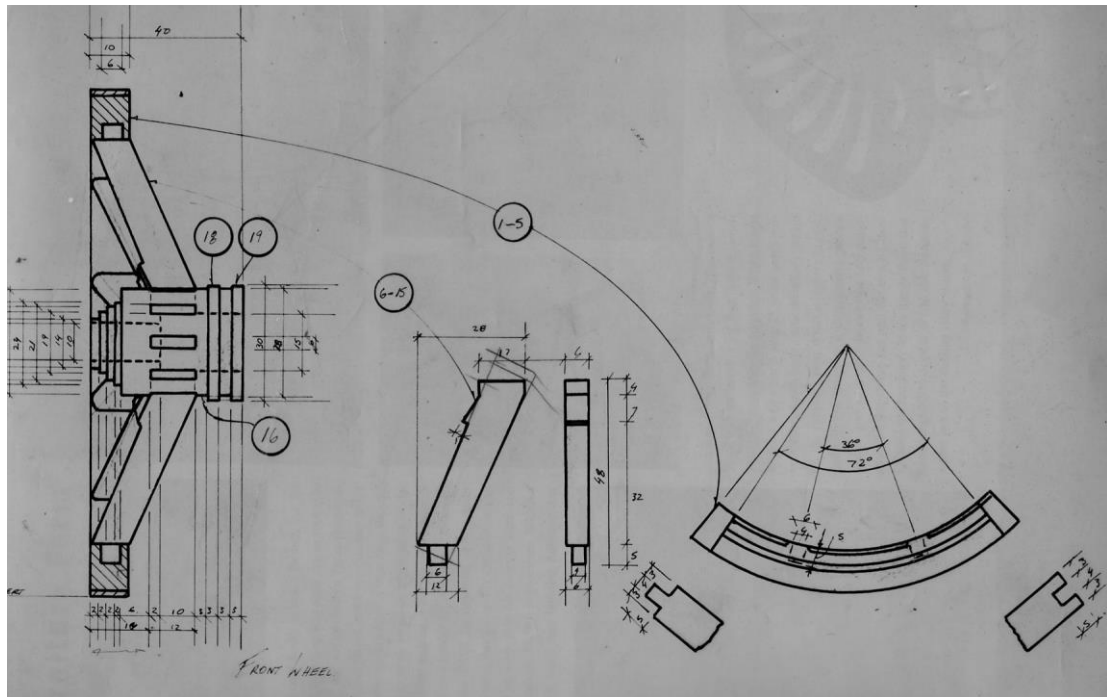


From the Chair

Mention was made in last month's Tambotie of the display that we had at Jimnettes. While the direct benefits such as sales of items were low, the event did have some other positive benefits for the Association such as public awareness and recruiting of new members. Another interesting benefit was when Mr Pat Culbert approached me and asked if the Association would be interested in acquiring a set of ten plans for a model of an ox wagon. Pat and other colleagues measured up a 16 span jaw bone ox wagon at the Voortrekker Monument some 35 years ago. I understand that they even dismantled parts of the wagon to undertake this activity. Pat was an electrician and millwright in the South African Air Force and clearly has excellent technical skills.

He drew up the detail on ten A1 drawings (no CAD and all in ink!). An example of the drawing set is given below and depicts a front wheel. Pat made several 1 in 10 scale models which he said was very challenging and a photograph is shown below.



Drawing of the wagon wheel



Model ox wagon

Ox wagons represent a remarkable achievement in wood and iron construction. I well remember the excellent presentation made by Prof Erik Holm on ox wagons shortly after I joined the Association in 2003. Prof Holm was involved in the restoration of a large number of ox wagons at the Voortrekker Monument. A number of different woods are used in the construction of a wagon and Prof Holm claimed that he could deduce where a wagon had travelled from the wood types used in running repairs!

Pat has donated the drawings to the Association with the proviso that they are not destroyed. Should anyone be interested in receiving a copy of the drawings and making contact please contact Paul Roberts (084 515 2773).

As winter draws closer, remember to keep your glue and wood warm for effective bonding!

Regards

Paul Roberts

Vice Chairman

June 2003