



Chadacre Old Students  
Association

**Newsletter**  
Autumn 2018

# Committee and Contacts

**President :** Earl of Iveagh

**Vice Presidents :** Elspeth Dennis Jones  
John Paton Philip  
Ted Hewitt  
Vic Simmons  
Dr. Helen Smith

## **Officers**

Chairperson: Robert Bendall  
Vice Chair : Bob Waller  
Hon Treasurer : Michael Mumford  
Hon Secretary: Sally Bendall

## **Committee**

David Bradshaw, Will Duchesne, Martin Jackson, Roger Kelk, Roger Lintott, Stuart Pulford, Steve Tompkins, Clem Warner, John Watson.

## **Contacts**

Please send any change of member details , address and email address updates to:

Email: [admin@cosa.org.uk](mailto:admin@cosa.org.uk)

Or

Sally Bendall  
COSA - Secretary  
Hollow Trees Farm  
Semer Ipswich IP7 6HX

Ph: 01449 741 247

[www.cosa.org.uk](http://www.cosa.org.uk)



## A Word from The Chairman about Mates & Budgies !

In honesty I can't say I chose to go to Chadacre ! I was always a bit of an odd one out at school as I loved farming and growing things. The boys played football and sport and I lived on an isolated farm and bred rabbits and budgies. When the time came to choose a career farming was my destiny.



However , my Mother said “if you are going into farming you will have to go to a place called Chadacre and get trained” So that's what I did and for the first time I was able to fit in with other students that shared my interests ( well maybe not the budgie breeding ) and of course my Mother was right !

Messrs Bendall, Hadley & Tompkins

As life continues friends and work mates come and go. I am thankful to Chadacre for the friends I made there who still meet up regularly, (as the photo shows ) but there are times when we all feel isolated. Farming can be a lonely business . I hope you will all take time to read the YANA flyer enclosed that tells us there is support that is established in Norfolk and now moving into Suffolk too.

To comply with new data protection law over the past few month COSA have updated the original database of member's details. This data spring clean means we now only send out correspondence to those members who have given us permission to do so and members who want to keep in touch and receive COSA news.

With the Chadacre Centenary fast approaching the committee hope that ,as with previous milestones, we can produce a special edition of this newsletter to celebrate .Please start putting pen to paper with your memories , stories and amusing tales of your days at Chad. Email or post them to the COSA office.

It's certainly been a funny ol' summer on the farming front so for some relief I hope you will all feel like letting your hair down at the annual reunion in November. I look forward to seeing you all there.

*Robert 'Judge' Bendall , COSA Chairman.*

## The 2017 COSA Reunion - Two Lasting Memories!

The 2017 Chadacre Dinner Dance will be remembered for two things ! Firstly, for the fantastic effort that Pete and Doreen Larwood put in to contacting all of their 1977-79 year . Amazingly they gathered a group of 33 former students and partners who attended the event .There was a great deal of reminiscing and trading of tales. It was fantastic to see the year so well represented and particular thanks go to Mark Howson for saying the Grace .Quite appropriate as he was nicknamed 'Vicar' at Chadacre and now, as well as farming, is the Pastor of his local evangelical church . Neville Cobbald also deserves a mention for the record breaking amount he 'squeezed' out of members for the raffle ! The 77—79 group (above) and others certainly showed us some moves



that night and it was, yet again, another good reunion . However, the second and lasting memory most will have of the evening is that the band were just too loud. As they say, we will never please all the people all the time, but as we are all getting older we do like to be able to turn the volume down sometimes and pick and choose our favourite tunes. So it seemed time to rethink the music for the night. After much debate by COSA committee it was decided to book the Cloud 9 Roadshow for this year's COSA bash. Cloud 9 is run by a DJ Lee and he plays the music for all the Stoke by Nayland Hotel Christmas parties and their golf clubs New Years eve party so he is tried and tested .

