



Vintage Torque

JUNE 2014

EDITOR Viv Gray

NVTEC-EA Group goes to Dobbies at Tesco, King's Lynn

This was an opportunity too good to turn down.....a late request from Dobbies to put on a display just 2 weeks before our club rally at Stradsett. As usual members responded, to Gordon's call for participation, resulting in an eye-catching display reflecting the many interests of members.

Throughout the day the shoppers homed in on the stand, curious to discover all about the vintage machinery on show, from tractors to horticultural machinery, petrol cans to a vintage car and, of course, the club stand showing past activities and membership details. Lunch and refreshments were provided by Dobbies together with a £100 donation to our club. Viv



Change of Date Proves a Success for NVTEC-EA Spring Road Run

On Sunday 6th April 2014 our club held their annual Vintage Tractor Road Run. In previous years the road run has been held on Father's Day but a clash of dates with another road run prompted us to make a change to earlier in the year. With the date set, planning got underway and David Askew and I with the help from Bryan Beba sorted a few changes to the 2013 route making it 31.4 miles.

The BBQ (excellently cooked by Richard Perry) and get together on the Saturday night proved popular with everyone enjoying the feast prepared by Susan Askew, Jayne Carson and friends.



Sunday morning dawned wet, however by the time we were ready to leave the rain cleared and we had a dry run throughout the day.

With a record attendance of 22 tractors and 1 quad bike we set off from Bryan's place at Fence Bank Walpole Highway at 10:30am passing through;

Marshland Smeeth
Marshland St James
St Johns Fen End

Stow Bridge, stopping off for a great lunch at the Heron Pub where we were well looked after.

Runcion Holme
Watlington
St Germans

Tilney Cum Islington

Tilney All Saints, stopping off at the coach and horses for a well-deserved second drink.

Terrington St John



Then finally back to Walpole Highway where the water was hot and ready for the tea and coffee. The cake and biscuits were very inviting. Henry Howlett our chairman then presented David Askew with the trophy sponsored by Supreme Windows Ltd for raising the most sponsorship money of £263.00 so very well done to David.

In total we raised £1,031.00 with Bryan then making it up to £1100.00 then on Saturday 12th April Allan Whiteman rang me to let me know that he had raised a further £32.00 putting our total to £1132.00 for the East Anglia Air Ambulance and this will be presented in November at our AGM. I must thank everybody who took part and of course the stewards; Peter Thorpe, Richard Perry and Cliff Armsby for all their help in making this a safe and enjoyable event. I must also thank Bryan Beba for allowing us the use of his facilities and hoisting this event. *Gordon Carson*



Junior Club

Welcome to new members:

Harry Rayner, Ross Martin and Nikoli Sparkes.

Ross and Nikoli joined the Junior Club at Stradsett Rally. We were pleased to see our Junior Club members wearing their caps at the rally and take their photographs sitting on a tractor of their choice. Photographs will be sent to the members and they are also included in the Stradsett Supplement.

The 'tractor fridge magnets' are selling well. For you to increase your collection you can order by email or telephone.

Exclusive to Junior Club Members. Red, short sleeve, Pique Polo Shirt with Club Logo, Junior Club and member's name embroidered. Chest sizes 24", 26", 28", 30", 32", 34". There is approximately a 3 week delivery, so please bear that in mind when you order. They are £14 plus postage. To order, or to request an application form to join the Junior Club please phone Viv on 01553 617653. Forms can be downloaded from our club web site; nvttec-ea.org.uk



Don't miss the chance to see some rare tractors in a visit exclusive to Junior Club Members. Phone Viv on 01553 617653 to book

See next column.

Happy Birthday Wishes

Happy Birthday Wishes go to:

Harvey Rutterford who was 4 years old on 26th April:

Aaron Robinson who will be 7 years old on 21st June:

Jayden Gaye who will be 4 years old on 24th June:

Harry Rayner who will be 9 years old on 14th July.



Subject to demand, I am hoping to organise a visit for Junior Club Members only, with two accompanying adults, at the end of July. It will be an afternoon visit to the Grace & Bryan Beba Tractor Museum at Cedar Lodge, Walpole Highway, Wisbech Cambs. PE14 7QT

You will see and learn about some rare and beautiful, vintage tractors, some fully restored in pristine, show condition, others in working order. You will have the opportunity to sit on some tractors and have a photograph taken and do some tractor spotting. Tea, soft drinks and cakes will be supplied.

