

# Ploughing News

May 2017

Editor: [colin@millarz.co.nz](mailto:colin@millarz.co.nz)



NEW ZEALAND PLOUGHING  
ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED



New Zealand Ploughing Association Inc. Co-Patron, Mr Ian Jordan, Blenheim



The NZPA Executive would like to thank Courtenay-Paparua PMA for hosting the 62<sup>nd</sup> NZ Championships. The Seaton and Cridge family for providing the venues for the championships and the organising committee for such a wonderful event, the 2017 championships will be remembered for a very long time.

Congratulations to you all.



If it is ploughing news, the editor would like to hear about it.  
Photos and stories are appreciated.  
Editor:- [colin@millarz.co.nz](mailto:colin@millarz.co.nz)

Please remember the items in the newsletter are submitted by volunteers and to the best of the editors knowledge, the information is correct at the time of printing.



## NZPA Major Sponsors:-



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Sponsors of the "Rural News Horse Plough" Championship

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Bob Mehrtens Mark McHardy  
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Ian Woolley Mark McHardy  
1<sup>st</sup> Gulf Oil Silver Plough



Alastair Rutherford Leslie Seaton  
1<sup>st</sup> New Zealand Vintage



Kaye Walker Sean Leslie Peter Burke  
1<sup>st</sup> Rural News Horse Plough



Maurice Millar Willy Willets  
Wiganwood Trophy



Sharon Chambers John Chynoweth  
Vern Bishell Trophy





Ian Woolley Bruce Redmond



Bob Mehrstens Mellissa Jebson



Ashley Seaton Colin Millar



Not sure what happened there!!!!!!!



Murray Baird



Ian Woolley



## GULF OIL SILVER PLOUGH

| Position           | 1         | 2          | 3          | 4          | 5        | 6         | 7        | 8        | 9        | 10        | 11         | 12        | 13         | 14       | 15       |
|--------------------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|----------|----------|
| Day One (Stubble)  |           |            |            |            |          |           |          |          |          |           |            |           |            |          |          |
|                    | I Woolley | H Allison  | M Dillon   | S McKenzie | J Cridge | A Taylor  | S Reed   | J Guy    | K Stokes | K Readman | A Mehrtens | S Burnby  | R Casey    | T Carter | E Gin    |
| Points             | 190.5     | 178        | 169        | 164.5      | 163      | 150       | 147.5    | 141.5    | 141.5    | 139.5     | 128        | 122       | 119        | 114      | 107      |
| Plot No            | 8         | 9          | 12         | 10         | 13       | 11        | 14       | 3        | 4        | 6         | 2          | 7         | 1          | 5        | 15       |
| Day Two (Grass)    |           |            |            |            |          |           |          |          |          |           |            |           |            |          |          |
|                    | I Woolley | S McKenzie | M Dillon   | K Stokes   | R Casey  | E Gin     | J Cridge | T Carter | J Guy    | S Reed    | H Allison  | K Readman | A Mehrtens | S Burnby | A Taylor |
| Name               |           |            |            |            |          |           |          |          |          |           |            |           |            |          |          |
| Points             | 190       | 180.5      | 177        | 176        | 168.5    | 154       | 153      | 146      | 144.5    | 141.5     | 130        | 128       | 128        | 116.5    | 0        |
| Plot No            | 11        | 8          | 13         | 9          | 10       | 15        | 2        | 7        | 14       | 5         | 6          | 4         | 1          | 3        | 12       |
| Combined Totals    |           |            |            |            |          |           |          |          |          |           |            |           |            |          |          |
|                    | I Woolley | M Dillon   | S McKenzie | K Stokes   | J Cridge | H Allison | S Reed   | R Casey  | J Guy    | K Readman | E Gin      | T Carter  | A Mehrtens | S Burnby | A Taylor |
| Name               |           |            |            |            |          |           |          |          |          |           |            |           |            |          |          |
| Points             | 380.5     | 346        | 345        | 317.5      | 316      | 308       | 289      | 287.5    | 286      | 267.5     | 261        | 260       | 256        | 238.5    | 150      |
| Percentage Results | 73.17     | 66.54      | 66.35      | 61.06      | 60.77    | 59.23     | 55.58    | 55.29    | 55.00    | 51.44     | 50.19      | 50.00     | 49.23      | 45.87    | 28.85    |