Lee has been briefed and has promised COSA can have their finger on the volume button and he really wants to play all your requests as he says below:

*“A disco can also be a little more versatile , adapting to all the changing requests on the night & by keeping an eye on the dancefloor which is our ultimate barometer. I welcome requests which can help make everybody feel much more part of the party” DJ Lee*

Winter Reunion Dinner Dance 2018  
Friday 16th November 2018  
Stoke by Nayland Hotel

Once again Cosa invites all members, family and friends to the 2018 Winter Reunion Dinner Dance. Reunion tickets are on sale now and the enclosed form has all the details. Deadline for ticket sales is Sunday 11th November, 2018 but don't leave it too late, you might be disappointed!



**2 Ways To Pay**

**By Card Payment over the phone: Phone 01449 741 247**

The Hollow Trees Office Team will take your card payment details over the phone and your tickets and receipt will be posted to you by return.

**By Cheque** - Post the enclosed booking form together with your cheque to Mr & Mrs Mumford at Bartons Cottage.

**Hotel Rooms :**

**Phone: 01206 262 836      [www.stokebynayland.com](http://www.stokebynayland.com)**

Stoke by Nayland Hotel have reserved rooms for COSA guests. Numbers are limited and rooms are only held for a **LIMITED TIME** so be sure to **BOOK EARLY** and don't forget to ask for the COSA room rate when booking.

**Anniversary Years**

**40th** 1978 / 80    **50th** 1968/ 70    **60th** 1958/ 60

## **COSA Farm Walk 2018 Yole Farm , Balsham Yet another fantastic farm walk !**

This years farm walk was by kind permission of David Kiddy & his son James. David was the very first 'Robert Black' at Chadacre and it was great to hear him reminisce about the early days.

On a very pleasant Friday evening over 80 old students gathered in the far flung place called Balsham just outside of Cambridge on sloping chalk lands . The change of area brought in some new faces to the walk (lets hope we see them again next year or at the Winter Reunion!)

It's becoming a major task to get enough trailers to take the number of people who attend these events so COSA are very grateful for all the effort that goes into planning the transportation , let alone the event itself. As you can see, this year we had our most unique mode of transport ! So when we were all loaded we looked like a cross between a farm walk and a military parade.



We started by looking at winter barley on different types of land and travelled across grassland to look at the breeding flock with lambs at foot and discussed their management throughout the year .



We then stopped to walk the 200 wheat trials that are managed to ensure the correct varieties are grown for the farm.

After a drive round the countryside we returned to the farm where we visited the purpose built sprayer shed with self contained spray storage are. We then returned to the barn for some liquid refreshment and delicious pork rolls . A vote of thanks was given to the Kiddy family and all their team for hosting a very interesting farm walk enjoyed by all.

*Bob Waller*



## The 2019 COSA Farm Walk

By Kind Invitation of  
Mike Gray & family

**Chadacre student 1974/1976**

**Friday 7th June 2019 6.30 pm**

### **Moat Hall Farm, Parham, Woodbridge IP13 9AE**

Moat Hall comprise of 500 acres farmed by Mike, his brother Robin and son Will. They also contract farm a further 1800 acres.

Crops grown are wheat ,barley, sugar beet, oilseed rape and maize for AD.

They also fatten around 100 cattle a year on silage produced from 80 acres of low meadows.

The farm is also in the higher level stewardship scheme and Moat Hall itself is a grade 11\* listed site and is of significance historically.

The evening walk will finish with refreshments . There will be a charge of £5 per person attending .This will be collected on the evening and is to help cover ongoing administration costs of COSA.

Have your say , join us for the **COSA AGM**

The **2019 COSA AGM** will take place at the

**The Manger Public House ,  
Bradfield Combust**

( on the A134 Sudbury to Bury St Edmunds road )

**Tuesday 5th February 2019**

**7.30 pm** All members are most welcome





## Members Abroad

**Murray Gray,**  
*pictured here, was a  
student at  
Chadacre from  
1951 to 1953*

*In 1956 Murray moved to New Zealand, what followed is below .....*

In pre European days New Zealand would have been 80-90% covered in trees, known as bush.

Any early pioneer or settler who purchased land to farm first had to 'fall the bush' and remove the timber. Burning, milling or both was the usual method.

