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LETTER FROM THE BUNKER

Welcome to the first Newsletter from Love of the 40s. This month we have two event reviews from The Roving Reporter, get to know more about the lovely Karen Back from The Heritage Milliner, and read through my lovely letter from the Bunker.

Anyone who attended the 1940s event at Crich Tramway Museum would have seen all of the admin team for 1940s Events and Social Space. Nadine and myself spent most of our time talking with everyone at our stall in the Exhibition Hall, while the boys spent their time experiencing all the entertainment and getting to have their

conversations in the lovely sunshine. It was lovely to get back into the 1940s community after such a long brake.

The Admin Team can't wait to be back at Great Central Railway in June for the Queen's Jubilee Weekend. It is sad news that this event isn't going to be solely 1940s, but from what we are being told through the organisers Quorn Station is still going to have the amazing 40s feel which it has for the WW2 event. There are still going to be many of your favourite traders on the field at Quorn including Nadine, Pete and Myself.

Lots of love, Marie x

THE ROVING REPORTER

Memories of the Home Front

**CRICH TRAMWAY MUSEUM ~
EASTER WEEKEND 2022**

The main 1940s season kick off with a bang with the Crich Tramway Museum event held on the 17th and 18th April 2022. The weather was very warm for this time of the year which brought out a record of number of visitors on the Sunday. The Monday was slightly quieter but still busy across the whole site.

The entertainers at the event included Johnny Victory, Jayne Darling, Kevin Mack, Marina Mae, The Bluebird Belles, and Sparky and Sprite. They were located by the Exhibition Hall, Bandstand and up on the Weybridge tram stop. They were singing a number of songs from the 1920s to the 1940s.

There were a number of re-enactment groups on site. These included Unsung Heroes LHG, Erks 39-45, In It Together, and Civvies at War.



Winston Churchill and Montgomery was also on site walking across the event, talking with the public and reenactors.

A welcome addition this year was the appearance of the one and only Charlie Chaplin

who was entertaining across the town.

There were a number of period vehicles located outside the Red Lion Public House. A typical town scene of the 1940s.

Over and above the groups there were hundreds of people promenading around the site. This added to the general atmosphere of the event.

In the trading hall there were The Heritage Milliner, Chaps of Distinction, Tommy's Treasures, Vintage Barn, Vintage Belle, Virtue to Victory and Rustic Bridge Vintage.

A number of displays were also on site which range 1940s shops, wedding displays, and military weapons.

In the town there were re-enactors selling fruit and vegetables, newspapers, matches and shoe shining.

There was a musical finale at the end of the day where the crowd really got into the atmosphere and joining in with the songs and waving flags.

There were some small changes due to the current climate but this did not impact on the overall event. The best Crich 1940s weekend in a number of years.



MEET THE TRADER

THE HERITAGE MILLINER - KAREN BACK



The Heritage Milliner first opened its doors as a small business in the summer of 2015. Until this time, I had spent over 20 years working as a wigmaker. Working with hair loss

patients is still a very rewarding part of my career although these days my time is spent in private medical theatres, working with hair transplant doctors.

My wigs could be seen in theatres across the West End and Broadway, along with many films and television productions. I spent many happy years at the Royal Shakespeare Company and at Warwick Castle for Madam Tussauds. I believe my attention to detail became second nature to me, during this time - each individual hair must be exactly placed.



Predominantly, I am self-taught in millinery. I took a few courses to learn the basics, then started a collection of hat making books and made a start. There are many aspects of millinery still to learn and I believe my desire to keep expanding my knowledge is just as keen. I choose to maintain traditional

techniques in my millinery work and limit my use of chemicals. This does mean that hats can take many hours to design and create. I am the sole creator and therefore take great pride in making each individual hat.

Many of the wooden blocks, used to stretch the felt over, are vintage and works of art themselves. Others have been custom made by block makers, to recreate vintage designs. They can be created using an original hat, or from sketches they are a talented bunch of crafts people.

