



The Oily Rag

Newsletter of Manilla Vintage Machinery Group Inc

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AUGUST, 2026 NEWSLETTER



FUNNY BONE

An old-time truckie's advice – "If you see a toilet in your dream, don't use it".....

FROM THE MEETINGS:



JULY

- Rally – The TV crew came out on the Friday to film the Tractor Trek. Good ads were in prime time. Bette to follow up TV advertising for next year. Thanks to Tony for guiding Greg on the Tractor Trek. The crowd was steady on Sunday, lots of families, possibly no ice cream van next year. Tony said the rally parade was the biggest he'd seen in 30 years.
- Correspondence – Manilla Evening CWA thank you letter for allowing them to hold the barbecue stall, and it donated \$200 in appreciation.
- Tony Russell moved to purchase a PA speaker system with a speaker to the tractors in the ring and a speaker for the engine area. Research on this will need to be reported back to the meeting. Tim to speak to Johnno about a PA system on a trailer.
- Norm reported that the new Disabled Parking Area worked pretty good at the rally.
- Tim to follow up with soccer club with how they went and if they will be back.
- Richard Betts reported on upcoming rallies, his visit to Inverell Brick Works and sale prices at recent auctions and sales. Reminder of Eulah Creek on August 1 and 2.



AUGUST – AGM

- Positions filled for 2026 include President (Tim Scanlon), Vice-President (George Parris), Secretary (Bette Langton), Treasurer (David Jones), Publicity Officer (Vinnie Todd), Showground Rep (Norm Gardner), Safety Officers (Tony Russell), Angus Redgwell), Les Mauger), Ground Officers (Norm Gardner, Ray Weinart), Parade Organisers (Tony Russell, Les Mauger), Swap Meet (Richard Betts, John Calokerinos), Insurance Inspectors (Ken Roach, Shaun Gressor), Auditor (Neil Bonnett).

GENERAL

- **2027 Rally** – President Tim spoke to Jonathon Wallace who is going to get back with information regarding speakers for this. Cindy Sutherland spoke regarding closure of the front gate to vehicular traffic – this had already been mentioned by some members at the end of this year's rally. It was discussed that all exhibitor vehicles be parked in the old cattle yards next door to the showground. No movement of vehicles around the display area between 9am and 5pm Saturday, and 9am to 3pm Sunday. No movement of motors before 5pm Saturday. Wrist bands to be purchased for Saturday/Sunday along with exhibitors, canteen workers and swap meet exhibitors.

Gate keepers to ensure the wrist bands are put on arms, not in pockets. Swap meet exhibitors who arrive Friday are to pay their site fees when entering the ground and given wrist bands to be placed on their wrists. Letter to be written to Council seeking Disabled Parking out the front of the showground be made permanent with the usual signage.

- Cindy Sutherland to speak with Kim Blanch regarding the proposed Westpac Helicopter inspection by members.
- Members were asked to bring along suggestions for 2027 mugs to September meeting.
- Angus Redgwell to attend Tamworth Show – no other interest from members was shown.
- Richard Betts gave a report on the National Rally being held in Maitland.
- Moved that all safety vests be updated to include names of each position on the back. This to include those working on the gates.
- President Tim to check dates on the fire extinguishers with the possibility of buying new ones or having them officially checked. A trolley is to be purchased for the rally – this will be used to transport fire extinguishers and first aid kit to the compounds.
- Two office chairs to be purchased for use in the caravan office.
- A discussion was held regarding purchase of a defibrillator, but the consensus was not to purchase.
- Richard Betts gave his report on future rally dates.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

- 4 – Toowoomba Old Machinery Expo.
- 4 to 6 – NHMA National Tractor Convention at Gulgong Showground.
- 17 – Urana Vintage Machinery Rally & Truck Show.
- 19 & 20 – Clarendon Classic Rally.

OCTOBER

- 3 & 4 – Wauchope Yesteryear Truck & Machinery Club's 'Keeping The Past Alive'.



I noticed an interesting advert in a 1989 photocopy of Manilla Express amongst some of my MVMG paperwork – “Low Price Range – a comfortable home to live in or alternative investment – older style brick home in excellent location – inspect today at \$36,000”



Interesting read:

Mobishear Australia (officially registered as a business in 2018) is a well-regarded and growing niche brand in the Australian agricultural sector.

It all began with Arnd and Heidi Enneking's need for cordless shearing handpieces in the agriculture sector, particularly the need to crutch sheep in the paddock. The couple, who were farmers on the Eyre Peninsula in South Australia, sought a solution to the cumbersome nature of corded shearing equipment. Their two-year journey to develop the Mobishear 100 per cent cordless tools began after a customer requested a cordless secateur for cutting the hooves of sheep. Arnd and Heidi, who had a background in horticulture, emphasised testing their products in Australian conditions to ensure they were reliable and effective. The Mobishear range expanded to also include cordless clipping and grooming tools for various livestock.





Two police officers crash their car into a tree. After a moment of silence, one of them said “Wow, that’s got to be the fastest we’ve ever gotten to an accident site”.

***** Junior members of the Group are reminded of NHMA’s Ian Stewart Old Machinery Young Enthusiast Award. It’s an annual award for any person or group of people under 25 engaged in studying restoration and preservation of machinery items. There are two age groups for each state/territory – 17-25yr \$1000 and 10-16yr \$500. Applicants should get support from their local club before applying. Application forms can be found on NHMA website.*****

The difference between inlaws and outlaws – outlaws are actually wanted.

This month's newsletter is probably a bit like our winter gardens – lacking any eye-catching material. And being a bit ignorant of what's actually happening within the Manilla Vintage Machinery Group ranks, I find it hard to pluck out interesting items for readers. So with that in mind, I'm asking members to PLEASE let me know of any happenings within the group – if you've gone to a show/rally, intend attending the same, or have an item to either sell or want to purchase. It only takes a phone call to 0428 668854 or flicking an email to vinniegreg@hotmail.com.

Group's next meetings will be Tuesday, September 1 and October 6 from 7.30pm at the Masonic Hall.

Vinnie Todd (publicity 0428 668854)