

Farm Machinery Preservation Society Ltd.



Magazine No. 176
December 2025



A Very Happy Christmas to you all

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Cover Picture
Happy Christmas to our members.

Honorary Members
Mike Laflin, John Couch,

From the Chair.

Magazine 176 December 2025



Another year draws to a close and time to reflect on where we are as a club. For 2025, we continued with our monthly meetings and visits. Just to remind you our speakers this year were Dick Hughes, Mike Laflin, John Jolly, Jeffrey Giblin and Jim Davis. We also visited the Post Office Museum in Halstead, Marc and

Janice Vince's Farm, Mangapps Railway and Wibblers Brewery, Coopers Farm Threshing Day and Claydon Drills.

We also held our own events, the Rivenhall Tractor Road Run and Crank Up in May and the Great Henny Tractor Road Run and Working Day in October.

We also like to promote our club and help third parties by attending their events with our Gazebo and some exhibits. This year we took part at the Rivenhall Operation Varsity commemorations, Langford Transport fest, Stebbing Tractor run, Echoes of the past at Rettenden, Waldringfield Tractor Run, Greenstead Green Plough Day, Hatfield Peverel Plough Day and Cressing Temple Apple Day. Everyone who comes along for the day enjoys themselves. You might want to join us next year it is open to all members to attend.

We have been given quite a lot of old farm machinery, most of which needs restoration. So, we have a small group who meet at our Rivenhall Essex facility most Wednesday mornings to work on making them more presentable. If you would like to

come along and help, please contact committee member, John Humphries.

Next Month is the AGM, your chance to influence the direction the club takes. We have a provisional programme for activities meetings and events similar to this year's, which should be available at the AGM. However, suggestions are always very welcome, and we will try to incorporate them into the programme.

We will need to hold elections to the committee at the AGM. Our Articles of Association say that committee members must stand down every three years. This year two members must stand down, but I hope they will put themselves forward for election again. We also co-opted 2 more members to the committee this year and they must stand for election if they wish to continue as a member of the committee.

We still have a couple of vacancies for committee members as well. So, if you fancy joining us, please fill in the nomination form. Of course anyone can apply for the three offices of the committee, Chairman, Secretary or Treasurer. I would particularly welcome nominations for the Secretary's or Chairman's Posts.

I have been chairman for four years now. I took the role on when it looked like the club would fold. I am also, effectively, carrying out the secretary's role. Together they take up a lot of my time, and I think after five years the club will need someone with fresh ideas.

Therefore, 2026 will be my last year as Chairman. I am of course keen to see the Society thrive; hence I have given plenty of notice for a replacement to be found.

From the Editor.

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At this time of the year, I would normally feel the urge to ask “where has the year gone?” Well, the urge is there but I will resist further comment however I do still wonder where 2025 has gone!

This year has been a real success for the Society, and you will have read “from the Chair” to know we have had many very great events, visits and meetings. From my perspective (as Membership Secretary) I can share with you the fact the membership has been buoyant and has increased over the past year. There has been a small increase in membership subscription which reflects the increased cost of things such as insurance, magazine production and especially the magazine postage costs which thanks to Royal Mail have risen more than almost any other cost the Society faces. However, the increase in membership numbers have helped to minimise the subscription cost.

Many members use the winter months to start that long overdue restoration project which has been standing in the shed for far too long. If you are one of those members and have made a start on a “project” then please think about sharing what you are up to by sending some words and pictures for a future magazine. As I have said on so many occasions don’t worry about grammar, spelling etc. I can always tidy it up. If possible, avoid handwritten items.

The club AGM is to be held on 28th January 2026. You will see reference to this elsewhere in this magazine; here all positions for Officers and Committee are up for re-election and it could be YOUR opportunity to shape the future of the FMPS.

The 2026 membership subscription may have increased slightly but in a move to encourage young members the Committee have looked to the future by offering **free membership** for those under the age of 18. Already this move has brought results and, one new young member has shone through and been awarded the “Best Youngster” at the Henny Working Day. Full details elsewhere within this magazine.

The Winter months are generally quiet with little or nothing much happening except within your shed perhaps with that “project” but this winter we have something to bring members together. Put this weekend in your diary:-

Saturday January 17th and Sunday 18th 2026

On Saturday we have a Road Run, not just tractors but for all your old vehicles. See full details further on in this magazine.

