

YORKSHIRE

Area Secretary, Brian Slingsby, after an Area meeting in Wetherby recently, said: "Considering how grotty the weather is at the moment, there seems to be an air of optimism, among the MV fraternity."

He believes this despite the increasing security at events such as the recent Stoneleigh Militaria auto jumble, which he and numerous other Yorkshire MVT members attended. Other such increasing bureaucracy concerns digital driving licences that have to be renewed every ten years and registering trailers of more than 750kg for trips to Europe and Personal Liability Insurance that the MVT has sorted for its members.

A possible local reason for the feeling of optimism is that the area's ever popular Crank Up is on Sunday April 12, so a matter of days away by the time you're reading this. It's at the usual venue adjacent to Clifford's Tower right in the centre of the historic city of York and is well worth a visit.

Having something to anticipate is one thing but being able to recall other great events is also interesting. In Yorkshire's case a relatively recent one is the annual Christmas Cracker Run. It took place in the last days of 2025 between Christmas and New Year. The weather was cold, damp and slightly foggy but that didn't stop many of our hardy lot turning out. Brian reports, "We had fifteen military vehicles on the run, mostly Jeeps and Land Rovers, but also a Half-ton Dodge Command Car and a REO belonging to Jim Waterhouse (some of the pictures with this report came from Jim too)."

The run followed more or less the same format as last year; we met at the Yolk Farm Café just outside Minskip, with quite a few having breakfast. Departing at 11am we followed a scenic route plotted by our route master, Simon Roberts. He took us over under and through some very interesting roads and countryside.

We finally finished after almost two hours at the Sun Inn, Norwood Edge. As well as the fifteen MVs in the convoy we had four civilian vehicles joining us at my behest. My policy is for the social side of the event, and aim to get as many bodies out as possible, even if they aren't in an MV! The lunch and food at the pub was excellent, and the pub's warmth gave everybody a good opportunity to socialise and have a catch up. Judicious use of radios along the way meant that we managed to keep the convoy together, despite some testing junctions. Excellent!

Someone else who has a great 2025 trip to recall is a younger Yorkshire member, Jake Bullock, who took his Jeep as far as Italy and Croatia and among others even visited some of the places where the favourite war movie, Kelly's Heroes, was filmed; 3700 miles through one countries. I won't say anything more as Jake has done an article for future issue of Windscreen. See you at the Crank Up and roll on 2026!

John Carroll

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