



VINTAGE TORQUE

JUNE 2010



What an Eye-Catcher!

P. Clarke deservedly won 3 trophies, Best Tractor Any Make 1930-39, Best Tractor Restored, and the Hylton Gott Trophy for Best Tractor



John Wakefield won the trophy for The Best Exhibit on Site

More winners on back page, details pages 2/3



T. Myhill won the trophy for The Best John Deere 830 diesel



Dave Allen won The Beeken Cup for The Best Stationary Engine



Charles Heading won the NVTEC Gold Cup for Best Tractor 1940-42



Tim Freeze and his son Samuel won the trophy for The Best International Tractor

**Congratulations to all Winners
at Stradsett 2010**



D. Buttress won the trophy for The Best Horticultural Use Machine



Tug Wilson won the Shell Tankard for The Best Motorcycle



Bryan Ward won The Pat Farr Trophy

Presentation of Trophies by Sir Jeremy Bagge



P. Clarke is the proud owner of a 1935 Oliver 70 (shown front page) restored in 2009 by Peter Rash that won 3 trophies at Stradsett: The Hylton Gott Trophy for The Best Tractor; NVTEC Class Award for The Best Tractor Any Make, 1930-1939 and the S.K. Rudd Memorial Cup for Best Tractor Restored.



T. Myhill won the Hill & Osbourne Cup for the Best John Deere (shown front page)



Neil Fletcher won the John Deere Trophy for 2nd John Deere Tractor with his 710 diesel (shown back page) made in the Lanz factory in Germany. Found as scrap in Dersingham and rebuilt in 2001.



13 yr old Ashley Ward won the Best Junior Engine, with his pre 1949 Petter W1H driving a Lister Domestic pump. (shown back page) Bought in 2009 in bits he restored it with help from his father. He said he'd learnt a lot in doing this and it was Ashley's 2nd time at Stradsett.



Stuart Bailey won the Fordson Trophy for the Best Fordson Tractor with his 1946 E27N. (shown back page) that he bought in 1985, incomplete but running. He restored it and 1st rallied in 2006.

John Woodhead won Best Powered Use of an Engine (shown back page) with his 1922 Crossley PE 1060 4hp driving a Lister Water pump and a hand pump rescued



from an old railway station. John acquired the engine 7 years ago in a rough, rusty state.

Tim Freeze won the trophy for The Best International Tractor with his McCormick Farmall Cub. (shown front page) Made in USA it worked on a cucumber farm. It was bought by his father in 1960 for 500 dollars and shipped over in 2006. Tim restored it and first showed it in 2008. The paintwork was done by Andrew Downing.



G. Buttriss won Best Horticultural Use Machine with his 1944 Ransomes MG5 (shown front page)

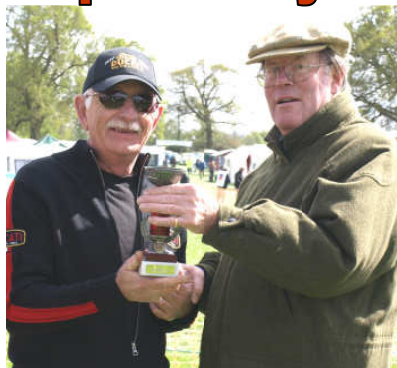


All pictures in this newsletter are available, on request, in colour, and not cropped, either as a hard copy or by Email. Please contact me, Viv,

Presentation of Trophies by Sir Jeremy Bagge



Papworth Trophy for the Best Exhibit on Site. John Wakefield has been building up his collection of hand-held implements for 3 years and he brought just a small amount to display at Stradsett. (shown front page)



Tug Wilson won the Shell Tankard for Best Motorcycle with his 1962 Ducati 125cc SI Sport Bike (front page) with a top speed of 110mph. He has spent the last 2 years refurbishing it.



Bob & Karen Poole won the Chalkline Perpetual Cup for The Best Commercial, with their 1959 CV7 Commer Cub (shown back page.) They bought it in October 2003 from Colchester, renovated and resprayed it.



