



JUNE 2023

VINTAGE TORQUE

PRESERVING THE PAST FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

Stradsett Vintage Rally 2023

Every year it gets bigger and better and the team work harder and harder to put on this fantastic event for us all to enjoy.

I've seen first hand the amount of effort that has to go into the rally and the last minute changes that have to be put into place to allow the show to go on!

The weather definitely wasn't on their side this year and in the weeks leading up to the weekend tension was high but they still battle on, not knowing if it may all be in vein.

Luckily Sunday brought beautiful sunshine and the field was buzzing with excitement, noise and the unforgettable smell that lets you know you're at Stradsett Vintage Rally.

Monday was not so kind but they kept their spirits high and made it the best they could...

Thank you for a fantastic family day out and congratulations for the money raised for local charities.

**Thank you all
for your hard work**
Jane Loveday, Editor

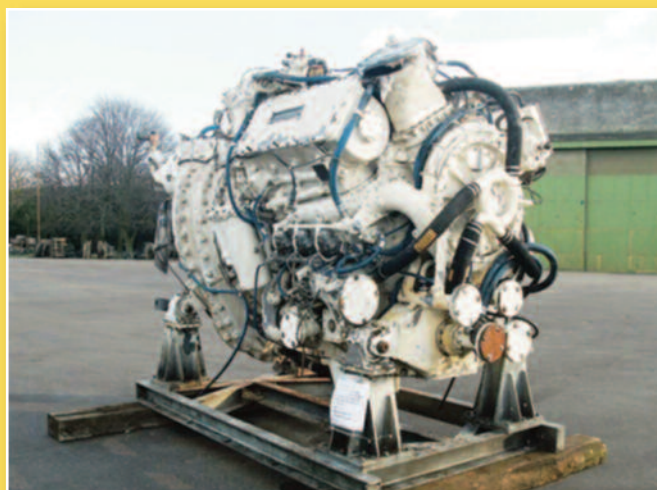
RECENT VISIT TO YORK RAILWAY MUSEUM



Pride of place on the turn table

The original museum buildings have been closed for refurbishment and as many exhibits as possible have been moved to the purpose built new building on the opposite side of the road, this has made the exhibits slightly more cramped than usual.

The railway turntable has been relocated to the new building and pride of place on the turntable was given to the first 2000 hp diesel engine that operated on the Norwich to London line. This engine was accompanied by a cut away section of the Napier Deltic engine explaining the workings of the engine. The engine has 3 crank shafts with opposing pistons and 3 banks of pistons giving 18 in total, this is equipped with turbo charging on each bank of cylinders. The top 2 crank shafts turn clockwise, whilst the bottom crankshaft turns anti clockwise giving a total of 2000 hp. This engine was first designed in the 1940s to power Royal Navy fast patrol boats and is very light weight for its power output.



Complete engine and gear box assembly



Sectional view of Deltic Engine

STRADSETT PARK VINTAGE RALLY 2023 - A TALE OF 2 HALVES

PART ONE

The 2023 Stradsett Park Vintage Rally was a bit of a challenge to say the least. I am not sure what people get paid for telling us the weather forecast, but if most of us got things wrong as often as them, then we would be out of a job. We had the driest February on record followed by the wettest March for 40 years and an April that was not much better. Cancellation was considered but not really an option. As you will all know, next year is our club's 50th anniversary so we are having a 3-day special events to celebrate. This will be held on Saturday 4th, Sunday 5th and Monday 6th May with exhibitors arriving from Thursday morning at 9.00am, 2nd May 2023. This show will be my last in charge so the theme for this will be David Brown and Turner Yeoman of England.

Normally we mark out the field the Friday before, but it was heavy rain. However, the Saturday was much better, so we got some grass cutting and rolling done ready for the Monday to mark out. Monday morning came with some sunshine and a weather forecast prediction of other than possibly an odd shower of less than 1mm off rain, we should be good right through the week and the rally weekend. At this point I made



the difficult decision with the backing of the committee, to spend several thousands of pounds of the club's money to lay temporary roadway to try to prevent problems and cancellation. When I left the field on the Thursday night I was beginning to think we had wasted the club's money but it then started to rain

and it rained most of the night. Friday morning brought us a very wet and misty day – gutted. I called in to pick up the programmes from Minuteman Press and arrived on site just before 7.30am. I probably should apologise to the stationary engine exhibitor who pulled in at 7.40am when we don't open until 9.00am. Please don't arrive before 9.00am unless you have arranged with your steward to meet you at the gate and park you where you need to be. As the morning got going, it was clearly going to be one of those days, towing people in but everyone just got on with it and I think the day went very well, all things considered. I must also bring up a very sore point – Terry and Larry were pulling in lots of lorries and traders with



