



The Patsy Aldersea Lecture

2008

**The Posture & Mobility Group National Training
Event**

University of Warwick

11 April 2008



“...And The Clocks Were Striking Thirteen....”

By

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“1984”

- George Orwell
- Pessimism
- Optimism
- New language
- Surveillance society
- The UK has the largest number of CCTV units in the World.....

Invitation

-to give the Patsy Aldersea Lecture
- Topic??
- Up to me!!!!!!!!!!
- A high risk strategy.....

24 Years – A Plan is Needed

- Some history
- Some reminiscences
- Reflections on “progress”
- What should happen
- Our futures
 - PMG
 - Mobility and Postural Interventions
 - RHL

How Did I Become Interested?

- A lifelong interest in things mechanical
 - Radios
 - Painos
 - Bicycles, motorcycles, cars. Boats
 - Eventually people
- The desire to understand why things behave the way they do
- Understanding parents/teachers/wife/colleagues
- Luck

Academically....

- B Sc Biochemistry (Bristol)
- Research in Clinical Pharmacology
- Clinical Interest
- Medical Degree (understanding wife)
- Surgery
- Orthopaedic training
- Frustration

Career Change

- “You must be mad.....”
- Medical Officer, Artificial Limb and Appliance Service
- ALAS – Lord McColl
- Developments in Rehabilitation
- Civil Service
- Official Secrets Act

There was Training!

- Three months
- Roehampton, Manchester, Portsmouth
- ... and then Blackpool
- Post training interview
- The “good” news – Roehampton based
- The “bad” news – one day a week working in the Wheelchair Service

And so to Irene House, Balham

- Barely wheelchair accessible
- Two Clerical Officers
- Technical Officers
- Inadequate facilities
- No other clinical staff
- Book of rules
- Rapid response for straightforward needs
- Very slow response for anything else
- Massive inertia
- Warbreck Hill
- “The Civil Service Way”

What took place...

- The 8L – chassis unchanged for 20 years
- The 28B
- The basic (very) indoor electric w/chair (102)
- MSI – sign off
- Special pleading
 - Extensive modification
 - Roho etc.



The Old Guard vs. The New

- The Book of Rules (The ALAC Manual)
- Should be the starting point for negotiation
- Ian McColl – another surgeon – Report 1986
- Disablement Services Authority
- **CHANGE**



What Happened Next...

- Therapists
- Rehabilitation Engineers
- Extended ranges
- More local autonomy
- Moulded seat budget, assessor/prescriber
- Transfer to the NHS

Along the Way...

- Matrix seats
- CAPS
- Gillingham Seat
- Local contracts (e.g. Carters)
- Children in w/chairs – 8LC!
- Stop Barrett w/chairs – no!
- Get rid of the 28B – lost that one!
- Postural management service
- EPIOCS

And Now...

- 150 Wheelchair Services
- Therapy led
- RE input
- Huge range
- Local autonomy
- Flexibility
- BUT:
- A wheelchair is a wheelchair
- ?24 hour management
- Post code prescribing
- Outcomes????
- Lack of political clout

PMG

- Very large special interest group
- Compared to BSRM, ISPO, BACPAR etc
- Huge user base
- 1200 w/chair users per MP
- This should be the basis of PMG clout

What of the Future?

- User groups
- Health, Social, education and employment integration
- Early intervention
- Outcomes
 - Clinical
 - Financial
 - psychological
- Technology
- Training

User Groups

- Difficult
 - Establish
 - Maintain
- Essential
 - Political cycle
 - MP, local councillors
- Valuable
 - Vested interest
 - “Free”
- New approaches needed
 - Use focus group “technology”??

Service Integration

- E.g. Southwark Health and Social Care
- 24 hour posture management goal
- Includes education – sort of
- No response from employment
- Very little progress
- There are of course some examples of good practice.....
- EVERY w/chair service should be

Early Intervention

- Symmetry – the Goldsmiths
- Identification
- Comprehensive intervention
- Shared monitoring with the Community
- Long term benefits e.g.
 - CP
 - MS
 - Muscular dystrophies

Outcomes

- Clinical
- “soft”
 - Subjective
 - Questionnaires, satisfactions surveys etc
- “hard”
 - Objective
 - Service specific
 - Measure posture
 - Measure mobility
 - Measure use

Outcomes

- Clinical
- Financial
 - Cost to service
 - Opportunity cost
 - Lifetime cost
 - Global cost/saving

Outcomes

- Clinical
- Financial
- Psychological
 - Wellbeing
 - Autonomy
 - Independence
 - Proactive
 - Integration into society

Technology

- Why is a wheelchair like a wheelchair?
- Consider de Bono and the wheelbarrow...
- Why is seat a seat – why not a garment?
- Orthotics? Or even osseo-integration!
- Why is suspension in its infancy?
- What about dynamic seating?
- What about restorative seating?

