



JUNE 2025

VINTAGE TORQUE

PRESERVING THE PAST FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

RALLY ROUND-UP:

A HEARTFELT THANK YOU
FROM THE ORGANISERS

As the dust settled and the last few Caterpillars left the show field, we were still smiling from ear to ear after organising our very first **Stradsett Park Vintage Rally**- and what a fantastic show it was!

When we first set out to organise this event, knowing the boots we had to fill, we hoped for a good turnout and a smooth day. What we got far exceeded our expectations: a field full of vintage exhibits galore, the rhythmic clatter of classic engines, and a vibrant atmosphere that only comes from a rally field with shared passion for all things old!

We want to extend a **massive thank you to all of our volunteers**-from the car park marshals to the stewards and their team, from the folks manning the pay gates to those guiding exhibitors in and out of the show ring. Your efforts, on what was the most perfect **DRY** weekend, helped everything run like clockwork. Without you, the rally simply wouldn't have happened.

To our **exhibitors**, we are deeply grateful. You brought the heart and soul to the rally-polished paintwork, glorious restorations, outstanding originals and stories that spanned generations. Your commitment to preserving and sharing these wonderful machines is the reason people come, stay, and smile.

We were especially pleased to see so many families, young enthusiasts, and first-time visitors. It's a good sign that the love for vintage machinery is alive and well, and it inspires us all to keep going and grow the rally year after year.

As organisers, we've taken plenty of notes, shared numerous laughs, and learned a great deal. While no first-time event is without its hiccups, the goodwill and camaraderie from everyone involved made it all worthwhile.

We're already looking forward to next year's show-and hope to welcome you all back, along with a few new faces. Until then, keep those engines purring and that polish shining and enjoy the beautiful rally season that is upon us!

With sincere thanks

Annie & Jack Dowe - Rally Organisers

STRADSETT RALLY FLY-BY



Stradsett Vintage Rally Flypast 5th May, The legendary Lancaster Bomber. Many thanks to Judy Webb for putting the application in for a flypast and what a result, amazing and emotional especially just days before the 80th anniversary of VE Day, making a fantastic show even more great. The effort the committee put into this show is above and beyond and we can not thank you enough.

Photo Credit: Judy Webb

STRADSETT RALLY 2025 AERIAL VIEW

We are very lucky to have such a beautiful site to host our rally, the large site allows us to have huge exhibits that appeal to many different people. Many thanks to the Bagge family for continuing to allow us to use their grounds.

Photo Credit: Jamie Robinson



2025 Spring Charity Road Run – 6th April 2025



The 2025 road run had a new venue to give other club members a chance to participate. For the past 13 years it has been run from Bryan and Julie Beba's at Walpole Highway and we have had some excellent

days out. However, it was felt that to give other club members a chance we should find a new venue and in turn a new route. Peter Thorpe organised this by securing the use of Melrose Farm, Shouldham, Norfolk. This was by kind permission from Mr. Hipperson and we thank him for the use of his land and facilities.

I arrived at approximately 8.20 a.m. and Peter was set up with signs, etc. waiting for arrivals. They soon started rolling in and we provided tea, coffee, biscuits and cakes for all on this lovely sunny Sunday morning. This year David Askew was unable to



attend as it was his 50th wedding anniversary and his family had treat him and his wife, Sue to a well-deserved weekend away, although we did wind him up about it.

After Peter and Tom gave a short safety briefing, we were all ready to set off for 10.15 a.m. Peter was to lead with myself, Judy Webb, Richard Perry, and Malcolm Thompsett stewarding the busy junctions. As always Richard Bennett was kindly taking photographs for the club which is a huge help.

The morning route took us through Shouldham, Marham, farm lanes and up to Pentney lakes stopping off at Narborough village hall for refreshments. The staff at the village hall, who are all volunteers, looked after us very well, considering we had 26 who booked lunch, but they had catered for more like 46. So many thanks to them all.



Leaving Narborough at approximately 2.15 p.m., heading back to Marham, we then turned up and went through Marham airfield coming back down the Shouldham road, the other side of Marham village. We then drove through more lanes, eventually coming back to Melrose farm for approximately 3.15 p.m.



There was a vast variety of tractors from Allis Chalmers, Ford and Fordson, International, Massey Ferguson, Nuffield, Davis Brown, John Deere, Kubota and Zetor. Nowadays most of these are diesel for obvious reasons although Neil Ayres was still running his 1949 Allis Chalmers, model U, Reg.

