

# YORKSHIRE

It's been a busy few months up here in the Yorkshire area, as I'm sure it has around the rest of the country. A quiet winter period seems to have evolved into a manic spring and early summer with a real flourish of events, not least of which is the period of early May when it felt like everybody wanted to commemorate VE Day on the 8th May.

A small group of Jeepers including myself kicked off the VE-Day stuff with a visit to a local pub, the White Swan in Wighill, just outside Tadcaster. The landlord had made a real effort with a marquee, tables and chairs and booked a couple of period acts for the afternoon. We arrived in convoy to the delight of the crowd that was already enjoying the spring sunshine, beer and barbeque. Very shortly after we arrived a trio of ladies, the 'Bluebirds' started their performance, and boy were they good. There was a good reception for our little group, and we created quite an interest from the locals who were very interested in our vehicles. John, the Landlord very kindly gave us lunch and a free drink or two, which was very generous. As we left, before the end, we were applauded by the large crowd (that's never happened to us before) as we drove away.

The following weekend the same group made an appearance at the Joiners arms, in Hampsthwaite, just outside Harrogate, again we were given a great reception, arriving in convoy. The folks of Hampsthwaite were also very grateful and so gave us lunch and a free drink! (I could get to like this lifestyle).

During the week on VE Day itself, Simon and Mark made a special effort to go to Knaresborough Castle to an event being hosted by Knaresborough council, along with the local scouts and guides and the local cadets. The Jeeps made a good photo opportunity in front of the castle along with the cadets on parade.

On the Sunday, John Gray and Ivor Waterhouse made a big effort to support the local craft brewery in Wetherby, taking two vehicles and a whole stack of kit to put on an impressive display, which again was very much appreciated and enjoyed by the public during the day.

On Sunday the 11th (boy there was so much going on!) there was a big event, 'The Waggoners challenge' at Sledmere house, just outside Driffield, East Yorkshire. I'll let Steve Thorpe as the MVT organiser for this event, take up the story.

The Waggoners Challenge is an annual event organised and run by the - Royal Logistics Corps (RLC). During the event regular and reserve army units compete in logistics-based challenges. These challenges include loading wagons, moving military stores and controlling horses and WW1 vintage wagons. The event is held at Sledmere House in recognition of the volunteer supply units originally formed from the estate at the beginning of WW1.

The MVT was asked to attend this year's event to bridge the gap between vintage and modern military vehicles. The MVT provided vehicles from South Yorkshire MVT and Yorkshire MVT. As always there was a great selection of light military vehicles including WW2 and

French Jeeps. A large display of former British Army vehicles included the venerable Land Rover and it's always nice to see Pinzgauer. As if that was not enough Simon Malton also provided a display of weapons and a hot brew for yours truly.

A really great time was had by all, having a chance to see WW1 re-enactors showing their skills of horsemanship, farrier skills, vintage medical facilities, saddle and equipment care. In addition to this there were numerous military charity and welfare services showing what support our forces have today.

The MVT have been invited back next year and I hope you can join us for this small local show with big sights to see, just don't get stuck near the public address speakers.

We still have lots of events coming up, but the big news for us is that the Yorkshire MVT is back at the Yorkshire Air Museum, Elvington, Just outside York. This was the site of our 'Wheels and Wings show' for over 12 years and we are looking to get the show going again. It will be held over the August Bank Holiday on the 22/23/24 August. Send for an entry form to: yorkshiremvt@gmail.com it will be a fun weekend.  
Brian Slingsby

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