

# **McCormick Inter. Grain Grinder**

## **TECHNICAL HISTORY**

Grain grinders were developed during the 19<sup>th</sup> century as one of the many labour saving devices to assist in the preparation of animal foods. Farmers had large numbers of animals to feed, and food preparation was a big consumer of time. Grain was crushed for livestock to ensure better digestion, to help in mixing with other fodder, and to encourage fattening animals to eat more. It was also claimed to assist where hard-working horses fed, bolted their food, had worn or damaged teeth.

Plates or rollers were rotated against one another to break the grain. Adjustment of the gap between the rollers or plates allowed different sized output to be crushed. Power was initially by hand, but later flat belt and engine took over.

The McCormick International mill has been imported from USA. It uses plates to grind the grain and is fitted with a 6inch pulley so it can be powered by a stationary engine via a flat belt.

## **WORKING HISTORY**

This machine has been restored to as near as original as possible by Member Malcolm Gill and donated to the Club. He is unaware of its working history. The grinder was in good original condition when purchased, with outlines of the maker's identification transfers. These were used to make new transfers. Colour is "best match" with original. "New" 2<sup>nd</sup> hand grinding plates fitted as part of the restoration.