



# VINTAGE TORQUE

MARCH 2016 Editor Viv Gray

Preserving the past for the future

## The 13th Newark Vintage Tractor and Heritage Show 2015



The Newark show has become known as the last show of the year. I have only missed one since it began but over the past few years the NVTEC East Anglia Group has been putting on a display at their club stand. We have gradually been getting more and more support from our club members and this year we think it was the best yet. Myself and Matthew designed the layout for the stand this year at the 2014 show but at that time we weren't sure exactly what it was going to be like. Back in June we visited the Ernest Doe stand at the Royal Norfolk Show where we got the idea for the club stand. On a rainy day at the Holkham Show we sorted out exactly what we were going to do. I agreed to sort the fencing and Matthew was to set the wheat, supply the compost and the trees for the spinney. The next real problem was getting everything there. To make things even more complicated Malcolm Robinson from Carrington Rally nominated Matthew's 1964 International 414 for the George Stephenson Hall.

This now meant we had 4 tractors, a seed drill, a Ransome drag, fencing, grass, 10 bags of compost, trees and all the other club stand bits & pieces to get to and from the show. Matthew came over with his Case Dex the Saturday before the show and we loaded the drill, drag and Case Dex onto my Volvo. Myself and Bryan had already had the Marshall and F12 out and running. We had also touched them up and spent several hours polishing them. We loaded the F12 and the Marshall in the box lorry and all the fencing etc onto Matthew's trailer and left around 10am on Thursday morning with them both full. *Continued overleaf*

### Stradsett's 40th Anniversary Preparations Going Full Steam Ahead



The 2016 Stradsett Park Vintage Rally's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary preparations are well under way.

After the problems in 2015 with the public car parking caused by the overwhelming support for the show, we have had to rethink the whole show along with the car parking. Our 2016 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary event will have a completely new layout but more importantly a much bigger public car park with its own entrance off the A134. The rally field will be larger to give more space for the exhibitors to display their exhibits and to make it safer for the public. The exhibits and trade etc will still use the current entrance and will camp in what was the public car parks near the rally field. The theme this year will be grass cutting and hay making plus 100-year-old tractors so please don't miss out.

Gordon Carson

Rally Organiser



## Stradsett Park Vintage Rally

### 40th Anniversary

### A Great Family Day Out

### Sun 1<sup>st</sup> & Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2016

### Adults £5 - Children FREE

- Bar - Catering - Fairground - Ring Displays - Trade Stands -




- Steam Engines - Heavy Horses - Dogs Welcome -

Where the A134 crosses the A1122  
East Of Downham Market, PE33 9HA

Pre-Booked Exhibits Only [www.nvtec-ea.org.uk](http://www.nvtec-ea.org.uk)

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# Newark Vintage Tractor & Heritage Show 2015

We arrived at midday and unloaded. On Friday we had a lot of people wondering what on earth we were doing. Over the weekend we did have an endless amount of comments about how good they thought the display was. This made all the effort worthwhile, well, that and the fact that I beat Matthew Hoy to win the Ian Burgin Trophy for Best International/Farmall with the 1933 straight petrol F12 row crop. This tractor however did cause some controversy over the weekend over the colour; should it be red or grey; this is the question. When we brought the tractor from Cheffins back in October 2003 it was pretty rough but clearly red. We then stripped it down to the bone- if you could take it off, we took it off, including the cleats on the wheels, yet under every part was red not one sign of grey paint. People are telling me that they did not paint them red until April 1936 yet we have a second F12 row crop in original condition with a log book and serial no. Both putting this tractor at August 1935. This is a petrol/Paraffin one with French & Heck wheels and pneumatic tyres. We restored the 1933 F12 back in 2004 and it has been to many shows and rallies' over the past 10 years and this is the first time the colour has come in to question. This however was only one our club's winners. We had several other wins again over the weekend with Jim and Mel Wakefield winning the Newark Vintage Tractor & Heritage Show Trophy for the Best Collection of Exhibits with their Mayfield and Merlin machines. Stephen Hall won the Vintage Horticultural & Garden Machinery Club Trophy for Best Club Member Exhibit with his Mayfield MK15. Clive Richardson won the Johnson Coaches of Worksop Salver trophy for best Stationary Engine with his Stuart R3 and Mr Paul Pearman won the Newark & Nottinghamshire Agricultural Award the best Un-Restored Stationary Engine with a Ruston PT so well done to all. Whether we win a trophy or not doesn't really matter but it's quite rewarding when you win to know that somebody else appreciates all the work that has gone into the that exhibit. However, we must all remember there is always many great exhibits at the shows and they can't all win, so please give credit to the judges who have a very difficult job in choosing one and remember it is only their opinion on the day. The Saturday evening meal was not as busy as normal but Bryan Beba and Julie Scott kept us entertained by announcing their engagement. I am sure you will all join me in congratulating them and wishing them all the best. They are to be married on 20<sup>th</sup> August 2016 and I am proud to announce that my wife Jayne is to be best man. Newark show is always a good weekend talking to club members and exhibitors for our Stradsett Park Vintage Rally which is held in May each year. We must thank all who helped, all who supported the club stand and all who came along to see it and say hello. Thank you all.

