



DECEMBER 2018

VINTAGE TORQUE

PRESERVING THE PAST FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

Christmas Greeting

2018 has been another great year for our club. As normal we started the year at the Tractor World Show in Malvern with a well-supported club stand then swiftly onto the Spring Road Run which was a great day. The rally was soon upon us, but the rain had been falling for months and even the Wednesday before it chucked it down. We all kept our nerve and went ahead, yes it was a bit soft under foot but this is a May rally in England so what can we expect. The rally went great and the support from our exhibitors never ceases to amaze me. Onto our summer visit and again a good turnout. Autumn soon came and brought with it the Working Weekend which was again supported brilliantly. I must just say what fantastic talks we've had at the club meetings each month so thanks to Ian Long for this. As always, we ended the year with a club stand at the Newark show.

Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year to all and thanks for all your support for me and the Club.

Gordon Carson
NVTEC-EA

2019 Carrington Rally NVTEC-EA Club Stand

Carrington Rally is celebrating its 60th anniversary in 2019 so I'm hoping our club will support them with our club stand. The theme is Built or Supplied in Lincolnshire but with the help of David West we are also trying to put together a section for the 1919 Lincoln Tractor Trials. If you can help support our stand please contact me on 07860 658767 or email: gordon.carson@supreme-windows.com

Gordon Carson
NVTEC-EA

FLYING FARMERS VISIT TO WALPOLE HIGHWAY

On Wednesday, 27th June, Tony Fisher contacted us with reference to a visit from the Flying Farmers to see our collection. I was out working on my lorry, so said I would get back to him after discussing it with Bryan on the Thursday.

They were to travel down and visit Robert Crawford's on Wednesday, 4th July, staying in March over night and then should have been visiting John Thomas but due to illness this was cancelled. They were to leave March approximately 8.30am so would be with us between 9.00am and 9.15am, so Bryan and myself started at 7.00am, moving some of the tractors, etc. out of the sheds. All of them started well except for the Mathis Moline as unfortunately we had left it switched on and in turn had run its 6-volt battery down.

By the time they all arrived the French Austin, Massey Harris 33, Citroen Roadster car, Fordson 7V-V8 lorry, David Brown Thresherman, Turner Yeoman of England, Mathis Moline, the MM Model G (LPG), the MM GTA and the 1919 Heider friction drive were all outside on display for everyone to see. We laid on tea, coffee, cold drink, crisps and biscuits.

When they arrived, I greeted them on the coach and I must say what a great group of people they were. We have 2-3 coach loads a year and these were some of the most interested in the tractors that I have had the pleasure of meeting. They asked if I could start one up, so I went to the Heider and set it up and it started second pull up (very proud).

They left at 11.00am, going off to our good friend Gordon Easton for a barbeque and to see his collection which I am sure they would have thoroughly enjoyed.

It was good to meet them all and we hope they enjoyed their visit.

Gordon Carson
NVTEC-EA



Great Yarmouth Wheels Festival



An array of vehicles of all shapes and sizes rolled up on the seafront in Great Yarmouth for this annual event.

The Great Yarmouth Wheels Festival showcases thousands of classic and contemporary cars, with over 15,000 motorbikes joining the procession through Great Yarmouth.

Wartime engines are also showcased as part of the festival's ethos of educating and inspiring young people.

Engine enthusiasts from Historic Aero Engines



demonstrated two vintage engines: a Rolls-Royce Merlin and a Bristol Hercules.

The Rolls-Royce Merlin Mk500 engine was originally fitted to an Avro Lancaster bomber that saw service in the Second World War. In 1945, the engine was fitted to an Avro York transport



aeroplane and, in 1950, fitted to a bomber for the Spanish Air Force.

The Bristol Hercules Mk216 engine was fitted to a Handley Page Hastings, C Mk2. This engine was recovered from a museum in Yorkshire where it had been left untouched on display for many years.

Reg Fletcher NVTEC-EA

HOUGHTON HALL OPEN FARM SUNDAY

Sunday, 10th June was the 8th year of Open Farm Sunday but this year was to be the first time for Houghton Hall. Evolution Farms run the estate of over 3,000 acres but also have over 7,000 acres back in Leeds. They are just building up a new dairy herd and building a new milking parlour. We watched as they milked the herd of 350 Jersey cows; most of their milk goes to McDonalds for their milkshakes, etc.