Sunday, we have a Fun Day which of course is a chance to get together for a chat but more than this a chance to test your tractors on a dynamometer. Also, a “Bring and Buy” sale will be open to all. Again, more details further into the magazine.

It just leaves me to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a successful and, most importantly, a healthy New Year.

Happy



Christmas

Annual General Meeting

January 28th 2026

Support the Society, have your say, all posts up for re-election.

Please take a few minutes to read the documents accompanying this magazine.

Financial Statement/Accounts.

A statement of the Society income and expenditure over the past financial year.

Should you have any questions or require clarification of any points please contact **Bob Feaver**

Nomination Form.

This form is to allow you to either nominate a person or apply yourself for any position within the Society. Please complete and forward to **Terry Angland**

Membership Form

Complete this form with all relevant details to ensure membership of the Society for 2026. (address on the form)

Payment by BACS is preferred

Cheque or Postal Order will be acceptable.

Remember SAE.

Card payments preferred at the AGM

Please Avoid Cash if possible

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Farewell to Rebecca.

Rebecca, our long-suffering Secretary has left us due to being promoted in her “day job” and is now a Deputy Head Teacher. This promotion will be very much more demanding and time-consuming and unfortunately means she can no longer spend time trying to make sense of and recording the minutes of the FMPS Committee meetings.



To mark our appreciation the Society presented her with a memento in the form of a personalized engraved gin glass here being presented by Committee Member John Humphries.

I am sure we all wish her well in her new role.

We of course now need to employ a new Secretary, see details elsewhere in this magazine.

Vacancy for Club Secretary

You will have seen in this magazine Rebecca, our Secretary, has moved on due to commitments with her “day job”.

This has opened an opportunity for another Secretary to step in and help the Society to remain successful in what we do.

The position is open to all: - it could be a young person wanting to gain some experience as well as some extra pocket money or, perhaps an older person such as a retired secretary or office worker used to working with a computer. If you fit the bill or know someone who might then please contact us.

Job Description

Taking minutes at Committee meetings. The meetings are held on the second Wednesday of every month (except December.) at Halstead Town Football Club starting at 7.30pm and generally last about 2 ½ hours and, in addition, assist the Chairman with general secretarial duties. (paid at the hourly rate)

Skills Required

Computer literacy, patience and a sense of humour. We use various email platforms, Microsoft Word and Excel. Your own computer would be a great advantage.

Remuneration

The post attracts a payment of £15 per hour.

If you think you can help,

please email: fmpsarchive@yahoo.com

Or telephone Terry Angland 07867 334084

Winter Weekend

This 2-day event is to remember FMPS member Ray Debenham who we sadly lost in January 2025.

Event by kind permission of the Debenham family.

January 17th Breakfast Vehicle Road Run



Coopers Farm, Lawshall Suffolk IP29 4PE

9:30 Breakfast -11:00hrs Depart.

£20 entry (includes meal)

20-25 miles. Pub Stop halfway.

If you want to join the run: -

Contact Ken Bailey on 07702 202311

**Weekend Camping and Vehicle Parking available,
*Proceeds to the British Heart Foundation***

January 18th Winter Fun Day

9am set up for a 10am start

The day will include displays of tractors, stationary engines, classic cars, lorries and military vehicles.

Just Call: Ken Bailey on 07702 202311
to let us know what you are bringing

Why not DYNO test your tractor?

Hot drinks, Arthur's Burgers & Bangers and a
Licenced Bar

Sell and Buy at the "Barn Sale"



Clear those unwanted items from your shed, garage
or barn? Bring them to sell or swap.

For a free pitch, inside or outside (tables available)

Call Ken Bailey on 07702 202311

Proceeds to the British Heart Foundation

Henny Road Run 4th October 2025

Ken Bailey

Early on Saturday morning we all emerged from the caravan fully expecting all the tents to have been blown over after a horrendously windy night thanks to storm Amy which was battering us at the time. However, as we looked around the site and, much to the relief of all, everything appeared well and we prepared the most important tea, coffee and biscuits.

Entrants for the run started to arrive at about 8.30am and began parking up and getting ready for the day. A very creditable 33 tractors were all lined up and ready for the off at 10.00am and away we went.



Just for fun I thought I would include a picture (left) of yours truly.

Heading out of the farm and on to the Lamarsh Road we turned right toward Lamarsh and then right again on to a narrow road between Twinstead and Alphamstone heading towards Pebmarsh, after a few junctions we passed Stanley Hall and then crossed the A131. Just before Little Maplestead we turned left after a mile or so then left on to Dines Hall Road heading towards Castle Hedingham then Sible Hedingham and then towards Weathersfield. Turned left at Highstreet Green to Morris Green then right and headed for Toppesfield and “The Green Man”. By now we were all ready for lunch!

