North Queensland Machinery Preservationists
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October 2015

NEXT MEETING FRIDAY, 30th October at Brian Pumps at 60 Coates St MtLouisa
Hi all, Christmas is almost upon us and things are starting to hot up again, starting with the Home Hill Harvest Festival on the 7th of November. They asking us to have our machinery unloaded by 2pm so that we will be set up well before the Parade begins.

The next day Sunday the 8th of November the Burdekin Club will hold a Club Rally at the Brandon Precinct, as they did last year. If I go down I’ll probably book into the Brandon Tavern to save a double drive.

Our Christmas break up will be a BBQ at Tony and Vikki’s place at 74 Melrose Crs Kelso, on Saturday November the 28th. Let Tony know if you are going and bring your own drinks.

It will be a busy weekend because on Friday the 27th we will hold our last meeting for the year then Sunday the 29th we will hold our first display at the Train Park.

Shed update. We have had a meeting with the Train Park and they have accepted our insurance. They will take the findings to a meeting with their members in November and they are confident that it will be accepted. If so, we would be able to sign for the lease when we hold the rally at the train park Sunday the 29th of November.

Because it is our first display we should make the effort and make it worth while. Probably we should look into some advertising but we can talk about that next meeting.

We had a look around the site when we had the meeting and found that they have levelled a great mound of fill and the area looks good. I think we should have a working B and make sure the site is completely safe for the public, probably do it on the morning of the first display.

I was a bit stretched for content for this months letter, when thanks to Graham Gow, I received a Welcome article from him. Just remember it is up to you, the members to keep the Newsletter going.

Keith.
The Falcon and the Scrapman
By Graham Gow.

While collecting lawnmowers I became aware of some of the early ‘Rider Mower’ models of what’s now called a ‘Ride On’.
The first one that I obtained was a Mow Mobile in going order from a mechanic at Ayr in 1992.

A significant find as Mow Mobile was the first Australian designed and built in 1959 by Owen Cox. It was powered by a Briggs and Stratton 4 stroke mounted between the operators legs.
Cox also made the ‘Gulpy’ outboard motor and are still in business today.
Next to come my way was a Greenfield from Noosa. These early models had a Honda Motor (1966). This was followed by the Rover Rancher from the Scrapman. Then a 1974 Deckson (John Deck and Son) powered by a 5hp Briggs and Stratton, made in Sydney.

Closer to home was a simple 3 wheeled unit with a good turning circle, called a Falcon. These were made at Clontarf and although keenly priced did not survive.

Last but not least, a Victa Compact Tractor Mower series 6—16hp model. I found this example at

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For all your insulating requirements on roofs, mobile homes, caravans etc see the new space age Ther-mashield from Jesse’s Quality Paints - Your One Stop Paint Store - 14 Carlton St Kirwan
the local Scrapman’s yard, along with the owners' instruction and some spare parts manual. A nice pickup.

It’s remarkable what people throw away. The Scrapman also scored on a Diesel Kubota Ride On that he recovered from a property where the new owner had claimed that it appeared to have been under water, evidenced by mud and foliage. But it hadn’t, the Scrapman soon had it running nicely and quickly took it home. It is still in use today. All my ride on mowers are on show at the Caboolture Historical Village.

Graham Gow.

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