I took along the 1944 John Deere BR and the 1954 Turner Yeoman of England. They looked after us very well with sandwiches, cakes, sausage rolls and drinks. They were doing tractor/trailer rides around the farm so myself, David Askew and Malcolm Thompson went for a ride and found it to be very interesting. We stopped off at the pig side of the operation where we were given a brief insight into the scale of the operation. I worked on a pig farm when I was younger and kept pigs myself so was very interested. They have over 750 sows which are looked after by 50 boars. Their length of pregnancy is 16 weeks – 3 months, 3 weeks and 3 days. Pigs can breed all



year round and their sows average 13 piglets at a time. They are sold after 28 weeks and go to Waitrose supermarket. All their animals are organic, but they buy in about 40 tonnes of food per week. Pigs can only sweat from their nose so that is why they like to roll about in the mud; the mud also gives them protection from the sun. The estate sells some 300 pigs per week all year round which takes some keeping up with.

The weather was great, and we were made very welcome so thank you to all those involved. Also, a special thank you to David and Malcolm for their support.

To view all the photographs or join our club go to www.nvtec-ea.org.uk.

Gordon Carson NVTEC-EA



Carrington Steam and Heritage Show 2018



I have been attending Carrington Rally for many years now and as we all know the weather is not always kind to them. Since Stradsett at the beginning of May it had been dry and looking very good for the show but true to tradition on the Thursday night and Friday morning the heavens opened, and they got nearly an inch of rain. Although I wasn't going until Friday afternoon I really felt for Alex and Malcolm as it makes what should be an easy enjoyable job quite tricky. Luckily that was the last of the bad weather and what a fantastic weekend we had. I was again in charge of the NVTEC-EA club stand and we received great support this year as well as a great spot. Hopefully we did Malcolm proud. The theme was vineyard tractors and what a selection we had.

David West brought his 1919 Cletrac H Orchard Crawler and won best Crawler. Oliver West came with his 1930 Caterpillar 10 Orchard Crawler and Austin West brought his 1931 V90 French Vineyard tractor which was restored over 16 years ago but looked good winning best NVTEC member. Malcolm Bush was exhibiting Imogen and Dale Morley's 1962 Fordson Dexta Vineyard tractor winning best Fordson, which was a lovely little tractor. They purchased it about 4 years ago with a ceased engine from Corrin Harris of US Tractors. It underwent a complete engine rebuild and restoration taking 12 months. Darren Tebbitt brought his 1941 John Deere BO orchard tractor and John Deere finger mower which was originally imported to England. We took along our 1949 straight petrol, 6-volt Mathis Moline VRTE Vineyard tractor which is a very rare machine. They were

made in France under license by Minneapolis Moline and all parts have the original part number on but also made in France. Terry Myhill came with his 1959 Fordson Dexta and Peter Kidd and Ashley Kidd took their good-looking pair of Fordson Standard N Tractors. I also took the 1991 Volvo FL 617 lorry which is a 17-ton gross vehicle with a 30 ft beaver tail on, my grandson's Ransome MG2 crawler, our 1949 Fordson 7V 4-wheel lorry which is fitted with a V8 engine and our 1927

Citroen B14 Roadster car. The Citroen has a rear dicky seat and is a 6-volt system but has a 4-cylinder engine and 3 speed gearbox.

Andrew Carpenter brought along

his International 414 and Dave Savage took his 1959 International B275. Lastly on the stand was Mick Patrick with his 1912 International Harvester model 45 Mogul which is an amazing tractor and for the year is so impressive. The show has a great selection of Vintage vehicles and always seem to have much more room to display things than we do at Stradsett. Unfortunately, due to the bad weather on the Thursday night they could not parade the commercials, however they did allow me to tag on the back of the tractor parade with the Fordson lorry. A big thank you to all who supported our club stand this year. Next year will be the shows 60th anniversary and the theme will be 'built in Lincolnshire'. All being well we will again have a club stand there so please make sure when you book in and that you make it clear you are to be on our club stand. We had a brilliant weekend and thanks to all the show organisers for putting on this event.



Gordon Carson NVTEC-EA

SPONSORED TRACTOR ROAD RUN **IN AID OF MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT**

All tractor's welcome.

Date - Sunday 19th May 2019.

Start venue - Methwold (location to be confirmed).

Start time - arrive 9.00am for 10.00am departure.

Approx 32 miles on minor routes.