## FARMLANDS FUEL REVERSIBLE

| Position           | 1          | 2        | 3        | 4        | 5       | 6        |
|--------------------|------------|----------|----------|----------|---------|----------|
| Day One (Stubble)  |            |          |          |          |         |          |
|                    | B Mehrtens | A Seaton | P Henson | M Taylor | M Baird | J Burnby |
| Name               |            |          |          |          |         |          |
| Points             | 214.5      | 198      | 187      | 183      | 166.5   | 125.5    |
| Plot No            | 20         | 19       | 21       | 17       | 16      | 18       |
| Day Two (Grass)    |            |          |          |          |         |          |
|                    | B Mehrtens | M Taylor | A Seaton | P Henson | M Baird | J Burnby |
| Name               |            |          |          |          |         |          |
| Points             | 210.5      | 193      | 185      | 183      | 163.5   | 138      |
| Plot No            | 18         | 20       | 21       | 16       | 19      | 17       |
| Combined Totals    |            |          |          |          |         |          |
|                    | B Mehrtens | A Seaton | M Taylor | P Henson | M Baird | J Burnby |
| Name               |            |          |          |          |         |          |
| Points             | 425        | 383      | 376      | 370      | 330     | 263.5    |
| Percentage Results | 75.89      | 68.39    | 67.14    | 66.07    | 58.93   | 47.05    |

## RURAL NEWS HORSE

| Position           | 1                   | 2                 | 3           | 4          | 5           | 6          |
|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------|------------|-------------|------------|
| Day One (Stubble)  |                     |                   |             |            |             |            |
|                    | S Leslie & K Walker | J Chynoweth & S C | D Thornton  | C Drummond | Erin Cassie | F Piling   |
| Name               |                     |                   |             |            |             |            |
| Points             | 187                 | 180               | 139.5       | 136        | 133.5       | 111.5      |
| Plot No            | 3                   | 4                 | 5           | 6          | 2           | 1          |
| Day Two (Grass)    |                     |                   |             |            |             |            |
|                    | S Leslie & K Walker | J Chynoweth & S C | Erin Cassie | F Piling   | C Drummond  | D Thornton |
| Name               |                     |                   |             |            |             |            |
| Points             | 184.5               | 178               | 158         | 142        | 139.5       | 120        |
| Plot No            | 4                   | 3                 | 2           | 1          | 6           | 5          |
| Combined Totals    |                     |                   |             |            |             |            |
|                    | S Leslie & K Walker | J Chynoweth & S C | Erin Cassie | C Drummond | D Thornton  | F Piling   |
| Name               |                     |                   |             |            |             |            |
| Points             | 365                 | 364               | 291.5       | 275.5      | 259.5       | 253.5      |
| Percentage Results | 70.19               | 70.00             | 56.06       | 52.98      | 49.90       | 48.75      |

