

HOLT & DISTRICT FARMERS' CLUB

FOUNDED 1948

President: Richard Brooks

Chairman: Martin Jensen

Vice-Chairman: Andrew Ross

www.holtfarmers.club

CLUB MATTERS June 2024

“*A Superb Trip*” is an early comment on the efforts of **Martin Jensen** in arranging another sortie into Viking country. As with his famous trip to his Finnish homeland in 2011 he even arranged hot weather that was far better than what we were enduring here at home. We really are indebted to our Chairman who has marshalled us into our grand Anniversary Dinner and organised this trip within the first year of his chairmanship. All the while he and his family have been coping with the dystopian circumstances out in the Ukraine and then there is the mere matter of running his large scale domestic farming operation not to mention a new venture in Poland that he is involved with. Unfortunately I had to cancel at the last moment but I look forward to hearing more about Sweden and to the climax of our summer season in Breckland.

Before the Stockholm sndrome a few of us including Martin and his wife Rosemary along with **Richard Brooks** enjoyed a friendly and informative walk round Thornage Hall under the guidance of Phil Culley, the farm manager. The patience and dedication shown by Phil and the staff is remarkable as the Camp Hill Community suffered particularly badly during covid while always having to battle for funding and support. He thanked us for our donation for two new hives as they only had one hitherto and if that had failed their horticulture could have been badly affected without adequate pollination. Justin, the younger brother of Lord Hastings has Down's Syndrome, and is one of the 'tenants' here with Delaval living modestly near Letheringsett and his Back to the Garden operation.

It would cap Martin's first year if we could have a full coachload for our **visit to Brandon Fields** a fortnight on Thursday, 20th June as I advertised last month. We have had similar excursions to the nearby Elveden and Euston Estates as well as to Wissington, Sir Janes Dyson's Beeswax farming operation in Lincolnshire and Shropshire's which have all been great successes and it would be nice to replicate that here. It would be a poor example to the Gresham's students who are joining us if we cannot muster much interest ourselves. I appreciate some like to take a holiday before harvest but we have avoided Cereals and **John Cragg** has been busy liaising over the arrangements. Also I believe we will be able to view most of the Estate from the coach so there is unlikely to be too much walking involved. Clearly existing members will be given precedence but there may be room for friends as possible new recruits ... even Stalham members... so I look forward to hearing from you. The coach is due to depart from Holt Rugby Club at 1 o'clock and, appropriately, our hosts have chosen YANA as their charity *in lieu* of us paying for the barbeque that they are laying on for us.

Our newly married Treasurer reports that The Glorious First of June “*was a fantastic day*” and I hope that Mrs Sam Hill and Mrs Leah Clabon are enjoying happy honeymoons with **Laurie** and **Sam**. We trust that **George Youngs** will complete a fine hat trick with his marriage next month.

Hon. Secretary: **Tim Nicholson**

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