DECEMBER 2025



TORGE TORGE

PRESERVING THE PAST FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

Tracks Charity Ploughing 12th October 2025 Raising funds BIG C.



Wow what can we say! The day began with thick fog but this didn't stop many vintage tracks and steel wheeled, large and small arriving from as far away as Kent and Northampton and many other areas.

Then the public in masses began to arrive for a great day out to a wonderful display of 45 machines working.

The donation bucket was overflowing and our raffle and various stalls were extremely busy, enabling us on the day to raise $\pounds 5543.44$ then followed through our letterbox an overwhelming cheque for $\pounds 1000$ in appreciation of all the effort for the event making $\pounds 6543.44$. We thank our team of helpers and the Hill family as without them we couldn't

do this. Our male calendars have sold well we will let you know the final amount for these next month... wait for the surprise amount.

Neville and Sally Websdale





A Harvest Blessing

On the 26th of October a group of us attended the Harvest Blessing at Holy Trinity Church, Stow Bardolph. We bought Tractors and harvest offerings, The service started outside with The Revd. Canon Dr. David Karoon blessing the tractors, we then proceeded inside and members of NVTEC-EA, Downham Market YFC & the church, took the offerings up to the alter.

Later on in the Service Tom (Our Chairman) read a reading from the book of Jeremiah, the service included 3 hymns (all things bright & Beautiful, We Plough the fields & scatter, come ye thankful people come) The songs were well sung by the 50+congregation. When we finished we chatted with the congregation and enjoyed some biscuits.

All of the vegetables and fruit that had been donated as offerings, I took on Monday evening to Feed Fenland a charity producing hot meals every night in Wisbech, and where greatly appreciated, I would like to give special thanks to Fred, Reg & Kath, David, Peter & Tom for bringing not only harvest offerings but also tractors that were greatly enjoyed by the congregation. We have been invited to attend again next year, and I hope to be able to share the date in the next vintage Torque.

Many Thanks again to everyone Georgia Venni







Thursford Gala Day – Truly Unique



The 2025 Thursford Gala Day was held on Sunday 6th July and this year it was bigger than ever. As always, the NVTEC East Anglia Group was asked to put on a display of old tractors, bygones, horticultural and vehicles. The past few years we have always been sited in the same area, so I had drawn my plan based on this. However, when we arrived, we found many changes so had to very quickly alter the layout. This was not a problem as we were allocated plenty of space in their new 12-acre field. We took along the club stand and our 1954 Massey



Harris model 33 built in 1954 and fitted with a 4-cylinder straight petrol/electric start engine, a lovely tractor.

We had excellent support from our club members and as always, we were very well looked after by Andrew Wailing and the Thursford staff. There were around 250 cars booked in to the

show and whilst I did not count them there was a fantastic display. 2 that stood out for me was first a 1909 Stanley Model R. This car was built by the Stanley Motor Carriage Company at their works in Newton Massachusetts USA. The car was brought to the UK in the early 2000s as a wreck where the transformation back to a working car began, with 20 horsepower and a maximum speed of 60mph. The many missing parts were made using the original drawings. The car was back on the road in 2006 with its first long run being a tour of Ireland. Since then, the car has toured in the USA, Germany and Australia.





Secondly was a 1921 Stanley Model 740B California hand top. This condenser model was built at the same factory in Newton,

Massachusetts and was supplied with a California rigid style roof. A restoration in the USA was carried out but was not mechanically successful so the car was exported to the UK in 2017 where the new owner restored it to working order.

Over in the new car park area were the steam engines and the coaches. One lovely old coach that reminded me of one of





the coach in 2023 leading to a surprise offer to buy it back in January 2024.

Back over on our club stand we had a good variety of old tractors on display from full size Marshall 12-20 and a series one, then Mr Crisp with 2 scale models of Marshalls. We had Fordsons, Massey Ferguson, Kirk Myhill with his newly restored 1964 International B414 Farmall Row Crop, David Brown's Allis Chalmers, Case some stationary engines and a very good display of horticultural.