Henny Road Run lunch stop at Toppesfield Green Man.



We all enjoyed a meal and a drink which was served up in good time and agreed it was a well-organized stop. We left the Pub at 1.15pm heading towards Stumps Cross turning right then left on to the A101 and headed to Ridgewell then right to Meadowend, an unsurfaced road, to Ashen, across the airfield, past the Gliding Club to Ovington and from there to Belchamp St Paul.



After a short run we turned down another unsurfaced road at Clarks Farm and headed towards Borley. Before the village we turned right towards Sudbury crossing the A131 and made for the Henny Swan and got

parked. Tables were reserved for us to enjoy some food and drinks. A superb day was had by all on this 34 mile Road Run.

I would like to thank Janet and the Staff of the Green Man for a great lunch stop and also to the five marshals: - Kevin, Lin, Ian, Martin and Neal for their hard work

keeping us going in the right direction.



Many thanks also to our photographer Chris Gurton who provided the images for this write-up.

And, many thanks to Ken for giving us an almost mile by mile report of the Road Run. Very much appreciated.

(editor)



Some words and pictures of the FMPS Gt Henny Working Day 2025

Storm Amy threatened to spoil the show but, in the end, despite the howling wind, all the tents stayed up and everybody who attended managed to ignore her (almost!)

The gently sloping 43-acre field given to us for the day by Mark Cracknell and the magnificent views across the valley proved perfect for participants and spectators alike.

There were ample ploughing plots for the 55 tractor drivers who took part, and it was good to see the line of 8 stationary engines working. In addition, there were about a dozen static exhibits, including vintage lorries and fire engines, classic cars and motor bikes, tractors old and new and a display of old farm tools.

Excellent food and a popular place to chat to old friends was again provided by Project 7. It was even warm enough for Stefan the Ice-cream vendor to have a good day.

An amazing number of visitors came to enjoy the event and at one point the public car park looked full. The event was of course free but a contribution for our chosen charity (Cancer Research) was encouraged.

Over the two days of the Road Run and the Working Day we raised £1,718 for Cancer Research, which is up on the total for last year.

We had an amazing response to our editors request for some images of the weekend and unfortunately space in this magazine will only permit a small number to be shared.

May I thank Nicola and Mark Riley, Paul Ewers, and Garry Mills in particular for their images. And, thank you to others for your contributions.

A few pictures of the Henny Working Day.



Henny Working Day Pictures



Our own Ken Bailey, Road Run organiser and overall invaluable member of the FMPS

Once again, many thanks to all for the images I received. If only space would permit me to share them all with you. (editor)

Henny Awards

Presentations at the Henny Working Day



Dan Bragg
Best "stand alone" engine



Mike Hamilton Macy
Best engine driving an implement



Stanley Osborn – Young member award for some exceptional plough work

Presentations at the Henny Working Day



**Best Tractor presented to Damian Hunt and Robert Loe
(on behalf of owner David Hunt)**

This year a special award was presented by our hosts, the Cracknell family, "The Cracknell Cup" in remembrance of "Colin Cracknell" who was one of the very early members of the FMPS and for who we must thank for the Henny Working Day. Sadly, we lost Colin in December 2024 but his widow Paula



thought it appropriate that the award should go to our caterers, Project Seven, in recognition of the great food they produce but more importantly the amount of money raised for charity from their totally voluntary work throughout the year. The cup was presented by Stella Bixley (Colin's Daughter)

Restoration Projects

Martyn Woodhouse

When I first joined the FMPS, thanks to our chairman, I hadn't been directly involved in agriculture in any shape or form for 44 years. When I was a child I used to rush home from school, get changed and run down to the farm to see who was about and whether I could cadge a ride on the Track Marshal 55 crawler or on a trailer being towed by one of the International tractors I think they had a B414 and a 434. When I first left school I went to work on that farm which had expanded greatly by then and did so for 7 years. At the time they grew many sorts of vegetables, carrots, potatoes, onions, sweetcorn and asparagus as well as the traditional barley, wheat and sugar beet.