Gordon Carson



## Club Stand Exhibitors

### Tractors

Gordon Carson and Bryan Beba –  
1933 International/Farmall F12 row crop (petrol)  
Gordon Carson and Bryan Beba –  
1945 Marshall Model M (Diesel)  
Matthew Hoy –  
1941 Case DEX (petrol/TVO)  
Terry Myhill –  
1959 John Deere 830 (diesel)  
Ms K Mitchell –  
1930 Case Model C (petrol/TVO)  
Andrew Carpenter –  
959 International B275 (diesel)

### Horticultural

Wayne Mitchell – 1930 Allen Scythe Baby  
Fred Rudd – 1968 Winget 550  
Malcolm Bush – 1944 Ransome MG2

### Stationary Engines

Clive Richardson – 1923 Stuart R3  
Clive Richardson – 1916 Hard top  
Ricky Kemp – 1926 Jaeger 2S

### Others

Basil Whiting – Makers Name Plates  
Gordon Carson and Bryan Beba –  
Early 1900's Seed Drill by J Gibbs with 16 Coulters  
Gordon Carson and Bryan Beba –  
1940's Ransome No.11 Dauntless Drag

It is difficult to show in the photographs how really good the club stand was at Newark. As I reported in the December Vintage Torque the stand was the 'brainchild' of Matthew Hoy and Gordon Carson and took 2 days to assemble in situ apart from the previous preparations and the growing of the 'speedy wheat' crop. So much pre-planning and thought went into this creation and we, as a club, should be proud of their efforts and also of the other members who exhibited on the stand. Very well done to you all! Viv



# Newark Vintage Tractor & Heritage Show 2015





# Editor

With the theme of this year's Stradsett Rally being grass cutting and hay making I thought I would take a look at how things were done before farms were mechanised. Using the Internet I came across some interesting information about the people, horses, equipment and skills involved and words

that could become lost in time. Our club's philosophy: '*Preserving the past for future generations*' reflects our contribution towards keeping these traditions alive. Maybe you were involved in making hay using these skills and know some typically Norfolk words that were used. If so maybe you have some stories to share with us? I would be pleased to hear from you! Viv

## Haymaking: as it used to be



The first harvest of the year was in June when the earthen paths were hard-baked and dusty. The old name for cutting and stacking the hay was known as '*haysel*.' The hay consisted of plants like clover, Lucerne and vetches and was used for animal fodder throughout the winter. It was often sown under another crop so that when that crop was harvested the hay would continue to grow. The hay would be waist high before it was mown down in long rhythmic sweeps by the *scythes* of the farmhands. Every so often they would stop to sharpen or '*whet*' the long, curved cutting edges using a coarse grained stone. The hay had to be dry before being stacked so it was tossed and turned using two-pronged pitchforks, a process known as '*tedding*' then left to dry in in long heaps called '*windrows*.' The yellowish-green swathes slowly faded in colour and the air would be filled with the sweet heady scent of new mown hay.



Shortly afterwards the swathes turned golden brown and it was time to pile up the hay to form '*haycocks*' before they were tossed onto large open wagons or *wains* drawn by great, sweating carthorses and carted back to the stack yard. There, under cover it was made into neat, sweet-smelling haystacks for the winter.



If the hay was to be stored outside, a good, dry, well drained bit of ground was needed and sometimes branches or rocks were placed on the ground to prevent rotting in the base of the stack. A central pole driven well into the ground made a stabilising centre to build up layers of hay making the pile narrower towards the top. Finally the cone-shaped haystack would be combed downwards with a hayfork so that any rain would run down and off the sides. Sometimes the top was covered with plastic sheet if heavy rain was expected.

