



# VINTAGE TORQUE

September  
2011

## Beachamwell Vintage Tractor Road Run 2011

Based at Beachamwell and Supporting the East Anglia Air Ambulance

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> June saw 17 entrants, supported by other members and friends, gather at Beachamwell for the NVTEC East Anglia Group's 7<sup>th</sup> annual, sponsored vintage tractor road-run.

We set off at 10.30 travelling off-road through Shingham to Gooderstone and Foulden and returning to Beachamwell for lunch.

Our afternoon run went towards Oxborough, cut back cross-country before reaching Eastmoor. From here we again went "off road" down into Boughton Fen returning via Barton Bendish to Beachamwell.

The competition for the trophy, sponsored by Frontier Agriculture Ltd, was won by John Mitchell and Peter Anderson who shared the driving and jointly raised £307. Overall we raised in excess of £1,200 for the Air Ambulance.



Malcolm Bush: John Deere L, Cliff Armsby: Allis Chalmers

We would like to express our thanks to Beachamwell both for the support and welcome we received and tolerating the intrusion into their pretty village. Thanks are also due to Richard Bailey of Albanwise and John Rix for allowing us access to their farms. Both drivers and supporters were grateful for the staff at the Great Dane keeping them refuelled.

Malcolm Bush is to be congratulated for his perseverance in completing the full route on his 1942 John Deere Model L. I hope he has recovered from the whiplash.

Finally I must thank the entrants for their efforts in fundraising and support in making it a pleasure to organise.

Andrew Hunt



Peter Thorpe leading the start of the Road Run with his Fordson Power Major.



Daniel Mycock : Allis Chalmers and Peter Allflatt: Zetor



## Holkham Country Fair

Michael Squires exhibited this interesting Cut Away Lister D with Lio Pump during a damp and windy weekend at Holkham.



A good engine line at Burghley, organised by Clive Richardson, who is seen here presenting the trophy, (donated by Clive and Julie,) to John Bailey for his Lister. This was chosen by a member of the public.

## Burghley Game & Country Show



# Ferguson Enthusiasts Trip to Northern Ireland. By Darren Tebbitt

In the early hours of the 2<sup>nd</sup> of June, a coach left Harrod's Bexwell yard to collect forty-four Ferguson enthusiasts from across the British mainland- (Norfolk, Cambs, Northants, Warks, Worcs, Shrops, and Cheshire) for a four day tour of Northern Ireland.

Organised by Roger and Carol Thulbourne of the Norfolk and Cambridgeshire group of Friends of Ferguson Heritage- the focus of the trip was to visit the locations where Harry Ferguson grew up, and did his early pioneering work on the 'famous Ferguson System' Three-point- linkage, in addition to visiting regular tourist attractions on the way. On arrival at Belfast docks, our coach was met by Mr



George McAleer- the Northern Ireland coordinator for Friends of Ferguson Heritage, and we are indebted to George, and colleague Iggy McCrystal for acting as tour guides throughout the duration of the trip. Day one began with a visit to a new museum named the Braid in Ballymena which pays homage to the heritage of the local area, followed by a guided tour of Bushmills Whisky distillery and a walk on the Giant's Causeway.

We were grateful at lunchtime to George's wife Hazel for providing us with a buffet lunch.

On day two, our first port of call was Bertie Dunlop's tractor spares business. Bertie's business is invaluable to the Ferguson restorer because in addition to regular parts he sell some items that are not available elsewhere. In particular he sells replicas of the Ferguson Commission plates which were fitted to all Ferguson machines.

Later we spent an enjoyable afternoon at the Mid Ulster Tractor rally in the grounds of Springhill house at Moneymore. A lovely relaxed little rally, with a friendly atmosphere where there was something going on for everyone. However the tractor handling competition was very short on participants? Was this because the first competitor set a very fast time that looked hard to beat? This was only a one day rally, when asked why? We were told rallies are not held on Sunday's for religious reasons. Saturday finished with a demonstration of Linen



Beetling at the National Trust owned Wellbrook Beetling Mill. The curator told us Linen is best when 'beetled' as it tightens the nap of the cloth, producing a good sheen. Driven by a waterwheel, the beetling engines consist of a row of wooded hammers above a wooden cylinder- between which the cloth passes. The noise of which is horrendous!