The main purpose for joining was to rekindle my interest and to get involved with the restoration of old farm machinery and tractors. Before I joined, I had already realised that John Deere or David Brown would not make good lodgers in a 5th floor apartment and anyway they would be too large and greasy even for my very patient wife. Armed with the knowledge that it was unlikely that I would ever be the proud owner of a vintage tractor or stationary engine then I would offer my services to help any member with a restoration project they had.

Early on in 2025 the opportunity arose to help some other members to clear a cart lodge and barn we had been given the use of by Indaver at Woodhouse Farm, Rivenhall. How could I refuse the opportunity to do what I had really joined for and at a place that shared my name. So this led to fairly regular Wednesday morning working parties clearing these buildings, cleaning and working on the restoration of some machinery that had been left in them and other items that had been donated to

the society. So far we have worked a Hunt Simplex Chaff cutter, a Pettit 4 wheel turntable trailer, a Smyth "Suffolk" drill circa 1940. Other things left to tackle include a Massey Ferguson 732 finger mower, a Massey Ferguson 30 seed drill, a Lister bale elevator, a Vicon acrobat rake and a two wheel tipper trailer which was just a chassis when it arrived. More progress has been made on some of these machines than others but it is hoped to show the results of our labours at next years "Crank Up".

As well as the restoration there has been a good social element to the Wednesday morning working parties and it has great to talk with the regular attendees, I have enjoyed the time spent with them and learnt so much from their experiences. So thanks to Ken Bailey, John Humphries and Authur Catling for



Arthur Catling working on the two wheel trailer chassis

including me and making me feel so welcome. If any member lives in the area of Rivenhall then why not join us there is still plenty of work to do and we meet every Wednesday

at 09:30 and will do weather permitting.



Hunt Simplex
Chaff Cutter
under restoration.



Pettit 4 wheel turntable
trailer under restoration

Many thanks Martyn for your update as to what you and other members of the Society are doing to preserve a little bit of our farming heritage. Editor.

FMPS Thrashing Day 30th August

Coopers Farm Lawshall Suffolk

The FMPS Thrashing day was held at Coopers Farm once again courtesy of the Debenham family. There were concerns this year as to whether the event would be held due to the recent untimely passing of Ray Debenham. However, the family decided it was entirely appropriate that the event should go ahead exactly as Ray would have wished.

The weeks leading up to the Thrashing Day had been mainly hot and dry but as is typical of British weather, the Summer disappeared on the day before and gave us some significant rain. Rain we very much needed but, not there and then! However, the hardy group of volunteers carried on and readied the site for the Thrashing but with doubts in mind about the event actually taking place. But, the thrashing Gods smiled on us and Saturday dawned fine and bright.

The Debenham family set up the drum to be driven by an Allis tractor which sounded very happy to be working hard. The straw rather than the grain was the product most valued as it is a long variety much valued by the local thatches.

The event attracted a reasonable number of visitors both from the club and from the surrounding population and because of this expansion for next year is being planned.

As well as the thrashing members were invited to bring their own machines to Coopers Farm to demonstrate some ploughing or just generally work their old machinery. Several interesting tractors were to be seen including an Allis crawler with a three-furrow plough which made it “call out”



The Allis crawler sounded so good working the three furrow plough.



Here modern technology meets vintage. An image taken from a drone showing the threshing activity from above.



A very original Massey Ferguson 780 combine.

In its day considered to be a revolution of technology but compare it with today's machines !

I spent many days of my school holidays in the 50s riding on a Massey just like this one and, as it happens, on a farm just a few miles away from Lawshall. Is it possible this might be the machine? We will never know. (editor)

Nobody needed to go hungry, Arthur the Burger King provided hot dogs and burgers for all and, how very welcome they were.





An Allis effortlessly powering the drum. Such an iconic sight and sound.

Some beautifully presented engines added to the interest of the day.



Pictures by Paul Ewers. (with the exception of the drone image)

Many thanks Paul for sharing these, it makes the magazine so much more interesting for members. Remember, if you attend an event, please consider some words and pictures for this magazine. (editor)

Authentic looking Dynamo for a Gas Engine

Contributed by Nick Foggin

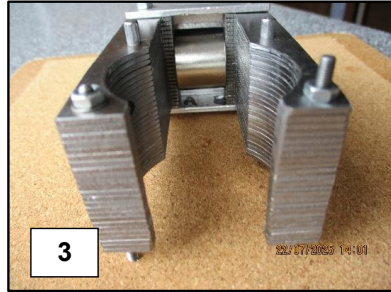
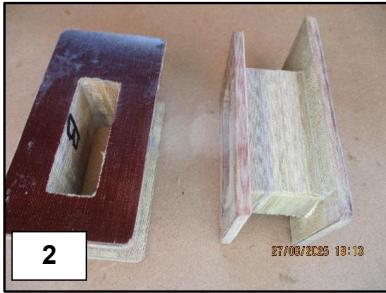
As a member of the “Swindon model boat and engineering club”, with an interest in the engineering side. We attend various shows in the area with our displays of model boats and engineering exhibits. I decided to make an authentic looking dynamo to be driven with my 60cc Centaur gas engine, built in 1985.