The stacks had to be checked frequently to see that they didn't heat up in the centre. This was done with a long metal rod pushed in and then carefully felt for any sign of warmth which could have caused the stack to ignite. When the hay was used it was cut with an enormous knife with the handle at right angles, cutting neat blocks like slices of cake.





# Hay Making Equipment

We are looking for pre: 50's hay making equipment to feature at our Stradsett Rally. If you have anything you may think is suitable please contact Reg Fletcher on 07771 564458

or email [truereflections77@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:truereflections77@yahoo.co.uk)

In order to mark our rally's 40th anniversary we have invited the Vicar of St Mary's church, Stradsett, the Reverend James Mather to give a blessing on Sunday morning at approximately 11.15am. Plough Sunday is a traditional English celebration of the beginning of the agricultural year that has seen some revival over recent years. Plough Sunday celebrations usually involve bringing a ploughshare into church with prayers for the blessing of the land. It is traditionally held on the Sunday after Epiphany, the Sunday between 7th January and 13th January. Accordingly, work did not begin in the fields until the day after Plough Sunday; Plough Monday. Although the nature of farming has changed over the centuries, Plough Sunday is seen as a way of generally celebrating farming and the work of farmers. As well as a ploughshare, in rural areas, it is common for local farmers to attend the service with their tractors.

We hope that you, as an exhibitor will enjoy participating in this service.

Gordon Carson

Cheques presented at the 2015 AGM were:

£14,000 from the proceeds of the 2015 Stradsett Rally and £1,135 from the Charity Road Run to the East Anglian Air Ambulance, and £1,474.50 from the Working Weekend and the Rally to St Mary's Church Stradsett.

The proceeds from this year's Stradsett Rally will be donated to the following charities as chosen by random selection:

**RNLI:** the charity that saves lives at sea

**Macmillan Cancer Nurses:** supporting people with cancer

**West Norfolk Carers:** supporting unpaid carers of all ages

**World Horse Welfare:** improving the lives of horses in the UK and around the world through education

**East Coast Truckers:** Providing memorable days out for disabled and disadvantaged children in East Anglia

The main donation of 50% of proceeds will be given to **BREAK**, a registered charity which has been providing a diverse range of specialist residential and community based services for vulnerable children, young people and families across East Anglia for over 40 years. -

## A Letter from Patrick Peal, the Chief Executive of the East Anglian Air Ambulance

Dear Mr Carson

Chris Donaldson has forwarded me the details of the fantastic cheque he received from Alfred Bagge at the recent AGM at Stradsett Hall and I wanted to pass on my personal thanks to the NVTEC for their generous donation to the East Anglian Air Ambulance.

I was intrigued to hear about the annual rally and road run held on behalf of our charity and had a look through our records. In fact, your support pre-dates our computer system set up in 2008. and Chris estimates that you have raised over £40,000 for the East Anglian Air Ambulance over the years! This is an amazing amount of money and I am truly grateful to all those associated with the NVTEC who turn up and support us on such a regular basis.

As I'm sure you are aware, our organisation receives no government funding and relies on the support and generosity of people across East Anglia to ensure the provision of our life-saving operation. The generous donation from NVTEC will go towards maintaining our essential service. We were one of the first air ambulances in the country to partner a consultant doctor with a critical care paramedic, teams like this have now been adopted across the UK, and by taking a virtual emergency room to the patient we were able to make a significant difference to the outcomes of people who desperately need our help.

Once again, many thanks to you and all those involved in such amazing events across Norfolk and at Stradsett Park. It really does make a difference and together, we save lives.

Yours sincerely, Patrick Peal

## Some EAAA facts from Andrew Bennett.

The NVTEC-EA group have contributed towards the purchase of a new helicopter, the EC145 T2. It is a twin engine helicopter meaning that in the unlikely event of engine failure it can continue to fly and make a safe landing. When airborne it can cruise at nearly 170 mph with enough fuel for over 2 hours with a range of 335 miles. It can carry 2 pilots, 3 HEMS crew and 1 patient. It is 14ft high and 38ft long giving improved space for clinicians to treat patients. The EAA was the first charity to achieve the capability of HEMS Missions after dark. They operate 7 days a week 24 hours a day and night meaning that anyone in need is only 25 minutes away from help.