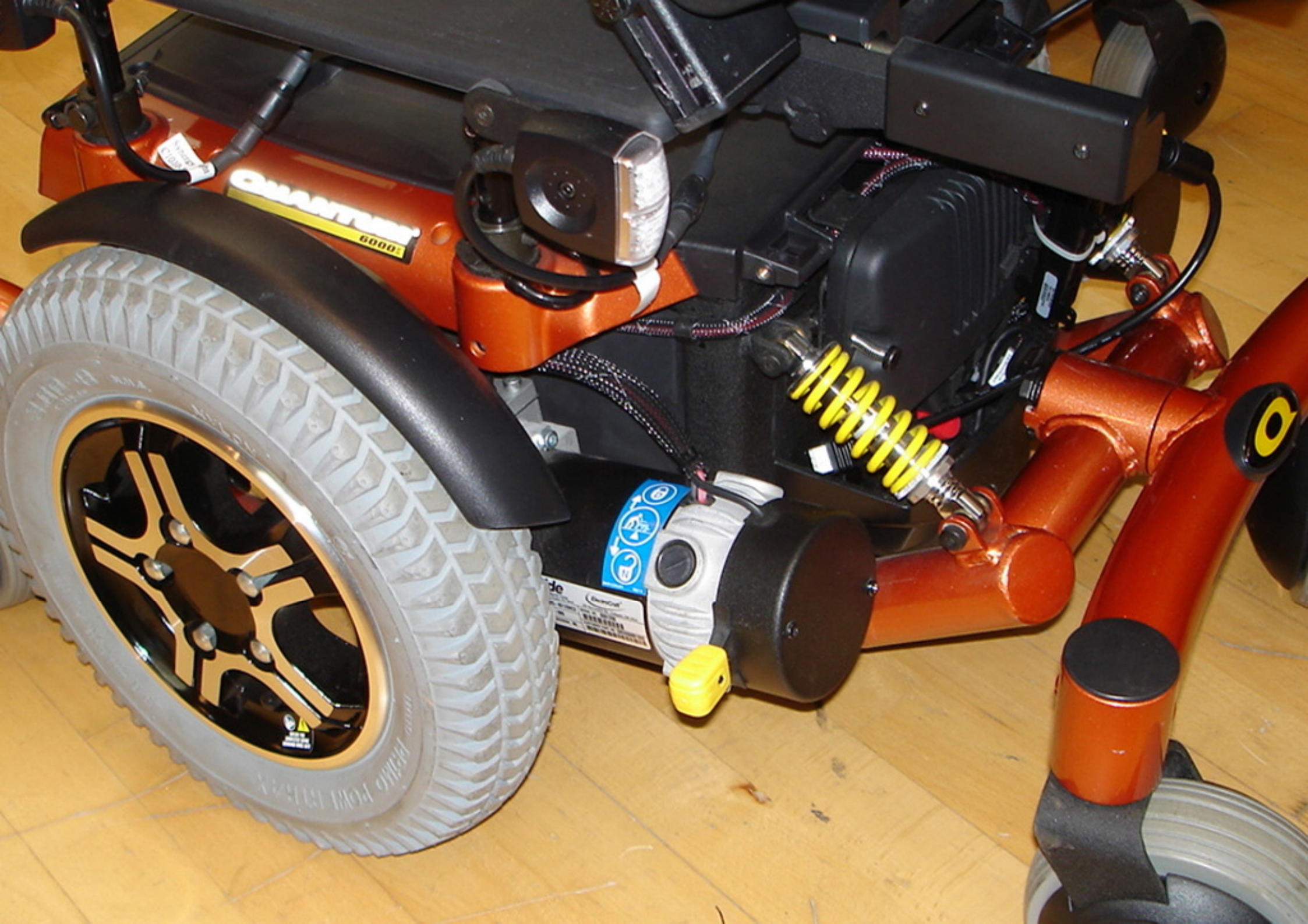














Training

- Therapies
- Rehabilitation Engineers (CoRE)
- Physicians
- Carers
- Technicians
- Designers
- Wheelchair users

What of My Future Plans?

Service Commitments

- New consultant (neuro-rehab., King's)
- New Consultant (Rehab. Centre)
- Increased sessions
- Linked with community rehab.
- Stabilised funding
- Rehab. Centre strategy

And...

- More time with the family!
- Travel
- The Selly Oak Relic
- The Bavarian Boxer
- How not to catch fish
- A bit of road mending
- Le Reseau Breton

And...

- More time with the family!
 - 1980 to 1984
 - Nick
- Travel
- The Selly Oak Relic
- The Bavarian Boxer
- How not to catch fish
- A bit of road mending
- And Le Reseau Breton

And...