KPW 198 on petrol/TVO and as always it was running very well.

Each year there is a trophy supplied by





Supreme Windows Ltd for the most sponsorship raised. This year it was won by Peter Caley who raised a massive £240.00, so a very well-deserved winner.

Peter was driving his 1984 Massey Ferguson 690.

All in all, we had a great day, and we raised over £1,300.00 for

The East Anglia Air Ambulance. I would like to thank all who helped, all who took part and all who donated, as we all know without events like these, services such as the air ambulances would not be available to our friends and families.

Thank you all.

Gordon Carson - NVTEC-EA

UPWELL FUN CHARITY TRACTOR RUN 2025

Once again the family of Adrian, Liz and Steph. Thorpe with friends of Upwell Playing Field committee put together another fantastic fun day of cruising the Fen roads from Upwell through Marshland, Emneth, Elm, Friday Bridge and back to Upwell. This circular trip of the Fens on Sunday 16th February started with registering and bacon rolls before setting off at 10.30am to an enthusiastic crowd lining the road out of Upwell as the 43 tractors evenly split between old classic and modern with the older tractors at the front. A midway stop was at Marshland village Hall where hot drinks and refreshments were available. On returning to Upwell Playing Field around mid afternoon the day was rounded off with a large raffle with many prizes donated by local business and friends with the proceeds of £1500 going to Great Ormond Street Childrens Hospital.

Peter
Thorpe



Tidying up a 1940s Caterpillar D2 J Diesel



2025 brings with it 100 years of Caterpillar so Stradsett Rally and Newby Hall Tractor Fest have both made it one of the themes. In October of 2024 we decided to get the

Justyn who could not have been more helpful. They advised it was more likely to be the seals on the combustion chambers rather than the head gasket.

At this time that didn't seem to be a problem as they could order new ones. I ordered all the parts - gaskets, filters and new chamber with seals including the head gasket just to be safe. We then set about removing the old 4 combustion chambers, which wasn't as easy as it sounds. After some heat, a 1" drive T-bar with 2 6' bars on and 2 of us on the ends, you would think that would move anything. Not a chance, in fact it twisted the 1" drive bar. So back to the drawing board.

After making and trying many other things, in the end we had to weld a piece of 32mm Hex bar in the chamber and use an 18-volt impact gun and they came out. I was one of the first builders to purchase battery drills and tools about 40 years ago, but even today if somebody told me that an 18-volt impact gun would move something that 2 men with 6' bar couldn't, well I would have laughed at them but believe me it did. Anyway all 4 out safely, only to then find out this part has now been

D2 out and give it a clean and run ready for 2025. Peter Thorpe came over one Saturday afternoon to give us a hand as he had a self-start for the donkey engine. This actually went very well considering it is about 15 years since we put it in the shed.



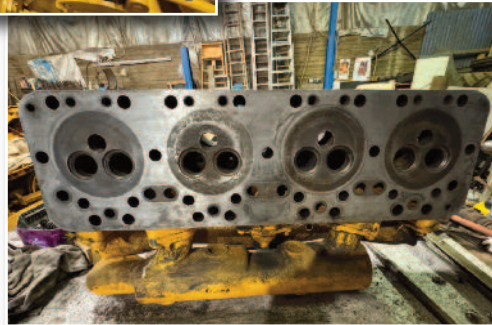
The donkey engine started once we cleaned the petrol system through and the diesel engine was soon fired up. I drove her out of the shed and then took it onto a cultivated field where I gave her a good run up and down and it drove and ran lovely; we were very happy. After running it for about 90 minutes we parked it in the workshop ready to clean up and check over, just a simple service and good clean that's all it needs... so we thought. The following weekend we thought before we changed the oil etc., we would just have another little play. This is where it all went pear shaped.