My natural habitat is working behind the scenes, so when I first began displaying at shows, I was completely out of my comfort zone. These days, it has become most enjoyable. Finding the right hat for someone is part of the joy, seeing their body language alter when they feel they made the perfect choice for them. I still get a kick out of seeing my hats worn at an event. Someone chose that from my collection, what an honour. Bespoke orders can be fun, manipulating shapes and using colour combinations (that I wouldn't be bold enough to wear!) in order to bring to life someone else's vision.



The friends that come along to browse, share stories and many hours of laughter are most definitely the highlight of my job.

For that, I thank you! Karen

DIARY DATES

DATES FOR MAY & JUNE WHICH WERE CORRECT AT THE TIME OF PUBLICATION.
PLEASE CHECK THE WEBSITE TO SEE OF ANY CHANGES.

May

EARLY MAY BANK HOLIDAY WEEKEND

Sat/Sun - 30th April - 1st May - Festival of Vintage (ME)

- York Racecourse, Racecourse Road, Knavesmire Road, York YO23 1EX

Sat/Sun/Mon - 30th April - 1/2nd May - Grantham Vintage Festival (ME)

- Grantham House, Grantham, Lincolnshire NG31 6SS

Sat/Sun/Mon - 30th April - 1/2nd May - Sandwich Salutes the 1940s

- The Quay, Sandwich Marina, Sandwich, Kent

Sun/Mon - 1/2nd - 1940s & Wartime Weekend

- Staveley Hall, Staveley Hall Dr, Staveley, Chesterfield S43 3TN

Sun/Mon - 1/2nd - Wartime Wheels

- Caldicot Castle, Church Road, Caldicot, NP26 4HU

Sat - 7th - VE Day Celebration

- Museum of Cannock Chase, Valley Road, Hednesford, WS12 1TD

Sat - 7th - We'll Meet Again

- Yorkshire Air Museum, Elvington, York, YO41 4AU

Sat/Sun - 7/8th - Brougham Hall 1940s Weekend

- Brougham Hall, Brougham, Penrith CA10 2DE

Sat/Sun - 7/8th - Village at War

- Rural Life Living Museum, Reeds Road, Tilford, Farnham, Surrey GU10 2DL

Sat/Sun - 7/8th - Operation Ashbourne 1940s Weekend

- Moor Lane, Ashbourne, DE6 1NA

Sat/Sun - 7/8th - Wartime Britain

- REME Museum, Calne Road, Lyneham, SN15 4XX
- SAT NAV postcode **SN15 4PZ**

Sat/Sun - 7/8th - 1940s Weekend

- Forge Mill Needle Museum & Bordesley Abbey Visitor Centre, Needle Mill Lane, Riverside, Redditch, B98 8HY

Bless Em' All (Concert)

- Sunday 8th May, 3pm & 7:30pm

- The Spa Pavilion, Undercliff Road West, Felixstowe, Suffolk, IP11 2DX
- Tickets are £17.50 Adults and £14.50 Concessions/U16.

Sat - 14th - Commemorate VE, VJ Day

- Garthorpe, North Lincolnshire, DN17

Sat/Sun - 14/15th - Melton Mowbray 1940s Weekend

- Town Center, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire, LE13

Sat/Sun - 14/15th - Temple at War (MP)

