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P.O. BOX 1471  
MIDLAND 6936

Members of the National  
Historical Machinery  
Association Inc.

Editors: Ralph & Wendy  
Thomas

## OLD PLOUGHS AND PISTONS

PRESERVING FOR THE FUTURE

MARCH 2023

### MPC COMMITTEE:

<b>PRESIDENT</b>	<b>Max Leggett</b>	<b>0400 249 380</b>
<b>SECRETARY</b>	<b>Robert Brayshaw</b>	<b>0428 377 956</b>
<b>TREASURER</b>	<b>Judy Ashfold</b>	<b>0427 542 222</b>

David Ashfold (0427 542 222), Ross Morton (0437 772 443), Stephen Barlas (0431 469 082), Buster Fourie (0438 950 204), Keith Chappell (0407 341 279), George Car (0435 662 645), Ralph Thomas (0474 112 878), Chad Wolfe (0481 109 672).

**MONTHLY MEETINGS: 7.30 P.M.**  
First Wednesday of each month.

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS: As per arrangements.**

**WORK DAY: Every Tuesday 8 AM Onwards at our Clubroom.**

**Please remember – COVERED FOOTWEAR AT ALL TIMES! THIS IS FOR YOUR OWN PROTECTION!**

### **EDITORIAL.**

At the last General Meeting I suggested that Wendy and I produce a regular smaller version of Old Ploughs and Pistons. This idea was agreed to by the membership so hopefully it will be successful in keeping members up to date with club news.

It will be sent to all members, plus a wider circulation of vintage enthusiasts by email. We will be happy to advertise for sale or wanted items, plus a "can you help" section.

As this is our first edition we trust you will find it helpful and keep you informed. We will welcome articles relating to thoughts on club activities and your restoration project.

### **FOR SALE.**

Items must be accompanied by a description, asking price, photo and contact information.

### **FROM THE PRESIDENT:**

Hi all to the first newsletter of the year.

Welcome to all members and I wish you a very enjoyable experience with your MPC endeavours throughout the year.

We are very settled in our new premises with our machine shop, blacksmith shop and general working areas functioning very well. There's plenty of interesting things for members to enjoy, ranging from nothing right through to complete overhaul of historic equipment. It's whatever takes your fancy and there is no expectation other than what you place on yourself.

Our main attendance day is Tuesday (Greasy Gang day) commencing around 8am with a BBQ lunch before we peter out. Note: we are looking at the potential to open up at the weekend, so please let us know if this suits you.

Plenty of shows / events planned, so keep an eye on our web page, Facebook sites and these newsletters for info.

Cheers, Max – President

### **WORK DAYS AT OUR CLUBROOM:**

Every Tuesday 8 AM Onwards.

These workdays are popular with a good turn up of members each Tuesday. There are jobs to suit all comers plus lots of fellow members to chat with over a coffee and a slice of CAWA fruit cake at morning tea. A BBQ lunch is always available for a nominal cost. Members can also get assistance with their restoration project.

Why not join us and be part of a happy group of fellow peers.

Sundays are now under consideration for an extra work day, watch this space.

### **FORTHCOMING RALLIES and EVENTS.**

Members please be aware the Rallies we attend are our biggest contribution of finance to support the MPC; consequently, your support is extremely important. Please come along with your exhibit and help.

Contact Ross Morton on 0437772443 for more information.



**OLD IRON VINTAGE  
MOTORCYCLE SHOW  
and SWAP MEET  
Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

**8AM till 12 noon**

Cannington Showgrounds,  
Cannington.

Exhibitors Entry: Gate 1,  
Station Street before 8am  
Sunday. After 8am use Gate  
3 Station Street.

Please wear your club badge  
to assist Gate Stewards.

Should you wish to bring your exhibit on Saturday PM, I will be staying overnight as security.

**Brookton Old Time Motor Show.**  
**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

**Classic Car Show.**  
**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2023.**  
**Please find information, site map, gate entry sticker etc. as separate attachments on this email.**

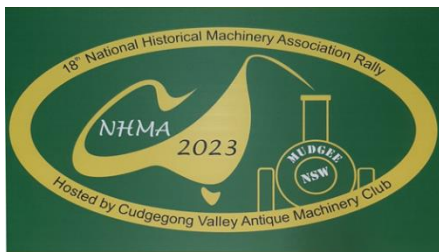
**Kalamunda Agricultural Show**  
**Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023**  
**On site 8am - entry via McCrae Road - Parking by Lapidary Club.**



**Bassendean Railway Museum Display**  
**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2023**  
**136 Railway Parade**  
**Bassendean**  
**Exhibitors on site 8.30am.**

**MPC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**Wednesday 5th April 7.30 pm at our Clubroom**  
**Midland Railway Workshops.**

**NHMA NATIONAL RALLY 14<sup>TH</sup> 16<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2023**



**Billy Cart Fair**  
**Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2023**  
**Langley Park Perth.**  
**Display to be confirmed. Please contact Ross for more information.**

**Anzac Day "Lest We Forget"**  
**Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2023**  
An extremely important event for the MPC, combined with our partners from the Midland Railway Workshops, to remember those who made the big sacrifice.  
Please contact President Max Leggett if you can assist or require further information.

**Members health.**  
Bill Gabriel recently had Open Heart Surgery and is now convalescing at home under the watchful eye of wife Jane.  
*Continued..*

Both Neil and Vivienne Millstead are not well. Vivienne has spent time in hospital after a fall, while Neil has hurt his shoulder. Both are now on the mend.  
Colleen Morton recently had a fight with a passionfruit and cut her finger rather severely, now also on the mend.  
To any other members not enjoying good health, we wish you well.

