



# VINTAGE TORQUE

September 2017

'Preserving our Heritage for Future Generations'

Editor Viv Gray

## At Holkham Country Fair



Holkham Country Fair was a bitter/sweet occasion for me being the last event I would report on as Vintage Torque editor. With Ted, Gordon and Clive organising the display it attracted the greatest footfall and was one of the best we have done at Holkham. We decided this was due to the variety of exhibits being some tractors, some stationary engines interspersed with some bygones and horticultural machines but also a couple of vintage cars with Gordon complaining that his son's car (see next page) received more attention than his tractors! We had a few showers to contend with but later on Sunday afternoon the skies cleared and we were treated to a spectacular display by the Red Arrows. I managed to get a picture as they zoomed by, wow! Top right shows the winning exhibit as chosen by Corporal Black of the Welsh Cavalry 1st The Queen's Dragoon



Guards, who liked the story of this particular tractor. Owned by Andrew Websdale this 1942 Fordson model N was saved from being scrapped 5 years ago. On the left is 'Chainsaw Nick' with his Avon Dragsaw 3.5hp that he bought in a rough state in April 1988 from Swindon. Now fully restored and attracting much attention as he worked this is one of only a few in working order in the UK. Nick was without his caravan for the weekend so he had a 'man shed' ( he makes them) put on his trailer and he was snug as a bug inside with his bed and primus stove. Below him is Chris Deeble with his 1957 Morris 'Molly' that he bought in 2016 in bad condition. The excellent restoration work is due mainly to Shane Marrows. On the right is Junior Club member Sam Taylor who can always be relied on to put on a good display with his



ever-growing collection around his Wolseley WD11 running sweetly. Philip Freeman and his son are in the background, relaxing with their 1931 Ruston Hornsby 2PR 2hp.

*more overleaf*



And this is Jason Carson's 1955 Chevrolet V8 that attracted so much attention at Holkham Country Fair



forest fires and policing etc. Under the bonnet is a surprise....a '7 Up' bottle! Jason has treated the bodywork to Anchor wax in order to preserve it as he doesn't intend to paint it.

You can see from the smile on his face that Jason is delighted with his purchase. It cost him £10,500 to buy and import from California after spotting it on eBay. It was in running order but Jason has carried out some fine tuning. He installed a choke as in our colder climate this proved necessary. It has hydromatic transmission, does 10 mpg, has 3 forward gears with a top speed of 60mph. Originally owned by the California State it was used as a Ranger Truck, preventing



Gordon's Row Crop standing proudly in the line. Graham Bacon has an interesting display of horse shoes and wheelwrights tools that he began exhibiting in 1990. He inherited some from his grand father who was in the Royal Army Veterinary Corps shoeing horses in France in WW1. He came home from war to be a farrier passing on his skills and his collection to Graham's dad who started work aged 15 years old. Graham grew up to be a carpenter and joiner and now enjoys exhibiting the collection that comprises some unusual shoes (now obsolete) designed to enable a foundering horse to continue working, as was essential in the days before mechanisation.



Malcolm Bush has two additions to his extensive John Deere display. They are not metal but they are interactive! Marvellous!



Clive Richardson exhibited a 1927 Stuart model N that is all original and he even has the original jug for measuring the petrol/oil ratio. It used to work in a pig and chicken farm pumping water for the livestock.

One thing about Holkham is the spectacular view. Looking down our line with the house of Lord Leicester in the background you can see Terry Myhill's International 635 in the foreground

This 1947 Allis Chalmers model B came from Millwaukee and was first registered in the UK by George Palmer of Tottenhill in 12/2/48. In 1953 it went to Algenon Garrod where it stayed for 51 years. It was stored from 1970 until Peter Banson purchased it. During 2005-2006 he completely restored it and it is now looking good and running well.



David Moore put on a good display with his 1940 Ruston Hornsby running a Butter Churn No 1 by Wade & Sons.Ltd.







Jimmy Rudd was busy wiping raindrops from his 1945 Douglas FT35. This is the industrial version made for WW2 and was in production until early 1957. Formerly owned by life-long club member Brian Woods. Further down the line is the well known 1927 Lister L belonging to Shane Marrows.

Michael Squires is shown here with his 1940 Wolseley WD11 1.5hp running a Leo water pump that he's owned for 10 years.



This 1942 Ferguson Model N.A.N. owned by Stuart Eastmead was found in a scrapyard in Eye. It had been sent over to the UK from USA on the lend/lease scheme in WW2

Part of Ted Gray's collection of petrol cans on display with the earliest ones dated from 1921. They are all restored to their original colours and given that there are 650



different can variations he still has a long way to go to complete his collection! (I think we'll need a bigger shed!)

This 1975 Leyland 270 in working clothes' owned by Kevin Roye attracted much attention.