The motor I chose to convert was a permanent magnet type, which had a broken output shaft. The armature core is approximately 1.5 inches diameter by 1.625 inches long. To make the stator laminations, a sheet of mild steel one sixteenth thick was cut into 24 rectangles 3.5 X 2.25 inches, leaving enough to trim up in the milling machine. These were drilled



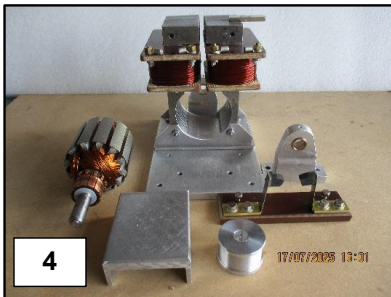
and bolted together and put in the 4 jaw chuck on the Lathe then bored out to a diameter to allow a small clearance around the armature (as shown in picture 1).

Picture 1 also shows the milling required for the field coil formers, these are made of Paxolin and milled to shape (as shown in picture 2). These were wound for appearance only, as upon testing the finished dynamo, they showed a very small increase in output Voltage, when connected.



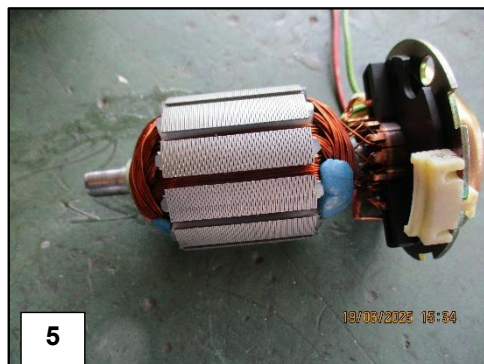
(Picture 3) shows the field laminations milled further to take a powerful neodymium magnet (the round metallic object at the back) required for the dynamo field.

(Picture 4) is of the components before assembly and the fitting of the neodymium magnet.

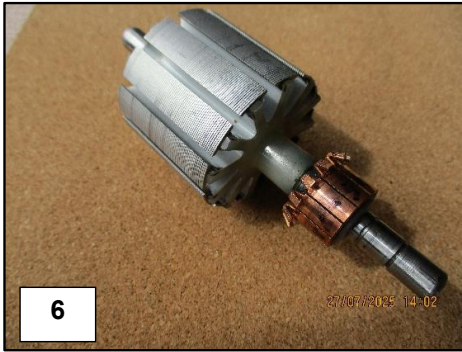


On assembly with the armature (as shown in picture 5) before the re-wind, when driving the Dynamo with a battery drill it would produce only 8 – 10V off load.

The decision was taken to re-wind the armature, on removing the windings it was discovered that each one consisted of only 30 turns.



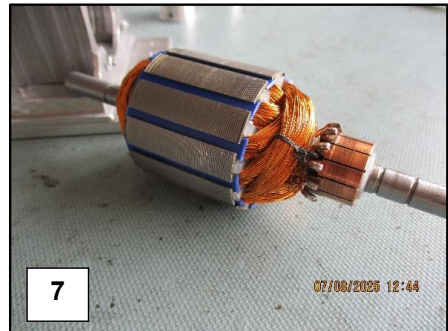
(Picture 5) Shows the armature from the “donor” motor.



(Picture 6) Shows the armature ready for re-wind, with the 12 slots for the coils and commutator segments.