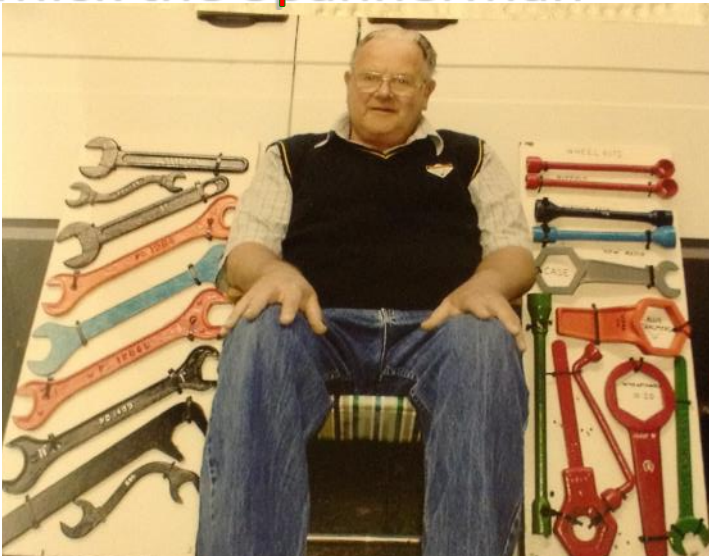


## Mick Ketchell: 17/2/1937 to 22/1/2016

Mick Ketchell known to many as 'Mick the Spannerman' was a man who, as his wife Sheila says, 'loved life and loved doing.' They met in Suffolk in 1958 and married two years later so it would have been their 55th wedding anniversary this year. Mick was an agricultural engineer, beginning work at Peter Wootley's then spending three years in the RAF where he taught men to drive the Caterpillar D7 bulldozer, returning to Peter Wootley and then to Suffolk County Council. It was heavy, noisy work as an engineer but he enjoyed working on the agricultural machines and he always had a tool kit handy. As a project, Mick bought a Jago Jeep body and built the vehicle from scratch. They had much enjoyment off-roading with it. Sheila and Mick began rallying about 30 years ago having already gone some way towards building up his now, well known collection of spanners and name plates. Together they travelled to various vintage rallies where they made several good friends. As fellow ralliers we came to accept that Mick would always be there on the rally field with his great collection. Sheila says, 'we had a good life, full of variety.'

Mick, we will miss you. Viv

## Mick the SpannerMan



# Junior Club

## Samuel gets a tractor with extras!

Hi Mrs Gray, I recently purchased a Massey Ferguson diesel vineyard tractor, another Ebay find. Mum was pleased. When dad was cleaning the lights, on inspection he came across a bee hive in the lights, so we took some pictures for you to put in the Junior Club column. Happy New Year, Samuel Taylor



## Silas has a Christmas Steam-up

I had a Christmas 'steam-up' at nanny and granddads. We had lots of models in steam. The best ones were dad's traction engine, Grandad's engine made by a German prisoner of war, and a meccano steam tractor made especially for my rally by Mick Baker. I had plaques. It was fun.

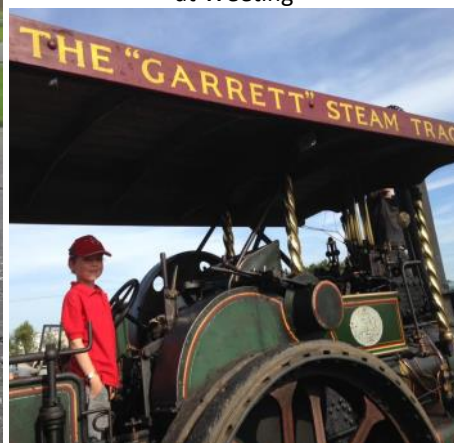
Silas Hannant.

Calling All Juniors to Stradsett Rally May 1st & 2nd

Remember to bring your 'Special Invitation' with you to the Information Tent to have your photograph taken for publication in the June Vintage Torque and also to collect your model.



Silas Hannant on Mervyn Mayes Garrett at Weeting



A

## BIG WELCOME

To new

Junior Club Members :

Charlie Brett-Reynolds,  
Kirk Baker, Michael Prior  
Reece Enefer-Harrison and  
George Collison.

I hope you will enjoy being part of our Junior Club and I look forward to hearing from you.