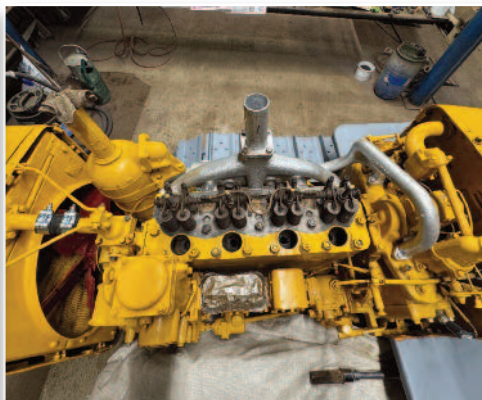
Again, the donkey engine started fine but as soon as we started turning the main engine over without trying to start

it, we had water coming out of the exhaust pipe, not good. Not being experienced mechanics, our first thought was the head gasket. Luckily, we don't live too far from Fenland Tractors, one of the old Caterpillar agents. So, first thing Monday morning I contacted Fenland Tractors and then went to see Martin and his son

discontinued and no longer available, not good ... after just welding bars in ours. Nevertheless, Martin and Justyn managed to get us 4 very good second-hand ones. We installed them, reseated all the valves, cleaned all the bores, then refitted the head with the new gasket.

Probably the most awkward job was fitting the new seal between the head and the donkey engine, not the best idea anybody has ever come up with, however we go it sorted. After refitting all the bits and filling it up with water with our





fingers crossed, we then fired her up. With her now back up and running by the 15th of November 2024, we set about tidying it up. Well, that didn't pan out too well either, every bit we did made the next bit look rough, so we did it all. The hardest part was the underneath, so we got in the big heavy-duty ramps and ran it up onto them. We then put steel bars through the tracks under the chassis bars and jacked it up so we could turn the tracks by hand. I made a little seat on wheels and set about cleaning; I am sure some of that mud has been on there for the past 80 years. Once all cleaned, she had 2 coats red oxide primer, 2 coats grey, primer filler and 3 coats of the topcoat, of course yellow. This was all in synthetic paint. Probably not my finest spray job but good enough for underneath where it may never be seen again.



The top half had to be better of course so that meant taking the tank off. One so we could spray it but also allowing me to get to the wings and both sides of the controls better. We would normally take it completely to pieces, but this could not happen in a 2-3-month window. The badges on the front cowling were not so good, so again a call to Fenland Tractors soon rectified that problem

allowing us to remove the old ones and paint the front cowling as well much better. Fitting the new front badges then created us another small problem. We needed to drill new holes for the brass rivets, so I got some 2.5mm and some 3mm HSS bits using the 2.5mm. I could not hammer them in at all, in fact it was ringing so I drilled a 3mm hole, fell in you wouldn't believe it. I needed a 2.7mm drill but something I didn't even know was available, but they were straight off the shelf, you learn something new every day. That soon solved that job, and the new badges were soon fitted. This now just left the fitting of the new transfers/ stickers on the bonnet and rear. Once this was done, we refitted the bonnet, and she looked complete for the first time since getting her out in October. We now thought we had better give it another run just to test everything, and it was a good

job we did. We now had an oil leak from the second-hand oil pipes connecting the new oil cooler. So, this had to come off, be repaired, repainted and refitted, DONE. It is now ready to form part of the display to celebrate 100 years of Caterpillar in 2025.



Gordon Carson
NVTEC-EA



Malvern Tractor World 2025



The tractor world show that's held normally the last weekend in February has become a regular event for the East Anglia group of NVTEC. We have been attending for about the last 18 years and seen it grow and grow over this time. I started attending just like Newark with two tractors, a gazebo, some picture boards, ?? and rally entry forms. After this club members started to join me, and other clubs and groups put on displays of their own. Club stands are now a big part of many indoor and outdoor events, and many clubs put on some fantastic displays this year was a bit touch and go as a few days before my wife was very ill with the flu/virus. I was worried that if she was still in bed, I could not leave her or worse she could give it to me haha. However amazingly the Friday morning at 6am she was feeling much better and after a cuppa and shower she made the decision to give it a go. We arrived as always about 12.30pm in the pouring rain, we soon got backed in and with a lot of help from the members we were soon unloaded and grass matting laid. My club members/friends never let me down, we always seem to finish up with a really good variety on the stand, this year was to be no exception.

