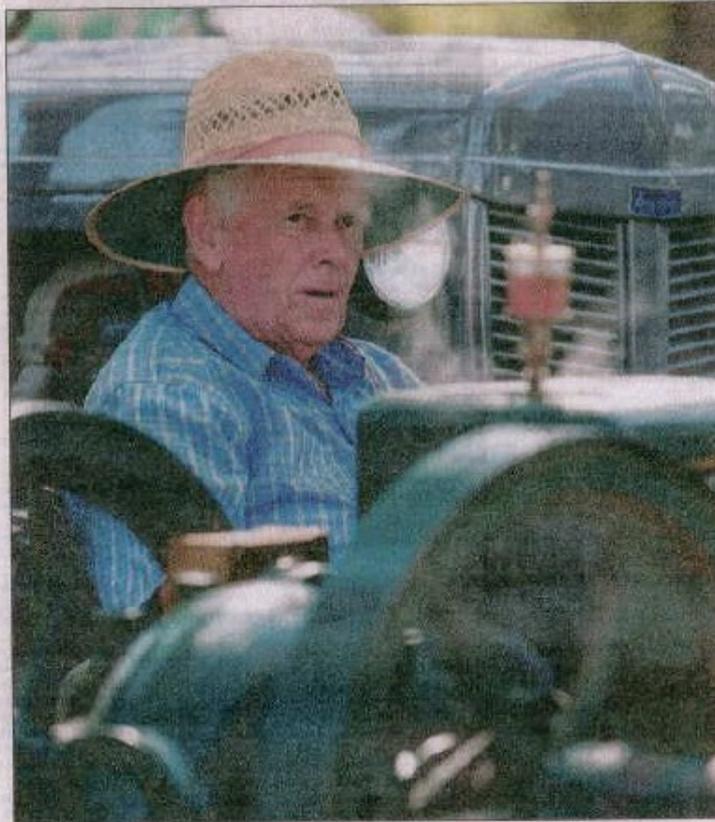
"We show them how farming used to be done," the society's rally coordinator Rod Roberts said. "The Seymour expo is our major outside event for the year."

Mr Roberts said the show was good exposure for members on the lookout for spare parts to keep their equipment in good order and for the society in recruiting new members.

"People will sometimes offer us equipment they've got lying around and don't know what to do with," Mr Roberts said.

Regular exhibitors from Bendigo Woodturners Inc have completed a special project initiated by life-member Barbara Whitford.

The community group furnished a doll's house with finely crafted furniture designed and made by Mrs Whitford alongside another Bendigo Woodturners member, Robyn Hill, who completed the intricate project after Mrs



**Classic display:** Rob Thomas, from Heathcote with his 1930 McCormick-Deering engine, part of the display from the Gisborne Vintage Machinery Society at last year's Seymour Expo. Picture: YURI KOUZMIN

Whitford's death in October last year.

Mrs Hill said the four rooms of doll's furniture, made using a scrollsaw, would be on display at this year's Seymour expo and later in the year at the annual four-day Easter exhibition in Bendigo.

The display also features prizes for the group's major fundraising raffle. The doll's house is one of the prizes.

Bendigo Woodturners

secretary Frank Gargiulo said the group held woodwork training courses for community members and also helped "disengaged" students as part of an intervention program called Operation Newstart to help teenagers learn new skills.

He said two recent Operation Newstart course participants had joined as Bendigo Woodturners members to further their woodworking.

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This is a photo from last years expo in the weekly times, of Rob Thomas with his 3 HP international M, sitting in front of Rod Roberts Fergy. Please—lets all make an effort and get there next year. It will be good to have a few different exhibits to make the display interesting for our regular viewers.

## Other Stuff.

### Next Years Rally

I understand the date has been set for the 2014 rally and is for the 18th May. If you have any ideas about how to make the event even better please let our committee know.

Make sure if you are talking to members of other clubs you let them know and get in their minds.

