



HITS & PIECES

PO BOX 390, ASHBURTON 7740

OCT / NOV 2013



**Colin Boon's 1953 LNZ towing
Gilbert Donaldson's 1952 LNZ Binder**

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

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A Day in Canada

by Ross Worner

Thursday July 18th started out like any other day that you have on holiday; you had a broad idea of what you'd be doing, but by days end I certainly had something to reflect on.

We left our hotel at Edmonton at 7.30am and stopped at Ritchie Bros Auction facility which we had seen from our bus the day before. We asked if someone would show us around.

I think seeming that we were from overseas and thinking we were possibly a potential buyer we got one of the bosses- well he couldn't do enough for us.

They hold sales of used construction equipment, parts or major restoration projects. mainly from the oil industry in Canada every 2 months. They are the largest seller of this equipment in America, the last sale turned over \$36 million with most of it going overseas including New Zealand.

It is all lined up to be sold on a 50 acre site, which also includes paint and repair facilities.



A pulling tractor we don't see many of



John Deere 830 - \$13200

Two pieces of equipment caught my eye:

1) Caterpillar 24H Grader. This 500 HP machine which weighs in at 61 tonnes had done 15,000 hours and is the biggest Caterpillar make. It's the first second hand one to be sold in the world, and being an unreserved sale I asked how much he thought it would bring. The answer, anywhere between \$90,000 and \$400,000. Could be a bargain for someone

2)Caterpillar D11 Dozer, again the largest that Caterpillar make. It runs a 936 HP V12 engine and weighing in at 104 tonnes it's truly a big beast! It had been repainted so really looked the part

Two hours there wasn't long enough, but we still had one hours travelling to get to Olds, to their annual "Antique Tractor" Auction. 175 tractors were sold with 50 of them being basically

Ranges of prices for the 125 runners were:

1949	Farmall A	\$3700	restored
	Massey Harris 44	\$900	original
	Allis Chalmers WD	\$525	average
1929	Hart Parr 18-36	\$10000	original
	Massey Ferguson 85	\$975	original
1927	Twin City 17-28	\$3400	original
1941	John Deere AR	\$4700	restored
	John Deere A	\$1900	restored
1952	John Deere AR	\$11000	restored – vendor spent \$25,000
1959	John Deere 530	\$8100	done 50 hours on total restoration
1959	John Deere 630	\$11000	Electric start –restored 100%
1958	John Deere 730	\$25000	Electric start – 0 hours done on restoration 100%
1957	John Deere 820	\$8200	only paint left to do on new restoration
	John Deere 830	\$13200	63 hours on restoration 100%
	Massey Harris 555	\$6250	vendor spent \$15000
	Fordson E27N	\$900	original. Apparently Canadian Govt gave one new to WW2 veterans who went farming
	Farmall W4	\$3500	restored
	Farmall 450D	\$1600	rough but running



John Deere 730 - \$25000

Prices for these were \$200 to \$1900 for the better ones.

After each lot was sold, the auctioneer announced the purchasers name and town.

Anyway after 5 hours of selling and temps in the high 30's it was time to move on to the Tractor Pulling at the World Ploughing venue. It was only practice day for the ploughmen so there was a good crowd at the pulling.

It's a far bigger deal over there and more interesting as most of the classic tractors pulling are common unmodified examples. One of the most successful tractors that day was a John Deere R with half flat tyres and a straight exhaust pipe and a weaving across the track technique. Come to think of it the more successful tractors all had straight pipes, the extra bit making all the difference.

All in all, an interesting day.



Caterpillar D11



**John Deere Tandem 730
Pulling**



Massey Harris 555 - \$6250

President's Report

Hello Members,

Our September meeting was interesting with our speaker Howard Mahere from the Lolly Mania shop in the arcade. He spoke of why he chose to come and live in Ashburton and set up a business. He also mentioned his wife and children with two daughters and a son and how well they are doing. I trust you all enjoyed this evening and thank you to those who purchased samples of his collection to take home to your wives and partners.

Our October meeting I have organised Margaret Rickard from Advanced Ashburton to speak to us.

I hope you all didn't have to much storm damage around your properties.

On Saturday we went to Quigley Contracting's yards and had a good look around there operations. We then went to Charles Ross's place to look around his vast range of farm machinery. Hope you all enjoyed your day.

Your Chairman
Peter McMullan

**Just
for
Fun!**

Pensioners Dating

An elderly couple, who were both widowed, had been going out with each other for a long time. Urged on by their friends, they decided it was time to get married. Before the wedding they had a long conversation regarding how the marriage might work. They discussed finances, living arrangements, and so on. Finally the elderly gentlemen decided it was time to broach the subject of their physical relationship. "How do you feel about sex?" he asked, rather tentatively. "I would like it infrequently," she replied. The old gentlemen sat quietly for a moment, leaned over towards her and whispered, "is that one word or two?"