Terry's John Deere, so I made the decision to allow Larry to ride in the cab. We could not expect him to walk up, down and around that field all day and a second vehicle was unnecessary and would have just added to the problems. So, I thank them both as I am sure many exhibitors and traders would also thank them. My head assistant Jake Negus was using the John Deere Gaiter on loan kindly from Clive and Andrew Melton to assist a lot of the smaller vehicles. Saturday morning came with sunshine and the field soon dried up. We got most in without too many problems and I thank you all for coming and being so patient, it really makes a difference.



Sunday show – day one came and between 6.00am and 9.30am as normal was a bit frantic, but again my team just got the job done, no fuss. just got on with it – very well done to all. We were now ready to enjoy the day, and what a day it was. The public came in their





droves, and it was a real pleasure to walk around seeing hundreds of people just enjoying a family day out at a vintage rally and for only £10.00 per adult with children free, what a bargain. We again had live entertainment in the bar which seems to go down very well. New for 2023 was our craft tent which seemed to go very well and will be repeating again for next year. There was plenty to see and admire from Steam engines large and small, one of the biggest displays of Allis Chalmers tractors ever seen, 2 rows of club stands that just amaze me each year with the work that everyone puts into them, just fantastic and all very friendly. The classic and veteran cars, commercials and motorcycles were all shining in the sun shine and then the icing on the cake was that there were people everywhere, just brilliant. I was walking around like a Cheshire cat with a smile from ear-to-ear. The by-gones/awning displays along with the horticultural all looked stunning, and I enjoy looking at these. I walked around the complete stationary engine line and again what a display – who would want the job of judging that lot – some great working exhibits. All the trade had a good footfall and I hope I provided a good variety of catering this year but again queues at all of them so what more can we do. The heavy horses displayed from their own area and rang me to say what a good weekend they had. Due to the number of exhibits entered we had to restrict the ring parades to odd numbers on the Sunday and even numbers on the Monday, which was working very well until it rained Sunday night of course. The ring was busy all day. In fact you could hardly get around the ring for people. John Shepherd who was exhibiting here for the first time, said he had never seen so many people around a ring at a vintage event. Malcolm Mycock and all the stewards do a marvellous job, it's not easy getting all the old beautiful vehicles through to the ring safely, but they manage to do it.



After the show finished, we had a quick steward briefing and then cracked on with emptying all the bins ready for Monday. It was then time for our hog roast and evening entertainment. This year I asked Ben to bring forward the serving time to 6.30pm so we could feed all the helpers who had been on the go since about 6.00am, but also to feed all of Pauline Petch's team from the 42 air cadets. What an amazing job they did looking after both car parks all day, but very hard work and I thank them all, just brilliant. This worked very well as we then started feeding the main exhibitors at 6.50pm. Ben and his team did a wonderful job and fed some 420 people in just over 2 hours. Entertainment started about 7.15pm with both Perfect Vintage and Sparky and Sprite entertainment singing 'Happy Birthday' to my wife, Jayne. Jayne has had to contend with her birthday falling around Stradsett rally for many years now but she still supports me 100% and I could not ask for any more. I think the day and evening went very well and had nothing but good positive reports. We finished our entertainment about



10.15pm as I believe its only fair to exhibitors who have got to be up early and do it all again the next day. By about 11.00pm it started to rain I didn't really let up all night waking up to a very

wet rally field on the bank holiday Monday morning.

Thanks to all the stewards, Friends of Stradsett who look after the pay gates to welcome all and then thank them for coming. The whole team over the setting up week and weekend were just fantastic and I'm not sure what I would have done without my assistant/godson, Jake Negus – talk about above and beyond. Thank you all. (part two to follow in the September Vintage Torque)

Gordon Carson - NVTEC-EA

ROAD RUN 2023



On Sunday, 2nd April, the National Vintage Tractor and Engine Club held their annual charity road run. We again set off from Fence Bank, Walpole Highway with kind permission from Bryan and Julie Beba. Sadly, the run up to the event was the 4 weeks of March and the wettest March for 40 years. This meant we had to keep off the field but, in the end, this didn't cause any problems. We then very nearly had a catastrophe as one of the lights in the booking in/tea shed caught alight and being an old wooden chicken house, we were very lucky to still be there, and it was soon dealt with.