The area shown here is around 2,800 acres and has the name 'Glenlean'. It is located in the



District of Stonvar, in the Wairarapa, Lower North Island. The land has been cleared by previous owners dating back to the late 1800's.

However, poor farming practises by more recent owners saw the land revert back to scrub, Manuka actually, and a goodly population of rabbits. Had it been realized back in the 1950's that Manuka honey would attract the high financial rewards that it does today, I doubt that the agricultural work I was involved in would have been undertaken.



Today, improved standards of Manuka are being planted for honey production. The view above (circa 1956) is all part of Glenlean. It looks hard country, and is!

The photo (left) shows scrub as it was at a height of 22 feet.

When I took up employment on Glenlean in January 1956 my employer said we would try and deal with 100 acres each year . Equipment employed was an international TGD Crawler Tractor pulling a set of five aside super giant discs. Growth like this can hide ground contours and at the start caution is required for the safety factor.

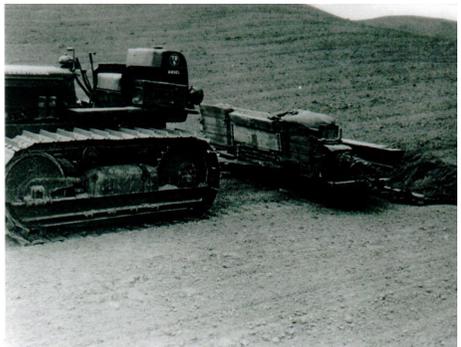
In this particular instance my employer and I had to crawl on our hands and knees through this growth to observe' (?) the ground contour then bring the tractor forward a short distance before crawling forward again sometimes using 'tunnels' created by wild pigs. Lucky for us, there was no oncoming 'traffic'.



A few years later I was employed by a contractor engaged in government land development work using HD5's or 6's towing a roller. These rollers were often adapted from old steam boilers with cutting bars welded on, about six inches high, in the pattern of the blades on a reel lawn mower and filled with water. It's use left the scrub or gorse as flat as a carpet. After a round or two the ground contour becomes more 'readable'. As much as possible of the crushing would be done during winter and spring and burnt off during summer. After burn off the cultivations can begin.

As the soil tends to be acidic lime is applied at 1 ton/acre by aerial top dressing. After further cultivations a crop of turnips and chowmolier would be sown, to be grazed off by lambs when they developed some teeth, around August, September. Success of this crop could sometimes be only mediocre.

However , the whole operation did provide some soil nutrition. The crops were fed off and had general clean up. Burning large pieces of Manuka mostly. Ground would then be disced using those behind the tractor by continued use of disc harrows until a seed bed is attained.



The sowing of grass seed is a February to March operation, weather permitting. Seeding rate 42 lbs/acre comprising: 4 lb white clover: 4 lb sub clover: 4 lb red clover: 10 lb Italian rye grass: 20 lb prerenal rye grass. The purpose of a heavy seeding is to ensure a good thick ground cover quickly, before the autumn rains.



This work was not without its perils. This photo on the left is a reminder not to take short cuts in the winter!

Below is my employer, a Mr Bob King, viewing a scary predicament I had got myself into!

Below Manuka is cut for winter . In earlier times this was an occupation for some.

But that's another story.....



*Many people come to New Zealand nowadays and can only see it as it is ( how else?) not realising what hardships were endured during earlier decades to make NZ what it is today. I am happy to have had a very very minuscule part in it"*

*Murray Gray , Waihi , New Zealand*

## Mr Mumford and Victoria Beckham Save the Day !



Hopes were high as we arrived at Cockfield Village Hall for the annual Stanningfield Quiz in November. Bury Young Farmers Club arrived with a strong turnout of keen young people. Stanningfield's own team comprised of the best brains in the club.

