

## YORKSHIRE

There's lots of news from different people for this month's report so here we go, starting with Simon Balding's bucket list trip to Monte Cassino. He writes: "In September Adam and Sarah Wright, myself and Debbie Balding after years of planning finally set off to Monte Cassino with our Jeeps. Both Sarah and I had grandfathers that fought in the five months of Monte Cassino battles. Having been awarded 'Talulah' the dancing Hula girl toy by Brian at the MVT Elvington event in August, we promised to take her with us and make sure she was featured in the report.

"The trip involved 5000km, five countries, 12 pizzas and 3000 mosquito bites. Highlights were getting the Jeeps up the mountain and with a lot of prep work, getting permission to ride the tracks on the Messa (mountain plateau) to visit key points of the mountain top battles. We also did some alps runs in the Jeeps and managed to get smoking brakes on more than one occasion.' I believe a full report for Windscreen is due to appear in a future issue of Windscreen."

Steve Thorp attended the annual Waggoners' Challenge at Sledmere House. In East Yorkshire. He explained that 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 WWI 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 WWI. The MVT was asked to attend this year's event to bridge the gap between vintage and modern military vehicles so South Yorkshire MVT and Yorkshire MVT provided vehicles.

There was a great selection of light military vehicles including WW2 and French Jeeps. A large display of former British Army vehicles including the venerable Land Rover and, 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 WWI 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!

Dan Smyth was among those who turned out for the September 14 'Crankdown' Dales Run and described it thus: "We had a cracking turnout for the September run, with over a dozen vehicles setting off from The Nelson Inn near Harrogate. Chris Smyth led the way in his 1942 Ford Jeep, carrying son and grandson, with Brian and Harry keeping order in the middle and rear via walkie talkies. The line-up included WWII and Vietnam-era Jeeps, Land

Rovers from across the decades, and even an '80s USAF Chevy van.

"The route took us over Fewston Reservoir, through the Washburn Valley, past Bolton Abbey and Barden Tower, with a scenic stop at Embay station just as a steam train pulled in. Lunch was at a café in Cracoe, full of character and likened by some to Fawley Towers for its comic mix of chaos and welcome. The return run saw us splashing through the ford at Linton and tackling twisty moorland roads in worsening rain, cheered on by waves and salutes from passers-by. We finished back at The Nelson, damp but smiling – another memorable Dales run, with great company and the historic vehicles showing their spirit."

That's all we have room for this issue so next time Area Secretary Brian will report on the Elvington Bash and I'll talk about the Yorkshire Wartime event that the Yorkshire Area supported.

John Carroll

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