Paul and Wendy put on a fine display of agricultural implements all very nicely restored and displayed well. Matthew and Cheryl hoy brought out for the first time a superb display of case IH models this was supported by there international Farmall cub fitted with a ?? mower. The model display also shown a working workshop and museum. Next with his E27N was Stuart Bailey. Stuart is well known for his E27N and this tractor has won him many trophies. This was very relevant this year as we are celebrating 80 years of the E27N along with 100 years of caterpillar and of course go year sin V E Day, 8th May 1945. Next has Jim and Mel Wakefield with their display of horticultural tractors and antiques. The work and planning that goes into displays like Jim and Mel's, Mathew and Cheryl's and Paul and Wendy's ins unbelievable and should not be underestimated. Then came Allan Sale with his Fordson Model F built in 1924 but fitted with a Hamilton transmission, winning him a price for pre 1949 tractors next to this was the 1/4" scale model of a 1918 Fordson model Tractor



TRACKS CHARITY PLOUGHING HORNINGTOFT

**SUNDAY 12TH
OCTOBER 2025
10.30am Onwards**

CONTACT: Neville 07881 805368

IN AID OF BIG C CENTRE NO: 281730



Thank you to Joan and Malcolm Bush for washing all the vests ready for 2026!



**WORKING WEEKEND
& PLOUGHING MATCH**



**Saturday 30th and Sunday 31st August 2025
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.

MOTH
IN A
CHINA
SHOP.

HEACHAM RALLY 1977

Now here's a tale and I'll not dilly dally
Its all about our Tractor Rally.

This was the one we held at Heacham
Where all about the tractors we'd soon teach em.

For days before the rains came down
And everyone was wearing a frown.

The corn wasn't cut and things looked bleak
And Newman our Chairman hadn't slept for a week.

Some members were combining what a to do
And the P.R.O. he had the flu.

However Friday dawned bright and clear
And the entries they began to appear.

It took all Saturday to git a goin
My heart there weren't half some to-ing and fro-ing.

Sunday was fine I'm glad to say
And we were all set for a better day.

Arthur our treasurer was dashing about praying
Hoping no-one would get in without paying.

The engines were under the key eye of the judge
When I went to start mine the damned thing wouldn't budge.

Perhaps it didn't like being near the farm
Cause it went alright when I got it home.

Now it's lunchtime and I must shout loud
For our ladies really for food do us proud.

After everyone had their fill
The Grand Parade is next on the bill.

Everybody played a part
Except the poor chap whose tractor wouldn't start.

After the tractors old cars in the choice
Led by Stan in his old Rolls Royce.

By gad over yonder there's some thumping and crashing
It's Freddy and company doin some thrashing.

They are thrashing the corn if you need a reminder
That Reg has cut with the old sail binder.

Entertainment by tractors in the ring
So the programme says, now there's a thing.

The highlight here was the trailer backing
And skills galore were never lacking.

And even though there were skills galore
It's a good job the obstacles were only straw.

The ploughmen are busy with furrows true
A rural out and praise is due.

The musically minded are catered for
By Ron's old organ playing tunes of yore.

The tractor rally of Jubilee Year
It was a success and that is clear.

And here and now I'd like to state
Thanks to Sir Stephen we'll be back in '78.

And last a word of thanks to Freddy Rudd and Joe Shingfield
But I will have to pack up there because I can't find anything
to rhyme with that!

Written by Jack Patten who was the Public Relations Officer
for the NVTEC-EA Group when the rally took place in 1977.

Sent in by Fred Rudd

2 Wonderful Old Steam Wagons



1928 FODEN D Type timber tractor STEAM WAGGON 'Perseverance'

This impressive standard Foden D Type tractor was road tested at Sandbach on September 20th 1928 and despatched on September 30th to its first owner Mrs AL Watkins of Llangattock Wharf, Crickhowell. The Watkins family ran a haulage operation as well as lime quarrying and also operated a Foden C Type wagon. The new D Type was put to use on a contract hauling pipes for a local reservoir scheme. At the end of this contract the Foden was returned to the works at Sandbach where it was overhauled and subsequently sold on to Langley and Johnson, a firm of general hauliers in Slough. With the outbreak of the Second World War, 'Perseverance' was requisitioned by the London County Council and attached to the War Debris Survey Commission and was used to pull down bomb damaged buildings in the city. After the war, in June 1946 the Foden was entered into a Ministry of Supply auction at Crystal Palace along with another Foden tractor named 'Fairway', which unfortunately did not make it into preservation. There followed a period when 'Perseverance' also looked doomed and was passed for scrapping from Hardwicks to TT Boughton and then on to Jesse Vines yard in Gloucestershire. In 1952 it was bought for preservation by DE Pritchard of Leominster who kept it for a short while before selling it to Jack Shuttlewood of Great Leighs, Essex thus starting a half century residence in East Anglia, attending the Clubs first rally at Great Saling in 1955. After a spell in the ownership of a local character Tom Redburn of Enfield who would transport it on his chain driven Scammell low loader to rallies, the D Type was purchased by the well known early preservationist and Sentinel collector Edgar Shone who owned The Crown pub at Crickwood. It was then extensively rallied and maintained by ex BR engine driver Roy Swain and often helped by Peter Richardson. In the many years of Peter's ownership, the Foden has enjoyed an on going rolling restoration and travelled extensively to rallies all over this country as well as trips to Europe. However in the early to mid 2000s, it had a comprehensive general rebuild including a new firebox by Israel Newton and later in 2019 a new boiler barrel and front tubeplate by Allison Engineering, as well as a full mechanical rebuild and repaint. This superb engine is now in fine all round condition.