Thanks to all for their support and to Thursford for inviting us all.

Gordon Carson - NVTEC-EA

Morley buses from Whittlesey that used to take me to school was a Bedford VAL 70 Plaxton C53F Panorama Elite new in 1970 from Foxall Bridgenorth. Paul Sanders of Sanders Coaches Ltd first owned this particular bus and fully restored it back up to class 6 mot in 1996. It was sold to Andybus in 2000 and then bought by Ingall Brothers in Lincolnshire in 2005 where further preservation work was undertaken. During their ownership, it was hired

to Paramount pictures to be in the Bob Marley movie 'One Love'. Having found where his father's old beloved VAL was, Daniel Sanders arranged a surprise visit for his father Paul to see

















Part of the Dad's Army display at Bressingham Museum, they have mock ups of some of the shops used in the shows, plus a collection of vehicles used during filming in the local area. It was great to see young children watching the continuous videos being shown and still laughing the old shows.



Stradsett Park Vintage Rally Part Two





Continuing from part one of our stunning 2025 Stradsett Rally - the club stands. Each year they are always an iconic part of the show and as always this year we had a fantastic selection with many putting on great displays. This year Haddenham Steam Rally won the trophy for 'Best Club Stand.' I must say their 1923 Amanco Hired Man stationary engine was amazing, a real credit to Paul Wissgott. David Aylward made the journey down for the first time to display his 1948 Nuffield M4 and his 1984 Marshall 302, both on their stand and both looking stunning. The Case/IH Club stand again put on a great display and good to see Carole Shaw still getting out and enjoying their events. I cannot write about all the club stands or we will be here all day but thank you to all for the stunning displays.

Sometimes when I am polishing tractors to take them out, I wonder if I am mad but when you get to the shows and see just how many others have done the same it is amazing to see. Over the many years, this show has been full of exhibits, and you only need to look at the amount of people sitting around the ring enjoying, watching and listening to what is going on and appreciating the history of each and every exhibit. Michael Hart has been commentating at Stradett longer than I can remember and it was great to see him back this year sharing his knowledge. How he knows what he knows and remembers it all is beyond me. What a credit to him and I thank him for the years of dedication to our event and all others. Philip Gammon has also been doing a fair bit



of commentating and is doing an excellent job. This year we also had Frank Fowler joining the commentating for the Caterpillars so very well done to both.

The Norfolk Mini Tractor Pullers worked hard all weekend entertaining the public and other exhibitors. The club was formed back in 2017, the machines are either modified lawnmowers or

custom-built tractors such of that of Henry Howlett's. The Horticultural display has grown over the years and what a display of different machines there were to see. Chris Goode won 'Best Horticultural Exhibit' with his 1945 Ransomes MG2 having fully restored this lovely little motor garden machine. Reg Fletcher won a trophy with his 1982 Ford 1210 Compact Tractor. On our club stand we had Jon Moulis displaying his recently restored wooden cart, this looked great and

thanks to Jon for putting it on our stand.

The motorbike area always has a good selection of bikes for people to remember from years ago. This year my son Andrew took over as car steward, he has a genuine love and interest in cars including his own 1960 Pontiac Catalina. The car section is always slightly more difficult to manage as you may have 160 cars booked in for the weekend, but you might get 150 turn up one day and only 50 turn up the next which then leaves big gaps. It's getting a fine balance of not cramming them in but not leaving empty space either.

Judy Webb, our club secretary and vice chairman was again in charge of the commercials, and this was one of the biggest displays we have had with some 83 booked in. The trophy went to Mr Michell Bowen with his 1991 ERF E10 but like all sections, however, there were so many fine exhibits that would have deserved a trophy.