Bryan Ward won the Pat Farr Trophy for the Best Series 3 (about 200th) Field Marshall (shown back page) that he purchased at Cheffins sale in its current restored condition in 2008. It is still undergoing restoration by Bryan and Jason Ward.



Charles Heading won the NVTEC Gold Cup for Best Tractor 1940-42 with his 1942 Case Model DC. (shown front page) that he bought in County Durham and he has carried out a complete restoration



Dave Allen won Best Stationary Engine with his 1910 7.5hp Ruston Hornsby Gas Engine. (shown front page) This engine worked in South Australia as a portable petrol engine. It was acquired for preservation 30 years ago by the Timms Collection. In 2004 it was given to Dave who paid £300 shipping costs to repatriate it. He then restored the engine to its present condition.



M. Giles won the Sands Agricultural Services for the Best Classic Car with his 1930 Ford Austin 7 Tudor Model A, christened 'Lulabelle' that he bought, in bits, in 1979 with the engine sitting on the back seat. (shown back page) He restored it over 1979-82, and has travelled to Beaulieu in it with a top speed of 45mph.

A Few Words from Andrew Hunt

I am sure Viv is supplying a comprehensive report but I would like to add a few thoughts. We put on a great display but Wally the weatherman did not give us as much support as last year. My estimate is public attendance was down by 30% on last year's record.

My thanks go to :

All the exhibitors who braved the cold wind to contribute to the show.

The stewards who work tirelessly for up to 4 days during the Rally and many unseen hours preparing for it.

Sir Jeremy Bagge and his family for their facilities and support.

Judging by the smiling faces and complimentary comments as folk left we achieved our aims of running a friendly, enjoyable and successful Rally. Good luck for the rest of the rally season.

Andrew



Frank Markham won The Sir Jeremy & Lady Bagge Salver for the Best Bygone Exhibit (shown back page) that he has been collecting for 10 years.

Cold but a Grrrreat Show once again!

It was a Brrrrrrrr cold, windy Bank holiday but, fortunately, the rain held off until nightfall and the public turned out to enjoy another great display of vintage machinery at Stradsett Park. We put on extra layers of clothing and carried on, in the true English way, while the trade stands were battered, (some were torn) and clothing stalls and hot food stands did particularly good business. The Illusions Major-ettes bravely put on a good display and the 13th Alabama set up their Field Hospital and gave a ring display, firing their muskets. Colin Holwell gave his informative, running commentary as the tractors, motorcycles, cars and commercials made their tour of the ring around the static display of Caley's John Deere 9630 and the Threshing machine Andrew Hunt, once again, masterminded the organisation of the rally, giving no leeway to legislative loopholes, ensuring that every angle was covered and that stewards were well briefed as to their duties. This is no mean feat, and it can be said it is an unenviable task to take on such huge responsibility and ensure the safety of the exhibitors and visiting public. Years ago youngsters grew up learning how to look after themselves through life's experiences but these days many youngsters are so protected that they grow up having little awareness of potential dangers but great awareness of how to sue for damages. So, once again, as the weekend came to an end, there were sighs from Andrew and the committee that everything had passed off well and safely. The judges, again, had a difficult task in making their selections from 158 tractors, 120 engines, 17 Bygones and a good

display of Commercials, motorcycles and Classic cars. The standard was high with great effort having been made with presentation and authenticity in restoration. Congratulations to all exhibitors for putting on such an excellent display and making Stradsett Vintage Rally, once again, a really good event. Please don't be too disappointed if you didn't win a trophy although it is clear that for some, this is the ultimate goal. It must be said that there is always controversy in competition, but striving to win certainly raises standards and this was evident in the display of exhibits.

Also evident, as I did my rounds with my camera and note book was the enthusiasm among the now, many familiar faces along with some new comers.