## NEW ZEALAND VINTAGE

| Position           | 1            | 2        | 3          | 4          | 5           | 6         | 7         | 8           | 9          |
|--------------------|--------------|----------|------------|------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|------------|
| Day One (Stubble)  |              |          |            |            |             |           |           |             |            |
|                    | A Rutherford | G Carter | M Grainger | M Millar   | I Cocker    | B Cameron | T Fowler  | I McSparran | L Cosgrove |
| Points             | 198          | 179      | 177        | 173        | 164.5       | 158       | 148       | 139         | 114        |
| Plot No            | 8            | 15       | 9          | 14         | 7           | 12        | 13        | 11          | 10         |
| Day Two (Grass)    |              |          |            |            |             |           |           |             |            |
|                    | A Rutherford | M Millar | G Carter   | M Grainger | I McSparran | T Fowler  | B Cameron | I Cocker    | L Cosgrove |
| Name               |              |          |            |            |             |           |           |             |            |
| Points             | 191.5        | 173.5    | 171        | 171        | 163         | 155       | 147       | 142.5       | 106.5      |
| Plot No            | 13           | 7        | 8          | 12         | 15          | 14        | 10        | 9           | 11         |
| Combined Totals    |              |          |            |            |             |           |           |             |            |
|                    | A Rutherford | G Carter | M Grainger | M Millar   | I Cocker    | B Cameron | T Fowler  | I McSparran | L Cosgrove |
| Name               |              |          |            |            |             |           |           |             |            |
| Points             | 389.5        | 350      | 348        | 346.5      | 307         | 305       | 303       | 302         | 220.5      |
| Percentage Results | 74.90        | 67.21    | 66.92      | 66.63      | 59.04       | 58.65     | 58.27     | 58.08       | 42.40      |

## SPECIAL PRIZES

**Vern Bishop**, Best presented horse team  
John Chynoweth Sharon Chambers

**Wiganwood Trophy**  
Best presented vintage team  
Maurice Millar

**Fairhall Trophy**  
Highest placed not previously in top five  
Simon Reed

**WG Miller Trophy**  
Highest placed under 35 competitor  
Ashley Seaton

**Australian Exchange**  
Simon Reed

**Address by Jim Brooker, Patron, Courtenay – Paparua Ploughing Match Association,  
150 Years Celebration**

I admire the young fellas of today, my son, Jeff Cridge and a few others, said to me a few years ago, maybe it is time you moved on as you just might be past it, I said, well, if you don't mind, I would like to go, on my terms. I'll do one more year and that will be 30 years as your President and you can do what you like after that.

72 years ago, I was fortunate to have a father, who was a perfectionist, in breeding quality sheep, Clydesdale sheep, making wheat and oat stacks, and they were the envy of other stackers. In ploughing you could never count the rounds in his ploughing, every furrow was the same, uniformity. He would strike out straight as a gun barrel and would finish the same way. The next year, he would strike out in the finish and the last furrow would be on the strike out and the ground was kept perfectly level.

As I said, 72 years ago, I got the day off school to compete in the Young Farmers Ploughing Match, I got a prize, not for winning, but for the youngest competitor. Three things I learnt pretty quickly from competing at these Young Farmers Clubs ploughing matches, first was, the pressure of the back right hand tyre of the W4, put it up to 40 pounds, and that stood her up pretty straight, so she didn't squash the furrow of the previous round, the next point, if you straighten by widening you will never see it, but if you straighten by narrowing, that doesn't look so good. The other thing that I learnt, was bad ploughing straight, will get you more points, than good ploughing, crooked.

A century and a half ago, 150 years, the plough was the first implement used on this virgin land particularly in Canterbury to bring it into production. We owe our prosperity to the men, bullock teams, horse teams and tractors.

I travelled to Shellingford near Oxford, England, to represent NZ, in the World Ploughing Championship in 1956. World matches had been in existence, 3 years prior, the first was held in Canada in 1953, followed by Republic of Ireland in 1954 and 1955 Sweden and 1956 England, where NZ first competed, followed Germany, Northern Ireland, Italy, France which the late Alan Magson, came second in, then Netherlands, Austria, Norway, and then NZ in 1967, the first world match to be held in the southern hemisphere. For the history books Atlantic Union Oil Company the marketers of ESSO products, are to be remembered and congratulated for sponsoring NZ ploughing matches.

Over the years, many changes have taken place in farming methods, horses have given way to tractors, trailing ploughs to semi mounted ploughs, to tip over ploughs, for want of a better word, but even the most mechanical to fancy computer age, ploughmen still have to be an expert for the art of setting the plough.

