

Marsworth Steam Rally

Marsworth Steam Rally, held as usual on Father's Day, which for 2023 fell on Sunday 18th June. Back into the swing of things following the huge success of the previous year, 2023 expected much. Marsworth as always did not disappoint. The weather for setup was probably a little too hot, Saturday the skies went dark but despite much thunder forecast, Sunday held clear until the end of the day and helped us run another fantastic event.

Support from our volunteers was stronger than ever...the committee had many to thank for their continued support. A special note of thanks to Lynda, one of our committee's long-standing supporters, 2023 being a farewell outing; Michael and Mel and the continued support from the Red Lion as well of course as the support from the Parish Council. Parking again in the recreation ground, an improvement on the previous year, this time we loaded car parks from roundabout and village hall approaches into the village, reducing as far as possible the levels of queuing so that visitors had more time to enjoy their day and those passing through were not unduly delayed.

The committee received lots of encouraging feedback and have over recent planning meetings, been busy putting changes and improvements into place for our next event. We will of course be making arrangements to trim the forthcoming spring growth in verges from the roundabout to the recreation ground. We're particularly interested in any innovations and efficiency measures that our volunteers and supporters put forwards. If you hear of any, please do forward them to us as our committee will be meeting regularly on the preparation run to this year's event - Sunday 16th June 2024.

Each year, we provide feedback in the form of a risk assessment and safety officer report to our authorising body, the National Traction Engine Trust. In return we receive suggestions for improvements, or at least items to monitor and check, based on incidents and recommendations from rallies across the nation. The NTET also provide updates drawn from the Purple Guide, which is used by event organisers of many categories.

Our web and Facebook sites host a gallery of images collected on the day - showcasing Marsworth and the surrounding countryside. The turnout was a pleasure to see, so many happy smiling faces all day, with everyone enjoying themselves. Thank you once again for your support - the committee is looking forward to hosting again in June, hopefully the event will be as big as last year and the weather just as kind.

Neil Kennedy, Chair, on behalf of the Marsworth Steam Rally Committee