Entry fee £15.00 per tractor to include lunch.

Refreshments will be available to purchase before departing.

Fancy Dress optional with the theme being Green.

Prize for "Best Dressed Tractor and/or Driver."

For more details contact - Steven Bruce

Mobile: 07940 583293

Or Annie Bruce

Mobile: 07856 787424

E-mail: anniebruce@outlook.com





An enormous fleet of more than 70 farm machines are put to work in the same west Norfolk field on Albanwise Farms, once the home of RAF Downham Market, to demonstrate the latest agricultural techniques and technologies.

The NORMAC event is a biannual event, held by Norfolk farm machinery club and all local machinery dealers and other companies connect to farming are invited to attend.

Dealers exhibited several millions of pounds worth of machinery for all to look at and are on hand to answer and questions you have about their products.

The event is free to the general public, anything and everything to do with agriculture is on show and attracts a very large crowd.

Reg Fletcher
NVTEC-EA



PRESS RELEASE...

New Tractor Drive

A new tractor road run with a difference is being planned for Sunday 14th April 2019. With the exception of 317 metres on a minor road, the remaining 20 miles or so will be on private roads and lanes.

Colin and Kathleen Holwell have worked hard to gain permission for the ('Tractor Drive' to go through the amazing Burghley Park, then through the grounds of RAF Wittering, Peterborough, Cambridgeshire, which is still a fully functional active Royal Air Force base and is the main operating base and headquarters for RAFA4 Force and is a major Station for flying training, and then back through splendid Burghley Estate. The ('Drive' will encounter parkland, dirt roads and the internal boundary of RAF Wittering, only once touching a public highway.

The day will commence with arrival from 8.00 am on the Sunday ready for a 9.45 am start, meeting at George Farm, Wothorpe, Stamford, Lincolnshire, PE9 3JP.

Tractors pulling official trailers will be available for spectators to join in the ('Drive'. There will also be Limo transport from George Farm to the is" century Burghley House close to Stamford with discounted entry for anyone not interested in going on the ('Drive'. This will be a great chance to visit this historic grade property and Estate.

A BBQ and other refreshments will be available and all funds raised will be split between R.A.B.I. and Evergreen Care Trust.

There are two major stipulations for entrants taking part in the 'Tractor Drive' whether a driver or an official passenger. RAF Wittering, due to security reasons will need to see some form of personal I.D. either a current passport, driving license or any other current photo I.D. The second being, no trailers or equipment behind tractors please and definitely no passengers apart from on seats fitted by the tractor manufacturer.

Any make or model of tractor from vintage to 2019 so long as it is road legal and on rubber tyres will be most welcome.

Entries from one make tractor clubs or general tractor clubs as well as any tractor enthusiast or anyone associated with agriculture are being encouraged to join the 'Tractor Drive' at a cost of £5 per person, £10 per tractor.

For further details please contact Colin Holwell on 07977 142011 or 01780 751291.



For my son Jason's 28th birthday we booked to go to V-Ate Pit Stop Dining Experience at Langrick near Boston.

Jason has a 1954 Chevy pick-up truck, so it seemed appropriate that his partner Lauren booked it for us all to go. It was certainly different with its fabulous Chevy truck bar, vintage petrol pumps, Mustang and much more. If you enjoy homemade burgers and what a selection there was and appreciate vehicles, then it's a must.



Gordon Carson
NVTEC-EA

FOOD AND FARMING 2018



size steam engine, so he bought along his Tuxford No. 1283 portable steam engine. This was manufactured by Tuxford & Sons, Skirbeck Ironworks, Boston, Lincolnshire. It is a very rare engine as there are only 17 known left in the world. This is a 2 HP engine running at a maximum boiler pressure of 55 PSI with the fire box grate size only a little larger than a domestic fire.

There is a good display of livestock and lots of things for the children to get involved and have a go with. There was even a DHL artic there to show the dangers for the children on bicycles travelling up the side of it.

Each year at the end of June we go along to the East of England Showground to support James Coward at The Food and Farming Show. The show is put on to educate some 7,000 young children from all over the country as to where their food comes from and how.



The show provides us all with drinks and a packed lunch. And an added bonus – the weather was fantastic.

Thanks to all involved.