My son, Andrew came to help park up the tractors so his wife, Katie and 2 of my grandchildren came to have a look, so I took the opportunity to get a couple of photos of them standing with

the club's chairman, Henry Howlett's John Deere 42-40s. I loved driving the John Deere 42-40 back in the 80's when I worked on Clive Melton's farm. So back to the charity road run – we had 38 tractors turn up which for us is a very nice number, enough to raise money but not too many to manage at junctions, etc. Every year people really do amaze me by stepping up to support such events, we cannot thank them enough. These people travel here, give up their time, spend money on fuel, wear and tear on their tractors and then on top of that either raise money for charity or pay a donation themselves, but however I thank them all.

Then we get the volunteers who of course without we could not run any events. Peter Thorpe, Malcolm Tompsett, Malcolm Bush, Richard Perry, Anola Perry, Judy Webb, Richard Bennett and myself, and



again I thank them all. After a briefing for the drivers and stewards we left Fence Bank at 10.30am turning left towards King's Lynn, soon heading through back roads, arriving at Samuels butchers at 11.30am for our first stop. We then headed off again through back roads, heading up to Tilney, arriving at the Coach and Horses pub for lunch. After a good lunch we turned right, again heading towards King's Lynn, soon turning off towards Tilney Cum Islington. We arrive at Marshland Village Hall just after 3.00pm. All 3 stops accommodated us very well and really welcomed us and on behalf of us all I thank you.



This year most of the tractors were vintage or classic with some petrol/paraffin, but they are becoming less common for road runs which is understandable.

Philip Kitchen however was driving a very nice little grey Fergie reg JTX 879 tea 20 petrol/TVO. One nice looking road run tractor was Peter Kidd's Nuffield 10/60 reg KNG 779D. Peter Alflatt was driving something a bit different, a Mercedes 1968 truck LWT 299H. Young Daniel Taylor was driving round in a very nice Ford 7700. Tom Venni and Georgia Smith were driving around in 2 good



looking David Browns, so I hope they will be at Stradsett next year for our 3-day special.

The day went very well, and I don't believe we caused any problems to local traffic, keeping off the main roads. We always give a trophy to the person who raises the most sponsorship and this year the Supreme Windows Ltd trophy went to Chris Rayner who raised an amazing £180.00. However, he was sadly ill so his son, Daniel kindly stepped in so thank you Daniel and we hope Chris gets well soon.

The total raised was a fantastic £1,580.00 for the Air Ambulance.

Thanks to all involved.

Gordon Carson
NVTEC-EA

NEC MOTOR SHOW 2023

Back in 2020, just prior to the Covid pandemic, the NVTEC-EA won best club stand at the Tractor World show at Malvern. We were then asked to put on a display at the NEC Motor Show in the November, this was quite exciting as the show attracts some 50,000 public so what an amazing opportunity, however covid struck and the rest they say is history.

Moving onto 2023, we again won best club stand at the Tractor World show and have now again been invited to put on our club display at this years Motor Show held at the NEC Birmingham over the weekend of Friday 10th to Sunday 12th November 2023.

I feel very proud of our club and despite it will be a lot of work and worry but to get the chance to show case what we do as a club at a show of this size I believe will be amazing.

I will keep you all updated.

Gordon Carson - NVTEC-EA



Icy Cold Road Run – in aid of Addenbrookes Hospital

On Sunday 22nd January 2023, I attended the Downham Market Young Farmers tractor road run in aid of Addenbrooke's Hospital in Cambridge. I have got to give full credit to the tractor drivers who attended without cabs or any reasonable form of heating. I don't class myself as a wimp as I am out in the cold a lot however -5 degrees, freezing fog in January on a vintage tractor without a cab for 4-5 hours takes a very brave and dedicated driver, some might even say they must have been mad!



In total there was 89 tractors but 16 without cabs, we must remember these tractor drivers, organisers, stewards, and helpers all give up their time and fuel, plus some who need transport all to come and donate to a very good cause.

