

NORFOLK MVT AREA REPORT – GROUP WINTER VERSION

What a fantastic season we have had in the East Anglia region. Events have been in abundance, members in the winner's enclosure, wall to wall sunshine every weekend with still no rain in sight and only several late shows left on the calendar.

Early July gave us the opportunity in conjunction with the Suffolk Area to visit former *RAF Wattisham*, now home to the Army Air Corps and the Apache helicopter to celebrate 70 years of the airfield. Unbeknown to us the former Miss England was also judging the best military vehicle and yours truly won the prize with my Australian Chevy ute although I had to make do with a hand shake from the Station Commander! As with previous years the requirement for our presence appears to be increasing resulting in frequent clash and turmoil of how to split resources in order not to disappoint organisers. Mid July was an example with the *Weeting Steam Rally*, *Holkham Hall Country Fair* and the *Lowestoft Classic Car Show* all being over the same weekend. With the first two of these being two day events there was the opportunity to attend at least two although no one managed all three! Yours truly, again, won best military at the *Lowestoft* event with the Chevy ute, which this time was by means of a voting slip in the programme and I am sure it was awarded for the shiniest vehicle! The following weekend was no better with both the *War and Peace Show* in conflict with the *Worstead Festival*, an excellent 2 day event.



The War & Peace Show saw Julie Hines in the limelight, who not only drove her Austin 10 complete with child seat and young Sam on board all the way from the Suffolk/Norfolk border but won runner up in the British Light Vehicle class. The following weekend we were back on home ground with the *Wayland Show* at Watton where I am afraid the Chevy ute picked up more silverware. Next was attendance at a hastily organised family dog show at *Sennowe Park* near Fakenham to raise funds for 'Help for Heroes'. Aim of the day

was to raise £25,000 but with Bryan Parry, the co-founder of the fund, Kate Adie and General Sir Richard Dannant present the overall gain was in excess of £72,000, a fantastic achievement. The following week saw us at the *Flixton Aviation Museum* in support of the RAF Association followed by the annual *Aylsham Country Show* where we achieved an excellent turnout of 33 vehicles, much appreciated by the organisers. September was equally as busy with initially the *Seething Airshow*, followed the following day by the Gala Event at *Norwich Showground* where again we had an exceptional display from tracked to wheeled armour, softskins of all ages and nations plus motorcycles galore. This was followed by the *Sandringham Game and Country Show* and then the real highlight of



our season being the *North Norfolk Railway 40's Weekend*, which unfortunately for a number of years now clashes with an equally great event being the *Henham Steam Rally*. This does tend to encourage a mass exodus into north Norfolk and the opportunity to turn back the clock and 'dress the part' like many like minded people for the weekend. With the sun still shining can we manage to attend the remaining events rain free?

We have also managed to steal the photo limelight at events during the season which is fantastic. These were David and Natalie Hines in suitable period dress and bike at the *Gressingham 40's weekend*, Mick Holmes BSA at the *Flixton RAF Association Day*, Kim Goldspink and Stephen Hines at the *Gala event* collecting money for 'Help for Heroes' and Gerald Beckett and Sam Broughton at the *North Norfolk Railway* event. All appeared in the Eastern Daily Press and was even more astounding in that both Kim and Gerald's photos were the only ones published showing the event!

Regarding the saga of the three Humbers this season has seen the arrival of Bill Purchase's superb Super Snipe onto the rally scene after a 3 year chassis up rebuild although the John Morter Humber Heavy Utility body, although fitted, is still in the final stages of fine tuning before the application of metal skins and glass. Guernsey next year is now the target! Regarding David Skinner's Humber Snipe PU this is still awaiting the thinking to turn into action although this did receive a boost with the arrival on the scene late in the season of my Ford WOC 1 and an understanding of just what the 8cwt rear body should look like.

Ian McCallum

**IAN & CAROL McCALLUM WISH ALL
OUR FRIENDS WITHIN THE GROUP
A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND
TROUBLE FREE RALLY SEASON IN 2010**

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS

THIS YEAR HAS SEEN THE INTRODUCTION BY A NUMBER OF EVENT ORGANISERS OF REQUIREMENTS REGARDING BOTH ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE TIMES AT THEIR EVENT. THESE ARE NOT THE RESULT OF ORGINISERS BEING AWKWARD, PURELY PASSING ON THE STIPULATIONS IMPOSED ON THEM BY THEIR RESPECTIVE PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURER.

THE NORFOLK MILITARY VEHICLE GROUP IN ACCEPTING THE INVITATION TO ATTEND SUCH EVENTS MUST ENSURE THAT ITS MEMBERS BOTH RESPECT AND ACCEPT THESE CONDITIONS. ALL MEMBERS ARE THEREFORE RESPECTFULLY REQUESTED THAT WHERE THEY CANNOT PREPLAN THEIR DAY WITHIN THESE LIMITATIONS THAT THEY DO NOT ATTEND THE EVENT IN QUESTION.

IT IS ACCEPTED THERE WILL BE EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH RESULT IN AN UNPLANNED LATE ARRIVAL OR EMERGENCY REQUIRING RELEASE FROM THE RALLY FIELD. WHERE THESE OCCUR A MEMBER OF THE COMMITTEE MUST BE ADVISED WHO WILL SPEAK WITH THE EVENT ORGANISER ON YOUR BEHALF.