



**POWER
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NEW ZEALAND PLOUGHING
ASSOCIATION INC

NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER

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Sarah McCully

WORLD PLOUGHING CONTEST - JAMES BURNBY CROATIA

Well here we are all home again, character building to say the least. I'll not say much regarding how the guys went, I'll leave that up to them. But all said and done the team really got on well together both socially and out on the paddock.

To be fair the team took in far more people than just the ones travelling from New Zealand, without the Welsh, we had no campaign. From gear, logistics and hospitality, just unbelievable. Our coach, Thomas Cochrane - what a wealth of knowledge and experience. Hopefully we all took on what he had to offer, I certainly had him sitting on my shoulder up at Middlemarch this last weekend, must have helped me with Champion ploughman on Sunday.

It's got to be appealing, ins and outs, straight uniform and defined furrows but don't forget the connecting furrow - that's your money shot.

By Sunday lunchtime the lorry was loaded ready for TC to head out back across Europe, braving the Sunday no trucking rules. The debrief meeting was done and the campus was emptying out, a final evening out in Osijek for us before the journey home.

For me leaving the car in Budapest and out via Frankfurt and the others Zagreb back to London, only to be held up in the recent disruptions there. Its good to be back home, turn some good soil again. Thanks team, great work and really great learnings, some of the toughest conditions ever and a road trip in true Kiwi style to rival the Blondini gang!



Executive updates

- The NZPA would like to congratulate Mark and Malcolm on their placings at the World Ploughing Contest in Croatia. They showed great resilience and grit, overcoming many obstacles to represent us all with pride.
- The NZPA have purchased a second-hand shipping container to live at Sarah McCully's place in Timaru. This is to store miscellaneous equipment required for our championships (clipboards, safety vests, poles, flags) as well as our ploughing memorabilia and historical documents.
- After many hours of work, we have submitted all the information required for us to be formally recognised as sport. We are awaiting the official decision on this.



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RURAL NEWS





2029 World Ploughing Contest

Here are the details of the World Ploughing Contest bank account. If associations could pay their donation/loan into the following account and also supply our treasurer with a letter explaining the amount deposited, what you used as a reference and if this is a donation or a loan.

We will of course provide you with a receipt acknowledging and detailing the working capital contribution by the relevant club or organisation towards the capital cost of hosting/running the World Ploughing Championship in 2029.

This account can also be used by anyone who wishes to make a donation towards the World Ploughing Contest

bank account name: World Champs 2029
bank account number: 02-0836-095804-066

Central Southland Ploughing Match was held on the 22nd of August. Thomas Sime qualified

Results:

Horse Ploughing - Sean & Casey 157 pts 60.38%

Conventional - Thomas Sime 173pts 66.54%
Brad McKenzie 145.5 pts 56.35%

Classic - C Hitchcock 112.5 pts 43.27%

I Bulling 111.5pts 42.88%
L Balneaves 108.5pts 41.73%
O Anderson 82pts 31.54%
O Bennett 70 pts 26.92%

Reversible - Murray Baird 183.5 pts 65.54%

Vintage: M Grainger 170 pts 65.38%
B Graham 160.5 pts 61.73%
J Wild 152 pts 58.46%
D Allan 150.5 pts 57.88%
G Anderson 143 pts 55%
H Allison 125 pts 48.08%



Alan Coleman
ploughing at
Yaldhurst in
1948
(The Press 5 July
1948)

THORNBURY

RESULTS

from 23 August 2026

Reversible

Plot	Competitor	Score	%
1	M Baird	196	70.00%

Conventional

Plot	Competitor	Score	%
2	T Sime	177.5	68.27%
3	B McKenzie	158	60.77%

Vintage

Plot	Competitor	Score	%
6	M Grainger	180.5	69.42%
4	J Wild	156.5	60.19%
5	H Allison	142.5	54.81%

Classic

Plot	Competitor	Score	%
9	I Bulling	145	55.77%
7	L Balneaves	142	54.62%
8	C Hitchcock	126.5	48.65%

