

## July 08 Area Report

The "Crank Up" at York, in April, got the season off to an excellent start. Despite poor weather some 40 mv's were on show outside the Castle Museum. Those coming from the west had met up at Tadcaster and arrived, in convoy, from the A64. I often wonder what all the passing motorists make of the spectacle.

We enjoyed beautiful weather for our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual show at the Yorkshire Air Museum Elvington, in May, which went like clockwork, thanks to the sterling efforts of our Committee who worked tirelessly all weekend. Our thanks go to them. It proved to be a marvellous weekend with plenty of members from adjoining regions adding to the variety of vehicles on show – see separate feature. After talking to a number of people it did strike me that despite some 200 vehicles present Yorkshire members probably had as many again at home!

Howarth "1940's Weekend" quickly followed with many members present. The steep cobbled main street was packed with vehicles, re-enactors, and public, giving the event plenty of atmosphere and providing lots of opportunity to chat to club members and old friends. Worthy of particular mention has to be the beautifully restored 5.5" Medium Gun, brought by Melvyn, which was on show behind his equally immaculate AEC Matador, both in post war gloss.

Simon Roberts and John Gray spent an enjoyable 2 weeks in Normandy to mark the D-Day anniversary. This was both a recce for next year and also an opportunity to get off road in the jeep to visit sites associated with the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne's fighting. They also took part in the 12 mile Brothers in Arms daytime march in full kit accompanied by about 200 others.

The Royal Armouries, Leeds was the venue for a Veterans Day, on the 14<sup>th</sup> June, which turned out to be a small affair with the supporting cast of MVT members and re-enactors outnumbering veterans of all periods. "Operation Broken Boulder" at Thwaite Mills Leeds, on 22<sup>nd</sup> June, was attended by half a dozen members. The small site is in a pleasant riverside setting and home to a uniquely preserved working putty mill!. Despite a good spread in the press, the visitors for this 40's day were sparse. The gang were a little relieved that the extraordinary high winds meant that the site had to close a little early.

I was looking forward to an unusual opportunity to be part of the parade in Featherstone, on the 15<sup>th</sup>, to mark the dedication of a new War Memorial. I do not know who is to blame, but the new Memorial was not completed on time and the occasion cancelled. We hope the ceremony will be rescheduled.

Ivor and Sue took their Humber Box to Kemble towing a caravan at a cracking pace managing to leave Brandon and Denis well behind in the 6 wheel Dodge WC 62. The effort and the enormous petrol bill proved worthwhile as the Humber was chosen as the Best pre 1945 Light Vehicle – a well deserved prize. Our congratulations. Dave Reape and Kerry also put in an appearance in their Land Rovers. Despite the wind there was, as usual, plenty on offer to ensure that the visitors from our area had a very enjoyable weekend.



An interesting wartime truck was recovered in June to add to the British contingent. Denis has sold his Standard Tilly and acquired a Guy Ant 15 cwt which, although having had a full rebuild, has stood a while and is currently receiving his careful attention ( see Articles section of website ).



Coming up on the weekend of the 5/6<sup>th</sup> July we are supporting the Combat Stress Charity Garden Party at Castle Howard, and the usual suspects will again enjoy Nev's kind hospitality, with food, beer and an overnight camp at his spot. We'll see whether or not the planned Sunday road run to various wartime airfields seems such a good idea after the night before!

I suspect all regions are faced with an ever increasing list of events, often with clashing dates, which whilst providing choice of venue, travelling distance and how much the fuel bill will be, can mean vehicles are spread thinly. Nevertheless our members continue to dip their hands into their pockets to enjoy the summer season across the region.

Please see our excellent Web Site [www.yorkshiremvt.co.uk](http://www.yorkshiremvt.co.uk) for future events, articles, vehicles and reports. Members can e mail me at [michael.humphreys@btinternet.com](mailto:michael.humphreys@btinternet.com) with individual reports for inclusion in the Area report and on the Web. I will gladly photograph vehicles for the Member's Vehicle section on request.

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