

PO BOX 390, ASHBURTON 7740 OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2014



Meetings are held on the FIRST Wednesday of each month at 8pm in the K88 Room at The Plains Museum

President	Secretary	Treasurer	Newsletter Editor
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Committee: John Hall, John Stewart, Greg Donaldson, Mike Donaldson, Murray Ball, Bernie Bradley, Peter Butterick, Barry Quantock, David Breading

Presidents Report

Dear Members,

There are a number of our members that have not been very well and have been in hospital. I hope you are all on the mend and recuperating.

At our last meeting Struan showed a DVD which belonged to Andrew Brown on to finish the year off with a chat a selection of old and new headers. It is great that we are able to utilise the projector.

At our next meeting we are going to have Keith Howden talk to us about his recent overseas trip and show some slides which will be good to see.

If anyone has any options for our December meeting please let me know. It would be great if we could go and see someone's place to view their range of vintage machinery and have supper amongst friends.

See you all at the next meeting

Regards

Peter McMullan

Longbeach

Our Donaldson family have had a long association with the Longbeach District.

Our Great Grandfather Hugh Donaldson came to NZ in 1864, 150 years ago in September this year. He farmed in North Canterbury until 1876 when he bought 330 acres off John Grigg at Longbeach. Grigg put the land on the market after the Rakaia bridge was built in 1875.

Hugh paid 13 pound an acre for the land, it only had a fence around the boundary and the Waterton drain through the centre. This block was known as the West Coast paddocks as this was where the cattle were kept until fat and then driven to the West Coast.

Hugh built his own house there. Four other families arrived at the same time and bought land there, they were Andersons, Bishops, Shearers and Taylors. These families all intermarried so we have a lot of relations in the area.

My Grandfather John and Father Reg both attended the Longbeach School.

My father bought the farm at Lynnford, 350 acres in 1934. I grew up there until the 1990's when I retired to Racecourse Road. My late wife Evelyn's grandfather Samuel Banks was the baker at Longbeach until the early 1900's and Evelyn's father Ted was born in the sod house there when his 3 year old brother Alf went over the waterwheel and one of the teamsters picked him out of the drain still alive, he was later known as Captain Web as this was when Captain Web went over the Niagara Falls in a barrel.

In the 1950's when I joined the Hinds Young Farmers' Club, Mr Jack Grigg had us there each year for the stock judging. He would get the horses, cattle, sheep and pigs into

Longbeach entd

the yards and the stock managers would give us a talk about them. At that time the milking herd was 70 cows, today Bill and Penny are milking over 1000 cows.

In 1999, Peter Ireland and myself helped restore the sod cottage at Longbeach, we made 150 blocks out of clay, wheat straw and cow dung, mixing this in a concrete mixer and then putting it into moulds to dry.



4 leaf set of harrows bought to NZ by Hugh Donaldson

My other Great Grandfather William Anderson and his brothers purchased 1030 acres from John Grigg in 1876, this area later became Flemington.

There are still descendants of both Andersons and Donaldson's, farming in Mid Canterbury, 138 years later.

I still have in my possession the 4 leaf set of harrows that Hugh Donaldson brought with him to Longbeach with the date 1876 on them and the makers name James Little Woodend.

I also have a marble clock that Hugh was presented with when he retired and left the district in 1898, it is still keeping good time and keeping the Donaldson on time.

It is good to see Longbeach still farmed by Griggs descendants after 150 years and we wish Bill, Penny and their family well in the future

Gilbert Donaldson

Just for Fun: Irish Farming

Paddy is passing by Mick's hay shed one day when through a gap in the door he sees Mick doing a slow and sensual striptease in front of an old red Massey Ferguson.

Buttocks clenched he performs a slow pirouette and gently slides off the right welly, followed by the left.

He then hunches his shoulders forward and in a classic striptease move, lets his braces fall from his shoulders to dangle by his hips over his corduroy trousers. Grabbing both sides of his check shirt he rips it apart to reveal his tea stained vest underneath and with a final flourish he hurls his cap on to a pile of hay.

"What the heck are you doing Mick" says Paddy?

"Bugger me Paddy ye frightened the liv'n daylights out of me" says an obviously embarrassed Mick

"but me and the missus been havin' some trouble lately in the bedroom department, and the therapist suggested I do something sexy to a tractor"

From Back to Front

A long planned trip by tractor from Methyen through the Rakaia Gorge, Lake Coleridge, Lake Lyndon to Springfield for a stop overnight and then through the Pig Saddle, Whitecliffs, Glentunnel, Windwhistle Rakaia Gorge, Methven. A trip of approx. 103 km. taking two days. Even if they did go round in the opposite direction the original idea of the trek came from Mark Moodie. Who sadly never saw it come to be. Cheers Mark!

Early in the year Don & Brian took a trip to check the road for the trek which was meant to be March then Easter and Ashburton Swap Meet were going to clash with it. Once again it was put off! Some members were determined to do the trip and kept the idea alive. Finally on the 10th May the day came and 8 tractors lined up at the Methven club headquarters. IH 986 Dan, WD9 Murray. 275 Bill, JD 2120 Malcolm, JD 2140 Ian, David Brown 990 Thames, Chamberlain 9G Robert, Chamberlain 4080 Les. Back up Don and Colin all set off to make rumbling mountain music.