On day three we learned about Harry Ferguson's early life and tractor experiments at Tullylagon Manor, from an informative lecture given by ex-tenant Fred Faulkner. He told us that Tullylagon Manor (near Cookstown) was the home of Mr Thomas Macgregor Greer, and that Mr Greer, a member of the aristocracy, was one of the first people in Ireland to own a motorcar. However the car proved unreliable, which prompted a call to Joe Ferguson's car garage in Belfast. A very young Harry was sent to fix the car. Impressed with Harry's work, he became a regular visitor to Tullylagon to look after Mr Greer's growing fleet of automobiles.

A friendship began, and in due course it was he [Mr Greer] who provided encouragement and funding for Harry to set up a garage business on his own and participate

in experimentation.

The first Ferguson hydraulic pump was made on the site, and the experimental 'Black' tractor was tested there.

When production of the Ferguson Brown-type A be-

gan, the first tractor off the line was delivered to Tullylagon Manor on the 12<sup>th</sup> January 1937 and presented to Mr Greer.

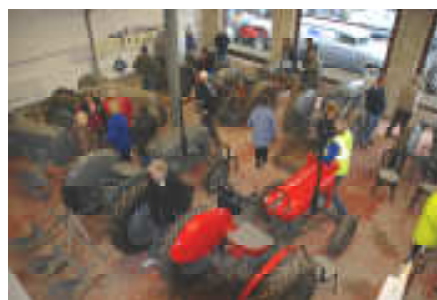
This tractor survives and is currently displayed in the museum at Massey Ferguson's Beauvais factory near Paris.

The present owner of Tullylagon

Manor- Mr Raymond Turkington is very interested in the heritage of his home and in particular it's place in the Ferguson Story. So much so, he has established a Ferguson themed tractor museum on site. A good spread of Ferguson/Massey Ferguson tractors and implements are displayed and the museum is currently being extended. Today, located in the barns where Harry worked, is a restaurant aptly named Harry's Bar, and it was here where we enjoyed an excellent lunch.

Very wet weather forced a change of schedule in the afternoon. Instead of visiting another rally, we were given an informative tour of Belfast, during which, among other sights, we saw the location in May Street where the Ferguson car garage was located, and the massive cranes of the Harland and Woolfe shipyard.

Our final day began with a visit to Harry Ferguson's



homestead to see the Memorial Garden established in his memory. Located at Harry's birthplace at Growell County Down, the Memorial Garden was the brainchild of a group of Ferguson enthusiasts, and features a life-size bronze statue of the pioneer leaning over a farm gate. *See right*  
 More info on the memorial garden can be found at : <http://harryfergusonmemorial.com/>

Then it was on to Lisburn, to visit the Linen Museum and have lunch, followed by a visit to Tom Herron's private collection, in the beautiful hills near Castle Wellum. Tom's collection is not large but features a bit of everything collected over the last 40 years. Cars, tractors, engines, models, etc etc and all displayed in an immaculately kept barn.

Later in the day we were back on the Ferguson trail with a walk along Newcastle beach, for this is the location where Harry flew the airplane he designed and built in 1909.

The day, and the tour finished, with a drive around the scenic Mourne Mountains near the border with Eire. *Darren Tebbitt*



## Cambridgeshire Rally and Country Show.

Once again I attended this country show and again I wasn't disappointed. This event seems to be going from strength to strength as it increases in size. Now in it's 3rd year at this venue, word seems to have got around, thus drawing more exhibitors in most sections. The organisers reported that they had record entries in some sections, the stationary engines being one of them, and it was also noticed that this section had a bigger variety of engine types than last year, which is always good to see. The tractors, commercial vehicles, vintage cars and steam engines were all well supported. There was a different field lay-out this year with some sections moved to another area; as with all new venues it takes time to find the most suitable lay-out.

The showground is alongside the new Guided Bus Route from St Ives to Cambridge and is ideal for show visitors as the stop is nearby, or for exhibitors to go shopping on their free days.

I thought there seemed to be a few less trade stands this year but I feel this is the trend at most events.

Again, another enjoyable event and despite the cold wind it didn't seem to deter people from attending. Lets hope it continues to prosper as I'm sure it will. Well done to all. *Cliff Smith*

## Foulsham Tractor Road Run



It was a lovely day for the Foulsham Tractor Road Run on July 3rd and lots of people watched as 71 tractors, some with trailers set off from Foulsham on a round route on country roads. It was organised by Neville Websdale and Sally Needle. Thanks go to Terry Myhill for the use of his car park for the lorries and also the local builder for loaning his field. £1335.44 was raised for The Acorn Children's Trust. *Malcolm Bush*

## YOUR CLUB NEEDS YOU

Just a Sec!!

