

# Sandstone News January 2003



**NEWSLETTER NO. 1, 17 JANUARY 2003**  
**THE SANDSTONE HERITAGE FAIR (PREVIOUSLY WWW)**

**26, 27, 28 April 2003**

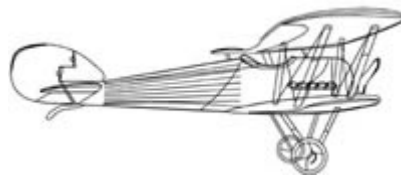
During the Great 400 Working in April 2002, the local Government suggested that a more broadly based event should be arranged at Sandstone Estates in 2003. Although a substantial sponsorship was offered at the time, this did not materialise. Therefore the original event WWW (Wings, Wheels & Whistles) was scaled down and is now called "The Sandstone Heritage Fair" which is due to take place in April. For the collector, enthusiast and visitor there will be a feast of items from bygone eras on display. This is a show by exhibitors for exhibitors. The public are very welcome but the people who will get the most out of this show will be those with a passion for preservation and for our country's transportation, steam and agricultural mechanical heritage.

**What will be on show?**

**Sandstone Steam Railroad** 

The world-renowned 2-ft narrow gauge rail system will be in operation using up to seven locomotives. These are amongst the best preserved and most historically interesting 2-ft narrow gauge locomotives in daily use anywhere in the world. A large selection of passenger and freight wagons will be configured behind the different locomotives which will be working continuously.

**Vintage Aircraft (strictly by invitation only)**



An exciting collection of fifteen of South Africa's oldest vintage aircraft will be flying from the beautiful grass airstrip which nestles at the foot of the big Maluti Mountains. We are pleased to announce that retired Brig Genl Jan Delport (SAAF), cell no 082 491 4316, has accepted the job of co-ordinating this exciting addition to the event.

### **Vintage Cars and Motorbikes**

Any vintage or classic vehicle is welcome. Whether you are part of a club and would like to arrange a road run to the event, participate and then go home, or whether you are just an individual with a cherished old car that you have owned for many years or perhaps recently rebuilt, we would love to see you on the site. We encourage the vintage car and motorcycle movement to participate in this event. Many highly successful events have been held at Sandstone Estates in the past but with a strong agricultural bias. Now we would like to broaden this scope to cover one of the most popular aspects of mechanical preservation., i.e. cars and motorbikes.

### **Stationary Engines**

Arguably one of the most enthusiastic and organised preservationists in South Africa are the stationary engine groups. They have decided that they are going to put together a particularly impressive display. These guys create their very own ambience and have a treasure trove of old and interesting engines to display and to operate. You will lose yourself for hours with these enthusiasts. For more information on stationary engines and traction engines, please contact Neville Botha, on (016) 366 0073.

### **Traction Engines and Vintage Tractors**



### **Vintage Tractors**



Sandstone Estates is known worldwide for its strong commitment to the preservation of farm machinery. The well known Hogsville Ystermanne will be working with tractors dating back to 1909. Traction engines, portable agricultural engines, threshing machines... the list is too great to even begin to describe. In line with our philosophy these machines will be working and moving just as they did at the Great 400 in April last year.

### **Livestock**

As always our trained teams of oxen will be ploughing and hauling ox wagons just as they did 150 years ago.

### **General Information**

Consistent with the most successful country fairs, traction engine rallies and similar events

around the world, we have decided that our programme will be extremely informal. We expect owners of machines to drive them, operate them, stop them when they want to, ride the train, participate in preservation activities that they would not normally experience or maybe just sit contentedly alongside your machine and have a braai. The facilities on the site have been enhanced in such a way that there is no central event and no formal competitions. There is no bias towards any particular manufacturer since we have decided to decline all sponsorships in the interests of maintaining a non-commercial country fair atmosphere. However clubs are free to arrange their own events or competitions.

### **Registration Form**

We have attached a new registration form so that we can develop a good idea of who might be there. We will have the necessary facilities available.

Our main camp ground has been expanded. We have a unique steam operated hot water supply at the ablution block which we are told can never run out of hot water, and many, many more toilets have been placed on site. In addition, many of our big modern farm buildings have recently been brick paved and will provide excellent accommodation for many of the displays, exhibits, crafts and collections of items that people love to share with fellow preservationists. Jannie du Toit's (Gordon's Bay) complete collection of vintage and classic International Harvester tractors will be on display in a special building. This is just one example of what will be available.

### **Last Remarks**

This will be a fun show on a big site with excellent rights of way for trains, aircraft, cars, tractors, oxen and steam traction engines.

The message is "Lets get together and have a great weekend". If your machine could speak it would already be telling you that it will disown you if you do not book now. There are many, many more surprises in store for those that wish to join with their fellow preservationists and become part of the heartbeat of the Sandstone Heritage Fair, April 2003.

	<p><b>For further details:</b> Teresa Momsen cell +27 (82) 990 5639 or Madeleine Senekal on 051 933 2235. <b>Contact these info centres for accommodation:</b> 1. Ficksburg 051 933 2531; 2. Fouriesburg 058 223 0207; 3. Bethlehem 058 303 5732; 4. Clarens 058 256 1542</p>
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