



The **BLOWER**

QUARTERLY PUBLICATION

OF STEAMING ON THE DOWNS INC.

The Steam Engine and Model Engineering Group for the Downs

Issue 10 — March 2024



March 16th Meeting and 'Play Day' — Photo Report Page 3

THE Woolshed at JONDARYAN

2024 EVENTS CALENDAR

JANUARY

Back to the Woolshed 26 - 27th

- Australia Day Weekend.
- Discover our Heritage.
- Camping.
- Working demonstrations and tours.

FEBRUARY

Historical look into the Jondaryan Woolshed 24 - 25th

- Focused on early Pioneers, families of the Jondaryan Station, Working Dogs and Wool Industry.
- Tours and history talks.

MARCH

Easter Family Camping Weekend 29 - 1st April

- Movie Nights/Music/Poetry.
- Family/Kids Games.
- Camp ovens and fire pits.
- Easter egg hunt.
- Opening of Camp Kitchen.

APRIL

Autumn Weekend/ANZAC's 27 - 28th

- Light Horseman/Returned Servicemen.
- Billy tea and Anzac biscuits.
- Welcome the chilly nights of Autumn.

MAY

Celebrating Mothers/Women's Weekend 25 - 26th

- Craft focusing on early pioneers.
- Long morning high tea for mothers.
- Markets.

JUNE

Heavy Horse Weekend 29 - 30th

- Focusing on Heavy Horses - Ploughing, Horse and Cart Rides.
- Harnessing lessons.
- Blacksmith and wheel wrights.
- Visitors having a plough or drive a horse.

JULY

Winter at the Woolshed 27 - 28th

- Christmas in July and entertainment.
- Star gazing.
- Hot stew and damper.

AUGUST

Wind, Wool and Warmth Event 23 - 25th

- Major event - focus on Windmills, Steam and Wool.
- Camp ovens/Damper.
- Windmill displays.
- Working steam engine displays.
- Shearing and wool displays.

SEPTEMBER

Spring at the Woolshed Month

- Small, guided history tours all month.
- Open for working tours from Carnival (Need to pre book for demonstration).

OCTOBER

JWWD Dog Trials/Shearing time at the Woolshed 4 - 6th

- Dog Trials
- Shearing of the Woolshed sheep.
- Wool Classing.
- Spinners and Weavers.

NOVEMBER

Harvest Time 25 - 26th

- Focus on harvesting/grain industry/machinery on the Darling Downs.
- Machinery displays.
- Harvesting equipment.

DECEMBER

(Organise your Christmas party at the Woolshed)

New Years Eve 31st

- Bush dance and dinner.
- Camping.
- Breakfast next morning.

For information please visit
www.jondaryanwoolshed.com.au

OLD PETRIE TOWN

STEAM FAIR

2024



FREE ENTRY!

901 DAYBORO RD, WHITESIDE QLD

JUNE 1st & 2nd

SATURDAY 10AM-4PM

SUNDAY 7AM-1PM

~STEAM ENGINES~
OLD TRACTORS ~ VINTAGE CARS
~ MARKET STALLS ~ FOOD ~
AND MUCH MUCH MORE!



OLDPETRIETOWNSTEAMFAIR

Events—Page 5

President's Report

Hello All, welcome to another edition of the Steaming on the Downs Newsletter.

The year is already well underway and while it has been a steady start to the year as far as events go, there are certainly no shortage of projects that our club members are working and collaborating on with many new friendships being formed across our organisation, which has a membership nearing 70! Well done all! We have of course had the Australia Day weekend at Jondaryan Woolshed and the March meeting and 'Play Day' which were well attended events.

One criticism perhaps that 'we' (the executive) have won from a number of members is a perceived bias towards miniature steam engines, rather than heritage steam. That could not be further from the truth. This organisation stands to represent interest in ALL types of steam engines, big and small, rail and non-rail. In a more practical sense miniatures lend themselves better for easy transport to community events to demonstrate the technology.

What I reiterate to our members is this.... This is YOUR club, it is whatever YOU decide to make it, YOU set the direction. If our members wish to see more done with heritage steam, it is up to you to make it happen. One initiative we are undertaking, just in case our members have forgotten, is our club is co-hosting Steaming under the Southern Cross next year, ONLY the LARGEST gathering of heritage road steam engines ever in the SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE!

The AALS convention is only a week away at the time of writing this, with many members participating in this event. We also have some other fantastic events coming up, such as the John Reis Open Weekend which will showcase some great heritage and miniature machinery as well as casting / damper making etc. We also have the Grandchester weekend, Dalby Pioneer Park Museum Field Days and Old Petrie Town Steam Fair to see us through into early June.

Plenty to see and do!

Regards,

Nick Geraghty

President—Steaming on the Downs Inc

0429 330 805

March Meeting and 'Play Day'

The March meeting and 'Play Day' was hosted by G&K and N&M Geraghty at Kelvinhaugh, just North of Oakey. A display of heritage machinery was present as well as a 10 ton Ruston Hornsby Roller and our club traction engine in steam.