## Happy Birthday Wishes

To Harvey Rutterford who will be 6 years old on April 26th

To Holly Rash who will be 14 years old on March 5th

To Lily Mitchell-Crook who will be 9 years old on March 20th

To Kirk Baker who will be 14 years old on February 20th

To Reece Enefer-Harrison who will be 10 years old on April 26th

To George Collison who will be 9 years old on March 19th





# The Very Last Out & About in 2015 With Mick Ketchell



April start at Eastern Counties Tractor show, told Saturday showery, Sunday was fine but windy. Parked adjacent to the EAT&EC(EA) display. One shed full of unique tractor conversions, including Jaguar V12 engined Ferguson 20 !!



First Cheffins Vintage sale was packed out with lots and buyers. Bidding was brisk but not everything reached it's reserve. Best Barn Find was that unwashed Fiat 500, sold at £5.5K !! Results were online by Monday.



Rain arrived too late Saturday at Stradsett, allowing it to continue into Sunday morning. However the afternoon cleared, people got out of their cars, the Show was on. Perfect Monday start, the crowds arrived and kept on arriving until virtually no room left. Huge turnout of tractors, many previously unseen, plus potato harvesting theme, unfortunately not demonstrated like last year's Beet Loader.



Another fine Sunday at South Suffolk Show, crowded again, with good tractor line, many familiar from the previous week. The motor-bikes flew high !! Again record attendance, a popular event with the horse fraternity.

Now the big one, Suffolk Show footfall reputedly up 12%, 100,000+?, even without Royalty and poor 2<sup>nd</sup> day forecast this year. Altered layout, still agricultural based but some thought stands more commercialised. Vintage

tractors dominated by Roger Desborough's towering Twin City TC40.

Just 2 days later Woolpit Steam, this year's theme Barford & Perkins motor rollers, nine on show, 100 tractors, many pre1930. Crowds on Saturday ahead of Sunday's forecast which brought a wet morning with some Ring parades cancelled, rollers don't grip grass! Waiting list for this well liked event.





# Out and About with Mick Ketchell continued

A glorious Sunday at Euston Rural Pastimes attracted huge crowds, 120 tractors, 80 engines, 20 steam, over 250 cars and trucks, motorcycles, so many that they ran out of plaques when it came to us, rectified by post. Usual horse displays, more stalls on a very large site, stunt plane aerobatics and flypast by DC3 Dakota.

Packed Goodrich Park at Palgrave, same position as last year but with more neighbours. Effort has been made to increase all sections, tractor pulling, road run, flypast at the end of the day, this time by two P51 Mustangs. Worth a visit.



Having survived a 2 hour overnight thunderstorm, Saturday turned out very hot at Long Melford, instantly drying out with no repetition of 2012. Usual mix of tractors, trucks, steam & cars, Wall of Death kept rumbling away. Evening road runs for variety of vehicles. Sunday morning drizzle slowed attendance, but cleared later.

amount of stalls, steam and tractors down from years ago, but stationary engines reappeared after a long absence. Busier Sat/Sun?

Quiet mid year Cheffins, marquee downsized, £85K bid failed to buy the Doe 130, online results showed other similar N/Sold



Early start the following morning saw us at Kettleburgh Autojumble clearing unwanted items (for cash!) worthwhile 30mile trip.

Back again to a bigger Old Buckenham Airshow, usual Saturday displays, packed Sunday by the twin attractions of original 007 "Goldfinger" helicopter and "pilot" Honor Blackman.

U.S.A. theme again with hanger dancing. Good weekend. Following weekend saw first trip to Marsham, couldn't believe the number of Massey Harris tractors and ancestors, most owned by host Bob Parke. Stunning scratch built models by Roger Townshend, (see below) tractor pullers were "Smokin!" Tight entrance and area



in places, but cheap and friendly Starting Handle Club rally. Had a seemingly now obligatory aerobic display as well.



Essex trip to Barleylands, a little subdued with £15 entrance but forecasted poor weather didn't arrive. Took car/motorcycle spanners. Steam ploughing and cultivating going well, tractor pulling. Fewer exhibits, stalls (I'm told!). Weird Bus/Tube/Train vehicle modified 1990 as an advert. Tractor/trailer buses around large site.



First visit to Henham Steam rally as an exhibitor. Regulars seemed unimpressed with Ipswich Showground site, so numbers down. Many stalls, most seen this year apart from Suffolk Show, but spread over large area, trailer bus needed. Sun shone both days anyway so most people happy. Possible return to Henham Park next year?