Just some of the comments that were made as I went around:

'I have been so well looked after, I knew exactly where to go and what to do,'

'It's been great, I haven't stopped talking all weekend, people have been so interested that I haven't had time to go round the stands,'

'This is my first time and I shall definitely be coming again next year,'

So if you were one of the disappointed people who were too late with your entry form, may I suggest you apply sooner for the next Stradsett Rally and not miss out on a great weekend.

Viv

BACK THEN IT WAS ALL ABOUT HUSBANDRY

Last time you may recall that we looked at how the barley land was autumn-ploughed with the Fordson Standard and the Ransomes Uni-trac Minor which left broken work spread fairly evenly between the furrow tops. Dad kept a good fish-tail on the back of the breast to aid the soil to turn over and be spread out as far as possible. Any clods of soil that weren't broken up by this process would be softened by the frosts and snow of winter so when the drying wind at the end of March arrived we could get on the land to apply the artificial manure. This would be delivered by Fisons from their Bexwell Aerodrome depot on a flat bed Bedford lorry for off-loading by hand of course! (No namby-pamby tele-handlers in the early sixties). Plenty of bad backs in the seventies and eighties though, as a result of earlier times no doubt!

Mum and Dad had spent all their savings to buy our small farm at Wereham and therefore the purchase of machinery had to be limited to the essential stuff first i.e. the tractors, ploughs, seed drills, tumbrel and sets of medium and seed harrows. So the spreading of the artificial manure had to be achieved by a fairly crude method. We opened a few bags of the 20-10-10 compound and poured these into the tumbrel, then with Mum going slow with the Fordson, Dad would stand in the back of the tumbrel and broadcast the manure using a small shovel. They would calculate how many one hundredweight bags that needed to go onto the five

acres of barley land and just keep going round and round over the field for as long as it took to distribute this quantity (roughly) over the area involved. Dad was mighty concerned that this was an area of his husbandry that he wasn't comfortable with. He would have preferred to control the spreading rate much more accurately. That was how Mum and Dad tried to always do things. Their good husbandry practices on the whole bore testament to the care and devotion that they expended because our yields and quality of crops were of the highest order and we thus made our small acreage into a viable agricultural business. Dad would keep saying, "What we really need is a mechanical manure spreader". Well, it came to pass that fate decreed that we should have one. The story of how this came about I shall now relate. It is a tale which complies readily with the old adage "it's an ill wind that blows nobody any good".

One evening after tea we were all sitting in the living room watching our recently purchased Pam Automatic television - all 405 lines of it! It was called Automatic because all you had to do to switch between the channels was to press the auto button and hey presto it switched from either BBC or Anglia. Not much of a feat of engineering really because there was just the two channels - BBC2 had yet to rear its ugly head! Those readers of this column who have attained a certain age (you'll know who you are) will be able to judge roughly when this evening was within our cultural history when I tell you that

Back Then it was all about Husbandry *continued*

the programme we were watching on this fateful night was Jukebox Jury compered by David Jacobs. We had just heard Frank Ifield giving it his all with his rendition of "I remember you" and the panel were debating the merits of this particular "45" - the young lady cheerfully saying "I'll give it a five" (they quite correctly predicted that it would be a "hit" and David Jacobs confirmed this by hitting his desktop bell!). All of a sudden my Dad jumped up and shouted "I can hear a roaring and crackling sound". In fairness this was not at all unusual because the Pam TV, despite being nearly new, was still at that time a mixture of valves and transistors and therefore prone to buzzing and whining over the soundtrack whenever there was the slightest bit of atmospheric interference. However, he rushed up to the TV and switched her off and shouted for us all to be quiet. Sure enough there was an almost eerie sound - like aircraft noise, a sort of rumbling. Dad said at once, "I know what that is because, unfortunately I've heard it before years ago at Barton Bendish; it is the sound of a raging fire". We all rushed outside fearing the worst - was it our farm sheds or the pig building or the straw stack? Fortunately for us, all of these were OK. We looked around and to our horror saw that our neighbours farmyard buildings were well and truly ablaze. What was once a barn and stack yard was now an inferno. By this time of an evening the dusk was approaching and this heightened the effect making the sky above the farm glow red as the flames and smoke shot high - like a type of sinister halo. This was indeed a view of Dantes Furness. Our neighbours farm was situated about 350 yards from ours and to the north-east. It was usual at this time of the year for the sunrise to occur in the direction that we were looking. We were watching a terrible kind of false-dawn - but accompanied by an awful roaring/crackling sound. It was, at one and the same time, both horrifying and fascinating and I can remember the feeling we all had that it was hard to tear your eyes from it. This was a fire that was raging uncontrollably.