COSA team comprised of Michael Mumford, David Bradshaw and Robert Bendall who were looking anxiously at the door waiting for our star quizzier John Watson to arrive. Round one started and 'Wato' was nowhere to be seen. So the team of three battled on suspecting he had nodded off in front of the telly, oblivious to the tense competition happening at Cockfield Village Hall! It was up to the three of us, and miraculously after a hard fought battle and some good humoured banter, COSA team came out on top with a score of 132. Stanningfield brains were not far behind with 130. Mr Mumford accepted the cup that looked exceedingly clean and sparkling. I hope it returns next year just as shiny. As to the questions, we are still not sure how many horns a rhinoceros has but learnt that a cuckoo is also known as a GONK and a ladybird has 7 spots. Well done to Mr Mumford who claimed the victory by knowing Victoria Beckham's maiden name !



### #Headingfor100

100  
years

In 2020/21 it will be 100 years since the Chadacre Institute was founded. Plans are afoot to mark this occasion. As with other COSA milestones a Special Edition of this COSA newsletter will be put together. We are looking for your funny stories, your comments, and photos to put together in our Special 100 Year Edition newsletter. We all know time flies so now's the time to put pen to paper, tap the typewriter or log onto the computer and submit any contributions to [admin@cosa.org.uk](mailto:admin@cosa.org.uk) or post them to Sally Bendall at Hollow Trees Farm Semer, Ipswich IP76HX.

# Vics Tours

*Once again Vic Simmonds has done an amazing job of organising a summer tour for COSA member. Pulling together these gatherings is never easy but every year Vic seems to come up with yet another great itinerary and from the photo of members visiting Bentwaters here would appear he has his own Simmonds tour bus now too !*



*Last years tour report just missed the newsletter printing deadline so we are catching up on where Vics Tours has been over the past two years.*



ELVEDEN

On the 12<sup>th</sup> July, the 1953/55 year arranged a tour of Elveden Estate. It was another occasion when we had to make use of our "First Years" who were invited to make up the numbers.

They seem to get on with us reasonably well these days!! They are now part of the scene ! It was sad that Colin Steed was not with us but we were so pleased that

Margret Steed and Margret Baker were able to be with us. There was a coach load of 45 and the day started with coffee and a very detailed insight on how the estate is run today.

Ian Robertson, a retired Elveden Manager, gave us the talk with slides after which he conducted a two hour tour of the Estate before having a pre booked lunch at the Elveden Courtyard Café. After lunch, we then had a conducted tour of Elveden Church which gave us some of the history of the estate and the Iveagh family. We were very grateful to Lord Iveagh for allowing the visit to take place and a donation was given to Elveden Church.



For many of us it was the first visit to Elveden since our time at Chadacre, when we saw cows, pigs, sheep and cattle which are kept in outside yards. Vegetables and irrigation play a major part in the business and we are told that Elveden are the largest onion producers in the UK. Elveden Farms is still the largest single holding in the UK with 22,600 acres.



It was a very successful day enjoyed by all. This must mean that another day out for next year is on the cards!! *And it was .....*

May 2018



Visit to Bentwater Park by those at Chad 65 Years Ago!

**1953 to 1955 & 1954 to 1956**

The maximum number of 53 attended, from which 43 were old students and staff. Bill Kemball was our host and we had the privilege of him giving us the conducted tour of the old airfield and base in his coach. It was a hot day. Bill Kemball's father Jack was a Chad student in 1927 and he left Chad to manage a Sainsbury farm. In 1942 he left Sainsbury and rented Wantisden Hall after which he bought it. The Kemball family now own and run the following businesses:-

**Wantisden Hall Farms**

2000 acres are owned and a further 2000 acres contract farmed. Several old farm buildings have been converted into the "Wantisden Valley" corporate entertaining complex. They can hold weddings for 500 people.

