

Merbein is planning celebrations fit for a century of history

THE Merbein Centenary Committee has, over the last three years, been planning for 10 days of celebrations to mark the settlement's 100 years as an irrigation settlement.

Merbein, the most northern town on the Murray River in Victoria, will be the centre for the celebratory activities from August 14 - 23 in 2009.

Momentum is growing and the Mildura Rural City Council, local businesses and residents are already indicating much support to ensure a successful celebration that Merbein can be proud of.

However, more support is being sought, and we also ask all district residents to contact their relatives and friends with Merbein roots to encourage them to come back and help celebrate this momentous milestone.

The committee would also like to encourage district residents to organize reunions of past members of school communities, sporting clubs, businesses, service clubs and other organisations in the centenary week.

Could anyone planning such a reunion, please let the committee know so it can be slotted into the calendar and listed on to the website.

The Centenary Committee would like to hear from district residents who would like to participate in the historic centenary street parade planned as part of the celebrations.

Floats portraying Merbein's history are being sought and old plant and equipment that has linkages to Merbein's history are also being encouraged to take part



ORIGINAL: This is one of the original settler block tractors that will feature in Merbein's centenary in the parade.

Several original old vehicles and tractors on district properties are already being 'dusted' down in readiness for the parade next year.

Many residents re-member, with great interest, the parade that marked the settlement's 50 year celebrations in 1959 and the aim is to

make this one just as memorable if not better.

Anyone interested in participating in the street parade on Friday, August 21, please contact Richard Wells 5025 2288 or Leon Wagner on 5025 2585.

For information on the centenary a web site has been set up. www.merbeincentenary.com.au