Gordon Carson
NVTEC-EA

We took along the 1944 John Deere BR and the 1954 Turner and there was an International B275 and a Fordson Dexter as part of the vintage display. We could do with more so if anyone is interested please contact me or James Coward for next year (2019). The local farmers also put on a great display of modern farm equipment and the children loved it. We do a display every hour starting with the plough, the cultivator, then the drills, followed by the sprayer and then the combine with a trailer. Then the bailer goes around, and we then follow up.

Due to James' eye operation, he could not bring the full-



South Suffolk Show 2018



The South Suffolk One Day Show was held on Sunday, 13th May 2018. I was asked to judge the stationary engines and

the vintage tractors, and I was proud to do so. I must say they really look after their judges with the passes and meal tickets.

We arrived at 9.30am and like most of us they had some rain overnight but it was dry overhead and as the day went on the weather just got better and better. Despite this being a good show there is not a huge amount of vintage tractors so if anyone would like to attend please contact the show on 01638 750879 or geoff@southsuffolkshow.co.uk.

I had 3 categories to judge; firstly the Flack Perpetual Challenge Cup for the best concourse tractor in which Mr. V. Baker won 1st with his 1967 Nuffield 465 (no 11). 2nd was Mr. A. Hines with his 1956 Ferguson FE35 (no 31) and 3rd was my good friend Mr. P. Clarke with his 1952 Ford Jubilee (no 15). The next category was for the best original working tractor pre-1965. This had to go to Mr. Gavin Chapman with a 1952 Ferguson Ted 20 (no 20), 2nd place went to Mr. and Mrs. T. Morris with their 1954 Nuffield DM4 (no 19) and 3rd place to Mr. M. Bugg with a good looking Fordson 1949 E27N (no 16).

The stationary section was a bit thin on the ground which surprised me because at Stradsett we always have so many wanting to come but have to restrict them due to space.

However, 1st place went to Mr. G. Watson with a lovely 1907 Blackstone 4HP hot bulb (no 5) and 2nd went to Mr. P. Smith with a 1955 Jap 25 with a water pump (no 4).

The show had some great ring events going on throughout the day, none less than a display of boys and their big toys. This was modern farm equipment and what a size they are today. Included was a Fendt 1050 which is supposed to be the world's most powerful conventional tractor. A John Deere 9RX Quadtrack, a Claas Xerion tractor, a Claas Tucano Combine Harvester and a Ropa Tiger Sugarbeet Harvester. In total there was over £2 million worth in the ring.

To mark the 100-year anniversary of the end of World War One they put on a special show called The Cavalry of Heroes. This was to remember the role that horses and soldiers (our heroes) played in the Great War, combining tricks and stunts on horseback with running commentary.

To view all my photographs or join our club go to NVTEC-EA.

[Gordon Carson NVTEC-EA.](#)



CITROEN CAR CLUB NATIONAL RALLY 2018

On World Cup Day, Sunday 15th July, myself, Bryan and Julie decided to have a change from our usual vintage tractors and take the Citroen B14 Roadster to the Citroen Car Club National Rally which was being held at Abbots, Ripton, nr Huntingdon in Cambridgeshire.

We arrived at 9.00am and were made very welcome, having never been to a car club show/rally we had no idea what to expect. We soon got unloaded and parked up and for the first time we put the soft top down and it made the car look very different. This B14 was built in 1927 in Slough, England at a cost then of just £178.00 as a 2-seater and fitted



with a dickey seat. It has a 4-cylinder petrol engine fitted with an RB 10/4 magneto producing 12-24 HP with 4-wheel cable brakes – Registration No. DS 8221. There were a very good turn out with about 200 or so Citroens of all ages, makes and models.

The day soon went, and it then came to the presentation and to our surprise we won a certificate for the category of concourse – best in show. We were all very pleased and added to a great day out so many thanks to those who give up their time to organise these events.

[Gordon Carson NVTEC-EA](#)