It was an enjoyable weekend at Holkham Fair despite the heavy showers and there was some good ring entertainment. I think it is a privilege for our club to be invited to be part of this show which provides experiences of countryside life. Viv



## Long Melford Rally 2017

After a years break we travelled back to Long Melford Rally, held in the glorious setting of Long Melford Hall. We arrived in warm and dry conditions and duly set up the caravan ready for the weekend ahead. I was not sure what to expect following the break and was rather



hoping that it would be back with a bang!! Whilst there was a good show of exhibits, (although I am told the steam section had many 'no shows') and displays from Lowestoft Dog Agility Team, Sheepdog demonstration the show

lacked other attractions and stalls to keep the public entertained. This is not a criticism but perhaps something for the organisers to build on for 2018. Another excellent Ford and Fordson Club Display and again this section organised the 100 years parade and all other sections took part in their own parades. The fine weather continued all weekend and I would say that Sunday had the best attendance. There was Club success with Gavin Chapman winning a trophy for his 1940 Fordson Standard from the main show, with an additional award from the Ford and Fordson Club for best unrestored tractor.

Well done to the organisers and their helpers and all exhibitors. I know what goes on behind the scenes that the public don't see or know about and without them and the exhibitors there would be no show for people to enjoy. Judy Webb





## Holbeach Marsh Road Run

On Sunday 9th July 48 tractors left Hargraves of Holbeach on a Road Run in aid of the Lincs & Notts Air Ambulance. We travelled a total of 28 miles through Fleet, Gedney, Sutton Cross and Tydd St Mary's, stopping for a pit stop at Tydd St Giles before carrying on through Sutton St James, Holbeach Fen and back to our starting point. A Raffle and auction were held and a grand total of £990 was raised. The Event was Organised by Holbeach Marsh Vintage Tractor Events. Pictured are the organisers and their helpers: Stephen Pearsall, Kevin Pearsall, Christine Pearsall, Roly Pearsall, Sharon Rudd, Jenifer Smith, Donna Rankin, David & Barry Disdel. *Ian Long*



## At Brian Cotrell's 'birthday bash'

There were several model T Fords and also 80 tractors helping Brian to celebrate his 80th birthday. David Bretton is shown below with his Ford model T. The tractors went on a road run and money was raised for the charity for prostate cancer. On the right, members of the public enjoyed the pipe band. *Malcolm Bush*



News in brief with Malcolm Bush



## Downham Market Carnival

With David Askew

This year the carnival was held on 29 May, Bank Holiday. The chosen theme was "Spaced out" and as you can see from the photos, some of us did look a bit "spaced out!" This year we entered 8 tractors, once again leaving Heygates Mill at 12 noon and arriving down at The Howdale about 1 o'clock. The weather was very good which brought out the crowds to line the streets. It was good to see friends from Manea who joined us for the parade.

Mervyn Gathercole from Pentney, King's Lynn won the best fancy dress – that's him dressed in white. He was over the moon when I told him, telling me that he had never won anything in his entire life which I felt was a

perfect ending to a brilliant day!  
*David Askew*



## At Hilgay

Peter Caley successfully trying out his new tractor, an International B450 on his threshing machine





# Junior Club

It is always pleasing to receive a letter from one of our Junior Members saying how they are enjoying being a Junior Club member. I would like to share with you this letter from George Collison. **Viv**

Dear Viv,

*Stradsett Rally was great!!!! I had so much fun catching up with people I know and meeting new people as well.*

*I enjoyed the first Junior Club Parade as I hope all the members who attended did. There was a good array of vintage machinery at the parade and throughout the rally on both days. The many rows of engines were interesting. My engine in one of the lines appeared to generate quite some interest which I think helped me to win 1st prize.!! This was my first trophy and hopefully the first of many to come. I give my commiserations to Sam Taylor, a fellow junior Club member who came 2nd.*

*On the whole I enjoyed the rally so much and the Hog Roast was very tasty, but, as at the end of all the rallies, I didn't want to leave the picturesque setting of Stradsett Hall in the sunny Norfolk countryside.*

*Yours sincerely, George Collison, aged 10 years*

Here are a few pictures taken in 2015/6. I'm sorry if you are not included but lack of space prevents me showing more.



To All Juniors: Sadly it is time for me to say goodbye to you as I am retiring from the club. I have spent many years working for NVTEC-EA Group and I shall remember with pride the growth of the Junior Club. I hope you all will continue with your vintage interest and go on to win many trophies. However, do remember it is not so much the winning of a trophy but the journey that you go on to achieve it. There is much to learn that will stand you in good stead throughout your life so listen and watch those experienced people around you at rallies and keep learning. I wish you much enjoyment.