Sold for £305,520



These two stunning old steam wagons were sold at a Cheffins vintage auction in April 2025.

1928 SENTINEL 'Super' STEAM WAGGON

Sentinels started building steam wagons at the turn of the 20th century in Glasgow under the

name of Alley and MacLellan. Production transferred to The Sentinel Waggon Works Ltd, Shrewsbury in 1918. The first model was the 'Standard' type 6 ton Waggon which was in production until 1922, followed by the 'Super' model in 1923, the 'DG' in 1929 and finally the 'S Type' 4 cylinder model in 1933. These waggon with their high pressure (230psi) superheated boilers were fast and efficient and much more modern in concept than their more conventional overtype competitors

This waggon was new to George Senior and Sons, Pond Street Forge, Sheffield on 2nd October 1928, later moving to Pashley and Trickey, steel stockholders of Rotterdam. Its last commercial owner was Brown Bayleys Steel Works in Sheffield as their Fleet no.2, one of only two 'Supers' in a fleet of eleven other 'Standard' Sentinels, retiring from service in 1959. Just after the Second World War, the waggon was used to deliver sections of stainless steel chain to St Pauls Cathedral, these being specially manufactured by Brown Bayleys to fit around the dome, which was cracked by a German bomb during the air raids on London. The waggon is only one of seven tippers on steel wheels serving worldwide. Restoration by the previous owner Harold Bell from Yorkshire started in October 1980 and included a new chassis, cab, manufacture of a complete new water pump assembly, replacement of all pipe work and major fabrication work to damaged engine crankcase. First steamed in 1986, it travelled over 10,000 miles over a 10 year period in Harold's ownership. Over the last 10 years it has had further meticulous restoration which has included major boiler work, new vulcanised rubber tyres, a correct chimney and finished in the original George Senior and Sons, Sheffield correct BR apple green paintwork and livery.

Sold for £123,280

Russell Saywell Annual Muckshifting Open Day



Held annually is the Russell Saywell open day and working event. This year the date fell on Sunday the 18th of May 2025, located at Pitt Farm, Little Paxton, St Neots, Cambridgeshire. The site in which the open day is held is a former gravel pit which is now backfilled and lends its self perfectly to the operation of testing and operation of classic and vintage earth working machinery.

It was myself and father's first time attending the event which was quite the experience. Seeing probably twelve very original Fordson majors of various specification lined up opposite to five or six Second World War vintage diamond T 972 6x6 dump trucks, an international TD9 based crane, a very nice caterpillar D7 fitted with a D17000 industrial engine, an allis charmers HD10 diesel and many more pleasant pieces of preserved earth working machinery from scraper boxes to loading shoves.

Up on the working plot consisted of a D8H and D6C 82A dozer tractors, caterpillar 977H traxcavator, caterpillar DW10 wheeled tractor fitted with a W10 under dump trailer and a 1940's caterpillar no.12 motor grader.

The two dozers started the day on top of the heap of material. Engaged in slot dozing operations moving the material to the awaiting traxcavator.

The 977H then loading the DW10 and dump trailer which was moving the material a short distance and dumping loads spread



over an area for the motor grader to demonstrate its operations.

I was even lucky enough to get myself an hour on the no.12 motor grader! An experience I haven't had before and one that I must say I much enjoyed and will be attending again in the future.

Frank Fowler
NVTEC_EA

East Coast Pirates Car Show

On May 18, 2025 we visited Great Yarmouth car show at Joyland American Family Diner. The event is organized by East Coast Pirates and is a fundraiser for the East Anglian Air Ambulance.



