

YORKSHIRE

Since the last report there have been the usual selection of events that welcome military vehicles taking place across Yorkshire such as the RAF Snaith '40s weekend and the Patina National Trial and at least two annual events specifically for military vehicles that have involved members of the Yorkshire Area of the MVT.

The first of these was the August Yorkshire Wartime Experience that is now a large and successful that is becoming more respected and well attended with every year that it takes place. For 2024 the organisers were able to truthfully bill the events as 'the North of England's largest World War One and World War Two military vehicle and living history event.' It attracted 568 military vehicles including armour, 84 re-enactment groups and 101 traders. Among these were numerous Yorkshire MVT members as well as MVT members from numerous other areas so there were lots of friendly faces and offers of cups of tea around. This means that the event is part enthusiasts' event and part public show; vehicle owners and enthusiasts can be found chatting about restorations, maintenance and detail of all things green while the public lines the fences of the arena to watch the demonstrations and it's undoubtedly an educational experience for youngsters to see tanks and military trucks moving.

The second event is more specific to Yorkshire Area members and was the annual crank down that took place over a weekend in mid-September, the 13-15th to be precise. Area Secretary Brian Slingsby reports as follows, "This year, as last, we were based at the Black Swan pub in Fearby, just outside Masham in North Yorkshire. The pub offers B&B as well as camping and good beer and food and, as an added bonus the Landlord Sean is an MVT member. As a consequence was keen for us to use his hospitality for the second year running. He very generously gave us massive discount on camping and accommodation as well as our own private room in the pub for our evening meals etc. Big thanks to Sean, we will be back!"

Brian added, "The Saturday and Sunday runs were organised by our own gurus Simon Roberts and Gary Docherty who know the area like the back of their hand, and produced two excellent days running around the locality, in fact on Saturday we managed 67 miles, and on Sunday, taking

in some of the Army ranges close to Catterick, we covered 83 miles. A total of 17 vehicles joined us on Saturday for the run (including our host Sean in his Dodge half-ton command car). Then we had 15 on Sunday, this time including Alex in his recently acquired GMC CCKW 352. However some of the roads were just too small, and despite his determination, he had to take a few short cuts on the slightly bigger roads. Mark Calzoni joined us on Sunday in his newly restored Jeep, which has taken four years to complete, and very nice it looked too. Although he did get some stick over his non-standard tyres, fitted by choice by him as the ride is much improved over the old style bar grips."

It was only a clash of dates that stopped me attending in my Jeep because a weekend's greenlaning with old Jeeps and

Land Rovers is right up my street. I could have given Mark Calzoni some support too, as my Jeep also runs on non-standard radial MT tyres!

Other Area members have been further afield, and in September some went to The Netherlands for the 30 Corps event and to visit Arnhem on the 80th Anniversary of Operation Market Garden.

In a similar vein I believe that some people will be going to the Winter Rally in Belgium for what will be the 80th anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge.

Closer to home we're looking forward to the Yorkshire Area's annual Christmas Cracker Run that offers an excuse to fire up green machines and have a few hours respite from the Christmas festivities. All being well I'll report on that next time.
John Carroll

YORKSHIRE

