

Inc # A0038764

# TRACS TORQUE

Trucks too.

April 2025

Newsletter for  
Members of the Tractor  
Restoration and Appreciation  
Club Sunraysia Inc.



PO Box 569 Irymple 3498 [www.tracsmildura.com.au](http://www.tracsmildura.com.au) 436 Wilga Road, Red Cliffs



We had a very successful afternoon at Wilga Road. The highlight being several new members having a go on the Sled.

As noted in our previous meeting, it is possible for young drivers to be involved subject to an assessment by the Club Safety officers.

At left, our youngest ever participant, Angus McKenzie, on the Grey Ferguson he is restoring.

Below, Kathy Judd on Murray Green's W4



The next TRACS Meeting  
will be on Wednesday  
9th April. 7.30 pm start  
at Irymple Bowling Club.

We are having  
another shed crawl.

Sunday 6th April. 10am start at  
Ray Carter's.

705 Sandilong Avenue (with a  
windmill in the front yard).

Bob Lampard's for lunch and  
then Phil Muir's.

BYO Lunch and a chair.



# TRACS—What's On in The Next Few Months.

## March 2025

- **Sat and Sun 29th and 30th**—Booleroo Steam and Traction Fowler Rally

## April 2025

- **Sat and Sun 5th and 6th**—Mallee Steam, Oil and Machinery Club Rally at Woorinen.
- **Sunday 6th**—TRACS Shed Crawl—10am start at Ray Carter's—705 Sandilong Ave.
- **Wednesday 9th**—TRACS Meeting
- **Sunday 27th**—Wangaratta Historic Motor Show and Flyin—at Wangaratta Airport.
- **Sunday 27th**—Federation Scoresby Picnic
- **Sat and Sun 26th and 27th**—Lockington Vintage Rally—Ronaldson & Tippett feature

## May 2025

- **Wednesday 14th**—TRACS Meeting
- **Friday and Saturday 16th and 17th**—Mildura Field Days
- **Weekend 23rd, 24th 25th**—100 years of caterpillar at Hartley SA
- **Sunday 25th**—Likely Sled Practice day at Wilga Road.

## June 2025

- **4th to 11th**—Tractor Trek to Belvedere
- **Long Weekend—6th, 7th and 8th**—100 years of Caterpillar at Belvedere.
- **Wednesday 11th**—TRACS meeting.

## August 2025

- **Australia Day**— date and format to be confirmed.
- **Wednesday 13th**—TRACS Meeting.
- **Sat and Sun 30th and 31st** —Wentworth Show

## October 2025

- **Sunday 5th**—Tractor Pull at Wilga Road

## November 2025

- **Sunday 9th**—Merbein Motor Show



**A request from Dale Munro.**

**He has a Connor Shea 9ft Chisel Plough from the early 60's.**

**Some years ago, a TRACS member—and he can't remember who—had a full page Weekly Times Advertisement for the machine.**

**Dale is wondering if the member and the add are still around.**

**This newsletter has been printed on a copier supplied by OE Digital. We thank you for your support.**

**TRACS Inc. PO Box 569 Irymple, Vic 3498 Website [www.tracsmildura.com.au](http://www.tracsmildura.com.au)**

**President**

**Secretary**

**Treasurer**

**Newsletter Co-Ordinator**

**Alan Whyte**

**Murray Green**

**Michael O'Callaghan**

**Geoffrey Lane**

**227 Sixth Street**

**213 12th Street**

**130 Darling Street**

**Mildura 3500**

**Mildura 3500**

**Wentworth NSW 2648**

**0428 528 136**

**0417 008 588**

**0459 226 378**

**0434 901 812**



ver Armor 18T  
02/2025 10:07:21

TRACS 'new' David Shearer stripper harvester has been relocated to Wilga Road.

It is an early 1900's machine—possibly 1910 or 11.

Notably, it is in original horse drawn and ground driven configuration.