The day was cold and wet. There was even some hail. Although the conditions were muddy, the hospitality was great!
Murray Baird qualified

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Middlemarch Ploughing

1 8 S E P T E M B E R

Conventional

Position	Competitor	Score	%
1	M Dillon	213	81.92%
2	T Sime	176.5	67.88%

Vintage

Position	Competitor	Score	%
1	B Graham	143.5	55.19%
2	J Smith	143	55.00%
3	M Grainger	142	54.62%
4	D Allan	134	51.54%
5	J Wild	130.5	50.19%
6	K Mansel	93.5	35.96%

Horses

Position	Competitor	Score	%
1	Sean & Casey	160.5	61.73%

Classic

Position	Competitor	Score	%
1	C Hitchcock	147	56.54%
2	I Bulling	140	53.85%
3	L Balneaves	133.5	51.35%
4	R Brown	127.5	49.05% *
5	H Joyce	127.5	49.04%



Taiari Ploughing

1 9 S E P T E M B E R

Reversible

Position	Competitor	Score	%
1	J Burnby	177.5	63.39%

Conventional

Position	Competitor	Score	%
1	M Dillon	218	83.85%
2	T Sime	190.5	73.27%

Vintage

Position	Competitor	Score	%
1	B Graham	181	69.62%
2	M Grainger	180	69.23%
3	J Wild	167	64.23%
4	D Allan	163.5	62.88%
5	J Smith	140.5	54.04%
6	K Mansel	104	40.00%

Horses

Position	Competitor	Score	%
1	Sean & Casey	159.5	61.35%

Classic

Position	Competitor	Score	%
1	C Hitchcock	159.5	61.35%
2	I Bulling	156	60.00%
3	R Brown	145.5	55.96%
4	L Balneaves	139.5	53.65%
5	H Joyce	110	42.31%
6	M Newth	96	36.92%

"This greywacke boulder from Mount Somers was placed here as cairn of peace to mark the occasion of the 27th World Ploughing Contest 16-17 May 1980. It represents the strong base rock from which the Canterbury plains are formed"

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East Otago Ploughing

20 SEPTEMBER

Reversible

Position	Competitor	Score	%
1	J Burnby	199	71.07%

Conventional

Position	Competitor	Score	%
1	M Dillon	167.5	64.42%
2	T Sime	154	59.23%

Vintage

Position	Competitor	Score	%
1	M Grainger	183	70.38%
2	D Allan	173.5	66.73%
3	J Wild	171.5	65.96%
4	B Graham	159.5	61.35%
5	J Smith	132.5	50.96%
6	K Mansel	65.5	25.19%

Classic

Position	Competitor	Score	%
1	C Hitchcock	139	53.46%
2	I Bulling	122.5	47.12%
3	L Balneaves	113.5	43.65%
4	R Brown	101.5	39.04%
5	H Joyce	92.5	35.58%



An exceptionally heavy crop of blue lupins was grown on the farm of Mr T Coleman, Ladbrooks, who was engaged during the week in ploughing it in for green manuring. (The Press 16 May 1936)

Historic plough use

There is a small research team at the University of Auckland who have asked for some help. They are currently undertaking a research project exploring the evolution of plough technology and soil types in early New Zealand history, using patent records and import information. The project examines how different plough types were adopted across different soil types and locations over time, and what this tells us about early colonial settlement patterns and agricultural investment during the 1800s.

One area they are especially interested in is the movement of ploughs from the UK to NZ, specifically which companies were exporting to NZ, which plough types were most commonly in use, and where. They are in search of any information relating to the period 1820-1900.

Other questions the researchers would like answers to:

1. Were the ploughs used at matches the same as those used for everyday farm work, or whether competition ploughs were a different kind, for example specially made or modified for matches? (This would help them understand what farmers were really using day to day)

2. Did matches have more than one kind of class? (were the early matches only field ploughing, or were other divisions too, such as ditch digging and the like?)

It would be much appreciated if you could point the research team to some historical information in your area. Please contact :

akni687@aucklanduni.ac.nz

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