Please let me know if you would be interested and would like to come.

Phone Viv 01553 617653

NVTEC-EA Attend the Tractor World 2014 and Win Five Trophies

On February 28th several club members made the long and very wet trip up to the Three Counties Showground, Malvern in Worcestershire. We all arrived about 1:30pm - 2:00pm and soon got stuck in setting up the club stand. The show was open to the public on Saturday 1st and Sunday 2nd March with an auction being held again this year on the Saturday. We were very pleased with our display again this year considering how far we all had to travel. I took the 1921 International 8-16 Junior, registration: BF 4090. This tractor was part of the late Bob Dockeray Collection and was featured in the Power Farming Magazine in 1976. We won second prize in Class 1 Concourse which we were very pleased with and which we would like to commemorate to the late Grace Beba.



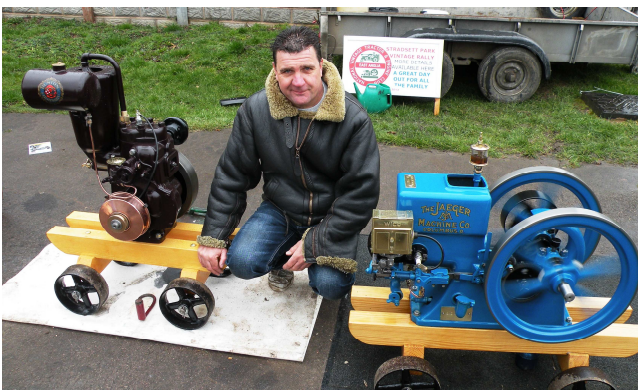
I met a gentleman at the

show in 2013 and he came back to see me again this year. He was born in 1921 on the 22nd August in Colkirk, Norfolk which makes Mr A.G.Nelson from Cheltenham the same age as the Junior. He grew up in Norfolk working as a ploughing contractor driving a Case L, a Case LA, an International W30 and even a Lanze Bulldog. He left school in 1935 and was earning just 10 bob a week and then moved to Cheltenham in 1948. The first tractor his father ever drove was an International 8-16 Junior. I love talking to the older generation as they can remember all of these fantastic machines being used not just polished up and shown. He went on to tell me that in his life he has seen 2 Kings, 2 Queens's, the general strike, 2 Jubilees, 2 Coronations, 2 total eclipses and served for The Queen's Father in the army.

One memory he especially recalled was

deep digging ploughing on 80 acres which took him a month to do with an International W30 pulling a Ransome plough. The tractor was fitted with miller wheels from Kent. Mr Nelson is now 93 and I look forward to seeing him again next year at the show.

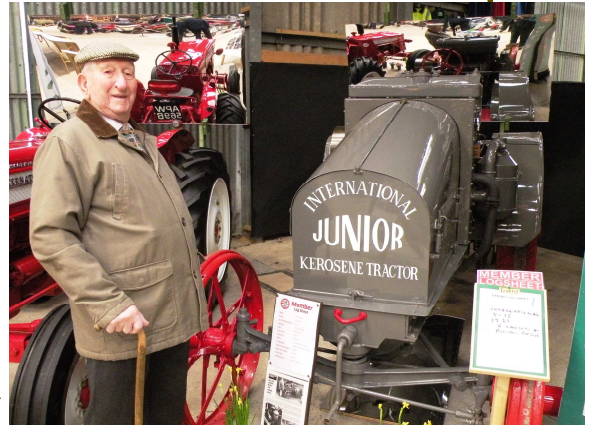
Jim and Mel Wakefield received first prize for their Mayfield Merlin ride on petrol mower which was built in 1967 and looks great. They also got first prize with their Allen & Simmonds Auto Culto built in 1927. Paul and Wendy Mackellow got second with their horticultural display and Ricky Kemp got



second with his 1926 Jaeger 25, 2 HP which came off a cement mixer in the USA.

about this and while we do like the very old tractors we think that rally organisers should not exclude the more modern machinery. Malcolm told me how the first tractor they restored was a twenty five year old E27 in the early 70's. Malcolm was only then a young lad and a 25 year old tractor was of great interest to him. We are now realising that a 25 year old tractor today would be 1989 but probably still very interesting to the younger generations.