The steam section this year was probably the best we have ever had with some fantastic machines on display. My grandson Alex loves steam and Neil Ayres, and his wife very kindly allowed both Alex and his sister Macey to ride on their 1918 Clayton. This beautiful machine has just had a major restoration and won them 'Best Steam Engine in Show.' Peter Copeman did however win the Patworth trophy for 'Best Exhibit on the Rally Field' with this stunning 1901 Marshall Tractor engine. Alex was lucky enough to go on that one at Sandringham last year. A big thank you to all the steam engine



owners, it was good to see the Smith family there with Ivan's 1901 Aveing and Porter Roller. Ivan will always be missed but great to see the family continue

doing what Ivan loved so much.

By the steam was a good display of heavy horses, these always





get a lot of attention and what beautiful animals they are. stationary The engines line up was again run by David Mycock with help from his family. The line up was quite spectacular with the number of different makes, models and

sizes. We even had Mr P Rudling's Caterpillar D4400 built in 1940 displayed to coincide with our rally theme. The Thompson Trophy for 'The Engine the judges would most like to take home' was number 25 Mr R Cole with his Petter Handyman built in 1905. The oldest engine in the line was Mr D Allen with his 1902 Avance 2HP oil engine.

Shows today must be for the whole family, so to support a good turn out to appreciate all these wonderful exhibits we need trade stalls. For the past 15 years or so, Ted Gray has been trade steward but like me, he stepped down in 2024. lack and Annie took over this role for the first year and we had a good variety of stalls. All good events like ours need this along with things for children like the large fairground. We had a large beer tent with live entertainment Saturday night, Sunday daytime and Monday daytime by Perfect Vintage and Sparky and Sprite singing all the classic we know and love. Sunday night after the ever-popular hog roast by Ben at The Hog Roast Catering Company, Dr Busker entertained the larger

Thanks also to all the catering who work hard all weekend to feed all the public and exhibits. Lastly thanks to all who supported the show

crowd until late.

whether it was bringing

an exhibit, friends of Stradsett, committee members, paying

public and the RAF for the wonderful fly pass on Monday afternoon. Everyone together made for a stunning, hard to beat weekend.

Thank you all. Gordon Carson - NVTEC-EA

DOWNHAM MARKEY HERITAGE OPEN DAY



This year saw Downham Market Join the National Heritage Open day on Sunday September 21st This is a free event were many of the old heritage properties that may now be in private ownership are open to the public to look round. Re-enactments and vintage displays were staged at various points around the town, Art and craft in the Town hall, Downham Heritage Centre displaying pictures of Downham past and present from

Mike Bullens collection, The Railway Station also joined in with displays and pictures of the workings of the old signal box other displays were classic cars on the Howdale and an





Agricultural display in the Market square depicting the agricultural tractors and machinery sold by the machinery distributers in and around Downham since the second world war. For this display NVETEC-EA members were asked to help and they didn't disappoint as tractors representing: Norfolk Tractors, Cowlishaws, R S Bennett, Bexwell Tractors, Frank J Nunn and BW Mack. Apart from B W Mack Machinery all above have ceased trading or emalgamated into another company operating from

to be a very with the town's venues by a free vintage







Chairmans chat

Its that time again where I sit down to write my Chairman's chat, and once again it's been a busy few months. It's also a season of change with this report covering from the warm months back in august, to the now colder and wet month of November where you find me writing this. I'll start by winding the clock back to august and little Ellingham. I went for the day at little Ellingham where I enjoyed seeing Many different machines working including, combines, balers,

ploughs and cultivators. As long as the static exhibits, steam engines and stationary engines in the of rest the show. It was nice to see a good turn out of our club members at the show too.



The event I went to next was the working weekend which was a good event with a good turnout as usual. I Would like to thank the people involved in organising, setting up and taking down the event as without them the event couldn't happen. I spent most of the time with our Case



1494 and rabe 3 furrow reversible, but I also got the opportunity to have a couple of rounds on Frank F o w I e r's Caterpillar D4, which I will admit when used to a conventional tractor is harder than it looks.