Your new Junior Club organiser is Debbie Curry who, I'm sure, will continue to ensure the growth of the Junior Club. Viv

## Happy Birthday Wishes

To: Jayden Gay who was 7 years old on 24th June, Silas Hannant who was 9 years old on the 3rd July, Logan Freear who was 11 years old on the 5th July, Freddie Young who was 9 years old on July 6th, Harry Rayner who was 12 years old on 14th July, Kian Gay who was 6 years old on 15th August, Finley Creasey who will be 8 years old on 6th September, Nikoli Sparkes who is 12 years old on the 10th September, Sophie Hilton who will be 12 years old on the 14th October, Samuel Taylor who will be 11 years old on the

22nd October, Michael Prior who will be 16 years old on the 23rd November, Joshua Bird who will be 8 years old on the 26th November, Freddie Withers who will be 8 years old on the 14th November





# Carrington Steam & Heritage Show

NVTEC – EA Group WIN BIG

For the 2017 58<sup>th</sup> Carrington Rally I volunteered to sort out the club stand again. For the first time, ever, we arrived about 7.30pm on the Friday night to find Malcom Bush and Terry Myhill waiting at the entrance to show me where we needed to be. Jayne had packed up the caravan and then Malcom and Terry very kindly helped me unload. This year the theme was single and twin cylinder tractors, so Bryan and I decided to take along the 1927 Hart Parr 18-36 Reg BF-4523. This was one of the Paul Rackham tractor and we have repainted it since purchasing it. Despite having a few bits to do to it yet, it has come out looking good, I think. We also took along the 1945 Marshall Model M Reg CPM-269, serial no 1524 this we got from Wales on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Oct 2004. It was part of the late Rodney Bryne collection and all the proceeds from the sale went to the National Trust. We used it for thrashing one Christmas in December 2005 at Fred and John Goldup's before restoring it about 10 years ago, so when we won the top trophy in the tractor section for best tractor on display I was very shocked but over the moon. Terry Myhill brought along his John Deere 830 built in 1959 this 2-cylinder diesel engine is started by a

donkey engine. Malcolm Bush brought his 1942 2-cylinder John Deere Model L fitted with a finger mower. Darren Tebbitt then brought us his John Deere BN fitter with an underslung hoe looking very good and rightfully picked up the trophy for best John Deere. The West family from Canterbury had booked in their Hart Parr 15-30 but due to a technical problem they had to substitute it for their 1929 Case model L for which they won a trophy for best tractor exhibited by NVTEC member.

They also brought us there 1917 International Titan 10-20 which runs so well. Mr P Kidd and son A Kidd brought us a pair of Fordsons, one 1936 standard in N water washer in Blue and won the trophy for best Fordson 1917 to 1950. The other one was an orange 1939 standard N. David and Claire Mycock brought the 1956 International B250 which is being raffled off at this year's working weekend at the beginning of September. This is a lot of work so well done to them. Mr Mick Patrick never lets me down and brought along his 2-cylinder John Deere Waterloo Boy and his 1916 Saunderson Model G which were built in England. Andrew Carpenter also supported us with his 1969 International Harvester 523 52HP & a 1962 B414. Nevel webstale was not on our stand but won the trophy for best David Brown with his 1941 David Brown DB4 looking and running great. Thanks to Alex, Malcolm and all their helpers for a great show. Gordon Carson

Below Pictures by Malcolm Bush showing a Life Boat crawler giving a helping push to Harold Fox's low loader on the right. All rally goers should have transport like this says Malcolm!





# Starting Handle Club at Marsham

The aim of the Starting Handle Club is *'to preserve and exhibit vintage equipment and encourage the younger generation to enjoy and carry on with these aims.'*

This year's show included a large number of tractors, classic cars and stationary engines. The ring displays were varied, interesting and much enjoyed by the public. Full sized and mini tractor pullers kept spectators interested throughout the days of the show. A range of entertainment proved popular with young and old. A successful show which was a credit to the club. *Ted Gray*

1935 Italian Motor Meccanica B50 , owned by Dick Cully of Wroxham



1911 International Harvester worked in a cotton mill in Australia. Returned to England in 2008 Owned by Mick Patrick of Swanton Morely



A superb collection of working models built from scratch by Brian Stephenson of Scarborough who built his first model when he became 69 years old. Right: a close up of the centre model



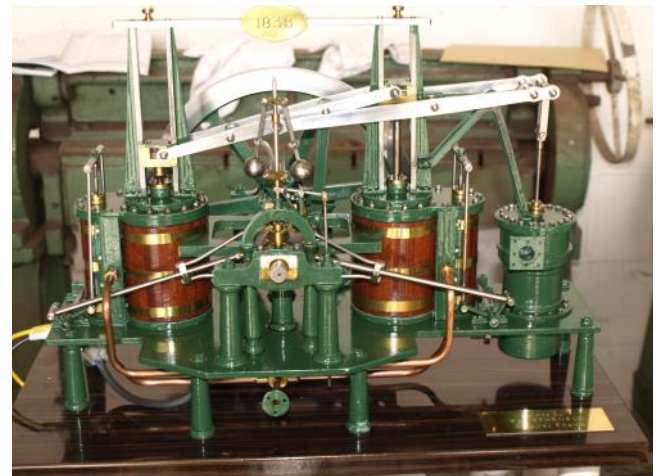
2hp bulb engine was used to power water to Blickling Hall. Owned by the National Trust