**Debach Enterprises** – Logistic – Storage and Transport. In 1976 part of the Debach airfield was purchased to start the Company and in 1985 the business. Debach Enterprises now has approximately 660,000 square feet of cover. There are 50 lorries and 80 trailers, some of which are hired out. Bill considers this the main business. *(Continued ....)*

## **Bentwater Parks Ltd**

RAF Bentwater was purchased in 2001 after the Americans left and has an area of 1000 acres. There are many buildings involved, including 22 bomb blast proof hangers. The buildings house many different businesses. Some are run by the Kemball family or part owned by them and others buildings are hired out. The bomb blast hangers and bomb storage bays are of special interest because of their insulation properties which enables a constant temperature. Storage of vintage wine is an example. The main workshop for aircraft repairs is now the main part of the huge “Power Of The Past” Agricultural Museum housing tractors, machinery implements, steam engines, classic cars and lorries together with military vehicles and even a tank. The collection is one of the largest in Europe and will probably finish up being THE largest in Europe. It has been enhanced with the addition by Jane, Bill’s wife, of a display entitled “100 Years of Fashion” and the “Home Front”, a detailed account of the Second World War.



There is also the “Bentwaters Cold War Museum” which we did not have time to visit in our schedule. Two hours are needed to do it justice. We had a sandwich lunch at “Wantisden Valley” and a very welcome cup of tea and homemade cakes at the Museum. Splendid food in relaxing surroundings. We started the day at 10.30 am looking at the Control Tower. All the businesses are run from here, and finished the day at 5.30pm at the Control Tower.



What a wonderful and informative day we had, and grateful thanks again to Bill and Jane for all their kindness and enthusiasm. It was another occasion that we “2<sup>nd</sup> Years” had to put up with the “1<sup>st</sup> Years” nonsense!! We might invite them again next year .... to somewhere where there is water!!

***And talking of water, look who Vic found messing about on the river !***

## A Day On The River

I recently went on a boat trip from Sudbury on the River Stour and had the pleasure of meeting Derek and Margret Cresswell again. Derek was machinery lecturer at Chad from 1974 to 1988 under the Principals John Paton-Philip and Ted Hewitt.

Derek joined the River Stour Trust as a volunteer in 2012 and Margaret joined in 2015. When I spoke to them the other day they were just off on their 850cc Triumph motorcycle to view the countryside and keep up with the different seasons!! This is when they are not using their Camper van.



They gave me the impression that they had not changed a bit.

*Vic Simmonds*



### **A Presidential Oversight !**

*When flicking through some old COSA Newsletters recently we read the following lines from the COSA AGM report and realised we have made a 'faux par' and accidentally left a very important person off the Vice Presidents list in the front cover of the more recent COSA missives. We can only apologise to Ted. Its been great to see him at our farm walks and a reunion over the last few years and this year he is on 'said list' and in his rightful and well deserved place.*



I was very pleased to note the approval at the 1989 A.G.M. in making The Principal Mr. Ted Hewitt a Life Vice President. Throughout the whole of the sale of Chadacre and all negotiations, Ted Hewitt has given 100% support to the Chairman, Board of Governors and Staff, even though it has meant the loss of a life times work. I would like to record my own gratitude to The Principal for his support.

*The Chadacre Agricultural Trust was formed in 1990 following the closure and subsequent sale of the Institute, The Trust is run by a body of Governors, chaired by the Earl of Iveagh. The governors meet quarterly to assess grant applications and allocate funding Grants are given in support of people rather than 'bricks and mortar' projects. Funding is available for applicants or projects based in Suffolk, Norfolk, Essex or Cambridgeshire.*



*COSA and the Chadacre Trust have many connections and work closely together in supporting the agricultural community throughout East Anglia as the following pages illustrate.*

*Tom Bradshaw from Fletchers Farm , Fordham Colchester writes .....*

*"I just wanted to thank the Chadacre Agricultural Trust for their support that enabled me to attend the leadership course organised by the Institute of Agricultural Management .*

*Since undertaking the course I have been elected to the role of Chairman of the NFU*

*Combinable crops and I believe the knowledge and confidence gained from this course has been instrumental in enabling me to undertake this role The first week was spent in Cirencester and it was an opportunity for us all to explore our strengths and weakness' identifying areas for improvement . The second week was spent in Brussels and with the current political environment and my role with the NFU it was fascinating to gain a greater insight into and what future the EU agricultural policy may look like. The final week was spent in London and while speakers for the whole course were excellent London raised this to another level and we were challenged and inspired in equal measure. I owe a huge thanks to the Chadacre Trust and I only hope over the coming years I am able to pay this back in some way by helping to make sure that the voice of farming is heard on a political level that enables us all to have a profitable future"*