Across the County Boarder



Drawing the curtains at 6.30am on Sunday 21st October - an hour of the day not normally seed by me these days - it was a very autumbe morn with light mist rolling across the fields and an air of sharp freshness though not a frost. Well there's no time to linger as the vast silt marsh soil of Holbeach Marsh needs to be ploughed. So with a quick coffee & sausage roll it was hit the road and with county passport in hand head to my very good friends Jon and Janice Moulis at Gedney Drove End in Lincolnshire. On arrival Jon was there to meet and greet with another cup of coffee before hitching our steeds for the day to their matching ploughs. Jon was aboard his M/F 4 cylinder 35 that after some considerable head scratching seen the engine rebuilt several times before curing a poor starting problem that was a common issue with this particular model. The M/F 35 was paired with a 2 furrow Ferguson plough, I myself was re-united with the Fordson Power Major Tricycle that I used to keep at Stradsett for many years. During the Summer she was removed having a new valve seat fitted, head skimmed and new gaskets fitted. Also servicing the hydraulics with new o-rings and seals as the lift hold had become very poor. So matching up to a Fordson 2 furrow plough was going to be a good running in exercise. So with mid morning fast approaching it was time to hit the road as we had a 10 mile road run to Fosdyke before we drew our first furrow. On arriving at the site we were greeted by the Pearsall Family who with other members of the Holbeach Marsh Vintage Tractors club had organised the week end to raise money for Prostate Cancer. The professionals had a competition match on the Saturday but Sunday was for a fun day supported by some 30 plus tractors and two crawler combinations. A great day of ploughing and chat and making new friends not quit so serious. The day was to be made complete with a very sunny enjoyable ride back to Drove End along the Marsh roads with there neatly trimmed hedges breaking up the very flat landscape, once back at base Janice prepared an evening meal while Jon and myself cleaned and greased the ploughs and packed our trusty steeds away.

Peter Thorpe NVTEC-EA



Vintage Tractor Charity Road Run Sunday 7th April 2019

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 6th April until 10am on Monday 8th April.



For Entry and Sponsorship Forms Contact

David Askew 01945 430481
Gordon Carson 01945 880091
Or Download Them From www.nvtec-ea.org.uk

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.

Supporting Registered Charity 1083876



Sun 5th & Mon 6th May 2019



43rd Stradsett Park Vintage Rally



'Steam Engines - Mini Tractor Pulling - Dogs Welcome'



A Great Day Out Supporting Local Charities
Adults £7.50 & Children Under 16 Free

2019 Theme: 100 Year Old Tractors, Single Cylinder Tractors, Ploughs and Cultivators



Catering - Fairground - Ring Displays - Trade Stands -

www.nvtec-ea.org.uk

Pre-Booked Exhibits Only



Where The A134 Crosses The A1122
East Of Downham Market, PE33 9HA



Woolpit Steam 31st Show 2nd & 3rd June

Woolpit Steam is now in its 31st year and the Seeley brothers certainly know how to put on a show. Last year was their 30th anniversary and they managed to raise an astonishing £19,800.00 for local charities and give all us exhibitors a great weekend away so very well done to them all. The 2018 show day started wet early morning but by the time we unloaded the sun was shining and that's how it stayed. This is the 3rd show this year I have been to where the weather threatened to spoil the show but has come



out nice. Stradsett, Carrington and Woolpit have all been very lucky. This year Woolpit had a harvesting display showcasing the evolution of harvesting equipment on the farm and how it quickly advanced over 100 years. There were two nice Model G Saundeson tractors there and apparently, they built some other models but with the wartime conditions the government placed an order for 400 model G tractors, so all the other models were discontinued. We took along our 1931 Austin French Industrial which is a petrol/TVO tractor on pneumatic tyres fitted with a Latham rear mount winch. We also took the 1933 Cletrac 25 which is fitted with a straight 6-cylinder Chrysler engine and 12-volt electric start. The tractor that really caught my



eye was Peter Goddard's 1927 Wallis 20-30. These are a nice size tractor and despite it being rusty it did look and sound great. Peter told me it had been completely rebuilt from engine to gearbox and it did run very well. We have a 1922 Wallis OK 1527 which was the fore runner of this tractor and they sound like a spitfire. Just fantastic. Chris Leeder from Long Stratton was happily parading his International Mogul 8-16 which always seems to run so well. Mr P Hammond had his 1919 International Junior there, again looking good, so I have suggested to the Seeley brothers about having a gathering of International Juniors so keep an eye out for



that next year. Matthew Hoy was there with his new lorry and new Farmall F20 tractor which both looked great. There was a good display of stationary engines and Ivan Smith was displaying his newly restored John Deere E 1.5hp 1929 engine with a Bentall plate mill. The Wests took their Austin tractor, Cletrac crawler and 1933 Austin 7 car. I'm not sure where the day went but it was a good one and I was only there on the Saturday because I attended the Hockwold show on the Sunday.