Suddenly Dad ran to the tool shed and grabbed his two-tine pitch fork. He ran towards the fire and shouted over his shoulder "stay there whatever you do". He ran straight across the recently harrowed field of our neighbours. He didn't even waste any time getting the Stand-ard Ten van out of the garage. When he was about half-way across the field we heard the bells of the approaching fire engine (no two-tone sirens in those days!) Eventually we tore ourselves away from the spectacle and returned indoors but we were unable to go to bed - sleep certainly would not have come too easily that night. So Mum, my sister and I sat up and waited for Dad to return. He didn't get in until approx. 1.30 a.m. He went straight to his chair in the living room and slumped into it. I clearly remember the odour of smoke and fumes on his clothing and the lines of fatigue on his face. He looked grey and ashen faced and we had never seen him look so emotional before. Life was tough for a farmer on a small acreage in those days (long hours of repetitive hand work

and not too many creature comforts other than the Pam Automatic), plus of course Mum and Dad had lived through the dangers and rationing of the Second World War therefore it was indeed fair to say that he was quite a hard man and this was justifiably so. However on this particular night we were seeing a new side to Dad. Mum came in from the kitchen carrying a steaming mug of cocoa, his favourite drink. (This came in rectangular tins with rounded corners - it was made by Rowntrees). After a few mouthfuls of the hot sweet liquid the events of the night all came flooding out. Luckily for our neighbours their house stood a little way away from the farmyard area so this was able to be saved. The rest of the buildings and all of the straw stacks were more or less destroyed, despite the best and gallant efforts of the Fire Brigade. Dad and our neighbour were able to get 2 of his tractors out of the barn before the heat became overpowering and with these they dragged the burning machinery out of the implement shed with long chains, whilst the firemen sprayed water on them to extinguish the flames!

A few days later the insurance man from Norwich Union visited our neighbour. He walked along the sorry looking row of machinery which was of course in various states of frazzle and he tapped each implement with his stick pronouncing the fate of each one. "That one to be scrapped, that one to be returned to the dealers for refurbishment etc, etc." Afterwards our neighbour came to see Dad and thanked him for all his help during that terrible night, he said that there was a manure sower (I think it was an Albion but I'm not really sure) and that Dad could have it as his reward. Although the wooden parts were well and truly singed it still could function as a manure spreader.

So that's how we came by our first tractor drawn artificial manure spreader. The land wheels turned a crank through an adjustable gearbox and this in turn operated a metal sliding strip which had lots of slots in it and was located at the bottom of the wooden trough container. These slots were alternately covered and uncovered as the metal strip reciprocated. By this means the control of the application rate for the manure could be down to a fine art now! Dad would run his fingers over the fire damaged woodwork of the drill and say to us children, time and time again, "Never play with matches and never play with fire".

Soon the man from the Nu-Swift fire extinguisher company was summoned by Dad to visit our farm but that's another story.....

It was actually "only" 16 years that we spent at the Wereham farm but looking back on it now it seems that we fitted in a whole lifetimes worth of memories because as I relate these tales to you a myriad of wonderful and colourful recollections come flooding back. Do you want more?