The first reported ploughing match in the district was held on 30<sup>th</sup> September, 1867, Seaton's paddock, at the back of the woolshed, after it was finished all adjourned to the halfway house, where dinner was served and prizes distributed by Mr H Mathias.

The following year, the match was held in Preston's paddock, near Whites accommodation house.

25 horse teams competed, there was water on the grounds, making conditions difficult, after the match, 50 persons dined at Whites.

The first prize was 10 pounds, the second prize was 5 pounds, that would have been quite a bit of money in those days, as on most of these occasions, the day's activities were completed, with a dinner, at one of the accommodation houses of the time, where usually up to 80 persons enjoyed the hospitality.

Courtney-Paparua Ploughing Match Association, is the oldest one in NZ, the first match was held on the same property that you have just been on in the last two days, still ploughed by the descendants of the Seaton family, it is quite sad that Mel Seaton, the past President of our association, was not present to enjoy this occasion, he was so looking forward to hosting this historic event, however, we are very fortunate to have Ashley and Warwick Seaton, hosting this NZ final. I am sure their granddad George, would be very proud of them and I am also sure he would have loved to see the Clydesdale horses back on his property. He stuck to horses longer than most, if it was not for horses and vintage ploughing, I think as a sport, we would be struggling to survive.

We are well looked after by the NZPA under the same umbrella, and we should hopefully see another 100 years. I'll finish with wise bit of advice for the young ploughmen, returning from Sunday school one day and the ten commandments had been the topic, a young son went home and asked his father, Daddy what does it mean when they say, do not commit agriculture, Daddy said, Son, it means, you are not supposed to plough the other man's field. (Abridged)

Mr Jim Brooker, Patron, Courtenay-Paparua PMA.

New Zealand's first competitor at a World Ploughing Championship

## **NZPA EXECUTIVE INFORMATION**

### **2017 Officers New Zealand Ploughing Association**

|                                 |                     |                |                             |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|
| President                       | Bruce Redmond       | Rakaia         | 03 3028775                  |
| Vice President                  | Willy Willetts      | Hamilton       | 021 924093                  |
| Deputy Vice President           | John Thornton       | Momona         | 03 4862717                  |
| Treasurer                       | Noel Sheat          | Palmerston     | 027 2016821                 |
| General Secretary               | Sarah McCully       | Timaru         | 021 0308202                 |
| WPO Representative              | Colin Millar        | Rotorua        | 022 6954346                 |
| Vintage Convenor                | Alistair Rutherford | Gore           | 027 6843146                 |
| Horse Convenor                  | Ian Robb            | Papakura       | 0275 711232                 |
|                                 | Alex Furniss        | Masterton      | 0272 466575                 |
|                                 | Alan Gifford        | Blenheim       | 0272 262379                 |
|                                 | Paul Murphy         | Darfield       | 0274 399713                 |
|                                 | Norm Styles         | Pleasant Point | 0274 411694                 |
|                                 | Bruce Chittock      | Gore           | 0272 882475                 |
| Members retiring<br>by rotation | Bruce Chittock      | Gore           | Unavailable for re-election |

### **Australian–New Zealand Bi-Annual Exchange**

Bruce Redmond is taking over the role of Australian exchange co-ordinator. The New Zealand participants to travel to Australia in 2018 are Adam Mehrtens and Simon Reed. The highest placed competitors of the Gulf Oil Conventional and the Farmlands Fuel Reversible Championships, are eligible for selection, participants can only be selected once.

The two 2017 exchangees from Australia will participate at some of the upcoming Canterbury matches. If anyone can assist with hosting the above visitors, please advise Bruce Redmond, 03 3028775.

### **NZPA Score Cards**

The NZPA would like to thank Graham Miller for taking control of the Judges/Stewards score cards for Qualifying events and the National events. We all appreciate your dedication to ensure they were always correct. Thanks. Willy Willetts has been appointed to continue the above for the future.