1951 Peugeot Triporteur a market trader's vehicle owned by P. Taylor of Buxton.



1985 Case 648 originally petrol and converted to diesel Owned by Adie Brown of Fritton





# NVTEC – EA Summer Visit

On Saturday, the 20<sup>th</sup> May 2017 at 200pm the National Vintage Tractor and Engine Club had their summer visit to see a private collection. Paul Roegele at Great Ellingham has been collecting for just over 4 years. He informed me it all started with a Ransome 902 combined and then just continued from there. There was a good variety of things to see from a Green Goddess fire engine to Marshall, Ferguson and Ford tractors. They put on a film show for us and provided tea, coffee and cakes. Paul gave us an introductory talk when we all got there. There was no charge but donation to the EAAA and he later let Judy know that he raised £90.50. Inside the shed was a great garage and shop display showing an old petrol pump, petrol cans, oil containers, every ready batteries ect ect which was very impressive. It is always good to go and see other people's collections so on behalf of the club I would like to thank him. Gordon Carson



# Woolpit Steam Rally

Woolpit steam rally held their annual show on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> & Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2017 this was to be their 30<sup>th</sup> year. Woolpit always seems to do well on getting some of the older tractors on steel wheels to their rally, and this year was to be no exception. This year the 1917 Samson 6-12 sieve grip serial no 5911 is 100 years old, this is a single cylinder petrol tractor with a 7-inch bore and 9-inch stroke running at 450 RPM, this is one of only eleven known surviving 6-12 sieve grips. Mick Patrick took along his new purchase, the 1912 prairie tractor model 45 mogul and what a machine it is. This is started by means of a donkey engine and with its 45 HP would have been one hell of a machine some 105 years ago. The tractor to beat us all to the trophy for best tractor was to be the International Junior 8-16 Kerosene tractor pulling a hand screw trailer. This 1919 tractor looked good in its light grey livery. The International Junior was way ahead of the Titan and fitted with a vertical four-cylinder, in line, overhead valve engine. The water cooling system is thermos siphon with a rear mounted radiator and gear driven fan. The transmission is by multi plate dry flywheel clutch to a three forward and one reverse gearbox with chain driven rear wheels. Gavin Chapman from Lakenheath was enjoyed parading his Allis Chalmers model m 1942 crawler this petrol/TVO tractor sounds great. My old school friend and well-known exhibitor at many rally's over the past 40 years Ivon Smith who is a member of the East Anglian NVTEC Group won the trophy for best enclosed crank stationary engine with his Wolsley PRE-WD 2HP 1931. Mathew Hoy was parading on an orange 1938 standard Fordson owned by his

girlfriend's brother, you don't see too many orange standard Ns. The Seeley brothers lost their mum Olive Seeley this year and dedicated the show to her and what a good show it was, the sun showed both days which makes all the difference. The Woolpit steam rally has raised over £235,000 for local charities over the past 30 years so what an achievement. Well done to them all. Gordon Carson





## R.I.P. Eddie Savoury

It was with great sadness that we learnt of the death of Eddie in July. For many years Eddie has been a familiar exhibitor at many rallies. Always ready to come to the fence and talk to the public and to help other 'engine men' solve their mechanical problems he was a 'club character.' Over the years Eddie exhibited a number of engines driving a range of equipment and delighted in decorating his caravan with lights making him stand out from the rest. During his last year of rallying Eddie proudly exhibited a miniature steam engine that he named Kathleen, as a tribute to his late wife Kathy. Although gone he will be remembered for years to come by his friends and fellow vintage enthusiasts alike. *Ted Gray*



Above:: At Sandringham September 2016 Eddie Savoury with his 1987 Burrell 4" scale steamer named Kathleen after his late wife. This was its first showing as he had only bought it 2 months ago.



Left: At Sandringham 2015 Shown here with engine steward Clive Richardson. Eddie was proud to receive 3rd prize for his 1945 Lister D running a GEC 14-32 volts. He said he'd never won a prize before so he was really chuffed

Right: At Holkham 2015 Eddie with his 1945 Lister D that was used to drive a potato shaker. Eddie converted it to drive a dynamo for lighting. I must say 'Eddie, well done for attending with your broken foot!'