As members, you will know that the current committee has served the club well for many years. However, the time has come to seek new committee members for key roles over the next year to enable the club to continue to thrive. At the AGM we will be seeking nominations for committee members and for an engine steward and winter meetings organiser. If you think you may be able to help or know of a person who will be prepared to be nominated please give me a ring for an informal chat.



O1553 617653

Ted Gray  
Secretary.



**Congratulations**  
 To  
**Newman and Joan Smith**  
 on their 80th Birthdays,  
 28th & 29th August

# The Last Part of The Road Trip Across the Mid-West By Darren Tebbit

After briefly clipping Missouri, we crossed back in to Illinois and arrived in Quincy and after lunch made our way to see Don and Joyce Mackinley.

Don or Mac as he prefers to be called, his wife Joyce and their daughter and son-in-law, Marvin and Cathy Huber have built up a unique collection of farming and domestic paraphernalia from the 1930's.

*Don Mackinley poses in his family's Farmstead of the Past Museum.*



On the farming side, they have one tractor: a 1936 John Deere B, and over 40 matched John Deere implements from the period.

Mac, now 82, was brought up on a farm in the thirties and vividly recalls the austerity of the period, but his idea to collect implements was triggered by a conversation he heard between a father and son at a tractor show.

The young lad asked 'what did farmers do with the old tractors?', to which the father replied 'they farmed with them'. Don says 'the answer was inadequate but difficult to answer convincingly without the implements present'.

Up until now everything we had seen had been planned by ourselves, but on the morning of day 12 a friend had a surprise in store for us!

Over breakfast in Bob Evans restaurant, Tom announced he was taking us to an auction preview. The dispersal auction scheduled for Saturday was called by the executors of a deceased collector and featured not only complete tractors but also many parts. On arrival, the auctioneer's crew were setting up the sale. There was almost a complete set of John Deere lettered series tractors, from a 'Spoker D' to an R',



*1925 Spoker D being hauled out from storage under cover. It sold for \$14000.*

including 2 rare industrial L series tractors the 'LI'.

And out back, hundreds of parts!

In the garage, dozens of carburettors, magnetos, and starters. We could have spend all day browsing, but we had a tight schedule to keep.

Bidding farewell to Tom and the auction, we left to drive 380 miles to Northern Indiana.

En route we passed Bloomington and Normal, twin towns in central Illinois, rumour has it people move to Bloomington to be near Normal!

At around 8.30pm we rolled into South Bend Indiana, and shortly afterwards found ourselves caught up in a Tornado alert, during which we had to abandon our hire car and take cover in the bus station!

It had been an eventful day, but more was to come as we now had three major shows to see in the next four days!

Our show marathon kicked off with Red Power 2010, the annual Expo of the International Harvester collectors Club.

This annual extravaganza travels around the States, at a different location each year, but in this it's 21<sup>st</sup> year it was being held where it began in Northern Indiana.

All the stops were pulled out to create a mammoth celebration of red paint.

Over 1000 tractors present, together with Trucks, Cars, Engines,

lawn Mowers, etc. In fact -If IH made it- it was there!



*Genuine period Fire engine conversion fitted to Farmall A*

Day 14 saw us leave the Indiana/Michigan border and head south-east, we had 250 miles to cover to reach Springfield Ohio. Enroute we dropped into Polk/McGrew tractor breakers at New Paris Indiana to browse the hundreds of tractors being broken, and buy parts.

A hundred miles further on we stumbled across Bryant Combine Parts at Bryant Indiana, one of the states biggest combine breakers!  
But before reaching the Ohio border we had to stop for a photo at Lynn!

Our Second show in 4 days: was the Eastern National (John Deere) Expo held at Springfield Ohio, by the Ohio Two-Cylinder Club.

This bi-annual show brings together JD enthusiasts from the Eastern Half of the United States and boasted just under 1000 exhibits.

Of particular note was the large entry of Lawn tractors, filling one hall.

We attended on Auction day and witnessed a bizarre way of selling? Instead of lots displaying lot numbers, they had vendor numbers! Some vendors entered more than one lot. This brought about several lots with the same number, but which were sold separately- most confusing! What's more the sequence of sale did not follow in chronological number order! Notable among the exhibits at the show-was part of a John Deere prototype from 1917- about a decade ago this was discovered under a building at the old factory! And is now slowly being re-built.

