



75 SQUADRON NZ ASSOCIATION

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Volume 2, JACK RICHARDS, JULY 2012

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JACK RICHARDS, PRESIDENT of FRIENDS OF 75 SQN ASSN UK



John William 'Jack' Richards served in the Royal Air Force as an Airframe Fitter 2A, RAF service number # 1678441 and was posted to 75(NZ) Squadron RAF Newmarket (Short Stirlings) on the 12th December 1942. He followed 75(NZ) Sqn to RAF Mepal servicing and repairing the battle damaged Avro Lancaster heavy bombers. After the war, Jack chose to drive trucks and worked towards a 'carriers A licence' which was very difficult to achieve then, and in August 1946 married Gladys. In 1956 Jack bought his first lorry and created his own trucking company moving produce around Cambridgeshire to the markets. The company, its markets and fleet expanded rapidly with Jack's dedicated work to his customers, and then their son Anthony joined the firm in the 1970's. Jack Richards & Son Transport has become one of England's largest transport companies, with joint operations throughout the UK and Europe. Tony is now the CEO, while Jack continues to work from the company's Fakenham office, approaching his 89th birthday in January. A long time member of the UK 75 Squadron Association, Jack was elected their Chairman in 2000, and then elected as President in 2005 (when it became the Friends of the 75 Sqn UK Assn), a position Jack still holds today with great pride. Jack's private museum displays perfectly restored vehicles that his company has used and also a large amount of 75(NZ) Sqn and RAF Bomber Command memorabilia. Whenever a NZ'er visits, Jack ensures the NZ flag flies high outside the museum. During 2000-2001, Jack was responsible for the design, fund raising, building and dedication of three marker memorials and plaques for 75(NZ) Squadron near the WWII sites of RAF Stations Mepal, Newmarket and Feltwell. Jack is an esteemed ambassador for his colleagues and an inspiration to those whom admire his generation. This newsletter is my tribute to Jack. Thank you for your service to the 75(NZ) Squadron Associations of the UK.

All photos by Glen Turner.







CV SHOW 2012: ALL THE LATEST LAUNCHES AND REVIEWS

Commercial Motor

JACK RICHARDS HERO OF HAULAGE EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW

SCOOPI! ROAD TRANSPORT INDUSTRY

NEW VOLVO FH REVEALED

IN THE NEWS
CV SHOW KMS MALLINSON WILL RUN FIRST EURO-6 ACTROS

LEGAL UPDATE
WARNING! OCRS RATINGS HAVE CHANGED

INDUSTRY FOCUS
CONSTRUCTION: ON THE ROAD TO RECOVERY?

CLASSIC TRUCK
MERCEDES SK: HOW IT WON BRITISH HEARTS

3 MAY 2012 £2.60

1,000s OF USED TRUCKS INSIDE

HEROES OF HAULAGE
JACK RICHARDS
CM meets with a haulage legend

His own man

Jack Richards tells CM how his gut feelings have paid off over more than five decades in haulage – and why customer loyalty still matters

By Steve Weatherill

Life was very different when Jack Richards started his haulage business in 1956. The first truck he bought was a 5-ton Bedford truck. It was a simple, reliable machine that could take a beating. Jack Richards was a young man then, full of energy and ambition. He had a vision of what he wanted to do with his life, and he was determined to make it happen. He started with a small fleet of trucks, but he grew rapidly. Today, Jack Richards & Son Ltd is a major player in the haulage industry, with a fleet of over 300 vehicles. Jack Richards is still at the helm, and he is proud of the company's success. He has built a reputation for reliability and customer service, and he has a loyal customer base. Jack Richards is a true legend in the haulage industry, and his story is an inspiration to many. He has shown that with hard work and a vision, you can build a successful business. Jack Richards is a man who has made his own man out of himself, and he is a true hero of haulage.

Opportunity comes knocking

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PROFILE

JACK RICHARDS

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STANDING OUT FROM THE CROWD

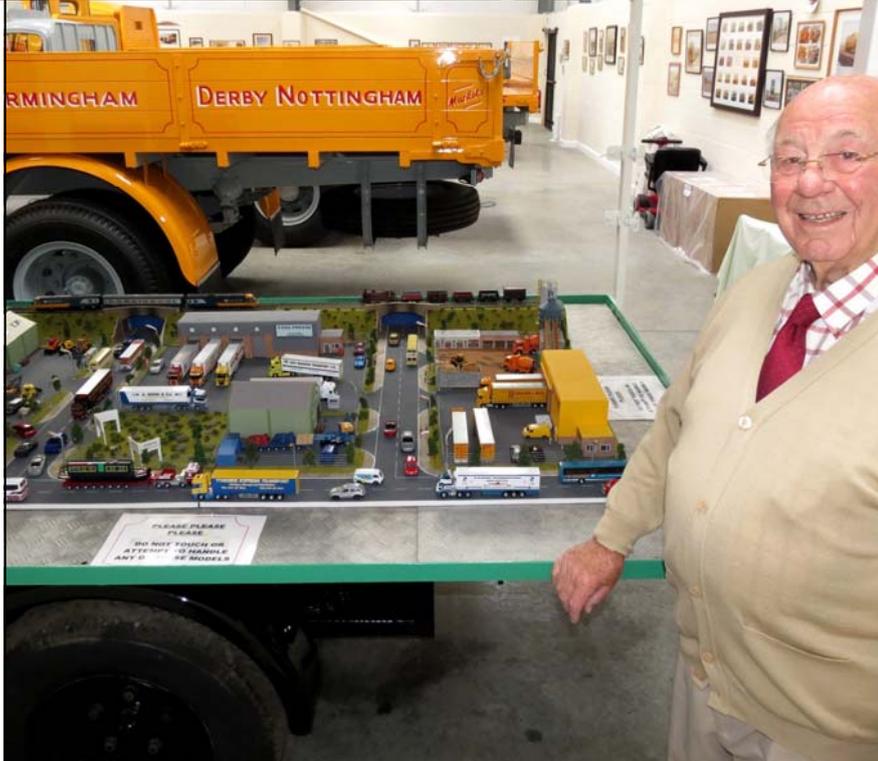
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KEEPING UP WITH THE TIMES

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JOINING FORCES

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GREAT BRITISH HAULIERS

Jack Richards & Son Transport

For over 55 years Jack Richards have been meeting road transport needs for local and national firms, working from strategically located depots across the country. Privately owned and independently run, they operate road haulage services around the UK, palletised-load distribution across Europe and the UK as well as localised warehousing and services, and, to keep up with demand, now number well over 40 vehicles. With more and more business hauling produce from Norfolk, the company opened a yard at Fakenham. They changed its name to Jack Richards & Son, to reflect the widening family involvement. Anthony, Jack Richards' son was now in charge. The Fakenham operation has continued to grow in importance and volumes and, with Jack soon spending most of his working week there, a decision is taken to manage all the company's business from this depot. While wholesale produce markets are in decline, due to the increasing impact of supermarkets, more and more produce is going directly to packing stations to be washed, graded and packed before despatch to supermarkets or distribution centres.

Today, The company now runs over 300 vehicles in both their famous yellow and customer colours.

CEO Jack Richards
John Deppes Company Administrator for her help and Jack Richards Transport

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