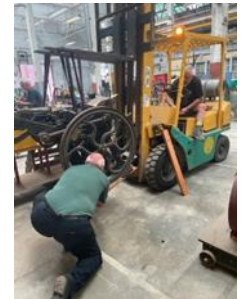
**Vale.**  
Deepest sympathy to member Jack Watson and his family for the loss of their wife and Mother, Nadia.

**Recent activity at our Club Room and Beyond.**



Our Rally Coordinator Ross Morton has been busy giving the club fence trailer a fresh coat of paint, ready for the forthcoming Rally season. The club has been extremely lucky in having Ross take the trailer to rallies for several years. He would now appreciate someone to relieve him for a break.

Here we have Stewart Macpherson working on the restoration of the Printing Machine.



The Fruit Box-making machine restoration is making good progress with Les Prisk working on it most work days, with assistance from fellow member Alan Keeble.

President Max Leggett is admiring the great find by our residence Blacksmith George Car. It is an 1800 blacksmith made prison bar window which came from the Police Station and Law Courts on the corner of Roe and Barrack Streets. This is a very important artifact of WA history.





Work is progressing well on the restoration on the Ruston Hornsby. Contributing to this is a big input by a great friend and ex-member of our club, Ray Freeman. Ray has line bored the cylinder and metal sprayed the piston. Then he turned the piston back to size, next he will make the piston rings. This work done by Ray is second to none and the club is extremely grateful for his help. Thank you Ray!



For those of you attending our Tuesday Greasy Gang Work Day. Not only do you get freshly baked cakes and fruit-cake for morning tea, but a nicely cooked BBQ lunch, occasionally followed by fresh fruit.



One of the main problems of the Club is the continuous dust from the beams which falls on anything thing below. This is being taken care of mainly by Dennis Hexall who toils regularly sweeping the does an extremely good job on this menial but very important task.

Dennis and his mate Graeme Duncombe will be absent for a few weeks as they are heading to Cooma in NSW, for a Land Rover Muster. They are driving across in a convoy with other WA enthusiasts in their vintage Land Rovers. We wish them the best of luck in taking on this mammoth challenge. Good luck boys and stay safe.

### WANTED TO BUY

Vintage Apple peeler, condition not important and the larger the better. Please contact Editors if you can assist.

### CLUB ROOM SECURITY



Several hard-working members over the past few months have done a stirring job erecting the perimeter fencing. Many of the workdays were extremely hot adding

to the discomfort to the volunteers. More fence panels will need to be purchased but is now getting close to completion.

This will hopefully deter those who have using our facilities when we are not there. Well done boys, you are doing a great job. "Thank you".

### RALLY REPORTS

Our first Rally this year was as usual the Dwellingup Log Chop. This was the fortieth year that the MPC have attended this event, not a bad effort. This year was not as successful as some previous ones as it was a very hot day. Added to this there were several other events happening around the district.

Nevertheless, the fourteen MPC members staged a well-attended and interesting display. Several working water pumps, a corn sheller plus musical accompaniment added to the fair ground atmosphere. Most of the punters had left by two pm so an early pack up was welcome, after which we all found a cold beer and shade most welcome.



Further afield, on a trip recently to the Great Southern, Wendy and I attended the Katanning Restoration Group's Tractor Trek during the long weekend. A fairly good turn-out of about

ten or so tractors left Kapara Park after tea and scones, to drive 45kms to Badgebup, where they had a lunch stop, before returning to Kapara Park for afternoon tea.

## EXCERPTS from MPC March Meeting.

Patron – The issue of appointing a Patron is raised and will be discussed further at CM.

Fencing– It was agreed that MPC should complete the western security fence, circa \$2k.

Sunday Opening – A trial will commence mid-March. Ross is organising. Two days/week was raised but not resolved at this stage.

EFT for Donations – Possibility of this capability for MPC is being investigated. Key issue is this will need a linked phone number in attendance.

Engines Donation – MPC have been offered 10 engines, all working, but not on trolleys. OK for MPC to sell any not needed, at 50% commission.

Anzac – The MWG (affiliated Clubs) will host a local service again this year. Mark Richards (MDHS) is organising. A Piper + Uniform support is sought.

Signage– Eric Rose has prepared some 40 off A3 size B information signs for MPC kit. Discussion on source and design of stands was not completed.

Display Cabinets – These are still in the Annex. Eric requested they be brought out.

Extra Space – Noted that the Pattern Shop and First Aid building are not possible options.

In Memorial – Possible Honor Board was raised. To be further considered at CM.(RT&DA)

Ian Lyon Estate – Keith is organizing another expedition to assist clearing.

Pay Phone – Ralph can source one for \$2-300, red Plastic, not black metal. MPC not keen.

Ruston Engine – Noted restoration of piston/cylinder by Ray Freeman, with appreciation.

NHMA – AGM is in April. Delegates and voting needs prompt action. Little MPC interest.

Club Trailer – Ross has re-painted this.

Historic Tooling – Relocation of Bob Wallis kit is still in planning.

Machine Tooling – Subsequently noted that Eric Coates has donated a selection of machine tooling, now in the care of Buster Fourie.

CWA – The Meeting congratulated MPC member Helen Gallop being appointed President of the Midland branch of the CWA.

They are looking to acquire a VCR. Still deciding on floor covering for the Meeting Room. (6m x12m). A trial of some 60x60cm industrial carpet squares will proceed.

## ACTION AT MIDLAND.



Ken Myers (L) and Bruce Weir-Smith working on Ken's Series 1 Land-Rover prop shaft.



Ralph giving Ken some 'friendly tuition' on turning his prop shaft.



Bob Wallis and Les Prisk working on the Halifax Longarm Printing Press Restoration project.