### **Judging Vintage-Horse Classes**

The use of the same score cards for all classes proved very successful. The Vintage and Horse judges all commented how easy it was to transition to the new judging cards.

Qualifying events that have used the same cards have also commented how easy they are to use.

Another positive step for NZ Ploughing.

### **Regional Representation**

The NZPA Executive confirms that members of the Executive that are competing at the National Championships, are excused (if they choose) from attending the NZPA Executive meetings during the week of the Championships. This will allow them to concentrate on competing rather than the organisation.

### **2017 Championships**

The NZPA Executive has pleasure in thanking the Courtenay-Paparua PMA for hosting the 2017 National Championships. Special thanks go to the Seaton-Cridge families for providing such fantastic fields and facilities for the ploughing championships. Congratulations to Courtenay-Paparua PMA for celebrating 150 years of the organisation. The small organising committee had done a tremendous job of hosting-organising the event, Ice Breaker evening, was brilliant, the Church Service was simple but very special, the Bus trip was enjoyed by everyone, but most of all, the actual championship site layout was fantastic, considerable thought had been given to the layout, thank you. To have three members competing at the championships was fantastic, you must be proud of the 2017 NZ Championships.

Special comment must be made how easy and approachable each of the committee members were, nothing was an issue, they always wanted the championship and celebration to be the best it possibly could be.



### NZPA Facebook and Website

The NZPA Facebook and Website are being regularly updated with scheduled events along with the newsletters which are now being listed.

### Thank you

The NZPA Executive, thank everyone involved in assisting to make the 2017 Championships an event to remember, the meet and greet Ladies, providing tea, coffee, biscuits along with their friendly conversations, the Judges, Stewards, Runners, the event cannot occur without your assistance, the Points Compilers, thank you, all the volunteers, along with the Seaton family, the event was such a success because of your commitment to ploughing, thank you.

Thank you also to the General Secretary of the NZPA, Sarah McCully, your history display was brilliant, it was appreciated by many visitors in the marquee. Thank you also to Lochie and Lexie for being so helpful, it was a pleasure to have you present.

### Rural News Horse Plough

The rules for the Rural News Horse Plough Championships can be located on the NZPA website ([nzplough.co.nz](http://nzplough.co.nz))

These rules proved very appropriate at the 2017 Championships in Kirwee, resulting in a very successful championship. We thank all horse ploughing people for your comments over the last few years and your commitment in ensuring they are appropriate.

### **COACHING DAY Canterbury**

A Coaching day for all interested plough persons and judges is arranged as follows:-

Date 13<sup>th</sup> May  
Time 10.0am start  
Location Highfield Road, Jeff Cridges  
Information Paul Murphy 0274399713

***Please do not bring tractors and ploughs.***

### Ploughing Promotion

Thanks to Rex and Jan Anderson for organising the ploughing weekend on 11<sup>th</sup> 12<sup>th</sup> March. Thanks to the Noaro family, of Manawatu who had supplied the land (approx. 40 acres) and to Caroline Noaro who was the organiser on the weekend for the meals, very well done.

The ground was marked out on Friday, Elvery Hunt ploughed a training plot to prepare for Saturday morning, Lynda Guy ran a training course, there were some very good questions put to her, she had done her homework very well. It was good to see the interest on the rules from 20 competitors/judges who participated. The practice day followed until the rain got too heavy, when we all went to the shed for an hour of socialising.

Sunday, there were 16 competitors for the qualifying event, during the day it was obvious the quality of ploughing has certainly lifted from previous years, the rain started about half an hour before the finish of the days ploughing.

In the shed at prize giving, it was asked if they want another training day, the answer was a UNANIMOUS YES. Special thanks go to Lynda Guy, Ian Robb, Colin Millar and Elvery Hunt for the assistance through the training/practice day. What a great weekend had by everyone, we all went home with a smile. March 2018, we will organise another training day. Willy Willets

### NZPA Reversible Plough

The NZPA has a near new, 2 furrow Kverneland Reversible plough for sale for use in competition ploughing events, this includes very favourable purchase terms.