West Norfolk Ridgefarmer

Henry's Howlings

Stradsett saw its usual high number of exhibitors and despite the inclement weather a large number of people came to support this annual event. A good turn-out arrived on the Sunday despite showers and blustery winds but Monday brought slightly better weather. Sunday for me is my busiest day collecting the trophies from the section stewards, greeting the judges and instructing categories to be judged including this year's new trophies for Best Tractor sponsored by Hylton Gott and the S & F Catering for

Best Horticultural machine. Many thanks to the sponsors of these trophies We have been asked if we would like to receive another trophy in memory of George Thompson for the 2011 rally which should take place on the May Day bank holiday weekend.

As Vice chairman I would like to thank Peter our Chairman and Andrew for all their hard work and to everyone who contributed to making Stradsett Rally a successful and safe event.



Henry

Membership Matters

Hi Everyone

Well everyone we have had the Stradsett rally, yes it was cold but well worth a look and plenty of people did that.

The next thing to be part of is the road run at Beachamwell. Come and bring your tractor, you will see a part of West Norfolk you would otherwise not get the chance to see, its Sunday 20 June.

Now this is for myself. Sunday 4 July Independence Day, I and 99 other ladies all dressed in pink in the maddest possible fashion will do the Pink Ladies road run for Breast Cancer Care. You may remember

my photo. If you would like to sponsor me please contact me by the usual route. I must say a big thank you to Godfrey who wore my pink wig while taking the tractor I will drive around the ring at Stradsett. Thanks for being a great sport.

I'm still able to do memberships if you have forgotten. Send your information with an SAE as soon as you can.

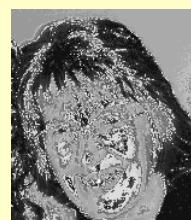
Just to say to those who are unable to come and take part take care of your selves and hope to see you soon.

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email: membership@nvtec-ea.org.uk

Chris



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Winter Meetings

Hi everyone,

Although we are only at the start of the Summer, I have been working on our Winter programme for 2010/2011.

The evening meetings, held on the third Thursday of the month have been booked and are as follows:

21st October 2010 David Grimes Memory Lane

18th November 2010 AGM and cheque presentations.

16th December 2010 Bart Keeny The BK Museum

20th January 2011 Paul Richards Victorian Lynn and
Savages Engineering

17th February 2011 Jim Bacaon Talking Weather

17th March 2011 David Grimes Memory Lane

I hope you all have a great Summer rallying, and look forward to seeing you in October for the first meeting.

Don't forget to let me know if you have an idea for a meeting, as I am always looking for new ideas.

I can be contacted on 01485 542034.

Thank you

Shane

For more Vintage News and Views go to our
web-site

www.nvtec-ea.org.uk



Friends of St Botolphs Tractor Road Run 27th June.

This new event in our calendar will be based at Manor Farm, Grimston, which is 5 miles east of King's Lynn. The morning run will follow a route south of Grimston before turning east and then north to arrive in Great Massingham for lunch on the village green. The afternoon route travels north through Harpley to Anmer and on to Sandringham before returning to Grimston via Hillington. Those completing the run will have covered approximately 22 miles. Most of the run will be on relatively minor roads and offers some glorious views over Norfolk countryside.

We will meet at 10am, set off at 10.30, with the run drawing to a close around 4pm. Roger is planning to organise a bar-b-que at Manor Farm after the run. More information and entry forms from: Roger Coe, Manor Farm, Grimston, King's Lynn, Norfolk PE32 1BG tel: 01485 600334

Working Weekend: Oak Farm Stradsett 4/5th September contact: Malcolm Mycock 01366 500250

Cornerways 'Tomato' Visit June 9th pre-booked only. Meet at main entrance 6.15pm For further information contact Shane 01485 542034



Vintage Tractor Charity Road Run

Sunday 20 June

Based at Beachamwell

10 am for 10.30 am Start

The figure of 8 route covers 25 miles and is centred on The Dane at Beachamwell between Swaffham and Downham Market.