It will need some work and a few parts to get it running again, so this is a general callout to anyone who comes across any early Shearer Strippers in any condition.

We need some bits.

Thanks to Mick Hammett for the donation.



The secret to all loading is adequate supervision. The crane did help. Thanks Bryan.

Below, the unloading at Wilga Road.



# CATERPILLAR



## CAT 100

THE VINTAGE MACHINERY SOCIETY OF SUNRAYSIA INC.

The Vintage Machinery Club of Sunraysia and TRACS are proud to present Cat100.

100 years of Production of Caterpillar Machinery.

When—Kings birthday weekend—June 6th -9th 2025

Where—Belvedere Station—110km North of Wentworth.

Main Demonstration Day— Saturday 7th June

All old machinery welcome—and particularly Caterpillar.

The Weekend will operate under NHMA guidelines.

BBQ Lunch available for Saturday 7th—the main day.

On site camping with toilets and limited showers.

No dogs and no exceptions.

BYO food and drinks—BBQ facilities available.

Loading ramp and forklift available.

Sites for static displays—engines, vehicles, equipment of any type.

Ray Hill—Vintage Machinery Society—0418 625 238

Alan Whyte—TRACS—0428 528 136

Joe Scadding—Belvedere— 0447 271 275

Please advise attendance to Ray Hill. RSVP by 31st May.

Property Biosecurity requires Registration on arrival.

Mobile Phone Service on site. Bring a chair.



# CATERPILLAR

## CATERPILLAR DIESEL POWER

conserves-

★ SOIL

★ WATER

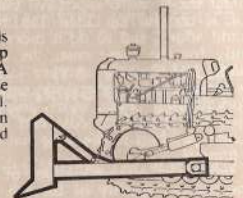
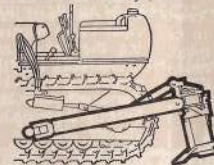
★ MONEY

Soil and water conservation is vital to our national advancement. Terracing, contour ploughing, green manure cropping and dam building; land clearing, drainage and irrigation are all basic steps in the proper use and care of the land. This calls for the power of time- and money-saving "Caterpillar" Diesel Tractors teamed with "Steelweld" equipment—sure-footed, all-weather traction combined with the right tools for the job and backed by the "Caterpillar" service and parts organisation, in the field!

## CATERPILLAR DIESEL

REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.

If you have a job that calls for bulldozing then equip your D4 with a No. 4A (angling) bulldozer. These blades are easy to install, easy to remove. You can have a completely equipped machine for many jobs.



For extra versatility you can't beat the No. 4 toolbar. Its single beam can be used for many tools—a real saving over the purchase of separate, specialised implements.

Ask your Caterpillar Dealer to show you how much more profitable a Caterpillar D4 Tractor would be on your farm. Call him now.

## CATERPILLAR

No other tractor does so much so well!



## Clunes Truck Show – March 2025

I met Phil Muir at Big Lizzie at 7.30 to travel to Clunes. First stop at Ouyen as Phil needed fuel additive for the Austin. None there, so we travelled on to Birchip. The town was blocked off, & people everywhere due to a street festival. We parked at back of street and had a very welcome pie & coffee for morning tea. Phil found some fuel additive and we headed off to the next stop of St Arnaud for a fuel stop and on to Clunes. However I missed the turnoff to Talbert after leaving Avoca and finished up in Maryborough!! A little detour back (which Phil did not detect!) and arrived at Clunes.

We found a nice site next to a very nice Ford F600, owned by John Maher. He & travel companion were great company all weekend. Saturday was very hot at 36 degrees. Luckily cooler at night.

Quite a good number of trucks already parked up ready for the Sunday Show.