My next trip out was to Henham steam rally, it was the first time I have attended this show let alone exhibited so I was unsure what to expect. I am pleased to say I found a very

nice varied show with lots of different exhibits to look at being in a different area. It was also quite a large show too so plenty to see. It





also had a few working exhibits such as threshing and wood sawing which was nice to see, along with a few games in the ring with the steam engines such as, a slow race and a barrel race with the steam rollers. This involved the steam rollers rolling a barrel along with the front roll. The first day they had a practice which resulted in a few flat barrels but they got the hang of it by the second day. Between



me, Georgia and Frank we where in charge of the club stand for the weekend. The stand wasn't quite to Gordon and his teams standard but we did our best and it looked good and we did the club proud. Thank you to frank and Georgia for your assistance over the weekend.

The next event was the harvest festival at Stow Bardolph church which was a nice service with just a few of us in attendance, it was all very well received by the churchgoers and they are keen to do it again next year.



Then Finally the last

event I attended was the Newark tractor and heritage show, this was as usual a busy show with plenty to see with this years show having multiple themes. The Caterpillar theme was particularly impressive with a large number of machines of different types such as bulldozers, tractors, backhoe loaders and loading shovels in attendance. There was also a potato theme which was nice to see some vintage potato equipment such as planters, spinners and potato shakers. There was also a Ransomes theme and as a result I took the combine there for the show. Gordon and his team where there again with the club stand, and did very well getting the runner up prize for the stand but also winning many other awards so well done to them. No doubt they will all be breathing a sigh of relief as the season has finished and will have no doubt started preparations

ready for next year. I'm sure I speak for the club when I say well done and thank you to them all for what they do for the club with the stand and keep up the good work.



And now all that's left is to get everything cleaned up and winterised ready for the winter months and then await the approach of Christmas so If I don't see you before I would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New year.

Tom Venni - NVTEC-EA

Working weekend 2025



The working weekend was once again a great success it was held on the 30th and 31st of august and the we at her although a bit wet on the run up to the event held out

well for the two days with only a bit of rain on the Saturday night, but not enough to dampen spirits. The event was well attended with over 80 people registered for the weekend with 50 of those taking part in the match on Sunday. There was also an interesting first with a glimpse of the future, with a plot being ploughed by Arthur the farms ag xeed robot showing how in the future the ploughing may be done without a single person in the field. There was of course time

for reflection as to where things have changed over years 100 lining the robot up with Barry Ayres titan showing the very early



days when tractors where little more than a stationary engine on wheels right up to a complex machine with a diesel engine powering electric motors to propel



the machine across the field with no operator present. The working weekend fields covered 200 acres and this was split in half with two fields. 100 acres being covered with the conventional, trailed and smaller reversible ploughs. The other 100 acres was ploughed by 6 people including myself, 3 caterpillar crawlers and 3 conventional tractors pulling around 24 furrows between them, ploughing commercially to commercial depths and standards, with frank fowler claiming the longest shift of all ploughing for about 15 hours straight on both days. To Summerise it all a good weekend was had by all and everyone left looking forward to next year, I would like to personally thank David and claire mycock and all their helpers for putting on such a wonderful weekend as without them the event couldn't take place.

Tom Venni - NVTEC-EA

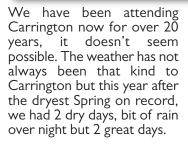






Carrington 2025 – Steam and Heritage Show







all in the lighter grey and was very pleased to win 'Best Tractor 1919-1925'. I was convinced we had not won this trophy before but upon inspecting the trophy, we won this back in 2014 but more surprising also in 2015 when we celebrated 100 years of International and we won this with the 1921 International 8-16 Junior, the same tractor to win it again

in 2025, my polishing must have paid off.

This year due to my holiday falling bet ween Stradsett and Carrington, Jack and Annie kindly offered to take my box lorry, small trailer with all the club stand bits in and their

caravan over to Carrington so they could set up and look after the club stand. Malcolm Robinson as always along with his team looked after us extremely well. The club stands at shows still seem to be very popular with many fantastic displays being shown.