Anyone interested, please contact the General Secretary, at [sjajmc@farmside.co.nz](mailto:sjajmc@farmside.co.nz) for further information.

An error occurred with the 2017 points, resulting in some changes to the announced placings:-

Mark Dillon receives the Bronze medallion for grassland with 177 points

Mark Dillon is 2nd overall with 346 points receiving the Case IH trophy

Scott McKenzie is 3rd overall with 345 points receiving the Magson trophy

The NZPA greatly regret that this occurred and apologies to all concerned

### Future New Zealand Ploughing Championships

|                                |                           |   |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| 2018 New Zealand Championships | Thornbury VMC (Southland) | 14 <sup>th</sup> – 15 <sup>th</sup> April |
| 2019 New Zealand Championships | Rakaia PMA                | Date to be confirmed                      |
| 2020 New Zealand Championships | Takapau PMA               | Date to be confirmed                      |



## GULF OIL SILVER PLOUGH – FARMLANDS FUEL REVERSIBLE

### NORTH ISLAND

|                     |                            |                |              |
|---------------------|----------------------------|----------------|--------------|
| Reporoa/Rotorua PMA | 30 <sup>th</sup> September | Alan Wills     | 07 3338528   |
| Takapau PMA         | 7 <sup>th</sup> Oct        | Brian Kirk     | 06 8421450   |
| Wairarapa PMA       | 8 <sup>th</sup> Oct        | Barbara Wilson | 06 3797404   |
| Manawatu PMA        | 9 <sup>th</sup> Oct        | Paul Henson    | 06 3293969   |
| Waikato PMA         | To be advised              | John Guy       | 07 8294761   |
| Franklin VMC        | To be advised              | Ian Robb       | 09 2998279   |
| Manawatu VMC        | John Guy                   | Qualified      | Conventional |

### CANTERBURY

|                      |                       |                        |              |
|----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|--------------|
| Timaru PMA           | Robert Casey          | Qualified              | Conventional |
| Hinds YFC            | 3 <sup>rd</sup> June  | N Ross                 | 03 3026055   |
| Mid Canterbury VMC   | 11 <sup>th</sup> June | P Butterick            | 03 3023843   |
| Methven PMA          | 17 <sup>th</sup> June | D Weavers              | 03 6938860   |
| Rakaia PMA           | 18 <sup>th</sup> June | J Davison              | 03 3494232   |
| Oxford WMC           | 20 <sup>th</sup> May  | Qualifying all classes |              |
| North Canterbury PMA | 21 <sup>st</sup> May  | Qualifying Vintage     |              |
| West Melton YFC      | 27 <sup>th</sup> May  | Qualifying all classes |              |
| Lincoln              | 28 <sup>th</sup> May  | Qualifying all classes |              |

### OTAGO SOUTHLAND

|                           |                           |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Tokomairiro PMA           | 13 <sup>th</sup> May      |
| Taieri PMA                | 14 <sup>th</sup> May      |
| Thornbury VMC             | 20 <sup>th</sup> May      |
| Central Southland Vintage | 21 <sup>st</sup> May      |
| West Otago                | 4 <sup>th</sup> August    |
| Waimea Plains PMA         | 5 <sup>th</sup> August    |
| Waimea Plains VTMC        | 6 <sup>th</sup> August    |
| Edendale                  | 14 <sup>th</sup> October  |
| Middlemarch               | 22 <sup>nd</sup> October  |
| South Otago               | 11 <sup>th</sup> November |
| East Otago VMC            | Bob Mehrtens              |