Final fling at Great Henny near Sudbury for the F.M.P.S annual charity ploughing match, a relaxed event on a family run farm. Great turnout on a sunny October day to end our season, a definite fixture on the calendar for many familiar faces. Free entry.

Last Cheffins vintage sale, still not reaching previous years. Bidding on showpiece County 1884 stalled at £125K, some others unsold. Several "In need of repair" items on offer.



Following weekend spent recovering capital at the year's final "Kettle" autojumble!  
MICK THE SPANNERMAN

*Forewell Mick and Thank you for sending in your interesting article for us all to share. You obviously took much time and care to produce a comprehensive report of your activities throughout 2015. You will be missed by many on the rally field. Viv*





# Chairman's Chat

May I wish you all a Happy 2016 albeit slightly overdue. Our winter meetings have been very well supported and gratitude goes to Ian Long, our winter meetings organiser in finding replacement speakers at short notice when our original guest speakers have had to cancel.

## NVTEC East Anglia Group Contact Details for Officers and Committee 2016

Mr Henry Howlett: Chairman [howlettjean@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:howlettjean@yahoo.co.uk)  
01945870575 07785915647

Mr Ted Gray: Secretary, Stradsett Trade Stands & Bygones  
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Mr Gordon Carson: Stradsett Rally Organiser, Publicity Officer  
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Mrs Chris Hunt: Membership Secretary 01366388907  
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Mrs Jayne Carson: Treasurer 01945880091

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

I hope that the rallying season in the coming months will bring us all enjoyment and before you know it, the annual Charity Road Run and our 40th Stradsett Rally will be upon us followed by our Working Weekend at the end of the summer.

I look forward to meeting you all at these events. Regards, **Henry**

## Your Committee

At the top: left to right:

Henry Howlett, Reg Fletcher, Jon Moulis,  
Matthew Hoy, Cliff Armsby, Clive Richardson,  
David Askew, David and Malcolm Mycock,  
Chris Hunt, Gordon Carson, Judy Webb,  
Alan Whiteman, Viv Gray, Ted Gray

Below: Andrew Bennett, Ian Long,



## Membership Matters

Hi Everyone

Well, as many of you have had this bug that's going around my first thing to say is I hope you are all feeling fit and ready for the season, and to those who have lost a loved one we are thinking of you at this sad time.

Now to the next part of my chat. It's February and I am now in need of your memberships. Just over half of you are sorted but the rest need to send me your SAE and cheque. You should have had your reminder in your Christmas Vintage Torque. Please check that your details are correct. If they are not, the magazines will not arrive and I get many phone calls but I can honestly say I don't know where you all live so please help me on this one. Some of you will get a reminder letter. Please ignore it if you have already sent your membership to me. Thank you!

To Help you here are my contact details, ☎ 01366 388907 home

email; [membership@nvtec-ea.org.uk](mailto:membership@nvtec-ea.org.uk) If you email me I will answer as soon as I am able. Address: 14, The Paddocks, Downham Market, PE38 9JA

Have a great season with NVTEC and friends.

*Chin*

**Club Clothing** can be ordered at the Winter Meetings or telephone Viv 01553 617653 to place your order and arrange delivery.



Lightweight grey Baseball Caps now back in stock.. Black Baseball Caps:£6, Polo Shirts, short/long sleeves,£11 & £15, Sweat shirts, new colours:£15, Overalls, zip or stud fastenings:£18/£17 Fleece Gilets:£20, Fleece Jackets: £25, Black Shower proof fleece-lined Jackets £25. padded body warmers £18, Shell Jackets, light and warm, 3 colours £45. 2015 Calendars £4, postage extra.

NB. If you want something different, I can make inquiries for you at the wholesalers. Just ask me! Viv



# Diary Dates

**Little Downham Bygones & Organs Extravaganza** nr Ely 26th March 1.00pm—5.30pm in the village centre adults £2.50 Held in aid of MAGPAS In 2014 the sum raised was £1,860 contact Trevor Brown 01353778830

**Vintage Horticultural & Garden Machinery Working Day** Sunday March 20th at Stanfield Norfolk on B1145 10.30am start contact Adrian Hall 01328851571 Proceeds to East Anglian Air Ambulance & Stanfield Village Difibrillator