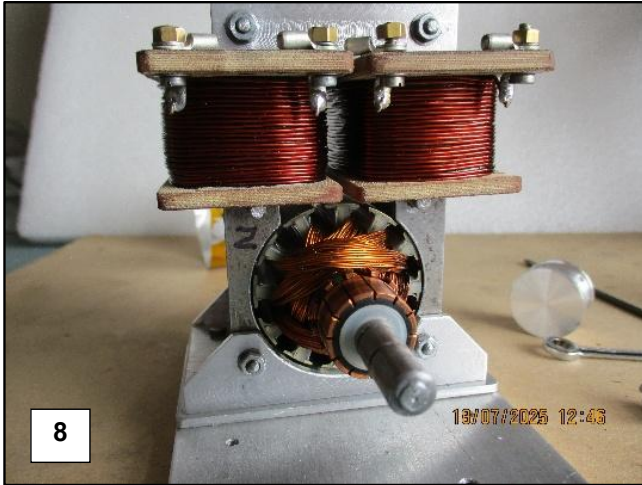


(Picture 7) Shows the armature after the re-wind, with blue PVC strips retaining the coils.



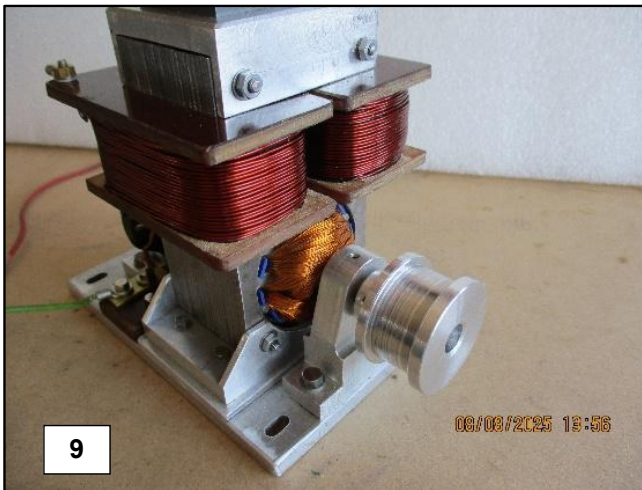
The 12 coils on the armature have 90 turns of 30SWG (Standard Wire Gauge) wire each. It also shows the repaired shaft, this required clocking up the armature in the Lathe, to ensure that it was running true, turning the broken end flat and drilling and tapping it.

The shaft is 8mm diameter, the extension was made oversize, threaded and Loctite'd into the end of the broken shaft. When the Loctite had set, the armature was returned to the Lathe and clocked up on the stub end as before, then the new extension was turned to 8mm diameter.



8

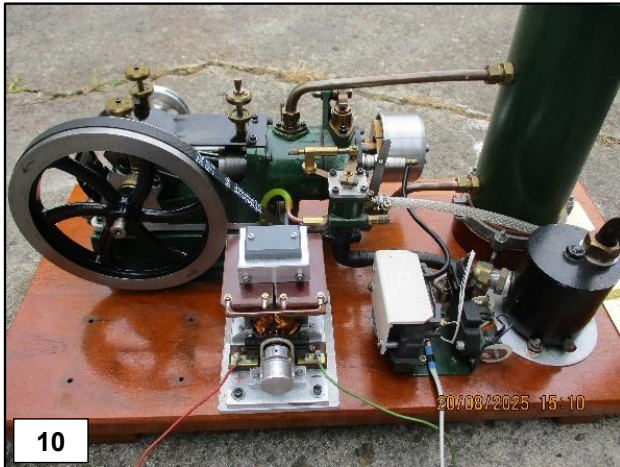
(Picture 8)
Shows the dynamo partially re-assembled.



9

(Picture 9)
On re-assembly of the dynamo, it generated 25V when driven by a battery drill.

(Pictures 10 and 11) Are of the dynamo mounted on the Engine. At a fast tick over it will generate 35-40V, with a 1A load.

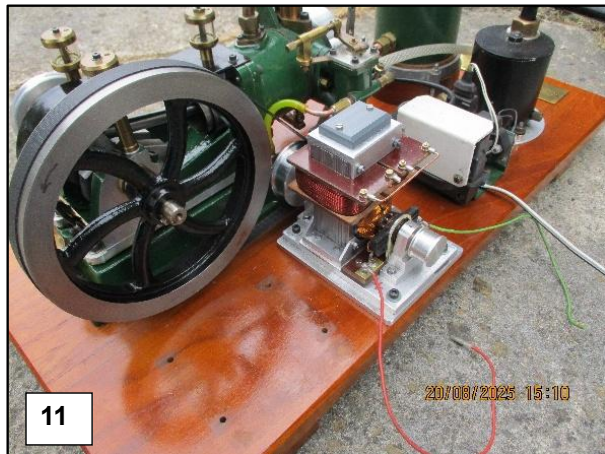


As there are no means of regulating the voltage other than controlling speed and electrical load it was decided a concession to modern

Electronics was required therefore, I have bought a DC-DC Converter that will accept a varying input Voltage and give a fixed output of 12V, 3A maximum. This only cost a few Pounds on eBay.