Around Mt Hutt

by Les Nell

The Methven Lions organised the charity 4WD trip for two days - March 3 & 4, starting at Blackford Road Methven going around Mt Hutt to exit at Mt Somers. This route had not been covered for about seven years.

On Friday it rained most of the day. I fired up the 40-80 Chamberlain after tea and left home in Barrhill at 6pm. Some members who intended to go in the morning parked up at the Methven Village Club shed and the A & P Showgrounds for the night.

Throughout the night there was more heavy rain. We needed to be at the start by 7am as we were going before the 4WD vehicles which were starting at eight.

I got up at 5.15am and had breakfast and by 6.30, all seven drivers and tractors plus a back-up vehicle with two helpers had met up at the Mobile Garage in Methven.

There we found that the Lions had pulled the plug on the 4WD first day due to flooding.

We decided at 7.30 to go ahead anyway and headed off out of Methven to the Blackford Road corner ready to head in to Glenfalloch Station.

We were going to stop for the first night at the Glenfalloch Wolshed. By the time we arrived, it was lunchtime and the weather was fine, we even saw the sun for a while.

After lunch we decided to go to Lake Heron for the night. The snow got closer and closer.

There were some early signs of Autumn around the back there. We left the sheep yards at Glenfalloch and went over the hill to Swamp Flat, driving through water up to 12 inches deep across the Flat for 1km or so then we came to a creek.

The five lighter tractors crossed the bridge easily but one heavier tractor went through the planking and

into the metre deep creek with one rear wheel.

We were able to get it out without too much trouble then we double planked the bridge for the remaining tractors.



While we were sorting this out, a tyre change was taking place a little further on. Then we came around a corner to a shingle slide. The scree was about 1km wide and it was loose, soft and slippery. Losing about an hour getting through the shingle, those with a wide range of slow gears managed the best and those with high gear ratios shifted too much loose stuff and went down the scree. Narrow tyres bogged down too.

Then we were back on track where it was rough and in some places very narrow making it slow to travel safely. The scenery was beautiful. Some of the waterways were dirty and some surprisingly clean.

By the time we got to the Lake Heron shearing shed, it was 8pm and we were tired and ready for tea.

Some slept in the shed and were cold, I put on a heater and slept well as my canopy has thick carpet on the floor.

Next morning at 9am I arose and headed along a good road and around the corner to the Hakatere Heritage buildings. They were setting up a BBQ on the second day for the 4WD vehicle trek which ended up taking place.

We enjoyed morning tea there and had a look through the buildings. We arrived in Mt Somers for lunch and an ice cream and after that two tractors from Geraldine left us and set out for home.

I spent part of the afternoon looking at the Staveley Museum which has an impressive record of the area's history and arrived home at about 5pm, adding 10 hours to the hour clock.

The Coleridge Run



Oh, water and coal, let the black
smoke roll
Down to the Colgate Station.
For Truman Jones I rattle my bones,
Half across creation.
For Truman Jones is the man who owns
All the big black tractions,
His yard he fills with big red mills
And other such contraptions.

Now as a boy in his employ I steered a
big black Fowler
And the man who drove was a big rough
cove by the name of Boll The Growler.
Now once old Bill did drink his fill down in
the Coalgate boozier
When Greasy Jim did challenge him
(the drinks were on the loser)
To hit the pace and run a race around
the Coalgate Run
Full of pride and beer beside, our Bill he
shouted 'Done!
I'll tell you man, my old steam can
has never been outrun."

We were on our way at the break of day,
four trucks of coal behind us
But mark my words, as early birds, Jim
and his boy outshined us.
For Jim's own lad steered for his Dad
He too was an early starter
As we topped the ridge from the
Selwyn Bridge
They were crossing the Hororata.
"Let them set the pace, let them
make the race"
Bill growled into his beard.
"It's coming back, the pace will crack,
Of the end, I am not a-feared."

At Logan's trees, we met the breeze
A real old cold nor'-wester,
And she did blow right off the snow
Your eyes ran tears to breast her.
Oh, we chugged away all through the day,
And Jim and the lad did lead us.
We camped that night, when the stars
were bright,
And still they proceed us.
And on the morrow, much to our sorrow,
The wind still kep a-roaring

When we did arrive at the Coleridge Drive,
Jim and the boy were snoring,
But Bill did scheme to save our steam,
And we fell to humping coal.
While the pale moon rode, we changed
our load
And then did homeward roll.
By the break of day, we were well away
And the others yet unloaded.
When Greasy Jim knew we had
tricked him,
They say he fair exploded.
Now the Acheron Ford was deep inbroad,
Bill faced it like a hero,
But our wheels went down, and our fires
did drown
And our pressure sunk to zero.
Bills eyes went red, but he kept his head,
He neither cussed nor swore,
But I'm here to say, where he spat
that day
The grass don't grow no more.