*Tom Bradshaw*

*[www.fletchersfarm.co.uk](http://www.fletchersfarm.co.uk)*



## Check out the New Farm Secretary Film

The East Anglian Branches of IAgSA (Institute of Agricultural Secretaries & Administrators) are very grateful for the support the Chadacre Agricultural Trust has given us in recent years. IAgSA benefits from steady sales of the second edition of the Farm

Office Handbook and it is used as core reference material for our training courses. The farm secretarial careers film is available via social media for anyone who is interested in pursuing an interesting rural career. Books may be purchased via the website where you will also find a link to the film - [www.IAgSA.co.uk](http://www.IAgSA.co.uk)



IAgSA Suffolk Branch are hosting the 50<sup>th</sup> national conference in March 2019 at Stoke by Nayland Hotel, the perfect location to look at farm diversification and the impact of digital revolution on the farm office. Sponsorship packages are available for East Anglian businesses to promote farm, produce and services to conference delegates from all over the UK. Contact Jenny Pine, Chairman IAgSA Suffolk branch for more details - [suffolkiagsa@gmail.com](mailto:suffolkiagsa@gmail.com)

From the Archives — Were You There? Is this You ?

Let us know on [admin@cosa.org.uk](mailto:admin@cosa.org.uk)



COSA Members help  
The  
**Student Food & Farming  
Day** celebrate its  
10th Anniversary



The organising committee of the Food and Farming Student Day are extremely grateful to the Chadacre Trust for supporting this day for the past ten years. This is a day when over 350 students aged 13 - 16 can discover all about food and farming. The day consists of a number of hands on interactive workshop that are designed to give the students information on the careers within agricultural , food industries plus wildlife and conservation .The Food and Farming Student Day is held at Hollow Trees Farm and organised in conjunction with Easton and Otley College and Suffolk Agricultural Association. Also volunteering on the day are numerous COSA members. Some of whom have helped for all 10 years .It is a day run by approximately 40 volunteers ,many of whom are part of COSA . Whether it be delivering a workshop to the students , acting as a steward or loaning machinery COSA always plays a big part in the day.

It is great to see the children of COSA members volunteering too. This year the next generation of Duchesne' , Bendall's and Chamley's delivered workshops and set about inspiring the students by telling them of their individual journeys into food and farming. Over 10 years we have seen thousands of students onto the farm. Something many young people never get the opportunity to do. Pictured overleaf are just a few of the many COSA members who have helped out.

Thankyou to COSA and Chadacre Trust for helping to inspire a food and farming future.

***"The day never disappoints and has got even better"***

***Teacher , Sir John Leaman School***





*'COSA daughters'  
Beth Duchesne  
& Shân Bendall  
delivering  
workshops*



**Top to Bottom pics**  
*Michael Mumford  
Bob Waller  
Richard Duchesne  
Richard Garnham*





*Last year we told you we had just a few remaining  
Chadacre history DVDs - we did not lie !  
However we had such a  
demand for the final few we pressed a few more ....*

**An ideal Christmas Gift !**

**History DVD - A few remaining AGAIN!**

When looking through the Chadacre archives a reel of film, still in its metal casing, was found with no clue as to what it was. Having transferred it onto DVD the result was a fantastic short 12 minute film, with commentary, that gives a snapshot of life as a Chadacre student in the 1960s. Copies of the DVD are available to purchase still

**ONLY £10 each.** All profits will go to COSA funds.

Email [admin@cosa.org.uk](mailto:admin@cosa.org.uk) or phone 01449 741247

DVDs can be posted for an additional cost of £2.50 post and packaging.