10 years ago, International was the theme at Carrington and we took the 1916 Titan 10-20, the 1921 Junior 8-16 and the 1929 10-20 on rubber tyres. As International was again to be the theme, we took the same 3 again this year

The Wests also kindly brought along their 1919 Junior and 1936 10-20. David bought it some 53 years ago for £60.00 and he is still enjoying driving it today and it still runs and looks great. The Wests also brought a 4" scale model of the Titan 10-20 so this finished off our centre display nicely. Alan Sale brought his newly restored International 1916 Mogul 8-16 starting and running around the ring both days beautifully. This won Alan the trophy for 'Best NVTEC Member' so really pleased for him.

Moving away from the International theme, Ashley and Peter Kidd brought us 2 fully restored Fordsons, firstly a 1943 Fordson standard N with a Wilmot Plough fitted and secondly their 1948 Fordson E27N winning them a well-

deserved trophy for 'Best Fordson'. Jim and Mel Wakefield brought their John deere 1944 Model LA, their 1950



Energic 511 and a little display of horticulture. Malcolm Bush was displaying his 1939 John Deere Model E



stationary engine. Terry Myhill finished off the horticulture display with his 1970 Kubota B1600 fitted with a major log maker 2 saw bench. Graham Bacon was back displaying for the first time in 15 years at Carrington and he gets a lot of interest in his blacksmith tools. Ian Cable was there

displaying his 1955 26HP Ferguson TEF-20 diesel, this was built at Banner Lane, Coventry. I am sure you will see this at Stradsett for 2026 as one of the themes

John Fowler in 1850. The Mole Plough was a vital tool for improving the drainage of water-logged land. The plough was pulled across the field by cables running between 2 steam engines. The solid metal mole was pulled through the ground at depths of 18"-24" forming a drain 3-5" in diameter. This allowed the ground water to drain away to increase crop yields and much more cost effective than laying drains.



A n o t h e r theme was m u c k s p r e a d i n g; M a l c o l m Robinson had 2 stunning examples on display. Firstly

is 80 years of tractors built at Banner L a n e , C o v e n t r y. Along with 60 years of the White David Brown, 60 years of Zetor Tractors and

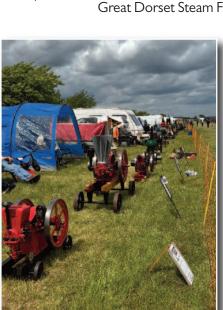
the one I am hoping to get a great display of is 100-plus old tractors, being 2026 we should be able to get quite a display.

Anyway, back to our club stand at Carrington. Lastly on the stand was John Plowright with 2 lovely old petrol Massey Fergusons. His 1964 MF35 multipower but the one that won him a trophy for Best Original Massey Ferguson 1958 – 1970 was his 1970 MF 135, built at MF Detroit Factory USA and fitted with a rare

Perkins AG3-152 Petrol 3 Cylinder engine. John purchased this from Canada in 2022 from the son of the first owner. All in all, we picked up 4 trophies on the stand so a very well done to all who won but also to all for the help and support.

Around the show there was plenty to see and do, sadly, due to the high winds, the fly pass was cancelled which is understandable. Another theme this year was Land Drainage Equipment and there were some stunning displays for all to see. On the Crawford stand was a restored 1920 Fowler Mole Drainers. Steam Mole Draining was first introduced by





his 1917 Titan 10-20 on his Massey Harris 3 B manure spreader built in 1908 and fully r e s t o r e d , Malcolm was standing proud

with this pair. Secondly was Eric Milstead's International 1932 W12. Malcolm was driving, pulling Larry around the ring giving moving commentary as we all drove around on Malcolm's 1930 Massey Harris no 8-manure spreader, again fully restored.

