

Sandstone Steam Festival Visit

By Hans Matter



I understand that some 20 Steam enthusiasts from the Cape ventured to Ficksburg to experience the Sandstone Steam Festival. I was amazed to meet so many people from all over the world. The largest group was from Australia and New Zealand, with England next and then Germany and Switzerland. These overseas experts tell me that there is nothing similar to be seen anywhere in the world and

many of them come back every year, so it was rather disappointing to see how few local participants there were.

It is just amazing how the owners Wilf Mole and his wife run one of the largest commercial farms I have ever seen and then have the enthusiasm, dedication and passion to make the time to amass this amazing collection of trains, tractors, trucks, cars and military vehicles.

Then to spend their time and resources to restore, maintain, house and operate them in superb style and most important to allow us to not only view, participate and experience all this in a hand-on fashion, they also fed this army of visitors in superb style from early morning till late at night with their personal touch and involvement. What a great couple and a great experience!