They will be open for refreshments at the start and finish.

We also return there for lunch where booking is advised. 01366 328443

All tractors must and sponsored to a minimum level of £10.00.

Frontier Agriculture Ltd is donating a trophy that will be awarded to the driver of the tractor gaining the most sponsorship



Entry and sponsorship forms contact Andrew Hunt

01366 388907

roadrun@nvtec-ea.org.uk

or download from

www.nvtec-ea.org.uk



East Anglian Air Ambulance

Supporting Registered Charity 1083876

What's On Elsewhere

Woolpit Steam Show 5/6th June

contact D.Seeley 01359 241886

Doddington Country Fayre June 12/13th

contact Clive Richardson mob: 07789266423

Euston Rural Pastimes Sunday June 13th between Thetford and Ixworth on A1088 contact 01359 268672

Holbeach Vintage Rally June 19th/20th

contact Paul Pearman 01945587027 mob 07771881727 David Allwood 07971498638

Wisbech St Mary Village & Country Fayre

Sunday 27th June Vintage/Classic Vehicles & Machinery Contact: Jim Wakefield 01945 410554

Rougham Airfield Wings Wheels & Steam Country Fair 26th & 27th June 01359270524

Walpole Rally July 10/11th

contact Gwen Davey 01945461494

Thurlow Steam & Country Show August 7/8th

contact Michael Pumfrey 07711988332

Hilgay August 15th & 16th

Contact P G Bates 01366387988

Lincoln Steam & Vintage Rally August 21/22nd

contact Glynn MacDonald 01507605937

Earls Barton Rally & Country Fayre August

28/29/30th contact Miss C Randall 07826305241

Skylark Rally September 4th, 5th & 6th

Contact 01354741212

Sandringham Game & Country Show September

11/12th contact Clive Richardson 01945 860224 mob: 07789266423

Haddenham Steam Rally September 11/12th

contact Mrs Ruth Young 01487 841922

Newark Tractor Show November 6/7th

contact Cheryl Dinnis 0870 2241035

Club Clothing

Short Sleeve Polos, current stock at £11

Baseball Caps, at £5.70 (new stock price)

Sweat Shirts, limited stock at £15

Short Sleeve poplin shirts, limited stock at £15

Jackets need to be ordered especially.

Telephone Viv 01553 617653 to place your order and arrange delivery and to enquire about other possibilities for club clothing.



WANTED Have you had a great day out to a vintage show and taken some good photos? Have you begun to restore a tractor or engine? Have you some treasured memories to tell? I am always keen to receive your news to help make this newsletter a truly interesting Vintage Torque. Don't be shy now, just contact me, Viv 01553 617653

More Stradsett Winners



Neil Fletcher won the 2nd John Deere Trophy



John Woodhead won Best Powered Use of Engine



Ashley Ward 13yr old, won **Best Junior Engine**



Stuart Bailey won Best Fordson Trophy



M. Giles won Best Classic Car



Frank Markham won the Sir Jeremy and Lady Bagge Salver for Best Bygone

Bob and Karen Poole won Best Commercial



and a few more attractions



Keith Gore driving his 1962 MF65 MK2 with James Caley's John Deere model 9630, 597 hp in the background. Used for ploughing, sub-soiling and drilling this 10 furrow plough uses 110 litres of fuel in an hour, and James drove it to Stradsett to display.



1st time exhibitor, 16yr old Shaun Long with his 1933 Lister D



Richard Hircomb of Dancing Anvil Forge demonstrates his skills as a blacksmith.

1965 Class Matador Combine Harvester owned by Mr & Mrs Philip Shippe & Beth. Previously owned by Cater & Sons and sold, retired but still running for £40



A rare 1922 semi open crank Alamo owned by Graham Diggins



Our Club Information Stand with Ted Gray's display of petrol cans attracted many viewers



Any views or opinions expressed in this publication are those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the NVT & EC East Anglia Group.