Also there was an experimental model 101 tool-carrier, and the 1930's party-piece of a John Deere D running whilst standing on 4 coke bottles! *See below*



*. Excellent turnout of early Farmalls*



**Symmetrical Farmhall A.**



The final full day of our US tour saw us head north to Wauseon Ohio for the National threshers association show. It was the last day of this four-day working steam rally that featured not only steamers but also a comprehensive display of early gas tractors. Steamers feature heavily at this show.



*1913 IH Truck*

We had reached day 18 and our 11 hour journey home was upon us, but first we had to pack and we had bought so many parts that we had buy two-large trunks to get them home! Having loaded the car there was only just room for Malcolm!



*Thank you Darren for taking us along this very interesting journey across the mid-west. Viv*

## Chairman's Chat With Peter Thorpe

I must start by thanking Henry for stepping into the breach in the last magazine as I was tied up with personal matters. So to get back into the groove, my wife and I have spent some weekends this summer visiting some of the other shows that we have not been to before, to see what if or we could do or add to keep our Rally interesting and progressive.

With all these events that are held outdoors it is the weather element that can make or break an event and this is totally out of the organiser's hands. This was felt no more so than for the Holkham Game Fair and Weeting Steam Rally with the Saturday a complete wash out. Downham Carnival fared a little better. It was the biggest Parade seen in Downham for many years but just as we reached the Howdale show area after parading from Heygates Mill, the heavens opened and completely destroyed the rest of the afternoons activities.

Looking towards next year I have been contacted by friends of Oxborough Hall who are looking to put on a fundraising weekend. They have invited the Club to put on

a static tractor display, dates to be forwarded. Also Downham Carnival committee have written to thank us for our support and have invited the Club to take part again next year.

In meeting different people throughout the summer at these shows it has become clear that our club has a very good reputation with other organisations and they are keen to seek our support.

As with all activities there has to be some form of organisation and, unlike the old machines we lovingly restore and show, the people that help organise and run these events also get older. Unfortunately, unlike the machines, we cannot be restored and run for a second generation.

With this in mind I am asking all of you to think about what you could bring to the Club as a COMMITTEE member.



**Peter**

## Membership Matters with Chris Hunt

Hi Everyone

Well we have had a very busy summer although the weather hasn't been very summery!

Our membership numbers have fallen slightly so we are looking to you all to try to encourage new members to join our club, particularly the young people as they are our future. What better chance to try your hand at working a tractor than our club's Working Weekend at Oak Farm, Stradsett, 3rd and 4th September. You will be able to see how it's done and get advice from experienced members.

I still have a pair of spectacles, possibly ladies, that were handed in at Stradsett earlier this year, so do ask around to see if anybody can claim ownership.

Lastly, to those of you who are poorly and cannot join in, keep your chin up, we are thinking of you.



*Chris*

## Diary Dates

Skylark Rally September 3/4th  
Contact 01354741212

Sandringham Game & Country Show September 10/11th contact Clive Richardson 01945 860224  
mob: 07789266423

Haddenham Steam Rally September 10/11th  
contact Mrs Ruth Young 01487 841922

Tracks 7 Steel Wheels Charity Ploughing in aid of the Big C Center  
Sunday 9th October 10.30 onwards, Guist Road, Foulsham, just off A1067 for details contact Neville 07881805368

15/16th October Norfolk Living History Fayre, Mannington Hall contact Graham Turner 01692671793

**Working Weekend: Oak Farm Stradsett**  
3/4th September Entry forms available from Malcolm Mycock, telephone 01366 500250  
This is a good opportunity to see working tractors, gain experience, obtain help and have a good time. A charitable donation will be collected at the venue and this will be presented at the A.G.M. in November.

**Newark Vintage Tractor Show November 12/13th**  
Celebrating John Deere & Lanz  
For NVTEC-EA Stand contact Gordon Carson 01945880091 mob:07860658767



**Club Clothing** can be ordered at the Winter Meetings or telephone Viv 01553 617653 to place your order and arrange delivery, or to enquire about photographs or exhibit log sheets.