Thank you Nick for sharing this with our members.

You obviously have very comprehensive knowledge of mechanical and electrical engineering. If



you lived closer to East Anglia we might ask you to give a talk at a club meeting! (editor)

Waldringfield Charity Tractor Run

August 16th

Words and pictures from John Court

If there is global warming it did us a favour by bringing David Hunt's Harvest forward for an early finish, thus he was able to come with us this year on our little piece of Suffolk, and although Arthur Catling's tractor stayed at home with problems he borrowed David Cope's Ferguson, took his life in his hands and went round on that.

We did very well having 35 tractors taking part, I think David Hunt's Case was oldest and the one that raised most curiosity was the Fendt tool carrier (at 53s on You Tube video).

Total amount raised from entries, donations and the well subscribed raffle for the Zest Young Adult Care section of St. Elizabeth Hospice was £2410, but this may well rise with later donations.

At the lunch stop, First Kirton Scouts carried out all the marshalling of the tractors and car parking on the recreation ground and as an upgrade this year they put oil absorbent mats on the grass under the tractors that looked like they wanted to



drop oil on the football pitch. More effective than flattened Cornflake boxes used last year.

Importantly, Scout helpers provided the food and drink in the pavilion (the hot bacon or sausage sandwiches were well received and went down a treat) , and from their work they raised £377 for local Scout Funds.

A video was taken of all the tractors leaving after lunch and put on YouTube . It is slightly sped up but the backing music does encompass the rush of the event.

The direct link is [Waldringfield Tractor Run 2025](#).



We had GPS tracking on the lead tractor so people around the villages could see where we were and come out and wave. This was linked to the local village Facebook jabber pages to see our progress.

As a warning to others, this generated a problem at lunch time as members of the public timed their arrival to coincide with the tractors and then everyone wanted bacon sandwiches and tea at the same time. Previous years spectators would get there a bit early and be fed before the tractors turned up giving the cooks a manageable peak demand. Ultimately, all were fed, just had a longer wait and many ate their cakes while waiting.

Another worthwhile day and appreciated by all.

The 2026 run will be on 15th August

Readers of the magazine will need the *You Tube* address entered manually on their device to view.

The Waldringfield Tractor Run raised almost £2500 for this amazing organization. A big “Thank You” to all those involved



Zest Young Adult Care

Zest, developed by St Elizabeth Hospice, supports young adults aged 14 and upwards with progressive and incurable illnesses to ensure that they get the specialist care, tailored treatment and services they need to be able to enjoy life to the full.



Find out more at:
wearezest.org.uk

**Young adult
hospice care**

Part of the St Elizabeth Hospice family

Club Badges Now Available

Promote our Society in 2026



Cloth Badge

£2.50

Plus £1.50

Post/packing



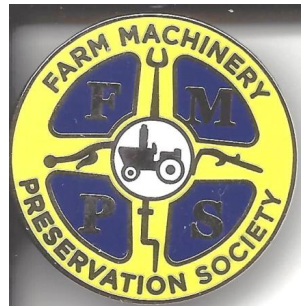
Available now, these fine quality woven and metal badges. The woven badge is 90mm diameter.

The top quality, metal pin badge is 25mm and just £4.00. plus £1.50 post/packing

Contact our Merchandise Co-ordinator, Bob Adams:-

r.adams389@btinternet.com

Phone:- 07518 380188



Order now for a Christmas Stocking Filler

FMPS Visit to Claydon drills 24th September.

Martyn Woodhouse

Twenty members and guests were welcomed by Jeffrey Claydon in the conference room at Claydons farm and factory in Wickhambrook, Suffolk. Claydons are essentially a farm, of around 800 acres of Suffolk clay land.

The manufacturing side of the business started in 1981 with the development of a yield meter which accurately measured the yield of crops per acre/hectare when fitted to the combine harvester. Since then, the business has grown to produce specialist drills and equipment for the direct drilling of cereal crops with a turnover of millions of pounds. The company now employs about 60 staff but is still a very family orientated concern with the fourth generation now working on the farm and in the company.

Jeffery explained that very close to the factory one of their drills was being used and invited us to go down to the field to see it in action before the light faded. The drill being used was an



Evolution M6 drill being pulled by a Fendt 942 tractor being driven by one of Jeffrey's sons.