**Fir Park 999 Show 30th April, 1st&2nd May**

**Fir Park Wings & Wheels July 16 & 17th,**

Free parking, admission by donation Fir Park LN8 3YL on the A46 halfway between Caistor and Market Rasen. For camping/trade/exhibitor enquiries contact Peter Crossley 07816326368

**Carrington Steam Rally 29th-30th May 07702208518**

The NVTEC-EA Group have again been asked to put on a club display at this year's Carrington Steam & Heritage show to be held on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> & Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May. If you would like to exhibit on our club stand do please let me know on 01945 880091 or 07860 658767. Thanks Gordon Carson

**Guestwick Tractor Run Sunday 29th May 2016.** Meet 10.00am at Village Hall Guestwick. (Tractors to unload at Station farm Barn). Bacon butties/tea coffee available before 10.00am at Guestwick Village Hall. BBQ meal on the return run back at Guestwick Village Hall. The road run is being organised by Kevin Roye. For details and entry forms contact him at Haysel Cottage 1 Hindlevseton Road Guestwick Norfolk NR20 5QL. or Telephone :01362 684213 Donations from proceeds to Guestwick Village Hall Reg Charity 303964 and to Children with Cancer Reg Charity 298403.

**Woolpit Steam Show 4th & 5th June Mr D. Seeley 01449737443**

**Hockwold Country Fair Sunday June 5th at Wilton Farm.** For details contact Judy Webb on: judithwebb127@btinternet.com

**Holbeach Town & Country Fayre 18th & 19th June**

**Lincoln Steam & Vintage Rally 20th 21st August 01507605937**

**Earls Barton Rally & Country Fair 28th & 29th August 01604891686**

**Boston Steam & Vintage Festival 3rd & 4th September 01205366018**

**Haddenham Steam Rally 10th & 11th September 01487842771**

**Little Casterton Working Weekend 17th & 18th September**

**Newark 12th & 13th November 08702241035** please contact Gordon for enquiries re: club stand 07860658767

**Downham Market Carnival Parade.** Monday 30th May. If you would like to take part with your Vintage tractor or Classic Car please contact David Askew 01945430481 07748287107 [susanaskew1@aol.com](mailto:susanaskew1@aol.com)

**NVTEC-EA Group Working Weekend Date and venue to follow**  
Contact David Mycock on 01366500879 07977337095  
[davidclaire1@btinternet.com](mailto:davidclaire1@btinternet.com) Tea bar on site

For more Vintage News and Views of many photographs go to our web-site : [www.nvtec-ea.org.uk](http://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](https://www.facebook.com/StradsettRally)

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



## Vintage Tractor Charity Road Run

**Sunday 3rd April 2016**

**Based at Walpole Highway  
10 am for 10.30am Start**

The Road Run will begin at Cedar Lodge, Walpole Highway, Wisbech, Cambs, PE14 7QT. Camping will be available from 12am on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> April until 10am on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April.

All campers are invited to the BBQ on Saturday Night on the camping field.

All tractors must be sponsored to a minimum level of £10.00. Supreme Windows Ltd is donating a trophy that will be awarded to the driver of the tractor gaining the most sponsorship.



**For Entry and Sponsorship Forms Contact**  
David Askew 01945 430481  
Gordon Carson 01945 880091  
Or Download Them From [www.nvtec-ea.org.uk](http://www.nvtec-ea.org.uk)



*Supporting Registered Charity  
East Anglian Air Ambulance1083876*

## Summer Visits

Hi all please see below the details for the visit to the Caterpillar factory, it's all booked and so far have 24 seats reserved.

Caterpillar Uk, Peckleton Lane, Desford, Leicester, LE9 9JT. 01455 826826. Contact Rebeca Mulligan . Schedule: Leave with Harrod Coaches, Bexwell Aerodrome, Downham Market, Norfolk, PE38 9LU at 730am prompt on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> April.

£5 per head for visit charged by Caterpillar UK. Coach approx. £10.00 per head. £12.50 for two course lunch. Total £ 27.50

730am prompt leave Downham Market

10:00am Arrival & Refreshments

10:15am Welcome Presentation

10:45am Factory Tour (maximum 10 per group so will be split)

11:45am Free time to wander showroom/ visit Caterpillar gift shop

12:15pm-13:00pm Lunch, 2 course hot lunch, steak & ale or chicken & mushroom pie with mashed or baby potatoes and vegetables followed by apple pie with custard or strawberry cheesecake.