American and classic cars, hot rods, bikes, trikes and lorries line the Golden Mile that runs alongside the beach. Plus a drive past appearance by East Coast Truckers.



Reg Fletcher - NVTEC-EA



Stradsett Vintage Rally 2025

In the weeks leading up to the show the weather was glorious so the preparation work went smoothly and the dedicated team made the field ready for visitors.

Exhibitors come from miles around to display their vintage machines for us all the see and the array a different things is always a joy. Particularly the people that took the time and effort to bring the Caterpillar tractors to the rally, for one of this years themed displays, we had them arriving from North Yorkshire, Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, County Durham and Northumberland. One person even transported 9 machines from Suffolk. These machines are very heavy and transporting them is very expensive. So thank you to them all for bringing them such long distances for us to enjoy.

The pride people have in their display and their willingness to talk about what they have brought is what make this show special, there is a wealth of knowledge between them and they are always happy to help with any problems other people are encountering with their projects.

Only a few spots of rain meant that the show went ahead without any issues which is always a relief for everyone.

Thank you so much to everyone involved for a truly wonderful day out for all the family.

Jane Loveday, Editor

STRADSETT PARK 2025

A very big thank you to the committee and all the volunteers who have spent many, many hours organising and setting up the show, we hope your efforts have paid off again and there is plenty of money for the chosen charities.

The weather played a large part this year, I think one of the few years we have got in and out without assistance. Terry Myhills big John Deere rested quietly for a change, no pole or chain needed.

The high light for us was the 100 years of Caterpillar display with machines from the first few years of The Caterpillar Co. which originated in 1925 when C L Best and Holt Manufacturing Co. merged.

We took our unrestored Twenty, this was the first model produced by Caterpillar from 1925 until 1932. It was a pity that the larger Caterpillars could not parade for fear of turning up the ground making it difficult under foot. The owners and drivers understood and most were happy to have a start up occasionally but not parade.

The E27N display was very popular as always. Unfortunately we did not inspect all the cabbed tractors but a very unusual and interesting array of cabs from canvas covered frames to the luxury of the Leyland and Fords of most recent times.

The Stationary Engines seem to multiply each year, with engines from all makes, including exotic models from the start of the 19th century to the more prolific engines from Lister etc. Collecting engines is a great way to get into our hobby, with a smaller engine still being sold for not a lot of money, providing hours of enjoyment and satisfaction for its owner. We know several collectors who started with small engines and grew through other machines until they were proud owners of a traction engine or roller.

The whole show was buzzing with a large market with traders selling all manner of wares. I managed to buy plough parts, a water pump shaft, a jigsaw for the good lady and some plants for the garden, black plastic bags and a charging wire for the phone, all very useful, don't know where else you could get all this in one place.

The bar was very popular with live entertainment and many different beers. And the hog roast was as popular as ever, even if it did get cold quickly in the chill wind.

The car and commercial vehicle sections were full, with many interesting and unusual vehicles, including several very early motor cars that we don't see many of today.

Thanks again to everybody that helped create a great show. We look forward to 2026.

Good luck everybody, The West Family

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Hello Everyone,

Hope you are all keeping well and have enjoyed the start of the rally season. I would just like to take this opportunity to welcome our new club members. Memberships renewals have now slowed down, and this year to date we have over 540 members, so thank you to everyone for your continued support.

In case 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 address etc.) so that I can keep your membership details up to date please. Thank you all and hope you all have a thoroughly enjoyable rally season.

Thank you all and look forward to seeing you at the rallies. **Claire** (Membership Secretary)

DIARY DATES

15th June 2025

Vintage Tractor Road Run, Manor Farm, Grimston

12th July 2025

Summer Visit - Tour of Ian Thompsons Collection

July 2025

Thursford Gala Day TBC

Saturday 30th and Sunday 31st August 2025

NVTEC-EA Working Weekend

Sunday 12th October 2025

Tracks Charity Ploughing

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)

Happy Birthday!

Thomas P – 22nd June

Cia N – 23rd June

Riley C – 17th July

Macey C – 19th July

Alex C – 30th July

Lucas W – 20th August

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Chairman's Chat



Following on from my last chairman's chat, I was about to go to Tractor world at Malvern, which was a good show full of interesting exhibits something of which I particularly liked was the turnout of vintage and classic JCB

diggers which is something you very rarely see, once again Gordon and the team took the Club stand down to Malvern and as usual, the stand was impeccable which was shown by the fact that once again we won the trophy for best club stand so well done to Gordon and his team for that and keep up the good work.