At the end of the day memories are all that matter.  
Things fade away, people change  
but memories will live on forever.  
Eddie, you will be missed, **Viv**



## Eastern Counties Vintage Show

For the past few years Rodger Desborough and his team have put on a vintage show at the Norfolk Showground. This year it was to be held just a week before Stradsett Rally so due to all the work involved in Stradsett Rally, we decided not to have our club stand there. Well in fact I wasn't going to take anything but I do like to support other shows when I can. Anyway, I booked in my Volvo FL617 as they have quite a lot of commercials at the show. Bryan and I are restoring an old 1927 Citroen B14 Camminette and as we brought it in bits we have been struggling with it. Julie then found a 1927 Citroen B14 Roadster for sale, so off we all went to Bath to have a look at it and then home it came. I contacted Michael Curtis and asked if we could bring it along with the David Brown Thresherman. I could only attend on the Sunday so we took them over on Thursday morning.

When we arrived on Sunday morning the weather was fine and sunny so off we went to have a look around. Commercials are an interest of mine so it took me a while to get around them as it was a fantastic display. In the main building, there was again a great display of old trucks, cars and motorcycles. This is where our 1927 roadster with a dicky seat was positioned. A dicky seat is not one that is broken ha ha, it is basically in the boot. This old car is fitted with a Citroen 4-cylinder petrol engine and cable brakes. Moving along to the tractors and I came across the Wests 1929 Case Model L, very nice indeed. I know they have had it for a while and have been doing some jobs to it but it did look good on the steel wheels. There was another Case that took my eye and that was Colin Lewis with his 1919 Case Model 10-18 Cross Motor. He informed me it was well worn when he got it and had to do the engine up but runs well now. Matthew and David had a small display for our club in the International shed and Matthew was also showing his collection of Model internationals for the first time. David's mum worked hard and did very well selling raffle tickets over the weekend which is to win an International B250 so thank you. All the stationary engines were in pens and there was a very good display of cars, ex-military and trade stands. I had a great day and enjoyed the show so thank you to those involved. In the ring there were the MONSTER trucks driving over cars and many other ring displays. Gordon Carson





# Editor's Comment

I had a phone call querying my item in the Stradsett Supplement 2017 which read as follows:

*Newman Smith was Vice-Chairman in 1994 when the club held their first Stradsett Rally when there were 93 Tractors, 115 Stationary Engines and 6 Horticultural machines. And £600 in the kitty to run the rally.*

I need to clarify the fact that our club's rally has not always been at Stradsett Park and did in fact have quite a few years elsewhere including Heacham, Grimston and the first one being at North Lynn Industrial Estate in 1974. However, I have been given the club minutes by John Germeney who was club secretary in those earlier years and it seems the first rally at Stradsett Park was actually in 1987 when Ray Armsby was chairman. The previous rally had been held at Gayton Thorpe. As a result of inviting Sir Jeremy Bagge to the Christmas party in 1986 to present him with a cheque for the Ely Cathedral Restoration Fund, the club's link to Stradsett Park was formed.

Over the next few years many changes have taken place including the retirement of our patron, Sir Jeremy Bagge who has passed on the management of the estate to his son, Alfred. The Stradsett Park Vintage Rally is now hugely successful and has earned national recognition. The entry numbers far outstrip the park's capacity. Every spare piece of ground has been commandeered for exhibitors and many volunteers are required to run the rally in the proper manner. As costs spiral and gate prices increase the rally is no longer the small, relaxed event of past years. I wonder, has it become a victim of its own success? Now seen as a money-making venture by those who would wish to take over, a hard decision has to be taken by those currently in control. Our philosophy has always been 'to preserve our heritage for future generations' and our helpers are volunteers who work hard not just over the weekend but in the weeks and months preceding the rally. We do it with good will and our love of all things vintage and the bonus is we raise money to help support local Charities. Our exhibitors come from far and wide to display their latest project, share their knowledge and expertise and, hopefully encourage youngsters to enter into the vintage world. They come, bearing their own expenses and these can be considerable. It has to be remembered that it is easy to destroy goodwill that has taken years to build up.

The same can be said for the committee members who, throughout the year meet to discuss and ensure the club runs smoothly. It is not rewarded financially but by the satisfaction of belonging to a cause worth preserving. The role of committee member carries with it a willingness to take on some responsibility and, not everyone is willing to do this but also in our busy lives, not everyone has the time. This results in multi-tasking by those members who are able to dedicate their time. I myself took on three general roles each of them demanding in their own way and required many hours of work when I might have preferred to do other things ie. This quarterly newsletter, the club clothing and the Junior Club. Also at Stradsett I managed the Information Tent, spending hours making photographic displays, I produced an interactive leaflet for families to guide them around the Rally exhibits and I took the trophy winners' photographs and sent out hard copies to each winner ( these roles I relinquished this year ) and I made the peg numbers for exhibitors. Ted also appreciated my help to organise the Trade Stand entries which is no mean task! I have worked hard for the club and had great enjoyment doing it but now I find I just haven't got the heart to do it any longer.