Just on 8 am the lead tractor set off out the gate and along the Mt Hutt Station Road, Over the two upper Rakaia bridges we went up the Ziq Zaq. It was cold when they came to the turn off for Lake Coleridge power station so a very short discussion was had and the decision to carry on was made. After missing that short detour to the power station they stopped at the Lake Coleridge shearer's quarters for morning tea at 10am.

Rumbling along and around a corner the leader only had time to see the wide open whites of the eyes of the driver in the blue ute which was heading his way fast. They avoided each other and the ute was gone. There was still ice on the puddles in the shady areas.

The road was in good order as they carried on to Lake Lyndon. They made good time arriving there at 11.30 am. The intention was to have lunch there but the air coming off the water was cold so they went on and into the Castle Hill car park and arrived there about 12 noon for a picnic lunch. The tractors were lined up and some

photographs were taken. What's that? Warm pies wrapped in silver paper off the manifold. What next champagne served by the butler? They set off again at1.00pm.

The front group was driving along the West Coast Road towards Porter Pass enjoying the beautiful sunshine with not a care in the world when they noticed the tail-end seemed to be missing. Now why was that? They were there last time they looked. Well nothing for it but to pop back and see what the holdup was. It was not a hold up but rather a letdown. One of Ian's front tyres had most likely argued with a sharp stone and lost the fight.

Did you know that in an emergency a David Brown front wheel can be jiggled and heaved into a position where it will fit a JD 2140? Well it can! The rim had convenient double holes and even if it looked like the newest apprentice in the tyre rack, it took up the challenge and did the job for the rest of the run.

They were on the road again by 2.30pm. They went down Porter's Pass slowly and carefully without any drama. Everyone arrived at Smylies

From Back to Front cntd

Springfield about 4.pm to a warm welcome and settled into the comfortable bunk rooms. The evening meal was an excellent three course affair thoroughly enjoyed by the hungry tractor drivers.

Special mention must be made of one member's efforts at producing a memorable dark brown liquid, some wonderful apple juice and a deep red grape liquid. It was a cold night but the Backpackers was comfortably warm. Most of the drivers were too tired to play up much. Thank you goes to Keiko, Colin and staff.

Next morning everyone was up bright and early for a great breakfast which set them up for the whole day. Photographs

were taken of the group after breakfast.

They went out and explored Springfield which has developed a great deal. They went as far as Kowai Bush and saw the Tranz Alpine Train going through to the coast.

Fuelling up for man and machine was seen to in Springfield and they stopped at the domain and had a cup of tea. When they were leaving Springfield about 10 am there was still frost on the ground.

They turned off the West Coast Road just out of Springfield into Springfield Road which carries on through Russells Flat. The gliding club area seemed to be very busy; there were planes and gliders all over the place.

The next turn was into Pig Saddle Road which was a narrow road that lead into the back of Whitecliffs. By 11.45 they were heading down towards Glentunnel. They went to the Domain and had a rest and lunch.

After lunch they went back to the highway 72 Glentunnel Bridge and on up the Wairiri Valley to Glenroy where they turned onto the Windwhistle Road and came back to the Rakaia Gorge and back into Methven.

At 2.25pm more photos were taken along with a drink and a talk. Everyone enjoyed themselves and began thinking about the next one.

By Les Knell

Notice Board

UP COMING MEETINGS

The October meeting will be in the K88 room at the Plains museum at 8pm on 1st October. The November meeting will be at the same venue on the 5th November.

The December meeting is our annual shed visit. This year we are looking for a member's shed to visit. If you would like the club to visit and view your treasures please let the president know asap.

CLASSIC PLOUGHING GUIDELINES

Eligibility of tractors and ploughs

- All models of tractors between 1st January 1956 and 31st December 1975 with 2 furrow mounted or trailing ploughs between the same dates
- Plough bodies can be raised or lowered but cannot be raised out of the ploughing position
- All plough bodies to be used when ploughing the finish
- Skimmers and tail pieces are optional-no other attachments allowed
- Special coulters for finishing not allowed
- No external hydraulics allowed
- Four wheel drive conversions not allowed

Any other Questions please contact Pete Butterick FOR SALE 1947 IH KB Truck, 1.5 tonne, 16' duals, good restorer there

1926 IH 1530, runner, solid rubber tyres, winch, complete, tyres two 15/30 Goodyear near new

Please phone Ron Galletly 308 1940

FOR SALE David Brown 30c, 1 family owner, late example, needs restoring, please phone Steve 302 6738

SUBS

The annual subs are now due. The fees have remained the same as last year so please pay Anthony or post a cheque to the club. We are nearing the time of year when names of the non-payers will be read out at the meeting

WELL WISHES

The club would like to wish the following members a fast and full recovery from recent illness and operations;
John Moore, Andrew Brown, Maurice Miller

UP COMING EVENTS

18 Oct Ellesmere A&P Show

31 Oct and 1 Nov Ashburton A&P Show

12,13,14 Nov Canterbury A&P Show

John Hall has organized another trip, it will be after Canty Show

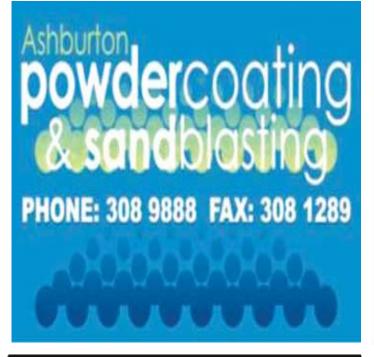
24,25 Nov Waimate A&P Show

14 March Mayfield A&P Show

21 March Methyen A&P Show









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