Over in the engine line were some lovely looking engines,

one that caught my eye was Paul Walton's Aermotor, Fluted Hopper built between 1906 and 1909, just something a bit different. Another nice-looking engine was James Milestone's Amanco Hired Man built in 1918. James bought this at the Great Dorset Steam Fair in 2017 and has since been restored.

As always Dean and Holly Smith were displaying 2 lovely engines both Fairbanks Morse Z but one was a 1919 and the other a 1923. Ricky Kemp was displaying 2 big pumping engines in Surrey and the other a 1925 Model 1030 both stunning looking engines.

As always there was a very good display of steam engines, commercials, cars, motorbikes and horticulture. All supported by trade stands, catering, entertainment and a licensed bar. Great weekend thanks to all for putting on a great show for all to have a thoroughly enjoyable weekend.



Woolpit Steam Stationary Engines 2025

Held in glorious weather once again The Seeley Brothers and the Woolpit Steam Team had another successful show.

The main theme for tractors was products from Saunderson Ltd. of Bedford, which was to attract probably the most items in one place since the works closed. Another coup was the appearance of Burrell Showmans Road Locomotive "Ex Mayor" new to Mr. Tuby, travelling Showman of Doncaster in February 1925. It has been the subject of a major overhaul preparing it for reappearance exactly 100 years to the day in February 2025 at Thetford where it was made, and splendid it did look, better than the original.

Here we look at the over looked stationary engine section that I though was down from previous years.



Acadia 2 HP Petrol made in the 1920's



Amanco 6 HP made in 1913



Gardner N-1 Spirit engine made in 1911



Ruston Hornsby 2HP No. 111223 made i



Petter Light 2½ HP generating set made in 1921



Hamworthy 4HP Patent Oil Engine, 2 strok Petrol/Paraffin made in 1931



Perkins Windwmill Co. from Miehawa Indiana, USA ¾ HP made in 1916



Ruston Hornsby 7½ HP No. 122746 made in 1924

Big engines always catch attention, there were one or two on show but mostly the engines were in the smaller and more handleable I to 4 horse power. Some that took my eye were:

It is many years since I rallied engines, they appear as popular as ever. I did not see many or any young people amongst the engines which is worrying as we who started the job get older and less able. Like everything, costs have risen making rallying less affordable for youngsters and families. Finding engines for $\pounds 5$ each and Petrol at Three Shillings a gallon has long gone.

David West

SANDRINGHAM GAME & COUNTRY FAYRE 2025



After a long dry and sometimes hot period of weather the forecast was not looking good for the Game and Country Fare at Sandringham.

Saturday morning arrived bright and sunny, as we arrived at 9,0 clock to prepare the threshing set for its display the general public were already streaming in, an hour before it was due to be open.

The Cley shoot was soon up and running along with the fun fare and craft stalls and shows.

For the first time there was no full size steam enginges but a good selection of miniture made a good display and put on a good show in the ring. The vintage and classic car display was down in numbers with Sunday clashing with the car show at Kings Lynn Heritage day.

The Tractors and Horticultural display organised by Mark and Lorraine Lee with help

from Craig Kite, was slightly up with forty entrants of tractors covering every decade from the 1930's to the 1980's and Thirty horticultural machines from the 1930's through to the 1990's. The ring parades were commentated by George Brett-Reynolds for the Tractors and lan Thompson for the Horticultural.

Peter Caley assisted by Peter Thorpe was

displaying the Foster Threshing set driven by a Nuffield Universal 3, and display boards showing the inner workings of a drum and how very little this has changed in the modern day combine.



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Bob B – 6th December

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)

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Hello Everyone

Hope you are all keeping well and have enjoyed the 2025 rally season. It seems unbelievable that we are approaching the end of yet another year already!!! This means your membership for 2025 will expire at the end of December and will need renewing for 2026.

The membership renewal form for 2026 is enclosed in your Vintage Torque. You will notice we have been able to hold our fees for next year. Forms of payment are BACS (preferred method), cheque or cash. As per this year, I will be present at the December and January winter meetings at Ryston Park Golf Club, where I will also be able to take card payments on the night. If you send your membership renewal to me, please remember I require a STAMPED ADDRESSED ENVELOPE to be able to send you your membership card(s) to you.