Fortunately I have found someone who will take on the roles of Junior Club organiser and the contact for the Club Clothing. Hopefully there is also an editor for your newsletter. It still is evident that younger committee members are needed and it is vital that some will come forward.

I hope that NVTEC-EA Group will thrive and that Stradsett Park Vintage Rally will continue successfully into the future particularly as Gordon has put heart and soul into the organisation of it. **Viv**



In that same phone call it was also suggested that I remove a photograph from the Stradsett Supplement before it went on our web site as it showed S. Edwards with his 1943 Caterpillar D8 with a passenger riding with him. Looking at 'said photograph', see below, you would be hard-pressed to see the 'passenger' and actually I was more interested in the quality of the photograph which was taken by Ian Long and I thought it rather good. As an onlooker I see a beast of a machine that requires expert handling and I worry that if the operator had a problem there would be no back up from a co-driver. I know health and safety rules say 'no passengers' and Mr Edwards was firmly reprimanded by the ring commentator for having a passenger, (which incidentally I found quite demeaning for him ) but I ask the question:

'has the application of health and safety rules in this instant created a dangerous situation and would a risk assessment recommend a co-driver? Interestingly I have just heard of a tractor going into a dyke because the driver had a seizure! I do think that sometimes rules are applied without common sense. It is only my opinion. Viv



Mr Edwards at Stradsett demonstrating expert handling of his 1943 Caterpillar D8



Some members of the Junior Club made a 'grand opening' at Stradsett Vintage Rally 2017. I hope it won't be the last time that they put on a ring display so please support them and their new organiser, Debbie Curry.





# St. Botolph's Road Run

Once again the event was blessed with good weather and a total of 35 tractors departed from from Roger Coe's farmyard for the Road Run. Winding through local villages they stopped for lunch on Massingham Green. Back at the farm there was a pleasing number of stalls, exhibitions and catering available for the public to enjoy. As usual, the organisers and stewards were very helpful and efficient making the day most enjoyable for everybody. The event was well supported and raised £4,800 for the St Botolph's Church fund.

Next year's date, 2018 is Fathers Day June 17th *Ted Gray*

Below: A rare occasion when Ted can exhibit his whole collection of petrol cans. Viv



It really was a 'scorchio' day' and I couldn't stay out in the sun for long so here is just a small selection of 'tractor road runners' and Roger's threshing machine on display. Viv





# Viv's Vintage Reflections

Looking back over the years at treasured moments

2009



2010



2011



2012



2013







2014



2015



2016





# Chairman's Chat

I hope everyone enjoyed the brief heatwave we had earlier on. We are now patiently awaiting the return of some settled weather so that the hay still left on the fields can be baled and harvest to begin. To those of you who have holidayed since the last "Chat" I do hope you all had a relaxing time away. Our holiday was 2 separate nights away in Sheffield and Norwich sampling the delights of Take That and yes, they are good.

## Editor

The other day somebody asked me, 'how old is Buddy?' Buddy is my Gypsy cob that I drive. He has been with me since he was rising 5 years old, straight from a Gypsy breeder/dealer who had kept him on a tether and had 'used him' on 3 mares. Initially he was fairly loutish in hand but together over the years he has mellowed and we have had great fun doing pleasure driving. He has a temperament that means I can take him anywhere and we'd have an enjoyable experience. Counting up the years I was surprised to realise he is now 16 years old. Not particularly old but he 'feels his feet' and really doesn't want to go driving more than 3 times a week and preferably not near the pigs! He is happy snoozing in the field or coming in to be groomed and fussed over. I know how he feels. I am now seeking a quieter, less stressful existence, wanting to take my time over tasks and avoid additional pressures and not go rushing here and there. It is hard to acknowledge I can't do what I used to be able to do and so over this last year I have come to the conclusion that it is time for me to step down from my various duties and leave the club.

I have been editing the club newsletter since I retired from teaching through ill health at the age of 60. During these twelve years the 2 page newsletter has evolved, becoming Vintage Torque and I have had a great personal sense of achievement in creating it. Also, in the process of collecting photographs and stories for publication I have met some really enterprising and clever people, dedicated to preserving our heritage for future generations. I have been amazed at the lengths that people will go to in order to restore a rusty heap of.....dare I say it.....junk! It is these stories that have inspired me to develop Vintage Torque into the ultimate 16 pages of full colour. The challenge has always been to publish a perfect issue but despite 2 proof readers it remains impossible. I had been warned of this by a previous editor. The amount of critical data makes editing an onerous task, mistakes are easily overlooked which may cause problems and earn criticism. Time for someone else to take on this role of editor. If you are up for the challenge I am sure Henry will be pleased to hear from you.