Laurie (who had bought my Inter) & Karen cooked up a nice tea for us. After a big day it was early to bed. Many more trucks, vintage cars, and not many motor bikes arrived on Sunday, which was the main day. By about 9.30 am - 160 trucks, 60 odd cars, etc were on show. Plenty of food to feed the influx of people. There was about 20 of us went to the pub for roast Sunday lunch. Great to meet up with John Porker and Ian Kelly. People asked after Ian & Jean Hinks, also Robert Mansell. By about 2.30 – 4pm people were moving out and it was all over. Monday there was about 25 trucks left. Phil & I left by 8am stopping at St. Arnaud to fuel up and have an egg and bacon sandwich for breakfast. Next stop was Birchip as Phil had spotted an old Vauxhall in a front yard! After early lunch we headed for home. The Austin overheated a bit due to a lot warmer weather as we got nearer Mildura. Arrived home safely

Frank Wallace. Phil Muir.





848AH

### ***The helicopter's role in food production.***

Fundamental advantages of the helicopter for crop-spraying, pest-control, and fertiliser-laying duties are (a) its great manoeuvrability; (b) its ability to fly low at slow speeds; (c) simplicity of taking-off and landing within confined spaces; (d) its ability to cover large areas in a short time. The "Bristol" Type 171 helicopter has been constructed and designed to give a fully versatile performance with an exceptionally high safety factor. Agricultural development is but one aspect of many industrial and social services offered by this type of aircraft.

***increased  
and  
stabilised  
yields . . .***


*To those interested in the possible application of aircraft to agricultural development, The Bristol Aeroplane Company Limited offers the advantages of its experience in a consultative capacity.*

THE *Bristol* AEROPLANE COMPANY LIMITED ENGLAND

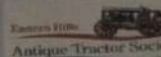
The advertisement above from 1949. A very early Helicopter add.



**A** FIELD MARSHALL diesel tractor and an eight-foot ground drive Sunshine Header, at work on the property of Mr. Allan Hurley, Toolern Vale, Victoria. Just on 3,000 bags of Quadrat wheat were harvested by Mr. Hurley off 360 acres; and in the first 230 hours' work the tractor used only 128 gallons of diesel fuel. The gear required to control and steer the tractor from the harvester was made up by Mr. Hurley from "odds-and-ends." A Universal joint from an old truck was used at the top of the tractor's steering column. This was attached to the spokes of the steering wheel by four bolts through a plate. A length of 1-inch pipe was used for the extension steering shaft, and for adjustment as to length, it was made telescopic, using a solid shaft inside, fastened to the pipe with a set screw. The steering wheel from an old car was used at the harvester end of the extension shaft. For the clutch control, a two-foot length of rod was first bolted to the clutch pedal. From the top of this rod, a light chain was taken round a pulley at the front of the tractor, and then back to the header. A length of 3/8-inch rod was used for the throttle control extension, and this was operated by a lever, mounted on a bracket, attached to the front of the header.



Antique Caterpillar Machinery Owners Club  
(ACMOC) - Chapter 30  
in conjunction with  
Eastern Hills Antique Tractor Society Inc (EHATS)  
are proud to present



## 100 years of Caterpillar


**23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> May 2025**  
485 NORTH BREMER RD, HARTLEY SA  
MAP OVERLEAF

WORKING DISPLAYS OF  
CATERPILLAR AND  
HOLT MACHINES  
STEAM TRACTION ENGINES

FOOD AND DRINK  
AVAILABLE

STEAM POWERED  
CABLE  
PLOUGHING

OTHER MAKES OF  
TRACTORS  
WELCOME



PLOUGHING,  
EARTHMOVING  
TRACTOR PULLING  
DEMONSTRATIONS

REMOTE CONTROLLED  
TRUCK & EARTH  
MOVING  
DISPLAYS

STATIONARY  
ENGINES

STALL HOLDINGS  
WELCOME

**TICKETING : \$10 + FEE - PRE-PURCHASE VIA : [WWW.TRYBOOKING.COM](http://WWW.TRYBOOKING.COM)**  
OR \$15 AT THE GATE - CASH PREFERRED **GATES OPEN 10 AM EACH DAY**

For further information contact  
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Facebook — "ACMOC - Chapter 30 – Central Australia"  
Email: [chapter30@acmoc.org](mailto:chapter30@acmoc.org) [www.acmoc.org/chapters/thirty](http://www.acmoc.org/chapters/thirty)  
Bazz Potts 0407 604 683 or Gus Munro 0409 824 859  
Facebook: #acmoc30



Up at Bambilla Stn., Luke Palmer has been digging a hole. 35,000yds and 32' deep. Thanks to John Ablett for the photo.

