

Inc # A0038764

# TRACS TORQUE

Trucks too.

December 2023

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



## 2023 is drawing to a close.

Our end of year BBQ and the official opening of our new shed at Wilga Road will be on 26th of November. 5pm start. \$10/head and bring a salad.

The shed has been completed, inspected and a certificate of compliance has been issued. Thankyou to the many TRACS members who have assisted in the construction.

Danny Lee and Dave Beard have put together a 3 day 'Old Mailroad's Trek' departing 10th December. Details are included in the newsletter. Any vehicle is welcome.

TRACS has been gifted a Sunshine HST Header to go with our existing Sunshine Strippers.

Below is the header at the completion of this years harvest. Thanks to Alec McCracken (pictured at right below) for his donation. This header and Leigh Donovan's stripper will now be housed in our new shed at Wilga Road.





## TRACS—What's On in The Next Year or So.

### November 2023

- **Sunday 26th**— Christmas BBQ and Shed Opening—bring a toy and try it on the sled.

### December 2023

- **Sunday 10th to Tuesday 12th**—Old Railroads Trek. Contact Danny or Dave for details. Any vehicle is welcome. Details in this newsletter.
- **Wednesday 13th**—7.30pm TRACS Meeting at Irymple Bowls Club

### January 2024

- **Wednesday 10th** -TRACS meeting 7.30pm at Irymple Bowls Club
- **Saturday 13th January**—Geelong Truck and Machinery Show

### February 2024

- **3rd and 4th**—Glenelg Vintage Machinery Rally—feature is 75 yrs of Chamberlain

### March 2024

- **16th March**—Lower Murray Heritage Rally and Tractor Pull at Murray Bridge

### April 2024

- **25th to 28th**—Dareton Coomealla Centenary
- **26th to 28th April**—NHMA National Tractor Convention at Deniliquin

### July 2024

- **6th and 7th**—Wentworth Junction Rally—check the website [www.junctionrally.com](http://www.junctionrally.com)

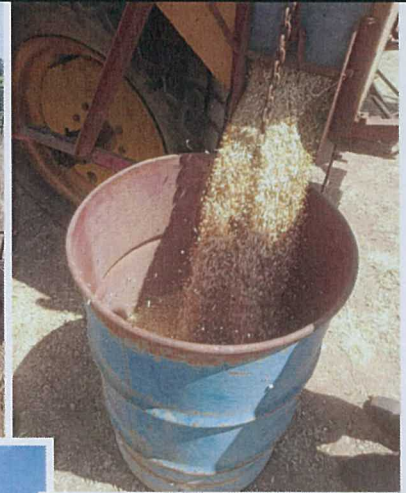
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**Our Sunshine Strippers—well 2 Strippers and 1 Header—were back at work  
on Bryan's block on November 22nd.**

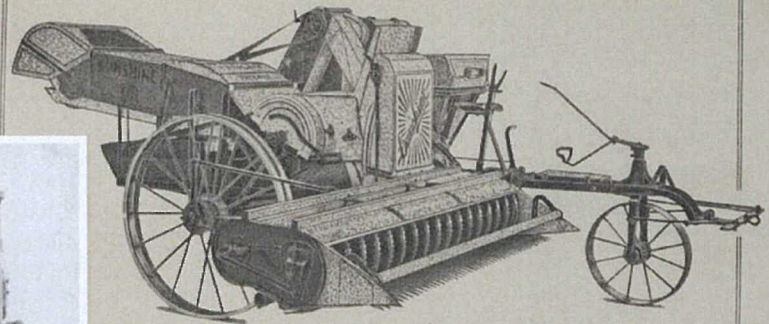
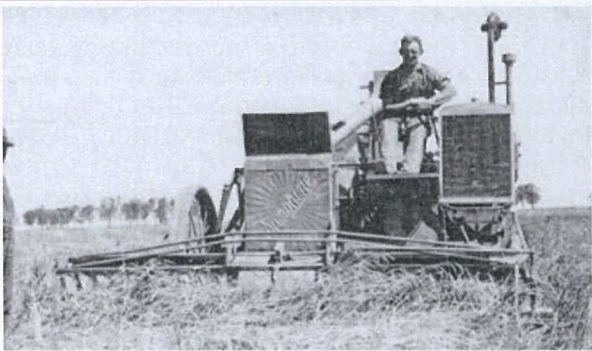
About 20 TRACS members as well as local media and several people associated with the machines in their past life watched the crop come off. It was an excellent afternoon. Specific thanks to Bryan.