Now Mr Jones, both outfits owns
And no matter what Jim feels,
He pulls us out with a laugh and a shout
And shows us a clean pair of heels.
As we kindle our fire, he piles his higher
and rolls off down the track
He grins to his ears, he laughs and jeers
And waves a rope's end back.
With a murderous frown, Bill screws
her down
And says, "let the blighter bust!
I'll put things right, ere i sleep tonight
And I'll eat nobody's dust."
So I steered her soon, by a pale young
moon
And a flicker of lantern light,

For Jim and his lad had once been had,
And nobody slept that night.

At break of day, they blocked our way
And drove a zigzag course
From gravel to grass, we could not pass;
Bill swore till he was hoarse.
To the corner called "Shut the Gate"
Then the long way round, by bridge and
town

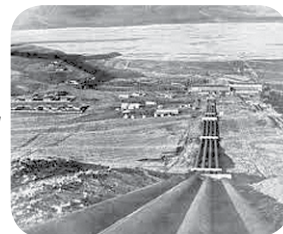
When Jim not tempting fate.
"It's here we choose, to win or lose"
While Bill the Growler roared,
"We'll try our luck, we'll give it a buck!"
We'll go down through the ford!"
Will the river be high? Will the ford
run dry?

Who knows the Hororata?
Will the river be low? Is it safe to go?
I shout, "I'll be a starter!"

So shovel in coal, make the big smoke roll,
the Fowler barked like a dog.
And she rocked and rolled, in that
morning cold,
As we ran through the river fog.
Oh! The race is run, it's lost and run,
For luck is always fickle.
Jim's just too late, in the Coalgate Strait
The river ran a trickle!
So Truman Jones, he swears and moans -
For rules, he is a stickler;
But Bill does grin, he loves to win,
And drink old Greasy's liquor!

Jo Charles

*The Coleridge
Run was written
by Jo Charles in
honour of the
engine men and
engines that took
part in it, which
was the
transportation
of materials
from Coalgate to
Coleridge to build
the Coleridge
Power Station
in 1911.*



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NOTICEBOARD

UP COMING MEETINGS

October 2nd Margaret Rickard from Advance Ashburton will speak

November 6th A Club member will speak on an overseas trip

December 4th Shed Visit Tim Waller & John Hall's

Both properties are on Wakanui Road about 3 km from the town boundary. We will meet at Tim's first then on to John's, where there will be a sign at the letter box. This will be on wet or fine. The tractor trek start time and destination will be finalised at this meeting.

TYRES FOR SALE Pair Goodyear 16.9/14.30 30% - \$300.00. x1 India 14.30 50%, some weather cracking - \$150.00. x1 Olympic 16.9/14.28 70% - \$150.00. x1 Goodyear 16.9/14.28 70% - \$4175.00. x1 Firestone 13.28 50% - \$175.00. Pair Goodyear 14.24 30% - \$250.00. Pair Armstrong Titan 12.4-24 80% - \$175.00. x1 Goodyear 14.9/13.24 80% - \$175.00. x1 Dunlop 14.9/13.24 80% - \$150.00 **DAVID BROWN** 900 Diesel blue wheeler good runner excellent tyres \$1700.00 **REID & GRAY** 2 furrow trailer plough with Wallace & Cooper lift for parts or restoration \$175.00 Please phone Robert Cooke 03)6937237 or 027 236 4500

FOR SALE Rally DVD. This is a three DVD pack selling for \$25.00. We have about 20 packs left. If you want one, contact Clare Stewart.

Ashburton Show

1st and 2nd November

Show theme is 110 years of Ford. Anyone with Ford gear wishing to exhibit please contact John Stewart or John Hall

GET WELL SOON

The Club wishes John Tait and Geoff Corbett all the best and a speedy recovery

NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome to Rob Cooke and Pete Woolley to the club

FOR SALE Duncan drill, grubber, Allis Chalmers Allcrop p.t.o. ,sickle bar mower (Hercules) 2 binders, IH B46 p.t.o baler. Offers please ph Allan 03 308 7594

Ploughing Match

19th and 20th October

At Andrew Donaldson's (Punawai Pastures), Maronan Valletta Road. Loading bank and front end loader available, as well as some implements. For more info, contact Greg Donaldson

UP COMING EVENTS

19 October Rangiora A & P Show

1st & 2nd November Ashburton A& P Show

13 – 15 November Christchurch A & P Show

20 November Sth Canty Day Trip

7 December Tractor Trek, more info later

25 & 26 January 2014 Edendale Crankup

29 & 30 April 2014 Leeston 150 years

Easter 2014 South Canty Traction & Steam
50th Anniversary

South Canterbury Day Trip

Wednesday 20th November

Meet at Hotel Ashburton 7.30am taking cars.

This will be on wet or fine, please bring your own lunch and a chair.

For more info, contact John Hall



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