I arrived just after 9am to find to my amazement a field full of tractors, hot drinks and bacon rolls were also available. Walking round looking at the old tractors with the ice build up on the grills and lights said it all... cold! Of course then you move up to the older tractors but still with a cab, still not that comfortable or warm but compared to no cab on a day like this would have been like a luxury.

We set off from Church Farm about 10am, heading on through the back roads and as you can imagine 80+ tractors on the back or main roads on an icy and foggy winter morning did not go down too well with some of the more impatient drivers but I am sure if they knew we were raising money for the Addenbrookes hospital, they may have been more understanding. We stopped off for lunch at the Heron pub at Stow Bridge which was kind of them. There

was a ploughman's lunch available and free to stewards. I must mention the slice of warm Victoria sponge cake from the wife of one of the drivers (Angela Kitchen) was very nice and just an example of the good support we all get.

It is nice to see a lot of young drivers and more young ladies but then it was a young farmers road run. Ryan Batty and Rhianna Colburn came all the way from Holt in a Massey Ferguson 55 135, a big tractor to us vintage boys. It was good to see a lot of our club members their supporting the younger ones all joining in together to raise money for excellent causes.

The event raised a very substantial £1802.36 for the Addenbrookes Hospital so a very well done to all involved.

Gordon Carson - NVTEC-EA



DIARY DATES

Sunday 17th June
Vintage Tractor Road Run
Set off at 10am. Roger Coe, Manor Farm, Grimston
Norfolk, PE32 1BG Tel: 07739 892141

Sunday 2nd July 2023
Thursford Truly Unique Club Stand

Friday 21st July
Summer Visit - Claas UK Headquarters Visit.
Little Saxham, Bury, Bury Saint Edmunds, IP28 6QZ
Meeting at 10am on site please let Tom Venni know
if you are attending for H & S reasons,
for numbers and badges.
Contact Tom on 07557 910246.

Saturday 2nd and Sunday 3rd September
Working Weekend, Hall Farm, Fincham, PE33 9DQ
All proceeds raised go to 'Moth in a China Shop'
For entry forms and further info please contact the
organiser David Mycock 01366 500879 or 07977 337095

Saturday 4th and Sunday 5th November
Club Stand at Newark Vintage Tractor & Heritage Show
Please contact Gordon Carson if you wish to
attend as part of the members club stand

Thursday 16th November
Club Meeting at Ryston Park Golf Club
We will hold our AGM from 7.30pm which will
include several cheque presentations.

December 2023
Club Meeting at Ryston Park Golf Club
Christmas Party and Secret Santa.

SPREAD THE WORD

This year's Manor Farm, Grimston, Vintage Tractor Road Run Sunday June 17th 2023

The Manor Farm, Grimston, Vintage Tractor Road Run will be held on Sunday, June 17th. As before, tractors will be led away by organiser Roger Coe at 10.30am to first traverse the village and then strike into the country for their 22-mile journey via Massingham and Sandringham. Tractors will return around mid-afternoon.

Bacon butties, tea and coffee will be available before the run commences.

Entry forms and details from Roger Coe on 07739 892141 or by email from Peter Coe at coepj@aol.com

STRADSETT RALLY 2023

A rally never to be forgotten, through the magazine can we thank Gordon and all the unnamed volunteers who did a splendid job in extremely difficult conditions through the days before and the very wet weekend. The decision to go ahead was completely correct in my opinion. I hope, that financially, the club did not lose much money over the rally. There did seem to be a very good crowd on the Sunday.

The Allis Chalmers theme was the most popular ever, the number of model 'Bs' should have created a Guinness Book of Records entry. The theme brought out some rare and unusual models I had not seen before. It appeared that the number of entries was up all round taking up nearly all the available space.

The Hog Roast was very good and fortunately we managed to queue up in the dry. I was concerned we may have rain water for gravy.

I would like to give a special thanks to Terry and his John Deere that gave such sterling service, firstly towing people in then towing them back out on Monday and Tuesday. After David rolls the field again with his Allis Crawler they will be looking a lot better, after a few more showers you won't even know we were there.

The question is, did the temporary road save the day, it must have done without it the gateway would have been completely blocked then nothing would get in. At least we could get onto the field and keep roadways mostly clear. Whether the supplier finds all his mats in the mud is another thing.

Thank you again to everybody that helped put on a great show and weekend for exhibitors and public. Good luck for the big one next year. If you need any help just ask.