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

**Notification of the Annual General Meeting  
Of the  
National Vintage Tractor and Engine Club  
East Anglia Group**

It will take place on Thursday November 17th 2011  
7.30pm at Ryston Park Golf Club

**Proposed Agenda**

1. Apologies for absence
  2. Adopt Minutes of the A.G.M. held on Nov. 15th 2010
  3. Matters arising from the minutes of AGM 2010
  4. Chairman's Report
  5. Secretary's Report
  6. Treasurer's report
  7. Membership Secretary's Report
  8. Election of Officers and Committee
- |                      |                    |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Chair                | Vice Chair         |
| Secretary            | Treasurer          |
| Membership Secretary | Meetings Secretary |
| Safety Officer       | Newsletter Editor  |
| Rally Organiser      | Committee Members  |

Please send in written nominations for any of these positions, signed by the person being nominated and one proposer, to the Secretary, Ted Gray at Laurel Bank, School Road, St. Germans, King's Lynn, Norfolk, PE34 3DR. Please also notify the secretary, in writing, of any other items you wish to be included in the Agenda. Nominations and Agenda items to be received no later than November 1st 2011

**Winter Meetings: Hi Everyone,** I hope you find these evenings of interest, and if you have suggestions for speakers, please contact your Winter Meetings Organiser as we are always looking for ideas. The meetings are held at Ryston Park Golf Club along the A10 on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 7.30pm. Members and guests are very welcome.

October 20th: Farm Watch with David Bone  
November 17th: AGM and Cheque Presentations  
December 15th: Peter Carter, the Eel Man  
January 19th: Steven Pope. A Year on a Victorian Farm  
February 16th: Polly Howart, Fenland Folklore  
March 15th: Stuart Gibbard. Tanks to Tractor

See you all in October, Shane



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For more Vintage  
News and



Views go to our web-site:  
[www.nvtec-ea.org.uk](http://www.nvtec-ea.org.uk)

**For Sale:** Eleven Oil bottles Shell BP and Esso 1 Pint and 2 Pint Various 2 Gallon Petrol Cans in restored condition.  
Contact Grahame Bacon 01328 820225 after 6 30pm

I am always pleased to receive reports about rallies, visits or restorations etc particularly with pictures, or any other news that would interest our club members, so please get in touch with me.  
The deadline for the December issue is November 11th. Viv

## Summer Visit to Denver Sluice

Our Summer visit this year was to The Denver Complex, where Daniel Pollard gave 46 members a detailed tour of the complex, explaining how the sluice was first started in 1635 and talking us through it's development through the centuries to today's high tech centre. We were shown all the sluices and locks and informed of how they control the tidal flow of several rivers in the area to maintain water levels, how the drinking water for Colchester is supplied from Denver, and how through the use of the sluices, the directional flow of the river can be reversed, amongst a multitude of other facts and details of how the system works.

Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the tour, and I would like to thank Daniel for an informative visit. He is obviously a man who loves his job with a passion, and, as he says, his work is not just a job, it has to be a way of life.

There was no charge for the visit, but all members made a £2 donation to the Denver Complex, who are raising money for Water Aid Charities, so a big thank you to all who came along for raising £92.00, and for your continued support. We look forward to seeing you for the Winter Meetings season, starting on October 20th, with Farm Watch with Tony Bone.

See you there, Shane

## Friends of St Botolphs Charity Tractor Road Run 2011



*Steam Haulage*



*Enjoying a plated lunch on Massingham Green*



*Peter Copeman's steam roller,*



On the 26th June, Great Massingham village green was the lunch time stop for 32 tractor drivers who set off at 10.30 from Roger Coe's Manor Farm at Grimston, under a blazing sun. The morning run followed a route south before turning towards Massingham, where, on the green, Trevor and Kate Stebbings from the committee, 'Friends of St Botolphs' provided a complimentary plated salad for all participants with a welcome drink of orange squash. The afternoon run travelled north through Harpley, Anmer and Sandringham before arriving back at Grimston. There was plenty for people to see at Manor Farm including side stalls, displays of steam haulage, Roger Coe's thrashing drum and elevator and Peter Copeman's steam roller, 'George.' A hog roast brought to an end a very successful day. Described as an event that was good for the village folk to get together and have a natter, it also raised £2,800 for the restoration fund for St Botolphs church. Roger would like to particularly thank

Trevor and Kate Stebbings and Chris and Andrew Hunt for their help. Next year's tractor run is Sunday 24th June, don't miss it! Viv



*Part of Roger Coe's collection of Case tractors*

*Thrashing Drum and Elevator with Roger and Friends*