13 45- board coach for 2 00pm departure. We should arrive back about 4 30pm – 5 00pm

Cost £27.50 per head including Coach, Caterpillar tour fees and lunch.

Reserve your place by contacting Gordon Carson 07860658767

Visit to Cooper Roller Bearings, Thursday June 2nd 6.30pm. Meet in Cooper's car park 6.15 for 6.30pm start. Donations to charity will be taken. Address: Cooper Roller Bearings, Wisbech Road, South Lynn, PE30 5JX More details from Ian Long [ianlong69@live.co.uk](mailto:ianlong69@live.co.uk) 01406364863 mob: 07962026315

**Winter Meeting at Ryston Golf Club 7.30pm**

March 17th: Dad's Army

Everyone welcome, bring your friends too!

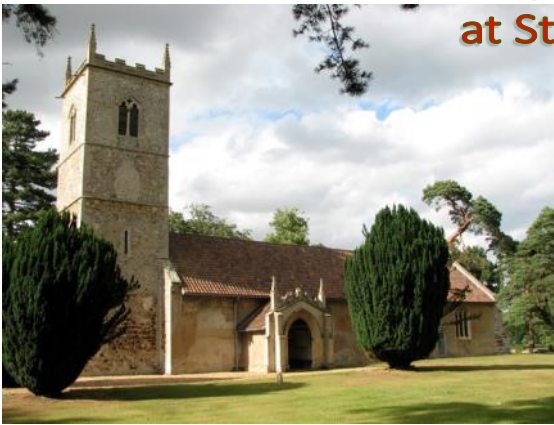


# Cut-away Tractors



An interesting collection of Cut-away tractors belonging to Robert Crawford seen at Carrington Rally 2015. Photographed by Malcolm Bush

## Helping to Keep the Rain Out at St Mary's Church, Stradsett



A stones throw away from our thriving rally on the Stradsett Estate is St Mary's Church, sitting serenely in the Park setting. The unbuttressed tower and continuous nave and chancel under one roof are both signs of an early church. There is a tall lancet East facing window which holds the most spectacular glass, bought for the church by Thomas Philip Bagge in about 1820. The glass was made in Augsburg, South Germany in 1540.



We welcomed Alfred Bagge to our AGM in November 2015 to receive a total of £1474.50 which was part of the proceeds from the rally and also from our annual working weekend. Alfred was appreciative of the donation and gave a small talk indicating that it would go towards the upkeep of the church, mainly in the form of roof repairs. Andrew Bennet

## Great Night Out at the Starting Handle Christmas Party

Bob Park, who most of you will know as a big Massey Harris collector, also hosts The Starting Handle Club Rally held each year at Marsham as well as organising this annual event which has become very popular. As our club doesn't have such an event many from the NVTEC-EA group attend as it's a great chance to get together for the first time each year and discuss new projects and the new rally season ahead. It's held each year at the Wensum Valley Hotel near Norwich, Norfolk and for just £25.00 per head you have a 3 course meal, tea and coffee and live entertainment which is fantastic value for money.



As this is a hotel you can of course stay over if you wish as several of us do and then catch up again whilst enjoying breakfast. A double room including breakfast is just £80.00 so don't miss out next year. Simply contact Bob Park on 07860 174906. This year a staggering 186 people attended so very well done to Bob and all involved.

The Starting Handle Club is a large independent club with over 400 members but with many of them in their 60s and 70s they asked me how do we get the younger members to get involved. Well of course that is a difficult question and my immediate answer was I feel we should be aiming at the 30 to 40 year olds. This is because they will most probably have children who are growing up and want to get out at the weekend. Also the parents are now starting to appreciate older things from their earlier years. I do also personally feel one of the most important things is to let them have a go and I don't just mean doing it your way. I have 2 sons, Jason who is 25 and Andrew who is 23 and as a father we all want them to join in and help but most of the time we actually mean as long as they do it our way. To keep younger people interested in these great old machines we need to teach them to love and respect them both at the same time. The only way to do that is for them to learn how to start them, drive them and more importantly, appreciate them. As a father I realise that we want to protect them but for them to carry on rallying you must give them the chance to shine. We need to stand back to allow them to have the glory and credit when it comes and most of all be proud they are taking an interest. However, that is just my personal experience and opinion.

Thank you to The Starting Handle Club and Bob Park for a great night out. Gordon Carson