I am sad to leave the Junior Club as it has been a joy to see the young ones' developing interest in all things vintage. I first realised that a 'junior club' was needed when watching youngsters at a rally who showed interest in the tractors but their parents were not tuned in to their curiosity and so came the birth of the Junior Club. Now with 23 members it has, however, been an uphill struggle to gain support and I hope that Debbie will continue the struggle as I firmly believe that the juniors are the future for the club.

Now a final thank you to all those who have contributed to Vintage Torque, you know who you are and indeed these pages would have been empty without you. I send my best wishes for good health to you all and happy rallying. It has been a pleasure to be your editor.

Mrs Vivien Gray: Vintage Torque Editor, Junior Club Organiser and Club Clothing  
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Talking to David I understand the tickets for the raffle tractor are going well and I would like to thank him, his wife and parents and anyone unbeknown to me who have helped in the transportation to varying events where it was displayed.



Any monies or unsold tickets please return to David on or before Sunday 3rd September at the Working Weekend situated at Maurice Mason Farm, Fincham. The Bugbuster could not perform at Weeting because of technical problems so we just paid a visit on the Saturday to watch as a spectator. Enjoy the autumn that is fast approaching. **Henry**



This is me with my animals and Ted, left: Buddy my older driving cob, next W.H.W. Leon my 6 years old

driving cob and next, Bella and Brynley, who you probably have seen me with at rallies. I shall be able to spend more time with them in future. By the way, I always need a horse-wise person to come driving with me, so if you are interested then please get in touch. Viv

### 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 2017

7.30pm at Ryston Park Golf Club

#### Proposed Agenda

1. Apologies for absence
2. Adopt Minutes of the A.G.M. held on Nov. 20th 2016
3. Matters arising from the minutes of AGM 2016
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 Organiser
Safety Officer	Newsletter Editor
Publicity Officer	Rally Organiser

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 2017





## 2nd & 3rd September 2017 Working Weekend & Ploughing Match

This is a new venue by kind permission of Hugh Mason Smeeth Farm,  
Beechamwell, off A1122) Swaffham PE33 9DL

Experience the real working environment  
Get help from knowledgeable people  
Enjoy the experience without pressure  
Or test your skills against others in the  
ploughing match.

A trophy will be awarded to the winner



Camping and refreshments on site.  
Donations for charity MIACS reg:  
no: 1164937 All entries to be  
covered by a Public Liability Policy



For entry forms and further information  
contact the organiser :

David Mycock 01366 500879

07977337095 or go to our website:

[www.nvtec-ea.org.uk](http://www.nvtec-ea.org.uk)



# Diary Dates

Boston Steam & Vintage Festival 2nd & 3rd September 01205366018

Haddenham Steam Rally 9th & 10 September 01487842771

Little Casterton Working Weekend 16th & 17th September

Sandringham Game & Country Show September 9th & 10th for engines contact  
Clive Richardson 07789266423

**Tony's Trosh, harvesting & ploughing through the ages 16th & 17th September**  
11am to 5pm each day North side of B1145 between Bawdswell and Billingford.  
Entry/parking £5 Come and help with the harvest using heritage machines and  
taste the result. Stationary engines, stalls, tombola, food and bar. Carboot on  
Sunday, £5 per pitch. Contact Tony Hood 01362 688281 Kevin Roye 01362  
684213

Tracks & Steel Wheels, Sunday October 8th 10.30am onwards at Holt Road,  
North Elmham. In aid of Big C Centre No: 281730 For more details contact  
Neville Websdale : 07881805368

Newark 11th & 12th November For enquiries re: Club Stand please contact  
Gordon Carson on 07860658767

For more Vintage News and Views of many photographs or to download forms  
for our club events 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/StradsettRally)



### 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 01553617653  
[secretary@nvtec-ea.org.uk](mailto:secretary@nvtec-ea.org.uk) 07932165456

Mr Gordon Carson: Stradsett Rally Organiser, Publicity Officer 01945880091  
[stradsett@nvtec-ea.org.uk](mailto:stradsett@nvtec-ea.org.uk) 07469702234

Mrs Chris Hunt: Membership Secretary [membership@nvtec-ea.org.uk](mailto:membership@nvtec-ea.org.uk)  
01366388907

Mrs Judy Webb: Vice Chair, Stradsett Cars/Bikes/Commercials etc 01366728776  
[judithwebb127@btinternet.com](mailto:judithwebb127@btinternet.com) 07895787076

Mrs Jayne Carson: Treasurer 01945880091

Mr David Askew: Road Run Organiser 01945430481 07748287107  
[susanjaneaskew@gmail.com](mailto:susanjaneaskew@gmail.com)

Mr Ian Long: Winter Meetings/Summer Visits Organiser [ianlong69@live.co.uk](mailto:ianlong69@live.co.uk)  
01406364863 07962026315