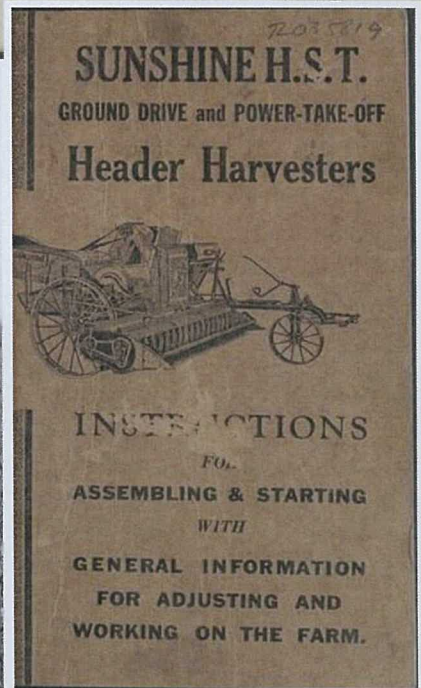
# SUNSHINE

Some photos showing machine development. Below a 1924 'Auto Header' and at right, from a 1939 sales brochure for a horse drawn version.

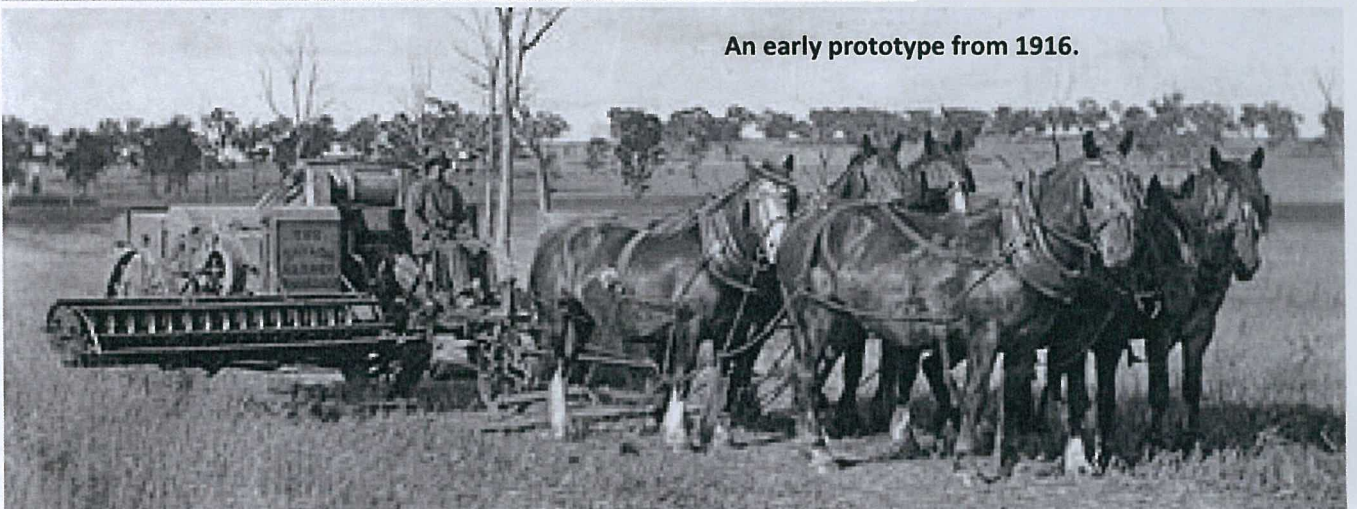


The Sunshine H.S.T. Header, 8 ft.—completely assembled.

Below, a Horse Drawn Stripper—this removed the wheat heads which were then dumped in a heap with the separating of the grain being a separate operation. The Stripper Harvesters combined the 2 process' in one pass through a machine. The Header Harvesters had a knife which cut the straw and the grain was separated from the straw in the machine.



An early prototype from 1916.