Gordon Carson NVTEC-EA

Hello junior members, not much to say this quarter. The rally season is finished, the ploughing matches are busy. The weather is turning colder rather quickly and I hope you are all keeping safe and warm. It won't be long before we are all meeting up on the rally field, especially with Norwich being early at the end of March. Well I know it's early but happy Christmas and hope you all have a great time with plenty of presents that you really need. See you in 2019.

Debbie Curry

CLUB CLOTHING:

Contact Debbie 07745484026 • currydeborah2@gmail.com

Hi Everyone

The NVTEC group must carry on, so let's have your membership renewals back so we have members to arrange events for.

Please remember your information is important to us to enable us to send your magazines we need all parts of the renewal filled and able to be read.

Please, Please, Please will you think about helping with the rally it really will not run without more help, so Please come on, you do not need to be on the main committee you can be a friend and a helper.

We have this year had to say farewell to a few long standing members, we send their families Our sympathy at this sad time.

We'll believe it or not it's Christmas and we are now ready for 2019 so Happy New Year and please join in when ever you can.

Chris Hunt



THE JACK RICHARDS COLLECTION



The iconic Jack Richards collection was auctioned at the Cambridge vintage sale at Sutton on October 20th.

The 11 vehicles were collected by Jack Richards, founder of Fakenham-based haulage company, and have all been lovingly restored they were shown in his private museum until his family decided his wonderful collection was no longer being appreciated so would offer others the opportunity to purchase these vehicles and enjoy them as Jack had done.

The vehicles range from 1946 to 2000 and include manufacturers such as ERF, Seddon, Albion, AEC and Bedford.

Lot 2114 - 1952 Bedford 'O Type' petrol 4x2 wooden dropside lorry - Winning Bid £9,000

Lot 2115 - 1953 Bedford 'S Type' 4x2 diesel wooden dropside lorry - Winning Bid £8,500

Lot 2116 - 1955 Albion Chieftain FT37 diesel 4x2 aluminium dropside lorry - Winning Bid £9,500

Lot 2117 - 1946 ERF C15 diesel 4x2 wooden dropside lorry - Winning Bid £15,000

Lot 2118 - 1963 ERF KV diesel 4x2 wooden flatbed lorry - Winning Bid £10,000

Lot 2119 - 1946 Seddon MK5 6ton diesel 4x2 wooden flatbed lorry - Winning Bid £14,000

Lot 2120 - 1957 AEC Mercury diesel 4x2 tractor unit - Winning Bid £12,000

Lot 2121 - 2000 ERF EC11 38MT 6x2 diesel tractor unit - Winning Bid £20,500

Lot 2122 - 1970 ERF LV 4x2 diesel tractor unit - Winning Bid £18,800

Lot 2123 - 1973 ERF A-Series 4x2 diesel flatbed lorry - Winning Bid £22,000

Lot 2124 - 1954 ERF 44G LV 4x2 diesel wooden dropside lorry - Winning Bid £13,000

Christine & Derek Russell's Canadian holiday

We have just returned from a trip to Canada, we landed at Calgary and then rented a Motorhome to tour through the Rockies and beyond. The weather was very kind to us with warm sunshine during the day and sharp frosts at night.

Snow covered mountains was then starting to slowly melt turning into small waterfalls running down the mountain side, but given another few weeks, these will become cascading falls filling some of the now dried up streams, rivers and lakes. What frozen lakes have now melted, the water in some are a beautiful turquoise colour and the water very clear. In Kananaskis Country and the surrounding areas is a brilliant place for the outdoor person, people of various ages climbing the high jagged rocks, some climb so high they look small children up there, not for the faint hearted.

Along some rivers the fast flowing rapids you can see canonists trying to keep their canoe upright as they paddle through the rushing water for all their might trying not to fall into the icy cold water.

Very enthusiastic cyclists everywhere you drive along the winding roads, their faces red and puffing as they pedal the ascending roads in front of them. It's also a hive of activity for walkers, pulling off the road at any convenient place along the way leaving their vehicle and disappearing for the day walking along the many marked trails. As not to frighten any Black bears hikers might encounter on their way, they should make a noise of some kind, by carry a walking stick with a bell tied to them, or sing if walking alone, as this is to frighten off any Black bears they might come across, as if the bears hear humans about they will run away, but if you creep up on a bear and frighten them they could attack, so walkers or wilderness campers are advised to also carry an aerosol of Pepper spray at all times and if you do encounter one, spray the bear with it, avoiding eye contact or curl up in a ball and play dead, do NOT run as the bear will chase and attack you. We did see twenty four Black bears on our trip, but I hasten to add from the safety of the vehicle.