*Please take a few minutes to read the YANA flyer  
within this newsletter*



The YANA project, that has been well received by the farming community and medical professionals across Norfolk, now has representation in Suffolk. Sally-Ann Muldoon, the YANA Ambassador for Suffolk, stresses that the helpline followed principles very similar to those used by the Samaritans. The fund raising element of the organisation is used directly to employ high calibre counsellors, who have a good understanding of the issues impacting the farming community. Anything discussed is "off the record" and totally confidential. Non means-tested funding for counselling is available to those who live in

Norfolk and now in Suffolk and are involved in the broad farming community - this includes farming family members, farm staff, agricultural contractors and Young Farmers.

**YANA Helpline: 0300 323 0400**



## COSA Members Remembered

### Ken Davy

"It is with sadness that we report the death of Ken Davy ( 1956-1958 ) in July 1917. After attending Chadacre he farmed at Tannington, near Framlingham all his life with his late father and brothers.

A keen photographer, he kept a marvellous record of all the tractors & machinery used on the farm during his time. He had always had a great interest in David Brown tractors & latterly he amassed a collection of these tractors & implements & enjoyed using & showing them at various working events & rallies organised by the Norfolk & Suffolk David Brown Tractor Club. His last journey from the farm to Tannington Church was made with one of his tractors driven by a life long friend, pulling a trailer carrying the coffin & sheaves of wheat, for his funeral on 23rd August. A large congregation included a number of Old Students. Ken had been a very loyal supporter of COSA Summer Farm Walks for many, many years until his illness & his presence is greatly missed ." The David Brown Tractor Club is organising the

### Ken Davy Memorial Tractor Road Run

on

Sunday, 30th September

**starting from his home farm at**

**Wood Farm, Tannington,**

**Woodbridge, IP13 7NF**

**with a lunch stop at Parham**

**Airfield Museum.**



**Supporting the Alzheimer's Society.**

I feel it would be very fitting if some members of COSA & their families felt able to take part with either vintage, classic or modern tractors as a tribute to Ken.

**Any further details please contact Roger Lintott – Tel. 07799 473374.**

### Colin Steed

It was with sadness that we heard of the death of Colin Steed in October 2016 . Colin was at Chadacre from 1954 to 56 and was instrumental in keeping his year 'together' over many years and making sure they all met up at the Winter Reunion . His funeral at Gt Waldringfield Church was attended by many COSA members.

## 1929 Summer Term - Leghorns & Lumpy Butter !

Farming week was next. In this we did: - driving bullocks and picking out those ready for slaughter, dipping sheep, shearing and drenching. As several red poll heifers had recently been bought with the idea of starting a herd we had the task of halter breaking them and taking them for exercise twice a day. One morning we took them further than usual which made us late for breakfast. We had to explain this to Matron who was not too willing to believe us. Luckily the vice-principal had seen us go past and came to our rescue.

One lunch time we had a slight argument over some jelly and I left a piece on the table. For this I was hauled in front of Mr. Seward who gated me for 24 hrs. It didn't affect me very much as I was on farm duty and had to be out most of the time.

We had work to do in the gardens as well. This consisted of hoeing and weeding. Inside the greenhouses we thinned out the apricots, nectarines and cucumbers. Mr. Youngs the gardener took us out to catch a swarm of bees during one lecture.

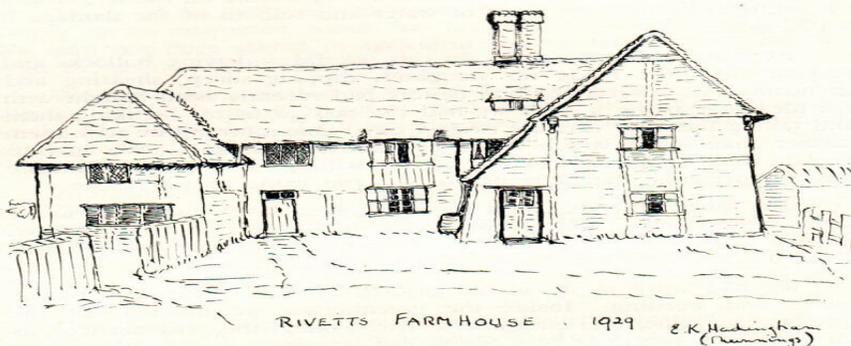
The end of May came and with it the Suffolk show. While the rest of the girls were away for the day I was left in charge of the poultry. The hen houses were scattered all over the park and food was mixed and carried to them from Home Farm. The coops nearest the farm always got the most food consequently production was never as good in those as it was in the ones nearest the farm. We also had hens in coops behind the dairy and these had to be locked up at night. I liked this job because it meant that we didn't have to be back at the hall until 10 p.m. The little white leghorns were very flighty and often led us a chase if they were not ready for bed.