From all the West family

**WORKING WEEKEND
& PLOUGHING MATCH**

**Saturday 2nd and Sunday 3rd
September 2023**

Hall Farm, Fincham, PE33 9DQ

By kind permission of Hugh Mason



All proceeds raised to go to **Moth in a China Shop**
(Reg Charity No: 1164937)



For entry forms and further information
contact the organiser:
David Mycock - 01366 500879 or
07977 337095

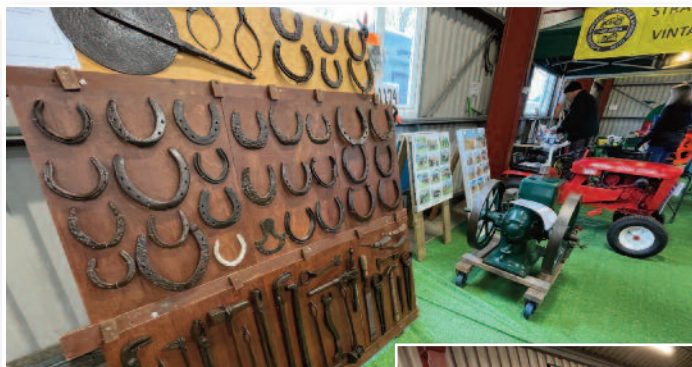
Refreshments available all weekend

MOTH IN A CHINA SHOP

The Newark Vintage Tractor & Heritage Show 2022



I have attended all but the first Newark Tractor shows so have seen many changes over the years. This year the show had changed again with some saying not so good and others saying it was one of the best shows, so it really depends on who you ask. As a rally organizer myself I don't like to criticize other shows as I have learned that in life and especially in the vintage world it doesn't matter what you do you will never please us all. You make one change to improve one section and that impacts on something else. I will say we had a great weekend and thoroughly enjoyed talking to the many visitors that came



to our stand over the weekend. When the show started it seemed to bring out the best of the best whether that was restored or original, but they were generally clean. The NVTEC-EA club stand did stand out a bit and you could be forgiven for thinking it was the shiny tractor club, just stunning. I thought my fellow club members never let me down. We were over the other side this year which was fine but our normal spot we had come to enjoy was less than half full so slightly disappointing. We did however have three trophy winners on the stand with Stuart Bailey winning best NVTEC members vintage exhibit in show with his 1946 Fordson E27N, Stuart restored this petrol / TVO tractor some years ago so to be still winning trophies is a real credit to him. The Wests won best pre-1930 tractor but I think the judges got the wrong end of the club stand Ha! Ha! I am not envious, MUCH. No this is a very stunning 1915 Case 12-25 and well deserved a trophy. I have seen this tractor parade around several rings this year and looks better every time I see it. The Wests also won with their recently restored Fordson E27N half-track



only purchased at the Tractor World Show just before the pandemic began back in 2020 so very well done to achieve this in such a short time. The half-track was a full strip down and restoration job, a lot of work but looked well worth it. I took along the 1927 Hart Parr 18-36 to promote the 2023 Stradsett Park Vintage Rally where the theme is to be Allis Chalmers and Oliver Hart Parr. The 18-36 was based on the previous 16-30 model and was reclassified as the G in 1926 when the size of the bore was increased. It was replaced by the H model 18-36 with a three-speed transmission during 1927, this tractor came from the Paul Rackham sale but has been since fully restored. It is a petrol / TVO tractor and generally runs and drives very well. Ashley and Peter Kidd brought along two lovely looking



cont...

restored Fordsons, firstly Ashley with his 1938 Standard N and Peter with his 1927 Model F a real credit to them both. Craig Kite brought along his fully restored Bautz - AS - 122 diesel horticultural tractor built in 1953. This very well restored machine has won some trophies this year and well deserved. Fred Rudd brought along his well restored wheel horse again, something a bit different to add nicely to our display. Graham Bacon showed off his Blacksmith's tools that is a very interesting display and if you ask the questions, you can learn a lot. Terry Myhill was showing a 1920s International Harvester engine. We do try to have a full variety of things on the stand and as always all is welcome. Malcolm Bush brought us a very nice display of John Deere items from the 80's with his rotavator and lawn edger but also his John Deere Hip & Miss stationary engine. I thought the club stands in general were very good again this year. I think this type of display is far better than lines of tractors, but that's just my opinion. Young Casey,



West celebrated her 4th birthday over the weekend, so we got to enjoy some cake and you all know I love a bit of cake. I can



only thank all who supported the club stand again and all who helped set up and knock down. We try each year to put on a good display in order to promote the club so bring it on next year.