#### COACHING DAY Canterbury

A Coaching day for all interested plough persons and judges is arranged as follows:-

|             |                              |
|-------------|------------------------------|
| Date        | 13 <sup>th</sup> May         |
| Time        | 10.0am start                 |
| Location    | Highfield Road, Jeff Cridges |
| Information | Paul Murphy 0274399713       |

***Please do not bring tractors and ploughs.***

Qualified Reversible

### NEW ZEALAND VINTAGE

North Island  
Marlborough  
Canterbury  
Otago Southland

#### NEW ZEALAND VINTAGE PLOUGHING RULES

The NZPA Executive advises, under the New Zealand Vintage Ploughing Rules, "Eligibility of Tractor and Ploughs" the clause:- No quick entry topline allowed

Is **no longer** included in the vintage rules.

This decision is to allow mounted ploughs the same advantage for the plough to enter the ground as trailing ploughs.

### RURAL NEWS HORSE PLOUGH

North Island  
Canterbury  
Otago Southland



Mr Jim Brooker leading the parade with the same tractor and plough that he won the first New Zealand Silver Plough contest, 1956

Mr Jim Brooker addressing the crowd during the 150 year celebrations of the Courtenay-Paparua Ploughing Association



### MANAWATU VINTAGE CLUB

The Manawatu Vintage Club held their event on 11<sup>th</sup> 12<sup>th</sup> March on the property of the Noaro family at Opiki, Manawatu.

There were 2 conventional contestants and 14 vintage contestants ploughing hard peat soil in wheat stubble. The match was postponed a week due to the late harvesting so thanks to the Noaro family who supplied an alternative paddock.

The club appreciated the attendance of the judges and ploughmen who were able to change their plans and attend our match. The Saturday coaching and practise day was rather wet with the Sunday match relatively dry.

Gulf Oil Silver Plough:

1<sup>st</sup> John Guy 186.5      2<sup>nd</sup> Rex Anderson 113

New Zealand Vintage:

1<sup>st</sup> Elvery Hunt 177      2<sup>nd</sup> Ian McSporran 167.5

Eddie Dench Memorial Trophy      Alan Gibson

The above memorial trophy was presented by Eddie's brother, David Dench.      Report Jan Anderson



Gulf Oil, Major NZPA Sponsor

### EAST OTAGO VINTAGE CLUB

The East Otago Vintage club held their qualifying event on the 8<sup>th</sup> April at the Sheat's property, Fleming Road, Palmerston.

The ground conditions were reasonable considering the amount of rain we had the week prior to the contest. The winners seem to think it ploughed rather well. The total number of contestants was only 17, due to the late harvest season further south.

Gulf Oil Silver Plough & Farmlands Fuel Reversible

1<sup>st</sup> Bob Mehrstens      177 points 63.2%

2<sup>nd</sup> Ashley Seaton      166.5 59.4%

3<sup>rd</sup> Robert Casey      135 51.9%

NZ Vintage & Rural News Horse Plough

1<sup>st</sup> Alastair Rutherford      190.5 73.2%

2<sup>nd</sup> Sean Leslie      160 61.5%

3<sup>rd</sup> Gordon Carter      150.5 57.8%

Everyone gathered at the Vintage Club rooms for a BBQ and prize giving ceremony

Thanks to everyone who assisted during the day.

Report by Noel Sheat



Ian Woolley

### WAITAKI PMA

Waitaki Ploughing Match to be held on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2017 was cancelled due to cyclone Debbie dumping over 2 inches of rain in the district making access to paddock and hall for lunch & prizegiving dangerous for competitors, officials and the general public. Sorry for any inconvenience caused by this cancellation but we needed to put the safety of others first.

L Holland Secretary



Sean Leslie – Kaye Walker



## New Zealand Ploughing Championships

14<sup>th</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> April 2018, is to be held at Thornbury and hosted by The Thornbury Vintage Tractor and Implement Club.