Leaving the mountains behind and driving into the country side we were amazed where some people had built their home, a small wooden cabin miles from anywhere, and the amount of discarded vehicles surrounding the cabin, years of old rusty cars, tractors, and various other types of machinery standing about, but they either own a large boat, motorhome or caravan standing there ready to jump in and go away weekends as they are very big in camping, and fishing, once Friday afternoon is here everyone is out for the weekend no matter what the weather was going to be.

Also along the roads we noticed signs about every 10 to 15 km with a name saying "This section of Highway is kept clean by either a family or company" and we would often see vehicles parked on the grass verge and families with young children each with a black bin bag collecting up the rubbish that was laying around, when the bag was full they tied it up and left it by the roadside for a van to come along and collect it up.

We were staying at a camp site sitting in deck chairs by a frozen covered lake, surrounded by snow capped mountains, the sun beating down, eating an ice cream, a matter of fact so hot we ended up inside the motorhome, when a voice shouted "Hello" on going to see who was calling at the door, a man's voice asked if he could get Miss Piggy who had wondered from their site further along, sure we replied, waiting to see the dog, but amazed when the guy walked back with a large PIG it had a harness on and he fixed a dog lead to it and commanded Miss Piggy to sit and it did. It was the Canadians long weekend (Bank

holiday) and they wasn't going to leave piggy behind.

Leaving behind the mountains and driving through vast area of arable land. As it was the month of May it did seem strange to see the large round straw bales dotted about the fields which has just been baled, apparently they harvest the crop after there has been a frost, we saw lots of stubble fields along the way, some had traces of ash on them, as they are still allowed to burn stubble over there.

The familiar green & yellow tractors pull the massive machinery behind them, which we could not believe how they are left on the land by the side of the interstate highway, just as they had finished work for the day, not hidden by fences or hedges, just left out in the open countryside. As we drove through small communities, small store selling lawn mowers, quad bikes & chain saws which all stood along the verge in front of their store, not chained or locked up and apparently there are left out overnight.. From arable then you can see acres of grass fields with the cattle grazing and another field has a massive irrigation system making the grass a lush green ready for the cattle to move onto at a later date, you can also see an odd herd of deer feeding alongside the cattle taking advantage of the grass. Also we came across large fields of green plants growing under black nets, we asked a resident what would be growing under these nets and he told us that it would be Ginseng plants used for many different concoctions.

The Canadian Pacific trains make our trains look like matchbox toys, on one occasion the camp site we stayed at, happened to be beside the main railway line, so while sitting outside enjoying the sunshine the familiar sound came closer with 2 engines at the front pulling 84 long low loader trolley's with twin axles at each end, fully loaded with planks of timber and double stacked containers, another engine in the middle and then 62 fully loaded trolley's and last but not least another engine at the back, we were told these trains are approximately 1.6 miles in length, trains were back and forth all night, hooted every time they approached the crossing near the camp site even in the middle of the night. So a very sleepless night was had by all.

We have travelled miles in Canada, but whatever store we visited we were always asked "Where do you come from" ? when we said England, their reply was "Oh we have got family in England" So beware, if you visit Canada you might be talking to your relative.



My apologies for no Chairman's Chat last time round, the hot, dry summer meant it was all systems go for work and no let up.

Although not able to go myself I understand the Working Weekend was a resounding success. There were over 80 participants and thus a result of approximately £1800 was raised less expenses for the Moth in a China Shop Charity. Many thanks to David and family for organising this event and also thanks to the helpers involved in this superb event. Grateful thanks too to Masons Farm for their co-operation.

Our first winter meeting took place recently and we had a talk on the Lancaster Bomber; it was extremely interesting and hope that was the opinion from all who attended. A full winter's programme has been organised so hope as many members as possible can come along for the upcoming talks.

I would like to thank the Committee, friends and helpers for their support over the last 12 months.