I would like to see more people from other clubs coming on the Saturday afternoon and staying for the night, which means help with cooking and perhaps some evening entertainment.

The committee are working on improving the grounds so try and get to some of the working bees in the coming year.

### The Ronaldson Report.

There is apparently an Austral 11 HP that squats in one of the sheds in Gisborne, that was last seen running at the Ronaldson Tippet Rally in Ballarat in 2004. (That was with a lot of help of fellow members Jeff Shepherd, Mark Graham, Noel Smithwick and Andrew Shepherd). On Friday the 8th Of December the same engine belched out a plume of black exhaust gas it fired for the first time in nine years and fired a few times after that.

Mum had decided to go to Melbourne and when she came back so her and Dad could go home, she stated rather blatantly that she could not hear an engine running and wasn't going home until she saw and heard it. Out came the blow lamp and dad and I managed to get it running fairly quickly. Given the fuel and water pumps are still in the to be reconditioned bucket we only ran it for a few minutes.

So what has happened over nine years you wonder—new valves by True Line (Ray Dean), and a lot of replacing of rockers pivots so that all the slop is now gone from the running gear. The other challenge for my office worker arms is how to turn the engine over past compression and then through it back to fire whilst operating the valves to get the fuel in. Dad and I made up some levers so some one can open the exhaust valve to get it past compression and then the fuel valve as the piston goes out, and then I can through it back on compression and then whoosh ( well sometimes). It sort of lurches forward—not a rapid kick like a bulldog or other engines bounced off compression.

So another target date awaits as there is now an expectation that the squatter may make an appearance at next years rally.  
BT

### Buy Sell Swap.

Ad for Ian Northcott Phone no 0423930991

Free to a good home

- 1 Belt driven Jas Smith 2a chaff cutter 3ft dia flywheel needs restoration
- 2 Small towable super spreader made by Mitchells 1960 needs restoration

For sale four sunshine 12 foot farm gates needs restoration \$450

Advertisement space is available at no cost to member.

### Fowler Report

I will be getting a report from Noel for the next newsletter on how the Fowler restoration is progressing as I expect it may be further along then some of us realise, although I hope that haven't put pressure on Noel.

### Calendar Entries

Please send me any Calendar entries to be added.

Disclaimer: The items published in this newsletter are not necessarily the views of the Gisborne Vintage Machinery Society. Letters and articles published under the name of an author are the views of that author only

## Calendar of Events

### 2013

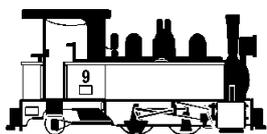
- December 7** Kilmore Show  
December 8 Moora Vintage Harvest Festival  
**December 13** **Gisborne Club Christmas Get Together**  
BLACK HORSE HOTEL Bulla 6:30 PM contact Robyn.

### 2014

- January 11 Geelong Classic Truck and Machinery Show  
January 25 Harvest Working Days and Vintage Tractor Pull— Quambatook  
**January 26** **Australia Day at Broadford**
- February 14 16** **Seymour Expo.**  
February 16 Ballan's Great Vintage Rally
- March 1 Ballan Vintage Swap Meet  
March 1 30th Longford Vintage Tractor Pull  
March 8 Ridgee Didge Rally - Warby Engine Club - Mansfield  
March 8 Melbourne Steam Traction Engine Club Steamfest  
March 15 Kyabram Vintage Mach Rally and the 2nd International Mack Truck Muster
- April Mt Alexander Rally—Guilford
- May 18** **Gisborne Rally**  
May 31 June 1 Camp Quality Tractor Trek Bendigo

- General meetings - always 8 PM last Friday of the month,
- Committee meeting—second Fridays at 7 PM
- Working Bee Days - first Sunday of the month

Next Newsletter will be written mid January—so if you have something for it please get it to me—even in written form.



THE GISBORNE VINTAGE  
MACHINERY SOCIETY INC.  
Reg No A0029842D

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