DATE CLAIMERS

NEXT MEETING
Sunday 24 June at Train Park

24 June 2018
Train Park Display/Working Bee

30 June 2018
Dam Fine Rally

15 July 2018
Combined Swap Meet, Townsville Showgrounds

20-22 July 2018
QHR Biloela

26 August 2018
Inter Club Rally at Townsville

13 October 2018
Babinda Harvest Festival (TBC)

WANTED
Sell—Swap—Buy—Info

SHARE YOUR STORY - Email the Editor

Do you know when the lawn mower was invented?

Answer on page 4
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VICTA LAWN MOWER

The 'Victa' lawn mower was invented in 1952, in the backyard of Mervyn Victor Richardson in Concord, Australia.

In 1951, Mervyn's son Garry mowed lawns to earn money in university holidays. Garry borrowed Mervyn's Victa 14" cylinder-based power mower which was heavy to transport and to operate. Mervyn wanted to design a new mower for his son's business. Mervyn had seen Lawrence Hall's 'Mowhall' rotary lawn mower demonstrated in 1948. The heavy Mowhall was not a very successful invention because it required two people to use it, one to push and one to pull.

Since 1952, Victa has sold over 8 million lawn mowers in 30 countries.

Junk is something you've kept for years and throw away three weeks before you need it.

Ian Matthews, John McTernan and Brian Pump visited Ingham recently to see Kevin Thomas, an avid collector of all things. Some items that caught their eye included a Furphy Water Cart End, a timber guillotine and a horse-drawn Baby Champion Road Grader.

Armstrong-Holland Ltd were an engineering company based in Sydney, that built a wide range of road-building equipment and attachments. Little remains of their records, or pictures of products, or even the factory. Like many Australian manufacturing engineering businesses, they often built items under licence from U.S. and British manufacturers.

A-H were in operation from the early 1920's to the 1980's, after initially commencing business as British Australian Machinery Co. In the early days (as BAMCO, and possibly from around before WW1) they had agencies for a number of imported road machinery, steam, horse-drawn, and tractor products. Most of the early items were British based, but it appears from about the mid-1920's, American items of road-making equipment gained favour with A-H.

The horse drawn grader was in use between 1920's & the 1950's. A restored grader can be seen at Cambewarra in NSW.

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Ian and John watch on as Kevin demonstrates the Morso F Mitre Guillotine Picture Framing Cutter

Kevin and Brian with the Furphy Water Cart End
The 8th Biennial Queensland Heritage Rally will be happening in Biloela from 20th to 22nd July this year and will be an event not to miss. With a Grand Parade, Tractor Pull, blacksmithing, markets and swap meet stalls, along with some madcap movies it promises something for everyone.

A number of our members will be heading there, so don’t forget to pack the camera and tell us all about it and what you bought.

We haven’t been to one of those affairs ourselves, but after a trip to visit family in Brisbane in October 2016, we stayed overnight at the Heritage Visitor Information Centre camp ground in Biloela on the way home.

Fortunately for us, it just happened to coincide with the Callide Dawson Machine Preservation Club harvest day. We couldn’t believe it when they rolled out some early wheat harvesters from the 1930’s. The afternoon was filled with the hum of engines and all too soon the wheat was loaded and the sheafs adorned the paddock. If you are going through Biloela any time, it is well worth a stop. The camp ground had good facilities and didn’t cost the earth.
WANTED

Does anyone know about F.E. Myers double acting pumps? It has “Myers Bulldozer” on it. A friend recently came across it and would like to know more about them. FE Myers was established in Ashland, Ohio, USA.
Contact Steve - Email: blowcart0@gmail.com
(That’s a zero, not an O after blowcart)

Did you know?
The first lawn mower was invented by Edwin Budding in 1830 in Thrupp, just outside Stroud, in Gloucestershire, England. Budding’s mower was designed primarily to cut the grass on sports grounds and extensive gardens, as a superior alternative to the scythe, and was granted a British patent on August 31, 1830.

Wanted
Howard 12, or any Howard Twin.
Phone Andy on - 4784 1171
Email: rustyiron1@bigpond.com

Some interesting web sites
www.queenslandsteamandvintagemachinerysociety.org.au
www.tomm.net.au (The Old Machinery Magazine)
Southern Cross Engines & Machinery on Facebook
http://www.hitnmiss.com/index.html

REMINDER
CLUB MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE DUE