- More time with the family!
- Travel
 - Italy – and trains
- The Selly Oak Relic
- The Bavarian Boxer
- How not to catch fish
- A bit of road mending
- And Le Reseau Breton

And...

- More time with the family!
- Travel
- The Selly Oak Relic
 - 1955 Ariel Square Four 1000cc m/cycle
- The Bavarian Boxer
- How not to catch fish
- A bit of road mending
- And Le Reseau Breton

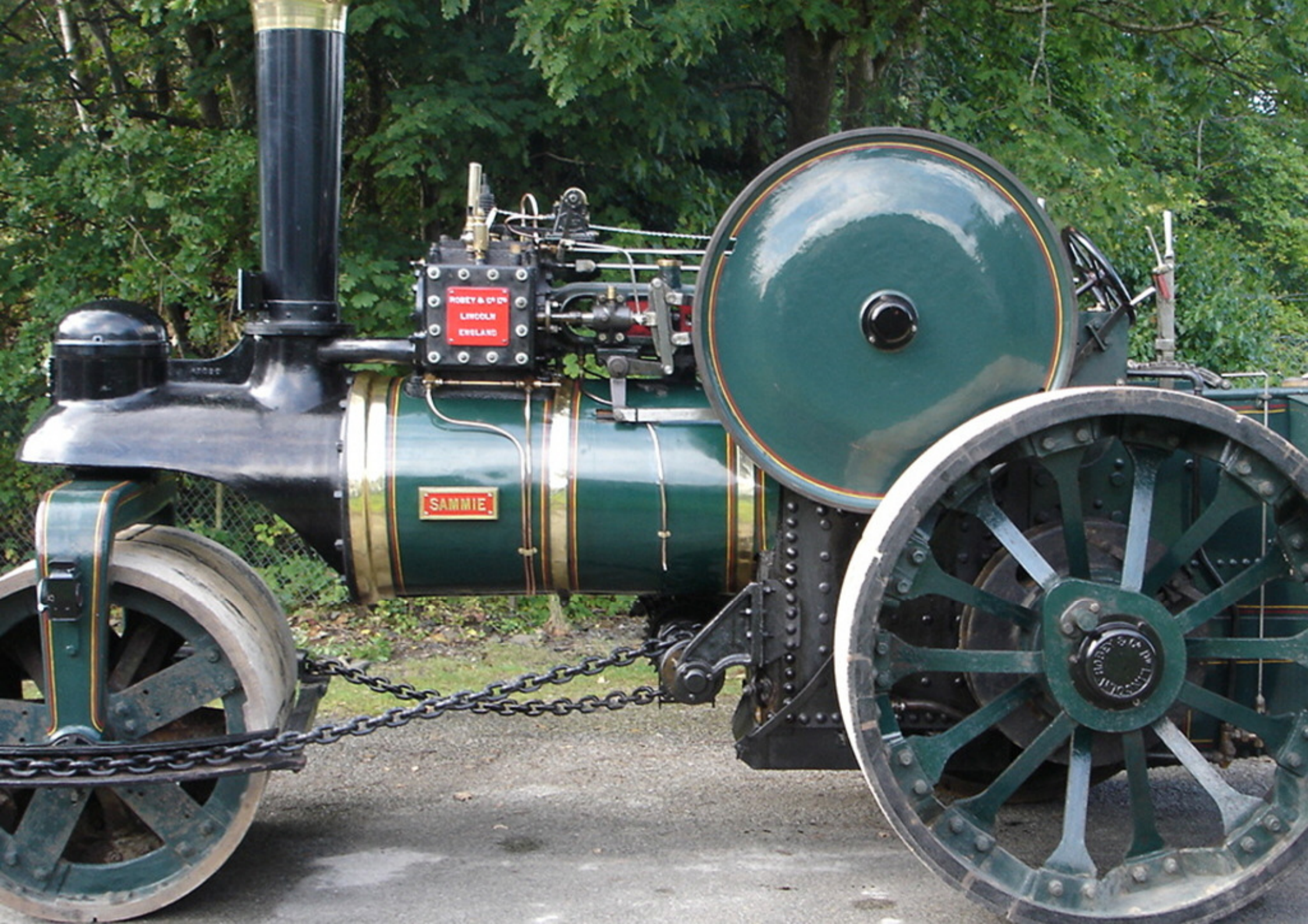


And...

- More time with the family!
- Travel
- The Selly Oak Relic
- The Bavarian Boxer
- How not to catch fish
 - A late convert to sea fishing
 - But suppose I caught something.....
- A bit of road mending
- And Le Reseau Breton

And...

- More time with the family!
- Travel
- The Selly Oak Relic
- The Bavarian Boxer
- How not to catch fish
- A bit of road mending
 - Robey of Lincoln 13 ton steam roller
- And Le Reseau Breton



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The Last Lecture?

Thank You