## Old Mail Roads Trek December 10 to December 12 2023

### Itinerary

#### Day 1: Sunday December 10.

Depart Dave Beard's property Sixth Street Merbein (driveway at pink pump) 9:30am. Travel to Wentworth via Curlwaa, then Old Renmark Mail Road to Lock 7 on Murray River. Bush camp overnight.

#### Day 2: Monday December 11.

Travel into South Australia on Old Renmark Mail Road via Chowilla, Renmark and Paringa for lunch at pub, and if time permits a tour of vintage machinery museum. Then into Victoria through Lindsay Point onto Old Mail Road to Mulcra island. Bush camp on Murray River near Lock 8.

#### Day 3: Tuesday December 12.

Travel on Old Mail Road to Lock 9 inspecting new and old Millewa pumping stations before returning to Dave Beard's property mid to late afternoon.

This trek is suitable for all vehicle types. TRACS members can do all or only individual sections as we are only ever two hours away from Mildura via car.

To register your interest or for more information contact:

Danny Lee 0427 147321



#### For Sale.

##### English Fordson

All original through to radiator cap

Has a Fordson tool box  
1930 - 1940

In good running order

\$3,000

Contact Michael O'Callaghan 0459 226 378



The 2023 Merbein Motor Show had an outstanding collection of vehicles on display.

TRACS was well represented with several trekking tractors as well as 5 other exhibits.

Dave Beard pictured with his WD7



**MEETING OPENED:** 7.30pm

**PREVIOUS MINUTES:** Taken as read and correct Moved : A McGauchie. Sec R Carter. Carried

**BUSINESS ARISING**

Nil

**CORRESPONDENCE**

**Inwards**

- 1 HCVC Oct Monitor
- 2 Engraving acct AV Trophies
- 3 New Cheq book
- 4 NSW HMA Bulletin & AGM agenda 18/11
- 5 Safety issues from Tractor Pull
- 6 Notice of stolen BSA bike
- 7 Flyer for Romsey event 29/10
- 8 Entry form W/W Rally
- 9 Deniliquin collectors club Oct & Nov News
- 10 Trafalga Truck restorers Oct Newsletter
- 11 Federation Subs renewal
- 12 LMW acct 36.21.

**Outwards**

Nil

Moved P Newton, Sec I Hinks that correspondence be accepted. Carried

**BUSINESS ARISING:**

Nil

**TREASURERS REPORT**

Tabled

Receipts 3529.75

Expenses 5013.07

Michael went through expenses.

Moved M O'Callaghan that report be accepted

Sec M Hunt Carried

**General Business**

**(a) Acceptance of New Members**

Nil

**(b) Clearing Sales/Auctions**

Nil

**c) Restoration Activities**

Nil

**(d) Additional Purchases**

Max Midgley bought Renault 4cv

John Porker Kenworth with V12 Detroit

**(e) Newsletter**

OK

**(f) Wilga Road.**

Keith Forster donated netting to go under the roof insulation.

The roof is now on but few more screws to go in. Capping and finishing touches before final inspection, then internal wall and tanks added. We have been donated another tank from Global.

Alan thanked B Hamilton for use of scissor lift, afcon and fork lift for shed erection.

Shed opening will be at Christmas BBQ.

**(g) TRACS Website**

OK

**(h) NSW Registrar**

Nil

**(i) Vic Registrar**

Lots of renewals

**(j) Future Club Events**

**Merbein Car show** 19th Nov.

**Christmas BBQ** 26th Nov. Bring along salad and \$10 per hd.

Will get a couple of Fergy's and try and work out some sled settings.

**Tractor Trek along Mail Rd 10th Dec** Depart D Beard 9.30 am 3 days.

**Wentworth Junction Rally** July 2024

**Chamberlain Tractor muster/All Aust day 2024**

Date set as 8th to 11th Aug 2024.

**(k) Any Other Business**

**Charlton Truck trek**

3 trucks from here, couple from Bendigo and Charlton locals made their way to Charlton Show

**Alan McKenzie** moved that we call the new shed

**"John Verco Whyte Machinery Shed"**

Sec I Hinks. Carried.

Ian has left some magazines on desk for reading.

The 3rd Sunshine stripper from Alex McCracken will be taken to Bryans for harvest then back into new shed.

**Meeting closed** 8.10pm

**Next Meeting** Wed 13th Dec 7.30 at IBC