I would just like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued support throughout 2025. East Anglia NVTEC group is by far the largest group in the country, and we continue to grow year on year. We end this year with 560 members, having gained more than 50 new members. Please do remember our NVTEC-EA Facebook page; lots of pictures/stories are shared along with important club news/events, so do feel free to join.

Lastly, I would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I hope it's a very enjoyable one and look forward to seeing you all in 2026.

Claire (Membership Secretary)

DIARY DATES

Thursday the 18th of December

Christmas winter meeting (please bring a wrapped gift)

Saturday the 10th of January

New Years Crank up (Fendicks Fisheries)

Thursday the 15th of January

Winter Meeting talk from Andrew Newton on Past/Present/Future of the Drainage Board

Thursday the 19th of February

Winter Meeting talk from CC engineering

Thursday the 19th of March

Winter Meeting Fred's Movie Night

Sunday the 29th of March

NVTEC-EA Road Run (Melrose Farm, Shouldham)

Sunday & Monday the 3rd & 4th of May

Stradsett Park Vintage Rally

Sunday the 30th of August

Harvest Festival (Stow Bardolph Church)

Saturday & Sunday the 5th & 6th of September

Working Weekend (Fincham)

Stepping Down



I just want to let you all know that on Thursday 21st August I stepped down from the committee of NVTEC-EA. I will remain part of the club and still look after the club stands at some shows as normal. I will also help out where I can with the Charity Road Run and the Stradsett Rally. I have been on the committee for 15 years and thoroughly enjoyed my time, but its time for me to leave it to the younger ones.

I would like to thank you all for your kind support over the years and I look forward to seeing you around events throughout the year.

Gordon Carson - NVTEC-EA

Christmas / December Club



On Thursday 18th December, we will hold our Christmas meeting at the Ryston Park Golf Club, Denver PE38 0HH.

All being well, we are hoping to demonstrate the late David Bretton's model of his 1918 Fordson Model F Tractor. John Murffit is kindly going to come along and hopefully start this little work of art to demonstrate it running. We will of course only run it for about 2 minutes but believe me it is amazing. Come along and see it for yourself.

Gordon Carson - NVTEC-EA

Club President Dies suddenly



Suddenly on the 16th September 2025 after a long period of poor health. Mr Ray Armsby President of NVTEC-EA for some twenty five years passed away peacefully at home. This was an honour that was introduced by the committe for many years of service as chairman and helping to evolve the very small club, as it was back in the 80's and 90's into the beginings of the major club we have today.

After completing his National service Ray joined his brother Cliff in the farming and contracting business and started lifting sugar beet with a Catchpole Cadet single row side elevator delivery harvester. Early 1970's Ray left the business to go into agricultural sales selling Fordson tractors and associate equipment for Kings of Kings Lynn.

Ray first became involved with the Club when a rally was being held at Gayton Thorpe and Hill and Osbourne of Burnham Market where Ray was now working were to have a display stand. Ray soon got involved with the club and with his backgroud working in the agricultural machinery business had many contacts. He soon became Club chairman a post he was hold for many years until his late wife became seriously ill and needed constant care. During his time as a leading member of the Club he helped in organising rallies and working events, he was instrumental in bring the Club rally to a permant site at Stradsett in the early 1980's, and with his interest in Karting he brought the Wisbech and Fenland kart club racing to Stradsett rallies in North Park.

After standing down from club office to spend more time looking after his late wife Gill the Club committee set up an honoury post as President and Vice Presidents Ray was made Club president as a thank you for his service input to the club. Shorly after Gill died Ray became very poorly himself a consequence that left him short of breath and eventually required him to have a permanent oxygen supply available. Though this may have slowed Ray down for many years and with his partner Betty would always make a point of being at the Stradsett Rally.

Peter Thorpe