from Soms, R Jamas It sept. 2016

Fair was a success – thank you everyone

NEIL CARMICHAEL STROUD MP

This week Neil discusses Frampton Country Fair



AS EVER, the Frampton Country Fair turned out to be great day; the weather was almost perfect, plenty of people were able to attend, and the range of activities and stands continues to exceed expectations. This is a fabulous community operation with all organisers and helpers deserving maximum thanks.

It was marvellous to see how the Frampton World War One Centenary project has progressed. The well informed – there are good records of local family histories – and beautifully produced book Frampton Remembers World War One by resident author Rose Hewlett was on display and available to purchase. The stand also had a range of fascinating photographs and documents.

This project was inspired by the Heritage Lottery scheme.

The fair has many other attributes including the classic tractor display, traditional rural crafts, country pursuits and opportunities for 'retail therapy'. Some amusing activities also took place in the main ring, including the now traditional Big Round Bale Push – this time enhanced by the introduction of water bombs (a good opportunity to target the local MP!) – and various exercises for dogs.

There are huge benefits to local charities—many receive funding from the fair—so there is no surprise to find several charities with stands. It takes a few hours to get around the whole site but any attempt to do so is worth it as there are many interesting displays and people to engage with.

A particularly attractive aspect of the fair is the focus on locally produced food and drink. This demonstrates the increasing interest in being able to trace the source of food and enjoy traditional favourites.

Next week, Frampton will be hosting the Sheep Racing Day. This is a most enjoyable occasion with, again, a strong element of fundraising for charities. It is well worth making the effort to participate.