Mr David Mycock: Working Weekend Organiser 01366500879  
[davidclaire1@btinternet.com](mailto:davidclaire1@btinternet.com)

Mr Matthew Hoy: Assistant to Stradsett Rally Organiser 01366324283  
07871155122 [matthewhoy1980@gmail.com](mailto:matthewhoy1980@gmail.com)

Mr Reg Fletcher: Stradsett Tractor Steward 01366383134  
[rhino1511@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:rhino1511@yahoo.co.uk) 07771564458

Mr Cliff Armsby: Stradsett Steward [farm@csarmsby.plus.com](mailto:farm@csarmsby.plus.com) 01366500435  
07831438311

Mr Jon Moulis: Stradsett Steward [jonmoulis@aol.com](mailto:jonmoulis@aol.com) 01406550412  
07715257158

Mr Alan Whiteman: Stradsett Steward 01945430483

Mrs Debbie Curry: Junior Club and Club Clothing [currydebeborah2@gmail.com](mailto:currydebeborah2@gmail.com)  
07745484026

## Winter Meetings

Winter Meetings are held at Ryston Park Golf Club along the  
A10 on the 3rd Thursday of each month from October to  
March. The talks start at 7.30pm and the bar is open from 7pm  
for members and their guests .

October 19th : East Coast Truckers with Trevor Howlett

November 16th : AGM

December 21st : Bexwell Aerodrome with Amy Moore

January Womens' Land Army with Kindra Jones

February Abrey Farms with Giles Abvery

March tbc

If you have any suggestions for talks please contact Ian Long  
07962026315



The draw for this International B250 will be held at the  
Working Weekend on

Sunday September 3rd.  
Supporting charity Moth in a  
China Shop.

## Club Clothing

Debbie Curry will now be the contact for your club clothing.  
She can be contacted on: [currydebeborah2@gmail.com](mailto:currydebeborah2@gmail.com)  
07745484026





# 4th Ramsey Steam & Vintage Show

On a very windy Friday morning we made our way over to The Auction Field to set up Ted's display. Going in the opposite direction was a long convoy of traffic and we realised that our homeward journey would be slow. The field entrance had good security in place so Ted felt confident to leave his display overnight. We erected the tent and pegged it down in every possible way to thwart the wind, put up the shelves and made our exit to join the eastbound queue of traffic. However, we were amazed to find our journey was a good one and I made it in time to go to my horses. Over to Ted. The 2017 March Show enjoyed mainly fine weather with only a few brief showers. The showground was very well set out with ample room for exhibitors and traders and generous areas for the public. All sections were fully booked and a wide variety of exhibits and trade stands were there to be enjoyed. This show does seem to attract a large selection of commercial vehicles that were enjoyed by many of the public.

The organisation was efficient and stewards friendly and helpful. There was a craft tent, a model marquee together with a military display area that provided something to satisfy all interests. Also a pets corner and animal exhibitions attracted a lot of interest especially from youngsters

The ring displays were entertaining but predictable. Perhaps the highlight was the demonstration by the Wisbech Karts in which a number of youngsters paraded around the ring in their racing go-carts. Since moving to the new site the show has grown bigger every year so I am sure it's future is assured. Ted



Nick Thorpe from Spalding and his 1913 Termaat & Monaham 1hp



Ruston Hornsby AP 8hp 1924 running a Climax 2 water pump owned by Martin Howell St Neots

International Harvester 1909 owned by A. Megicks

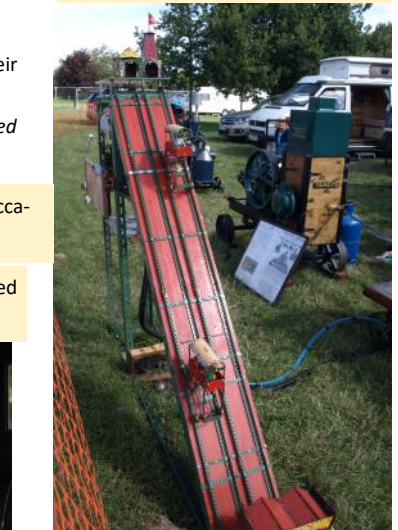


A Special Edition Wilescro model steamer owned by Charlie Calvery

Ellie, Evelyn and Oscar in a 1924 Model T Ford Tourer owned by Andrew Wayland.



Ivan Smith's 1918 Titan 1020 that he's owned for 18 years



1930's Horse drawn Bow Top caravan rebuilt by Brian and S. Chapman, Wellingborough. Regularly pulled by his Shire horse. All the graphics were copied from a tattoo book by his grand daughter K. Herd.



If you have enjoyed this newsletter, don't throw it away! Leave it in a waiting room or pass it on to someone else.