At Stradsett Park Vintage Rally we accept any exhibits older than 25 years and have done for many years. This also means that every year it brings a new variety of machinery. Many shows have a cut-off point in the sixties but I think if we are to keep the younger enthusiasts interested we should be allowing their era of machinery to the rallies. Time moves on very quickly and so must we. Finally, thank you to all who helped at the show and well done to those who came away with a prize, It was a great weekend ..Gordon Carson



Ricky also brought along a Ruston & Hornsby PT 1937. Stuart Bailey brought his 1946 Fordson E27N major, petrol/TVO with 27 HP, registration: 507 UXM, still looking good and running well. I just need to give a mention to Mathew Hoy's 1964 B414 with 41 HP, registration: APW 569B which had an astonishing amount of people admiring it on both days. Malcolm Robinson from the Carrington Rally and Stephen Watson from the Vaporizing Magazine and I were having a discussion



NVTEC-EA Attend the 3rd Eastern Counties Vintage Tractor Show

On the 29th and 30th March 2014 the East Anglia group of the National Vintage Tractor and Engine Club attended the 3rd Eastern Counties Vintage Tractor Show at The Norfolk Showground. This year Mathew Hoy was organising the club stand and asked to be outside on the grass. We all supported him but with some reservations I must admit. We arrived on Friday lunch time and we soon got the club stand set up. Mathew lined the tractors up down both sides with no less than 4 Ransomes crawlers down the centre. With his new smart posts, chain link fencing and some flower pots, it



was starting to look the part. The weather was great and we had very good flow of people visiting the stand on both Saturday and Sunday. It was a good advert and a good time to promote our fourth coming Stradsett Park Vintage Rally. Our club members helped all over the weekend so thanks to all. We took part in the pre-1930 ring parade with the 1929 Massey Harris 12-20 on both days. Mathew has become a great help to me and club at both the

shows and with the rally so when I heard that we had won best club stand I was very pleased for him. Just when you thought his smile could not get any bigger we found out Mathew also won best International with his 1964 International B414 (good job we were outside). I must as always thank all the other club members for bringing along there great old machines as without them there could be no shows, so thanks you all for your time and dedication. Gordon Carson.



Ouse Valley NVTEC Group Come To Norfolk

On Thursday 8th May the Bedfordshire Ouse Valley Group of the NVTEC came to Norfolk to visit the Bryan and Grace Beba collection. The visit was organised by Donald Bowler who is in charge of their visits. I have got to know Donald quite well over



the years of attending their steam rally at the Shuttleworth. We also have the 1936 Massey Harris General Purpose tractor that once belong to the Shuttleworth collection.

The group arrived at around 7:30pm in the pouring rain so unfortunately we had to leave all of the tractors in the shed, not that this was really a problem. We laid on refreshments and enjoyed chatting with all of them until about 10pm. They seemed to enjoy the collection and we hope they went away with some inspiration.

Gordon Carson

Chairmans Chat

I have to say that I am very proud to be your chair following the successes achieved at a number of national events and also our Tractor Road Run that was also so successful attracting many more participants than for a number of years. These events have only been topped by the phenomenal success of the Stradsett Park Rally week end. The whole rally area was filled with interesting exhibits together with enthusiastic exhibitors keen to display their vintage machinery to the public. It seems that all areas were full to overflowing. The public came in their thousands to admire and interact with exhibitors who put on a great display. The weather also played its part with ice cream and food outlets in demand all day. Steam and heavy horses were a welcome addition to the vintage theme.

NVTEC East Anglia Group

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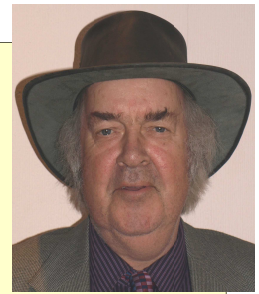
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I sincerely thank everybody who worked so hard to ensure these events were so successful. Clearly, Gordon must be thanked for his outstanding effort in bringing the Stradsett event to such a successful conclusion.



In addition I wish to thank Sir Jeremy and Lady Bagge for allowing us to use part of his magnificent estate for our event and also for drawing my winning ticket making me £50 pounds to the good!!

Our club is in the premier division as a result of your efforts and frequent articles in Vaporising submitted by our Publicity Officer, Gordon.

We would be pleased to hear from anybody who wishes to be part of any club stand so please make contact!!

Very well done and happy rallying.