We all went to the South Suffolk show at Sudbury and took part in a butter making competition. I churned mine too much and it went into lumps as big as oranges. The judge was disgusted and said that I should be ashamed as the Munnings family had a champion butter maker in the form of my grandmother.

With July came hay making. Many afternoons were spent cocking the hay and after a long day we often ended up underneath the hay cocks, eventually emerging covered in hay seeds and very hot. If we didn't mind wading through several yards of mud we were allowed to bathe in the lake during this hot weather.

The experience I gained from that course was invaluable especially as I went on to marry a farmer. In fact I married an old student of 1923-25 in 1932 and we produced two Chadacre students.

*Mrs. E. K. Hadingham (nee Munnings) 1929*





**M. G. Cockram** (1958-60). Working at home, and recently has had a lot of trouble with virus pneumonia in the head, (cured now); sold a gilt to Michael Jary, which had to be disposed of due to its wandering tendency, especially in the direction of back gardens.

**H. P. Colson** (1946-47). Farming at Tostock, and was joined this year by B. Warren (1959-61) who is looking after the cows.

**C. R. Cook** (1958-60). Working for Eastern Counties Farmers Ltd.

**A. J. Coulson** (1950-52). Congratulations on being promoted to a foreman on the Elveden Estate.

**D. L. Cowell** (1954-56). Always looks fat and well, no doubt on the proceeds of selling us midds at twice the prices he pays for wheat.

**G. Curtis** (1957-59). Has now moved into the grounds of Ickworth House from the village—promotion, no doubt. The editor saw him with a great look of concentration on his face, driving round Bury, and naturally blew the horn in a very definite manner to catch his attention; I was told later that he was taking his driving test at that time—well anyway, better luck next time.

**D. Downing** (1955-57). He greatly enjoyed the Refresher Course this May and was pleased to meet quite a number of his year. Is working at home and finding out all he can about the farm, as well as looking after his flock of sheep together with a keen interest in sailing; he has built his own catamaran and is now looking for a handy duck pond to sail it in.

**B. F. English** (1929-31). Recently enlarged his farm. Together with D. H. Steed (1927-29) and V. Harrison (1931-33) does yeoman service when interviewing all prospective Chadacre students. Lucky things!

**J. English** (1958-60). Now at home for the summer, but had quite a job tearing himself from Oxfordshire, where he was working this winter, the attraction of course, being the girls. Biggest shock of the year was when we heard that John was playing rugger, and interested in dairy cows.

**J. Farrow** (1957-59). Just finished working for Mr. Pick at Rede, and divides his time between rugger, Young Conservatives, Young Farmers' Club with a little farming thrown in.

**D. A. E. Flatt** (1927-29). Very keen on farming, till he came to Chadacre, has been in engineering ever since.

The Principal persuaded him to have all the Old Student circulars etc., but nearly forgot to tell him that the subscription was £2 2s. Hopes to be at the Summer Reunion this year.

Extracts  
from the  
1961  
COSA  
Newsletter

MAY, 1961

C. O. S. A.

Officials 1961

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Earl of Iveagh

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B. G. Kiddy Esq.

Assistant Secretary:  
Lt.-Cmdr. B. O'Brien, R.N. (Ret.)

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*Committee:*  
Messrs. E. Kayler, B. G. Kiddy, V. Simmonds, D. Steed, B. Warren, D. J. Raker, P. S. Cutting, H. Button, B. Gaze, J. Cable, C. Haddingham and C. Miles (Co-opted)



Chadacre Old Student Association