The 'Kenley' workshop was open for perusal where all sorts of technical content was discussed throughout the day, including a boiler tube expanding demonstration.

A great day was had by all including morning tea and a sausage sizzle lunch.



VF Fowler Crawler—Photo S. Parrinder



10 ton Ruston Hornsby Roller and the Club 6" Durham in Steam—Photo P. Jones



Ashley Woods' 1929 Buick —Photo N. Geraghty



Photo M. Geraghty

Notice Board

Upcoming Meetings and Ratified Events

- AALS Convention Warner. 29th March to 1st April 2024
- Pre and Post Runs at the Convention (week prior and post Easter weekend).
- John Reis Open Day. Date 18th and 19th May—Rosalie Shire Historical Society to do the gate, Steaming on the Downs to run the BBQ.
- Dalby Field Days. Date 25th and 26th May
- Old Petrie Town Steam Fair, 1st and 2nd June 2024
- Goombungee Show. 27th April 2024
- VCCAQ VETERAN VEHICLE & STEAM RALLY at Bundaberg / Burnette Heads. 5th to 11th September.
- Grandchester Model Engineers and Live Steamers All Queensland weekend. 4th & 5th May 2024—Meeting Saturday Morning 10am
- Alstonville, Henry Burke. Date TBC
- Harwood Mill, Henry Burke. Date TBC

Our Objectives

- A social organization to encourage the preservation, restoration, promotion and displaying of steam engines and steam powered machinery;
- To provide encouragement, support and education to the youth and the general public in our community focusing on:
 - ◇ Steam engine design and manufacture
 - ◇ Steam engine, steam powered machinery repair and maintenance,
 - ◇ Steam engine, steam powered machinery operation.
- Model Engineering
To promote and provide support to other like-minded community groups and associations

Australia Day @ Jondaryan Woolshed - Pictorial



The boys from Ballina getting ready for a big (hot!) day —Photo N. Geraghty



Nice selection of engines on display —Photo N. Geraghty

Events

VCCAQ VETERAN VEHICLE & STEAM RALLY



**Bundaberg / Burnett Heads
Thursday 5th – Wednesday 11th
September 2024**



CELEBRATING BILDELA'S CENTENARY: FROM 1924 TO THE PRESENT

The Collide Dawson Machinery Preservation Club Inc. invites you
to Queensland's premiere event for collectors,
restorers and vintage machinery enthusiasts being held at the

Queensland Heritage Park

11 Exhibition Avenue,
Bilodea, Central Queensland on the

19th, 20th and 21st July 2024

You'll be transported back in time to a bygone era through an amazing working display of vintage agricultural
machinery, vehicles and trucks: steam: working horses, stationary engines.

Hands-on workshops will be on offer to teach the "lost trades" of blacksmithing, coopering and
leatherworking. Demonstrations, including the art of scrollwork and pin stripping,
along with novelty events (some more quirky than others) will add to the activity and excitement of the
weekend, as will the traditional Grand Parades held daily.

You can even pick up a bargain or find a treasure amongst the wares and goods
on sale at the many trade, market sites.

Gates Open from 8.00am - 5.00pm Friday & Saturday and from 8.00am - 2.00pm Sunday.

For more information call Cindy Cooper on (07) 4992 2400 or visit the Official Rally Website

www.qldheritagerally.com.au

PROUDLY SPONSORED BY:



**Dalby Pioneer Park
Museum Association
Field Days
25th 26th May 2024**

**Tractors, Trucks, Cars,
Stationary engines & more**

**Drum train for the kids
young and old**

**Museum displays will be open
Wheelchair accessible**

Food and drinks on sale

Email pioneerparkmuseum@gmail.com
Phone 0447249103
17 Black Street Dalby



OLD PETRIE TOWN

**STEAM
FAIR
2024**



FREE ENTRY!

901 DAYBORO RD, WHITESIDE QLD

JUNE 1ST & 2ND

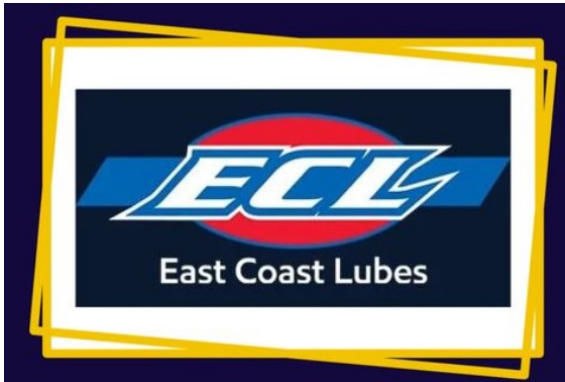
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SUNDAY 7AM-1PM

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OLD TRACTORS ~ VINTAGE CARS
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AND MUCH MUCH MORE!**



Thank you to our rally sponsors!



Pharmacy **777**® And an extra special thanks to Gerald, Sebastian, Zoe and Kim at



CROWS NEST
TOURIST PARK