Henry

Club Clothing

Black Baseball Caps £6, Short or Long Sleeve Polos, various colours, £15. Sweat Shirts £15 in Grey, Maroon or Bottle Green. Black Shower/Wind Proof/Fleece Lined Jackets £25. Padded Body Warmers, Navy, Olive Green, £18. Quality Fleece Gilets £20 and Fleece Jackets £25 various colours. Boiler suits, zip or stud closure £18 all with club logo. Bib n Brace, navy. £16 Separate, 'sew on' Embroidered Club Logo, £2.50. Some items are in stock, orders take approximately 3 weeks. Order now to see you through the rallying season.



Do you have a special clothing request? If so, phone me, Viv, for your requirements and I will make enquiries at the wholesaler. 01553617653

Our Club Stand

Question: Have you thought about taking part in the club stand display?

It's been heard on the grapevine that it's always the same people on the stand, but if you don't come forward and ask to be included then things won't change. All you have to do is ask Gordon, our Publicity Officer and, of course, make sure your exhibit is looking good. You will be, after all, representing NVTEC-EA group, a club to be proud of! Go on, have a go! Viv

Club Activities What's On Elsewhere

NVTEC-EA Group Charity Working Weekend

Oak Farm, Stradsett

August 30th & 31st



Come and experience the real working environment. Get help and advice from knowledgeable people. Enjoy the experience without pressure of competition.

Raising money for
St Mary's Church, Stradsett



Contact: Malcolm Mycock
01366 500250

caramel52@yahoo.co.uk

We ask for a £5 charity donation

Camping is available and a Burger Van will be there.



Friends of St Botolphs Tractor Road Run 15th

June. At Manor Farm, Grimston, 5 miles east of King's Lynn. Contact Trevor Stebbings 01553 630603 Travelling along country lanes through villages. Lunch on Massingham Green, returning to Manor Farm Grimston for a BBQ and hog roast courtesy of Roger Coe. Total distance 22 miles. Meet at 10am for 10.30 departure

Holbeach Town & Country Fayre 14/15th June

King's Field, Fen Road. contact Colin Newell
07724075762

Blue Force 1000 Newark Showground 28th/29th

June To commemorate 50th anniversary of Ford Worldwide Family of tractors initiated by Henry Ford 11 in 1960. We will have a club stand depicting working scenes of Ford & Fordson tractors. To take part contact Gordon Carson 07860658767, 01945880091

Hockwold Country Fair Sunday 1st June at Wilton

Farm contact Judy Webb 01366728776
mob: 07895787076

Long Melford Vintage Rally 5/6th July Long Melford

Hall, Sudbury, Suffolk contact John Morton
01787 371843

Narborough Village Fair Sunday 27th July 11am-4pm

contact Maureen Burchell 01760 337613
email maureenburchell@btinternet.com

East Midlands Game & Country Show Saturday & Sunday

August 2/3rd contact Clive Richardson 07789266423

Hilgay Vintage & Country Show August 2/3rd Farming

Demonstrations thro' the Ages.
contact Peter Bates 01366 387988

Lincoln Steam & Vintage Rally August 16/17th contact

Glynn MacDonald 01507605937

Earls Barton Rally & Country Fayre

August 23/24/25h contact Miss C Randall 07826305241

Haddenham Steam Rally September 6/7th contact

Mrs Ruth Young 01487 841922

Sandringham Game & Country Show September

13/14th Clive Richardson contact: 01945 860224
Mob: 07789266423

Pensthorpe Vintage Fair 4/5th October contact Graham

Turner 01692671793
email: pensthorpevintage@btinternet.com

11th Newark Vintage Tractor Show November

8/9th Major theme display Massey Ferguson. For NVTEC-EA Stand contact Gordon Carson
01945880091 mob:07860658767

Membership Matters

Hi Everyone

My word what a week end! The weather kept fine and people turned out in their droves, and also every one that worked so hard to make the Stradsett Rally such a success thank you.



We now come to a Question: how can we get some more new members? We are 40 down on last year, so please try and get your friends and family to join.

Keep an eye on the 'What's On' page because there's lots for you to join in and have a great summer.

To all who have not been well keep your chin up we keep thinking of you.