# TRACTOR RESTORATION & APPRECIATION CLUB SUNRAYSIA

## Minutes of Meeting - 12/03/2025 at IBC

Inc # A0038764N

**Meeting Opened:** 7.30 pm

**Apologies:** P Carter, R Carter, B Fox, D Lee, J Lindsay, E McGauchie, M McGauchie, P Newton, D O'Toole, L Witwer

**Present:** D Beard, R Blanch, E Borchard, N Boyd, R Bunton, Ray Carter, G Chislett, L Cricelli, J Droffelaar, K Forster, B Foster, B Gray, M Green, L Grivec, B Hamilton, A Haw, P Hodgson, M Hunt, P Johnson, S Johnston, M Keays, B Lampard, G Lane, R Mansell, T McGauchie, A McKenzie, B McNabb, M Midgley, T Monson, P Muir, D Munro, V Pollesel, J Porker, N Smart, M Snadden, B Stirrat, R Stone, F Wallace, J Whitelaw, A Whyte, K Creighton

**Previous Minutes:** Taken as read

Moved that previous Minutes be accepted: Moved: M Keays Seconded: L Cricelli Carried

**Business Arising:** Nil

**Correspondence Inwards:**

1. Denilquin Collectors Club
2. NHMA Membership Card
3. NSW Historic Motoring Association Bulletin 2025/01
4. Australia Post PO Box Renewal Tax Invoice
5. Lockington District Living Heritage Complex – Re Vintage Rally
6. The Monitor HCVCA
7. Trafalgar Truck Restorers Club
8. Consumer Affairs Victoria Tax Invoice \$49.00

**Correspondence Outwards:** Nil

Moved that correspondence be accepted: M Green Seconded: D Munro Carried

**Treasurers Report:** Nil

**General Business:**

- a) **Acceptance of New Members:** Nil
- b) **Clearing Sales/Auctions:** Nil
- c) **Restoration Activities:** Nil
- d) **Additional Purchases:** Nil reported
- e) **Newsletter:** All good
- f) **Wilga Road**
  - a. Discussion regarding toilet refurbishment
- g) **TRACS Website:** Up to date
- h) **NSW Registrar:** Nil
- i) **VIC Registrar:** Lots of renewals
- j) **Future Club Events**
  - a. June 2025 Kings Birthday Weekend - 100 Years of Caterpillar at Belvedere – update provided by A Whyte
  - b. 6 April 2025 – Shed Crawl – Ray Carter, P Newton, B Fox
  - c. Training Day held on Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> March was a great success – a second training day to be scheduled – date to be advised – probably following the promotion at the Mildura Field days.
- k) **Any Other Business**
  - a. A Whyte spoke about the proposed Junior Membership relative to tractor pulls
  - b. M Green spoke about the Mildura Field Days, focusing on Junior memberships – Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> May and Saturday, 17<sup>th</sup> May at Mildura Racecourse
  - c. A Whyte spoke about Wentworth Flood Rally 2026 – acknowledging 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the 1956 Floods – show is scheduled for 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> June 2026, focus is to be period correct tractors
  - d. A Whyte spoke about Australia Day Profile, subcommittee formed, (M Keays, Moose, K Creighton, R Mansell, J Droffelaar, P Muir, Dale Munro)

**Next Meeting:** 9 April 2025

**Meeting Closed:** 8.26 pm