

How difficult is this? Last time, there was little to write about as we had been so quiet over the winter months, there wasn't much of any real interest to report, so I had an issue off, and feel much better for it, back to it now with gusto, but the trouble is we have been so busy that I could write pages and pages of what our gang have been up to, but alas, I am restricted to 900 words and one photo, you poor things all that excitement and I can't tell you about it. If you are interested in reading a bit more about what we have been up to, you can of course read about some of our event on our web site at www.yorkshiremvt.co.uk We have this time a couple of particularly good reports from Cleggs who has been out and about with both his REO and Kaiser Jeep, thanks Cleggs, they make good reading.

We had our Christmas party, which went down very well with those that attended, but like most events would have been better if a few more people had made the effort to come and join in. The venue was where we have our monthly meetings, at the sports association in Wetherby, and what a good venue it is too. In February the usual crew went to Belgium for the winter rally, organised by Andre Witmeur of the BMVT. Very well organised as usual, except this year, no snow; apparently for the first time in 17 years. How about that for climate change? Must be all those Jeeps, and GMCs etc driving round all those years that has warmed it up, perhaps they should start holding it in July!!

Our own crank up was held in the middle of the April heat wave, and I can honestly say it was the hottest event I have been to so far this year, great turnout with over 47 vehicles of one sort or another coming along to park up in the centre of York, next to the Castle Museum. This is council land and is organised by Chris Smythe, who does a great job smoothing the path to allow us to use the central grassed area. An excellent day was had by all, and certainly the Japanese tourists (of which there are hundreds in York) loved our display.

Next on the agenda was our very own Wheels and Wings show, which went down extremely well. Held as last year at the Yorkshire air museum in Elvington, just outside York. There were a good mixture of military vehicles (147), re-enactor displays and trade stalls, as well as an association with the Battle group north wargamers event held in the main hangar. We were promised a flypast on both days, with the Lancaster, spitfire and Hurricane on Saturday (boy was that good! it really does bring a lump to my throat every time I see it) and then on Sunday we had two Spitfires. Trouble is on Sunday, we also had a torrential downpour which started at lunch time and virtually closed the show down as everybody decided to get packed up and off home before getting soaked. Too late, within five minutes it was monsoon like and lasted all afternoon (in fact for the rest of the summer too I think!). We had a good free disco on Saturday hosted by our North East pal Jimmy, who did a great job. All in all it was a good event, thanks to all the committee and the volunteers who put in a ton of work, as well as the air museum and particularly Christine Mellor who worked very hard to keep everything running smoothly.

The following weekend we were straight into the Haworth 40's which had it's by now well established format. Plenty of vehicles parked on the street and two good days of hundreds of people just milling up and down the street having a good time. Lots of little bits and pieces going, one or two arrests for soldiers going AWOL and finally after hosting five dances over the two nights we were all allowed to pack up and go

home, but not before we managed to arrest Dennis Smith for selling counterfeit and dodgy goods from his shop. He was handcuffed and thrown into the back of a Jeep and driven off in front of a booing crowd.

Next up was a couple of mini group trips to Normandy, we had two groups, one camping and t'other posh 'uns stopping in a gite (or cottage if you are from over here). I believe they all had a good time, with varying success from the weather, but that is usually the case isn't it?

Whilst the more adventurous ones were in France, the regulars were putting in an appearance at the Harewood House Classic Car Show. This turned out to be better than expected I think for those that entered, with the MV's getting quite a bit of attention from a public that seemed to be bored with shiny classic cars. Cleggs and co (the REO guys) as well as Mike P and Chris S with the pair of Quads made up the lions share of attendants.

The following weekend much the same team went to Nostell Priory and had a jolly good time there too. This was a summer show, which included for the publics entertainment a smattering of Military vehicles. A full report on both these events can be found on our web site, as reported by Cleggs (and good they are too, thanks Cleggs).

A small report of the trips to Normandy will also be put onto our web site so if you are interested in what the Yorkshire area has been up to in detail, have a look on there. Lastly, (and forgive me if I've left any events out, as I'm almost certain I have) was a small group trip out of area down to Suffolk to join our East Anglian brothers on a new event at Operation Bolero. What a great time we had. I took my GMC down the 200 odd miles (six hours it took) and did almost 600 miles over the weekend, getting there and back as well as a lot of running round on the convoys over the weekend. Clive Stevens and Ed Aabbott organised a really good weekend for all of us which was really well appreciated, and we will certainly go again next time they do one (again a full report with photos will be on the web site).

We will all have been to Beltring as well as loads of other events by the time you read this, but don't worry, I will be letting you have the snippets to tempt you to look for the whole story on our web site.

Have a good dry summer, I bet all those DUKWs and GPAs are shooting up in price this year!!

Brian Slingsby