14 The Paddocks, Downham Market, Norfolk PE38 9JA

☎ 01366 388907

email membership@nvtec-ea.org.uk

Chin

For more Vintage News and Views go to our web-site : www.nvtec-ea.org.uk



or for people to find us on Facebook they can simply enter this in the address bar:

facebook.com/StradsettRally



Find us on
Facebook

And for people to follow us on Twitter they can follow: [@Stradsett_Rally](https://twitter.com/Stradsett_Rally)



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90 years old and still going strong!

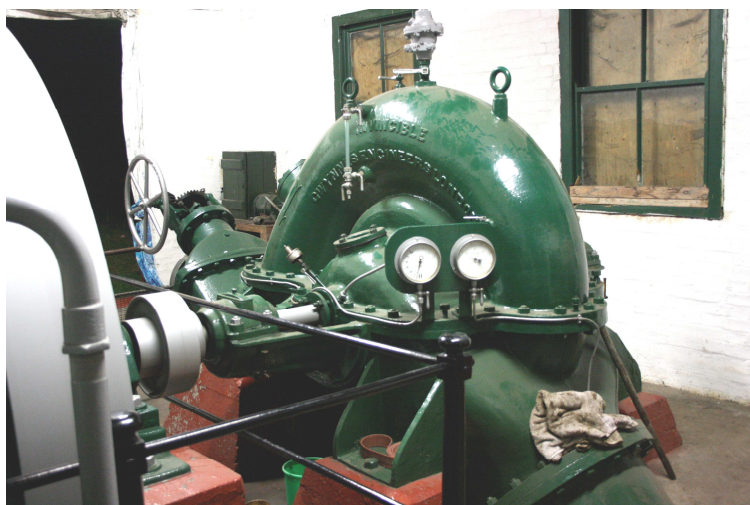
The recent flooding of the Somerset levels reminded everyone in the fens of the venerability of living and working below sea level.

Fortunately there has not been a serious flooding incident in the Cambs, Norfolk and Lincolnshire fens for several decades.

The credit for this achievement of man against nature has to be attributed to the sterling efforts of the local Internal drainage boards, their employees, and the hundreds of pumps situated around the fens that maintain sensible water levels in times of heavy rainfall.

Originally the pumps were driven by wind power, then by steam, and latterly by diesel or electric power.

In the main electric is now used, however in remote areas diesels are still fitted and employed chiefly where paying to install a high-voltage electric power line is uneconomic.



Editorial

I was so pleased to receive this article from Darren about the 1924 Blackstone engine as I am conscious of the fact that most of the Vintage Torque articles focus on tractors. I am sure there are 'engine men' out there amongst our members who have completed an engine restoration and are now on the rally circuit, enjoying the results of their endeavours. I often hear of someone discovering a seized up engine, working on it for some time and there it is, purring away on the rally field looking wonderful! All I need are a few photographs of the various stages and the final result with a few words of explanation. You can send the photographs in the post and talk to me on the phone if you feel that would help but please, let us know of your achievements, it does encourage others to have a go.

Stradsett was a great show and coupled with our club's 40th anniversary I felt it was fitting to make a Stradsett Supplement as an extra which the rally proceeds will fund. I hope you approve. Also I am planning to make another calendar for 2015 showing several photographs of Stradsett Rally and other club activities. I hope to make one with room to write by the dates and I am expecting them to cost about £5 but this is not fixed. It would be helpful if you would let me know if you would like to buy one, then I will know roughly how many to get printed. Viv

Diesels are also kept for back up- in time of electric cut or mechanical failure of electrically driven pumps.

It is accepted practise to retain an existing pump when installing a new one, for this not only retains pumping capacity while the new pump is being fitted, but can also in due course be kept as the stand-by machine.

The slow-running open crank early diesels fitted in the first few decades of the Twentieth Century are interesting machines to the engine enthusiast.

Most have been decommissioned and now reside in preservation.

However, there are still some that remain in their natural domain and can be pressed into service if the need arises.

One such pump is located just north of Cambridge and in a very wet spell in February of this year: was cranked up, when one of the two modern diesels on site developed a fault.

The engine is 1924 Blackstone oil engine built to Carter's patent. Originally installed in the year of manufacture this engine worked unilaterally until 1948, and since then has provided back-up and extra pumping capacity as necessary.

Driving a Gwynnes invincible pump, the smooth running unit is quiet in operation and very economical on diesel. An outside cooling tower and water tank, keep the engine cool.

Darren Tebbitt

Editor: Mrs Vivien Gray

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