Henry Howlett

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Minneapolis-Moline to feature at Stradsett Rally 2020

MM tractors over the years don't very often get featured at many rallies so they will be the feature of the Stradsett Park Vintage Rally 2020 along with Eastern European tractors. I have a passion for the MM range and would love to see a good selection at the show so please get out your Minneapolis-Molines, Twin City, Mathis Moline or Moline Plow Company and get them ready for 2020. Reg Fletcher, our tractor steward, will be happy to receive your entry forms when the time comes. Bexwell Tractors was only a couple of miles down the road from Stradsett so I'm sure the Zetor will be a big part of the display. I can't wait.

Gordon Carson
NVTEC-EA

Diary Dates

Vintage Tractor Charity Road run 7th April 2019.

Stradsett Park Vintage Rally Sunday 5th and
Monday 6th May 2019,.

Working Weekend & Ploughing Match Saturday 31st
August & Sunday 1st September 2019.

Vintage Tractor Charity Road Run
Sunday 14th April 2019.

Summer visit Date to be confirmed.

Winter Meetings

Thursday 20th December 2018 Sugar Beet & its History with Robin Limb • Thursday 17th January 2019 Belmont Nurseries with Mark Eves • Thursday 14th February 2019 Steering wheel to Lap Top Manager with Peter Thorpe • Thursday 21st March 2019 The Humble Pea With Martin Dickinson.

Thank you to all who have contributed to this issue.

Please, please send me your stories, we would love to hear about them, big or small articles will be greatly received, send to: truereflections77@yahoo.co.uk

Many Thanks Jane Loveday (deadline for next issue 1st Feb)

Hockwold Country Fair 2018



The Hockwold Country Fair is held each year at Wilton Farm, Main Road, Hockwold, Thetford in Norfolk. One of our

Stradsett Rally stewards, Judy Webb and her sister Ros help to organise this great event so I like to go every other year to support them. This year it was on Sunday 3rd June, so I left Woolpit at about 7am and made my way there as its about half way home for me. The early morning was a bit foggy but that soon cleared up to leave a good sunny day. This country fair always amazes me and shows how much you can get into a reasonably small area. It also looks so much tidier without all the caravans, etc. which you get at the 2-day shows. This year they had 39 tractors and horticultural, 6 steam engines, 12 stationary engines, 56 vintage/ classic cars, 10 commercials, 15 motorbikes, trades, fair ground, heavy horses and catering.



Keith Gore, one of our long-standing club members was out showing his 1970 Lotus Mk2 Cortina. It was custom built to the customers requirements in dark blue with a vinyl roof. Keith has owned this for over 9 years. Judy and John had brought Densels little BMC tractor along for him

to display. He knows very little about the tractor but enjoys it anyway. As I had been to Woolpit the day before I was still loaded with the 1931



French industrial Austin 4-cylinder petrol/ TVO tractor on pneumatic tyres and rare Latham which fitted to the rear. I also had on the 1933 Cletrac model 25 crawler which has a straight 6 petrol engine fitted. There was a very nice original condition Chevy pick up truck built in 1931 in the USA and also fitted with a straight 6 petrol engine. It was a great relaxing day and thoroughly enjoyable; thanks to all involved.

Gordon Carson NVTEC-EA

Eastern Counties Vintage Show



We've been attending the Eastern Counties Show since the beginning and seen it change from predominately tractors to more commercials. Despite being a vintage tractor man, I do have quite a passion for old lorries as my dad was a lorry driver and I can remember going to London delivering bricks from London Brick Company at King Dyke in the 70's. This was when you had to hand ball them on and back off at the other end. We took the 1919 Heider 9-16 built by the Rock Island Plow Company which is quite a unique make of tractor as it has a friction drive. This means the complete engine moves forward and backwards to adjust your speed and there is a large plate either side of the fly wheel for forward and reverse. It's a four-cylinder straight petrol tractor which spent its life in a saw mill under cover. The Wests brought along their Hart Parr 30 looking and sounding great as always. Apparently, we won with the Heider but unfortunately, I was at a charity ball that night which raised £3,100 for the children's Rudham ward at the Kings Lynn Hospital so the prize went to the Wests with their Hart Parr; however they also were out so it then went to Bob Park very deservedly for his very nice Massey Harris 12-20 so congratulations to Bob. The show now has a superb display of commercial vehicles new and old. Polishing a tractor or two for a show can be quite time consuming but you see the size of some of the commercials and the quality of the restorations I don't envy the person with the polish rag! The show has quite a variety of exhibits but can be spread out and due to the buildings don't always come across as well as it should but still a good weekend and thanks to all.



Gordon Carson
NVTEC-EA

