Curtis-Wright 32W 18 cylinder Neptune engine.
An awesome engine.
Hi all, I have picked some photo’s at random from Glen’s photo’s. The engines haven’t been named as I don’t know the names of most the engines.

Glen has written an account of the Mudgee Rally and Ian M has had to look for Merve at the Rally. I think we will have to give him a ball of string.

This weekend we are displaying at the West End Park. Then 10 days later it will be up to Mareeba for the Field Day.

The 2003 NHMA National Rally.
By Glen Harris.

This Rally was held at Mudgee in country NSW, about 4 hours drive from Sydney. Attending from the NQMP were Ian Matthews, Merve Carey, Peter Higgins, my father Allan and myself. All except Merve arrived on the Wednesday, while he arrived late on Thursday night. Many people, especially campers, had been arriving well in advance and setup was well underway when we arrived. Over the next day and a half even more people arrived and the exhibits extended well into the far reaches of the grounds.

The layout was a series of four concentric rings with roadway spokes extending from the center. While this was an efficient and accessible pattern, it was quite easy to get turned around and "lose" a display you wanted to revisit. Eateries were scattered around the area and easy to find, as were fixed and demountable toilet blocks.

Our display was set up on third ring from the center, on the spoke nearest the exhibitor's
carpark. There was no shade aside from what you brought yourself, but the weekend was overcast for much of the time. Fortunately, there was no rain but it did threaten at times. Temperatures dropped to 2 degrees overnight, which made some of the engines a little temperamental in the mornings.

Across and down the roadway from our spot was the Curtis-Wright 32W 18 cylinder Neptune engine. It was run every couple of hours and brought a crowd of a couple of hundred people each time. The grand parade each day passed by the side of our enclosure, and featured a many tractors and crawlers, a respectable number of steam vehicles and 7/16:1 scale Kenworth semi-trailer.

Exhibitors mostly arrived from 7am to 8am and the gates opened to the public at 9am. Most people started packing up for the day after 4pm, and on the last day at around 3pm. The parking and loading facilities and organization were excellent and everything went well.

Over the course of the weekend, there were thousands of exhibits to see from hundreds of people. To see a selection of photos from the Rally, go to http://www.nqmp.org/cms/resources/gallery/2013/national-rally-mudgee-1.html

Glen.
NHMA Rally at Mudgee and Merve

We all know that Merve’s sense of direction is spot on, well ok maybe a little bit and as we all know Merve when looking for Biloela he found Banana. The layout of the rally grounds are in circles a bit like Canberra, anyhow Merve decided to go to the NHMA’s general meeting on Saturday night.

I stayed in the van with the heater on, the TV on, sitting back quite comfortable when at about 10.45pm the phone rings and it is Merve ?? I said what’s wrong?? The answer was ‘I’m lost I been walking around for a while and can’t find the van could you come and get me’, mind you he was only about 180 metres from the van. He had been walking around on this circle and that circle and not far enough on the other circle and kept on ending up where he started, so on with the jumper etc grab the torch and off to find Merve, took all of about 3 minutes on the right circle then back to the warm van, mind you it was about 9 degrees outside.

It has been suggested that I should rename the van Banana.

Ian Matthews.