Although the club was formed 61 years [I believe the oldest in N.Z.] has only been affiliated to the N.Z.P.A. for 5 years so feels very privileged to be staging a N.Z. Final. We have a very enthusiastic ploughing committee of 10 within the club that have been active over the last 2 years with preliminary organization. 4 of us attended Kirwee and were very grateful of those folks whom have been involved in staging previous Finals, passing on their knowledge and advice along with the “does and do not’s”.

The event will be on 2 neighbouring farms and the owners have been very accommodating in the preparation of the ploughing areas. Practice paddocks have been offered and are in reasonable proximity to the event.

Thornbury is adjacent to highway 99 and is an easy 30 mins. from anywhere in Invercargill [16 mins. from the city boundary without breaking the speed limit]. The majority of the accommodation will be in Invercargill. Following enquiries from Kirwee some research will be done on the availability of holiday homes in Riverton [10 mins travel] and B&Bs’ in the area. All function venues are booked and are all in close proximity.

Discussion is taking place re a 5 or 6 day event but the vibes are leaning towards the 6 day option. Looking forward to the N.Z.P.A. visit in November and in the meantime any further input will be welcome. Email Stan

Knowler [knowlercastle@xtra.co.nz](mailto:knowlercastle@xtra.co.nz)

or Athole Bennie [atholeb@farmside.co.nz](mailto:atholeb@farmside.co.nz)

Congratulations to Courtenay/Paparua for great week and great hospitality.

Athole Bennie Convenor Ploughing Committee



Some of the 2018 Thornbury Vintage Tractor and Implement Club, Organising Committee  
(The yellow hat brigade)



Alastair Rutherford

## TRUCK FOR SALE



## FOR SALE

1988 Ford 1418, N Series, 14 ton, 180 hp, 2 axle truck. 7m long wooden deck, 6 load hooks each side plus Ferry tie downs. Tyres replaced last year with retreads on the rear with new tyres on the front. In very good tidy condition throughout. For more information contact, Ian Woolley, 021 0623892





## Ian McSporran, Napier

First time competitor, New Zealand Vintage 2017

I started ploughing in the mid 60's in the Young Farmers competition at Takapau my home town, with a 3 furrow Hydraulic Clough on a 950 David Brown tractor. I later bought a two furrow Duncan trailer plough off Graham Thomsen, that he had used in competitions, admiring Elvery Hunt!

Ploughing and Dog trails were on the back burner after Helen and I married in 1969 and bought a farm at Ashley Clinton, did a stint in the Army, we had 4 children and sold and shifted to 4.5-thousand-acre property in Nuhaka in 1980. It was too steep to plough so I left my ploughs at Takapau.

We had a bush block on the station that half had been previously logged, so we felled and cut the Rimu and Totara with a portable sawmill to build a 6-stand woolshed & covered yards that was needed in a high rainfall area.

That was the start of the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of my life of being a saw miller, a partnership with our daughter and son-in-law that runs the saw-mill and 2 sons are bush contracting now.

I got my interest back in ploughing when I found a rusty 2 furrow Reid & Gray trailer plough in Nuhaka, when I dropped it in the ground it soon freed up and turned a reasonable furrow. Between Gisborne & Napier I ploughed in Vintage play days and pulled it with my Cat D2, then onto Takapau and Manawatu Vintage Ploughing matches in the mid 2000's.

With retiring from day to day saw-milling, I could take ploughing more seriously and I purchased an Allis Chalmers WD 45 that was more user friendly than the Cat D2.

When the late Eddie Dench offered me the chance to use his plough in our Central District Matches, I did a better job and Eddie gave me the honour to purchase his plough and trailer. I hope Eddie is sitting on my shoulder at Kirwee in April. Rest in Peace Eddie.



Tom Fowler Ray McKenzie



Bob Mehrstens

The NZPA Executive asks everyone to support the ploughing sponsors where ever possible, it is through the sponsor's generosity, that ploughing continues to thrive throughout New Zealand.

Thank you to all sponsors, big and small, we appreciate your support.