

YORKSHIRE

In a sure sign of spring the hawthorn hedges are turning green and about to blossom which means that the new season of events will be underway.

Good news for Yorkshire members and just a week away as I write this, is that the annual Crank Up event is returning to York. In recent years owing to the pandemic and the war in Ukraine, it has been subject to cancellations so its return to the venue in the centre of the historic City of York is most welcome.

The Crank Up is a one day affair on the 'Eye of York' the grassy area surrounded by some of York's interesting buildings including the 13th Century Clifford's Tower and the famous Castle Museum and is just a stone's throw from the River Ouse. It is only possible thanks to York city council and always attracts a good turnout. Everyone has their fingers crossed for some sunshine and we'll report on the day in the next issue. The pics here are from the 2018 Crank Up.

It's been a quiet time otherwise and, despite an appeal on the Yorkshire Area's Facebook page, no updates were forthcoming from members so I spoke to Area Secretary Brian Slingsby. He concurred saying: "There's not been much going on in the Yorkshire area since the last area report, we had a very successful run out over the Christmas period, enjoyed by everybody I feel, after that we have had our usual area meetings on the first Wednesday of each month, not as many coming along as pre-pandemic, but hopefully it will pick up in the spring or summer."

One winter event that is beyond Yorkshire's boundaries but widely supported is the militaria fair at Stoneleigh in Warwickshire at the end of January. Brian summed it up thus: "It appeared to be very successful, it's a good day out you get the chance to bump into and chat with a whole host of old pals as well as spending some cash on those items you've been needing or wanting for a long time. A bit of a trek for us up north but worthwhile" He added "It was a great day out, even if you aren't buying, I bought an oil seal and a gasket, last of the big spenders!"

Another reason that Brian enjoyed Stoneleigh was that he was accosted at the MVT exhibition van by the members of the Council of Management, who wanted to present him with a trophy shield for being voted the MVT's Area Secretary of the Year. His name was also on this trophy in 2013, so it's 10 years since he last won it and now he's coming up to a quarter of a century as Area Secretary!

On the subject of the Council of Management, General Secretary Simon Bromley generously helped me out with some T90 Jeep gearbox parts and offered

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tea, sympathy and advice when I drove over to his house to collect them.

It turns out that I'm not the only person who has had a Jeep in bits in the last month or two either. Brian Slingsby - explaining why he needed that oil seal and gasket, said: "I've rebuilt my Jeep engine as it was down on compression on number three cylinder, so it was a case of head off, cut the seats and in with a new set of valves, as well as a few new seals and a clean out of the radiator and waterways. Got it back together and it now runs beautifully, so I'm looking forward to some slightly better weather so that I can test it properly." (See photos). Hopefully he'll have it at the Crank Up.

A lengthy list of events for Yorkshire members has been drawn up for the coming months especially around the Leeds/Wetherby/Harrogate area and one that sounds like fun is scheduled for May 15, the 'East coast run' from the NY500 cafe (close to Pickering) for a small convoy run to see a local collector's selection of military vehicles and try out the off-road course on site. There will be a free barbecue and hot drinks with a collection for contributions to a local charity made on the day - more info yorkshiremvt@gmail.com. I'd better get that T90 back in my Jeep!

John Carroll

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