Gordon Carson
NVTEC-EA



Summer Visit
Claas Uk Headquarters Visit

Friday 21st July



Claas Uk Headquarters Visit.
Little saxham, Bury, Bury saint Edmunds, IP28 6QZ

Meeting at 10am on site please let Tom Venni know if you are attending for H & S reasons, for numbers and badges.

Contact Tom on 07557 910246.

TRACKS CHARITY PLOUGHING HORNINGTOFT

SUNDAY 8TH
OCTOBER 2023
10.30am Onwards

CONTACT: Neville 07881 805368

IN AID OF BIG C CENTRE NO: 281730



Starting Handle Club Horticultural Garden Machinery Working Fun Day - Sunday 19th March



The starting handle club do know how to organise a good horticultural working day and on Sunday 19th March they did just that. I arrived about 10.30am and bumped into a well-known old friend Gordon Eastern and enjoyed a cup of tea and a catch up. I then went for a look around



to see what and who was about and firstly come across a committee member Philip Gammon with a nice display of seed drills & push hobs. Moving on to Nevilles David Brown 2Ds working away with both Neville himself driving one and Morris Fish on another, they were looking like they were both having an enjoyable day. Paul and Wendy also with a push hoe and lawn edge display all made by planet junior and manufactured between 1930-1950s. Jim Mawer was doing a very nice bit of ploughing on his Kubota B4200 LWD ploughing



with a D W Tomlin single furrow plough. David Mycock who runs the clubs working weekend in early September was trying out his Allis Chalmers model G built in the 1940s. David Buttruss was also ploughing with his 1959 MG 40 fitted with hydraulics. The MG 40 was the last petrol paraffin motor garden built. Down the bottom of the field was a couple of crawlers that you don't often see working. Owner by Dick Culley from Wroxham in Norfolk firstly was a 1919 model H Cletrac built by the Cleveland tractor company, Cleveland Ohio, USA. This 12hp at the drawbar and 20hp at the pulley fitted with a wieldy engine looked really good on the field. Secondly was Arron Dayne's on Dicks 1929 caterpillar 10 again looking good. No quite so easy to work was a walk



behind all British trusty built in late 40s and only two owners from new was Phill bland enjoying working away. Jim Wakefield was keeping himself fit working his David Brown Bradley with Bradley plough built in 1957. Good to see somebody younger this was Connor Watkins working a little motor plough made up from two machines helped by his grandad. Peter Barnby was working a nice Allis Chalmers Model B built around the 1950s and running and ploughing well with a single furrow ransom plough. Then were a good display of stationary engines working away with a good-looking Herbert Brown model No.2, gas engine was built in 1911 this engine was built to power the printing presses in local Sussex company but later ended up powering printing Presse in Rayleigh Essex. Chris Martins was showing a very nice Nelson little jumbo built in the



1920s and 13/4 hp. As it was Mother's Day, I had to get away a bit sharpish but it's a credit to all involved to give up their time raising money for the EAAA so very well done to all involved.

Gordon Carson
NVTEC EA



From the end of April to the Stradsett weekend a number of enthusiastic volunteers helped in making this venue ready for our annual rally. Grateful thanks to all those who gave their time up to help.

On the Saturday most of the exhibitors and trade stands had arrived without any problems to the field. It was a blessing that Gordon and I had agreed to hire the plastic tracking for car park and show ground.

Sunday started fine and bright and brought in an abundant crowd of people. Every event seemed to run smoothly as arranged.

After the deluge of rain on Sunday night all changed and so by Monday morning the ground was somewhat damp. In the public car park people were experiencing difficulties and as a result with a heavy heart we had to close the gates late morning and stop movement of traffic so as to hopefully be able to get the exhibitors out of the show field.

Alas some of the exhibitors etc had to be helped out.

Nevertheless we still had a successful weekend and again a huge thank you to all, too many to mention but it couldn't have happened without you.