The next event in my calendar was the clubs Road run which despite the new location was once again very well attended and with the new location gave some new scenery which was very refreshing to see and was especially good with it having both on road and off-road sections through the connecting farm tracks so well done to Peter and David for pulling it off and bringing us a lovely new setting for this year's road run.

While still on the subject of road runs my next trip out was to the national road run which was on a completely different scale with over 200 tractors in attendance and from all corners of England, Scotland and Wales it was quite a privilege to be part of, and my hat goes off to the people that organised it as it was quite something to have to organise.

And then just two weeks later, it was Stradsett and what a show we had, it all started for me the week before the show where all the volunteers started with a plain field to which we then cut trimmed rolled and tidied the field and then set up all of the fences, barriers, main ring, toilets, bins and everything else. Then welcoming the exhibitors from the Friday before then moving onto welcoming the public in for the Sunday and Monday. Which was a brilliant show with beautiful weather before then tidying it all away again on the Tuesday.

Over the course of the weekend we had a beautiful variety of exhibits within which we possibly had one of the largest collections of caterpillar crawlers in one place, I would like to say well done to Jack and Annie for their first year as rally organisers they have done a brilliant job, but also well done to all the people that volunteered their time to help either for the set up or over the course of the weekend, to make the show what it was, as without their support the show couldn't go on, though I will however say we are always looking for more help to do it, so if anybody reading this is interested then please let either me or Jack and Annie know that you would like to help next year.

My diary is packed over the next couple of months, and I am looking forward to visiting our stand at Carrington Rally, and going to Woolpit Steam for the first time, I will be taking part in the Grimston charity Road run on the 15th of June and then after that will be Weeting, so I will perhaps see you at one of those if not I will catch you in the next issue.

Tom Venni

WAKEFIELD DISPERSAL SALE

5TH APRIL 2025



The weekend promised to be good weather and the viewing on Friday went well. Not a lot of people but a steady rate all day. Melanie did teas, coffees and home made cake for sale and made £45 for EAAA.

Saturday rolled up and people were arriving from 8am onwards. A good natured crowd, ready to have a giggle and banter and spend money.

The sale went well with a 95% sell rate with the unsold lots being bits & pieces with only 2 machines not selling which were the Merlin which didn't make reserve and a Colwood A.

An unrestored single wheeled Gravely made good money at £100 with the sister to it, having had a full nut & bolt restoration making £160. The little Westwood Bug with the tipper body on the front got away at £200. The star of the day, making more than thought, was the self propelled hedge cutter with a lister engine on it that we have been assured will be at Stradsett rally hopefully in 2026. So we look forward to seeing it in its full glory.

Our thanks must go to Maria for the tea bar, Marcus & Harry & the girls from Hawkins, but mostly to all who attended the auction and those who were not here in person but in spirit bidding on the internet. We had people from as far away as Newcastle, Cumbria, Cromer, and Norwich to name but a few to collect machines bought.

Thanks to you all we had a good auction and look forward to seeing some of the machines at the rallies we attend over the following years.

Jim & Mel Wakefield



SUMMER VISIT 2025

**A tour of Ian Thompsons large collection of horticultural machines and equipment.
Plus BBQ.**

Saturday 12th July 2pm onwards

at Valken, New Road, Stanfield
East Dereham, Nr20 4jg

If anyone wants to register their interest they can call me so I can get an idea of numbers
Tom Venni - 07557 910246

Tracks Charity Ploughing Calendar 2026



We started Tracks charity ploughing in 2006.

Why? Because we had lost many family and friends to cancer, so we decided to raise money for a good cause.

We have raised over £40,000 to date.

We have put together this calendar to promote awareness for prostate and testicular cancer and to get men to talk about it, recognise the symptoms and hope they will seek help.

So tell your friends and family to purchase a calendar, is for an amazing cause.

Neville and Sally

Photos by Judy Webb

Proceeds to Big C Norwich and King's Lynn

To get your copy contact:

judith_webb@btinternet.com
or Neville on 07881 805368

SPREAD THE WORD

**This year's Manor Farm, Grimston,
Vintage Tractor Road Run
Sunday, June 15th, 2025**

The Manor Farm, Grimston, Vintage Tractor Road Run will be held on Sunday, June 15th. 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