

Yorkshire Area Report

There is always too plenty to report in the summer season. Did I say summer! Somehow individuals have dodged the torrential rain, or in some cases endured it, and have been busy both across the area and farther afield.

Paul and Val took their jeep to the Ingleton 40's weekend which they said was good, but a little wet and thinly attended. A number of us would have gone along but it clashed with Nev's do and the Combat Stress Charity event.

Nev's brilliant Saturday night do was enjoyed immensely by all. Sunday morning was wet and dull and to Brian's surprise a few hardy souls, mostly in covered vehicles with windows and doors, unlike him, wanted to go on the 45 mile run he had organised visiting 5 wartime airfields. Thankfully the day brightened for a great run out. Meanwhile Mike and I 'drowned' driving his Morris CDSW back to Leeds. A special thank to Nev and his family who put a lot of time and money into making this a great weekend for the club.

The Trans Pennine Historic Commercial Vehicle Society Run celebrated its' 40th anniversary this year. This huge gathering terminates at the Stray in Harrogate. Simon has worked away steadily over the past few years to generate some interest and this year there was a good turnout of MVs from the region which attracted plenty of interest. Chris Symth, in his Quad was approached to pull out a 20 ton artic. which was slipping in the soft ground. Success! – see photo.

Mike and Chris enjoyed taking a Quad and limber to Rufford, Newark, to support The Garrison and tow their 25 pounder. They then participated as gun crew in the firing display.

In between doing weddings in his Humber Box, Ivor reported a large gathering at the superb Chatsworth Country Fair in August. Some 45, mainly post war, vehicles were on display including 7 Reo's. An excellent Fordson WOT 2 and Harland pump trailer were parked near an equally impressive, and a genuine D day beach veteran, Cat D8. Saturday night was very spectacular with about 40 hot air balloons taking off in and dipping their baskets in the river. Sadly, the heavens opened on Sunday afternoon so the final parade of massed pipes and Household Cavalry took place in a downpour.

Embsay and Bolton Abbey Steam Railway's 40's weekend is always a pleasant and friendly weekend. Ivor and Brandon rescued of a 'dead' Bedford MW on route and towed him to Bolton Abbey station where they fixed him up with some new HT leads to get him back to Halifax.

Ian drove his newly repainted Desert Sand Tilly up to Durham for the Northumberland & Tyne Tees Area 35th annual Show at D.L.I Museum to join a good mix of vehicles. Gary Cottingham did his usual thing, cycling from York to Durham in 8 ¼ hours! Gary won first prize for his folding para bike, and Ian won best wartime light in show.

Ray has been into a local school with his jeep for the children to see it as part of WWII history. He and Roy are both Home Guard re enactors and both went along with the Pontefract Home Guard to the excellent 40's weekend at Sledmere House.

Dale has done an outstanding job refurbishing the engine on his Reo. Well worth a look if you get the chance. In June I bought a Bedford OXD and had it transported the 300 miles from Devon. By contrast Graham bought a Bedford OY at Beltring and it didn't miss a beat on the 244 miles home from Clacton on Sea. Mick, Colin and Tony have joined the meetings and all ride wartime Despatch Riders' bikes. They put in an appearance at the new event at the Wensleydale Railway, 'Operation Dalesman' spread over stations on the line. This could be one to watch.

Finally, there have been discussions about a trip to Normandy next year for the 65th anniversary. Tony Paling has kindly agreed to lead the 'pack' once again to Martragny close to Bayeux. Contact Tony on 01226 723408 if interested.

Please ring me 01422 824418 if you would like to report on an event or your vehicle. My email is michael.humphreys@btinternet.com.

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