

## Another instalment of the story of the Northowram Scarecrows!

By Alison MacGrath

In 2016 we told you about 'Notty Owram' the original scarecrow Sally found in her garage and how the Northowram Scarecrow Event came about. Last year we updated that story telling you how Notty Owram had settled in his new home on Landemere Farm. If you've not read these stories they are here on the website.



### NOTTY OWRAM 2018

Notty Owram now thinks of Landemere Farm as home and he enjoys the company of the other scarecrows and all the animals living in the farmyard especially the rescue hens the Farmer's wife got this year from the British Hen Welfare Trust ([bhwt.org.uk](http://bhwt.org.uk)). She got 20 and it was lovely to see how their condition improved over the weeks after their arrival. For the last two years things have gone along much the same and as long as humans can't hear them they laugh and joke amongst themselves each night when the Farmer and his family are asleep.



This was the case until July last year when unexpectedly the Farmer's wife came in with her grandchildren, Connor and Erin and changed his clothes to the Farmer's old check shirt and a pair of dungarees. With a torn straw hat on his head the Farmer lifted him into the back of his pick up and away they went. Notty told the others when he got back a week later that he had been very nervous in case this meant that he was going to live somewhere else. But as it turned out it was quite an exciting adventure. The farmer drove for some miles and then pulled into a carpark in front of a Golf Club. The Steward of the Golf Club came out and Notty heard him thank the Farmer for loaning him the scarecrow for a barn dance he was holding that weekend. Notty was very relieved to hear the farmer say, "That's alright but we must have him back as he is the original scarecrow Sally found and on which we have built a whole three-day event in Northowram".

Notty Owram was set up outside the main door into the Golf Club and with a big smile on his face he welcomed people on Saturday evening when they came to enjoy themselves at the barn dance. There was a B-B-Q and a band with lots of line dancing going on. Notty could see the dancing through the open doors, his favourite tune was Cotton Eyed Joe as he thought it sounded like a song about a Scarecrow 'COTTON EYED'! Lots of people admired him in his country style clothes and he heard lots of snippets of conversations that would be very interesting when he got back to the farm and he shared them with the others over the long winter nights.

And that's just what he did, and he really enjoyed the attention he got from the other scarecrows when he started by saying "Have I told you about the time I went to the Barn Dance at the Golf Club"? Only the Business man scarecrow sighed on these occasions all the others gathered round to hear the stories and Notty tried to change them and add little bits each time just to keep their interest.

Now it's time for the 2018 Scarecrow Event so off you go and see if you can find Notty Owram and the answer to question ?? on your way round the Scarecrow Trail.



#### Poem 1

We went to the golf club do  
And had a lovely barbecue  
And everybody said hello  
And danced along to Cotten Eye Joe  
Notty Owram is my name  
You'll find me on the Scarecrow trail

#### Poem 2

You might find him by THE FORTH  
Or up beside THE DUKE OF YORK  
But there are places in between  
Where Notty Owram may be seen  
Like at THE SMOKEHOUSE or YEW TREE  
Or by NORTHOWRAM FISHERIES  
Or playing snooker at THE CLUB  
Or in THE SHOULDER for some grub  
But if he can't wait for his tea  
He'll buy a sandwich from EIGHTEEN  
Or down the road and to the right