Henry Howlett

NVTEC East Anglia Group Contact Details for Officers and Committee 2023

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Mr G Carson: Publicity Officer & Rally Organizer

01945 880091 • 07860 658767 • stradsett@nvtec-ea.org.uk

Mr D E Askew: Road run organiser

01945 430481 • 07907 388172 • davideaskew71@gmail.com

Mr D C Mycock: Working Weekend organizer and Engine steward

01366 500879 • 07977 337095 • david.claire1@hotmail.com

Miss A Bruce: Main Rally Gate

01366 500228 • 07856 787424 • anniebruce@outlook.com

Mrs J Carson: Treasurer

01945 880091 • jaynecarson@live.co.uk

Mr J Dowe: Main Rally Gate

07843784714 • jackdowe3293@gmail.com

Mrs C Mycock: Membership secretary

07821 319420 • membership@nvtec-ea.org.uk

Geoff Norman - Club Stand Steward

07831 126226

Mr M R Mycock: Assistant working weekend organiser

01366 500250 • 07974 854045 • malcolmmymcock@hotmail.co.uk

Mr R Fletcher: Rally tractor steward/ horticultural

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Mr M Tompsett: Exhibitors parking

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Mrs J Webb: Vice chair/secretary/ Car commercials etc

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MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Hello Everyone,

Hope you are all keeping well and enjoying the start of the rally season. I would just like to take this opportunity to welcome our new club members. NVTEC-EA is the largest club in the country currently with over 550 members, so thank you to everyone for their continued support.

Incase you are not aware, we have a NVTEC-EA Group Facebook page which you can join. Lots of pictures/stories are shared along with important club news/events, so please do feel free to join.

Just a reminder to everyone to ensure you let me know of any changes in personal details (change of address, phone number, email etc) so that I can keep membership details up to date please.

Thank you all and look forward to seeing you at the rallies.

Claire (Membership Secretary)



Harper - 5th June • Katie - 9th June

Sophia - 3rd July • Amy - 6th July

Thomas - 11th July • Macey - 19th July

Alex - 30th July • Lucas - 20th August

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 Aug)

LITTLE VISTA



Admiring engineering ingenuity is not limited to classic tractors and engines, I recently had the pleasure of acquiring a vintage sewing machine. Kindly collected for me from Auction rooms in Somerset by NVTEC members Reg and Kath Fletcher.

This machine dates to 1929 and has its original guarantee alongside operating instructions.

It is an L.O Dietrich 'Little Vesta' no. 5 German made machine. Hiding under the plain bentwood cover (the auction house could not find the case key) the machine is in almost pristine condition, likely due to lack of regular use- a 1948 newspaper cutting was lining the oil tray!

A key was found and revealed the machine, still complete with original paint, red spots denoting the oiling points and little red felt discs on the thread posts.

Many German machines were sold in the UK through companies such as J.D Williams of Manchester. It was common to label them 'foreign made'.

Based on the popular Singer model 12 family machine the little Vesta takes a boat shuttle and is hand crank.

Advertisements of the day describe it as 'a model of perfection, handsomely finished. Complete with automatic bobbin winder and shuttle lifter, the polished wood base has an inlaid yard rule.'

It weighs 20lbs and with smooth quiet running it is testament to the build quality all those years ago.

Karen Lewis

In amidst the rain Malcolm and Joan Bush have all the vests ready for 2024!



Thanks Malcolm and Joan

STRADSETT 2024 50TH ANNIVERSARY 3 DAY SPECIAL



Planning for the 2024 Stradsett Park Vintage Rally is now under way. This is to be a 3-day special event to celebrate the NVTEC-EA group's 50th anniversary. This is also 50 years since they held their first rally on 22nd and 23rd June 1974 at North Lynn Industrial Estate, when I was only 9 years old. The field was cut ready by Malcolm Bush using an MF 35 and a swipe. Malcolm still helps to prepare the field to this day.

We hope to have as many exhibits from the first rally as possible and also to join the main themes of David Brown, all things Turner Yeoman of England, Rusten Hornsby and any open-crank stationary engines. If we are lucky enough to get some good weather, I am sure this will be a spectacular event and something to be remembered for many years after.

This will be my last year as rally organiser as I am stepping back and handing over the reins to a much younger couple, Jack Dowe and Annie Bruce. Jack and Annie have been on the main gate for the last 2 years so you should all have met them by now. I am hoping to remain on the committee and help with the club where I can, so you won't be getting rid of me that easy. However, for the next year my focus is on the 50th anniversary. What I will say is once the entry forms come out around Christmas 2023, don't delay as our rally field is only so big and we do always work on a first come first in.

Thank you all for your support again – looking forward to 2024.

Gordon Carson

