



Queen's Birthday Weekend June 2009

The Echuca Steam, Horse and Vintage Rally has been run by the Rotary Club of Echuca-Moama over the Queen's Birthday long Weekend for the past 46 years. It is a very popular event which provides activities to interest all members of the family in a carnival like atmosphere. As well as the wide variety of classic cars, trucks, tractors and motor bikes on display there were also:-

- stationary and model steam engines;;
- old steam powered trucks and road rollers chugging around the oval;
- model boats radio controlled on the pond;
- draught horse teams demonstrating the many activities for which they were once used;
- animal nurseries for the kids, a local pipe band and other entertainment;
- books, craft and home made produce stalls;
- a camp kitchen with cooks in black skirts and white frilly old fashioned aprons and caps who were producing beautiful scones, stew and damper;
- blacksmiths at work;
- a team of mini motor bikes executing dare-devil maneuvers over high jumping ramps;
- an historic fire engine demonstration (which extinguished a fiercely burning dunny!);

- wood chopping, and much, much more!!



There were over 100 old cars on show round the oval on the Sunday which was the main day of the Rally. They ranged in years from a spritely 1904 Locomobile which tripped round the display ground to 1959 which was this year's cut off date for display cars, i.e. 50 years old. We were able to enter our MK1 Sceptre courtesy of an accompanying 1927 model steam train and memorabilia display featuring regalia from the 15 years that we had been attending the Steam Rally. Ours was the only Humber in the display but perhaps this is an event that could be considered by the HCCV for next year. We have certainly always found it to be an enjoyable and entertaining weekend.



Article submitted by Keith & Margaret Willimott.