Jeffery and Tay the local salesman explained how the drill worked and answered questions on the drill and the direct drilling method they employ.



After the field visit we returned for a tour of the farm and factory. We were given a guided of the paint shop and the assembly workshop where the drills and other machines are built from the

parts provided by the weld shop and outside suppliers. Jeffery explained that due to the cost of some equipment such as precision laser cutters some parts were bought in from a few trusted suppliers.

Following the factory tour, we returned to the conference room for refreshments kindly provided. This was followed by a film presentation of the evolution of the companies Opti-Till direct drilling concept from 2003 to the present day, and the product lines available. Jeffrey gave an excellent talk on the history of the company and the process that has seen them become one of the leading manufacturers of seed drills. He then answered questions from members before closing the evening with a little competition. It was a thoroughly entertaining, educational and enjoyable visit.

Crossing Temple Apple Day

Words and pictures thanks to Paul Ewers

The FMPS were invited to represent our interests at the Crossing Temple Apple Day which was a real success with plenty of people coming to talk to us and ask questions. We signed up at least one new member and, we gave out several membership forms and leaflets as well which might well produce a few more members.

There were many visitors and, I talked with an organiser who said, “more than a thousand people had come through the gate this year even better than last year”.

And so, all going to plan, I will be back next year.



The FMPS promoting the Society with a display of some tractors and stationary

engines and of course our very prominent gazebo and signage.



Turning some apples into juice and then, hopefully, into some of the amazing cider which was on offer at the “Apple Day”



Committee members Arthur Catling, John Humphries, and Ken Bailey taking a well-earned “sit down.”

Greenstead Green Ploughing Match 13th September

A few words and pictures from Paul Ewers

The Greenstead Green event has been running for many years and is always one I look forward to. It attracts some of the best and most competitive ploughmen around. This year was no exception, and we had a very good day with approximately 50 tractors ploughing in various classes.

As always there were a good number of public watching our efforts and no doubt among them were some who were amazed at the skills of the top ploughmen and some who were there to see the old machinery at work.

Normally I would take a few pictures of interesting old tractors actually working but this year I was so focused on my plot and the way it was looking I somehow forgot about “working” pictures but I did manage to snap a few of tractors when they were taking a brief break from the main activities.



Two pictures of my Uncle Peter's Case model C and Ransome two Furrow Trailed Plough in the ploughing match.



My own 1962 Massey Ferguson 35 petrol two model and Ransomes two Furrow plough.



Committee members John Humphries and Ken Bailey at Greenstead Green promoting the Society.

When possible we try to get out and about at events within the area to spread the word about the FMPS and what we offer to those with an interest in old iron.

The one downside of the day was the English weather! Fine during the event but, at loading up time we were treated to a thunderstorm! Many reading this will have experienced exactly this scenario, sunshine all day and then when you are packing up ready for home the Heavens open.

Many thanks Paul for the write up, very much appreciated and yes, so many times I have been rained on at going home time !
editor

And Finally: -

A huge “Thank You” to those who have contributed to the magazine over the past year.

Come along to the “Winter Weekend” in January.

Join us at the AGM, 28th January at Halstead Football Club.

We very much need a Club Secretary, please consider taking on the role.

Don’t be afraid of “getting involved” step up and seek election to the Committee or any other position. We would love to have your ideas to move the club forward.



*Have a really good Christmas and a
Happy and Healthy New Year.*

2026

FMPS Meetings/Visits/Events

**Meetings at Halstead Football Club CO9 1HR
8pm (unless otherwise stated)**

**January 17th
Winter Weekend Road Run
Coopers Farm Lawshall Suffolk IP29 4PE**

**January 18th
Winter Weekend Fun Day
Coopers Farm Lawshall Suffolk IP29 4PE**

**January 28th
Annual General Meeting
Halstead Football Club CO9 1HR**

**February 25th
Talk by Peter Longfoot on Caterpillar Tractors
Halstead Football Club CO9 1HR**

**March ??
We plan to visit P & A Wood
Authorised Rolls-Royce Dealer
specialising in heritage cars.
Dunmow Essex. CM6 2HD
Full details to follow, watch our Facebook page.**

Always check our Facebook page for meeting updates.

WEBSITE www.fmps.org.uk

Deadline for next Magazine input:- February 15th 2026

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Club Polo Shirts £16

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available**

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