- Braintree, Essex CM77

Sun - 15th - 1940s Day

- Bressingham Steam Museum & Gardens, Low Rd, Diss, Norfolk, IP22 2AA

Sun - 15th - 40s Theme Day at the Museum

- Norfolk and Suffolk Aviation Museum, The St, Flixton, Bungay NR35 1NZ

Sun - 22st - Carhampton at War

- Carhampton Recreation Ground & Village Hall, West Somerset, TA24 6NH

Sat/Sun - 21/22nd - Haworth 1940s Weekend

- Main Street, Haworth, BD22 8DF

Sat/Sun - 21/22nd - Blyth Battery Goes to War

- Blyth Battery, South Beach, Blyth, NE24 3PQ

Sat/Sun - 21/22nd - The Wartime Village

- The Village, Church Farm, Church Road South, Skegness, Lincolnshire, PE25 2HF

Sat/Sun - 28/29th - Ironbridge 1940s Weekend

- Dale End Park & Ironbridge Town ~ TF8

Sat/Sun - 28/29th - Middy in the 40s

- Mid-Suffolk Light Railway, Brockford Station, Wetheringsett, Stowmarket, Suffolk, IP14 5PW

Sat/Sun - 28/29th - 1940s Weekend

- Belvoir Castle, Grantham, Leicestershire, NG32 1PE

Sat/Sun - 28/29th - 1940s Weekend at Tutbury Castle

- Tutbury Castle, Castle Street, Tutbury, Staffordshire, DE13 9JF

June

JUBILEE BANK HOLIDAY WEEKEND**Thurs/Fri/Sat/Sun - 2/3/4/5th - Platinum Jubilee Celebration (ME)**

- Great Central Railway, Quorn and Woodhouse Station, Loughborough, LE12 8AG

Thurs/Fri/Sat/Sun - 2/3/4/5th - Queen Elizabeth Platinum Jubilee 1940s Weekend

- Lakeside Village Shopping Centre, White Rose Way, Doncaster, DN4 5PJ

Thurs/Fri - 2/3rd - Lancs, Tanks and Military Machines

- Lincolnshire Aviation Heritage Centre, East Kirkby, Spilsby, PE23 4DE

Fri/Sat/Sun - 3/4/5th - East Lancashire Railway Jubilee Weekend

- Bolton Street Station, Bolton Street, Bury, Greater Manchester, BL9 OEY

Fri/Sat/Sun - 3/4/5th - The Overlord Show (MP)

- The Lawns, Forest Road, Denmead, Hampshire
- Sat Nav ~ PO7 6HS will get you to Little Mead, which is directly opposite the Show Entrance.

Sat - 4th - Woburn Sands 'A Vintage Jubilee' (ME)

- St Mary's Church, Aspley Hill, Woburn Sands, MK17 8NN

Sat - 4th - Newport Pagnell Vintage Event (Wartime Theme)

- Newport Pagnell, Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire, MK16

Sat - 4th - Sleaford 1940s Day

- William Alvey C of E School, Eastgate, Sleaford, Lincs, NG34 7EA

Sat/Sun - 4/5th - 1940s Weekend

- Bredgar and Wormshill Light Railway, The Warren, Bredgar, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME9 8AT

Sat/Sun - 4/5th - Brighouse 1940s Weekend

- Brighouse, West Yorkshire, HD6

Sat/Sun - 11/12th - Southwick Spirit of D-Day Revival

- Southwick Village, Southwick, Fareham, Hampshire, PO17 6BE

Sat/Sun - 11/12th - Wicksteed at War (MP)

- Wicksteed Park, Barton Road, Kettering Northamptonshire NN15 6NJ

Sat/Sun ~ 11/12th - Hayfield Wartime

- Hayfield Lakes, Doncaster, DN9 3NP

Sat/Sun - 11/12th - Vintage by the Sea (ME)

- High Street, Sutton-on-Sea, LN12

Sat/Sun - 11/12th - Folkestone and Ashford Military Show (MP)

- Sellindge Showground, Sellindge, Ashford, Kent, TN25 6HH

Sun - 12th - Boston 1940s Day

- Central Park, Boston, PE21 6PH

Sun - 12th - Heywood 1940s Day

- Heywood, Manchester, OL10 1EH

Sun - 12th - Bridlington Platinum Jubilee 1940s - 1950s Event (ME)

- Bridlington Old Town, East Yorkshire, YO16

Sat - 18th - Stannington Parish Battle of Britain Event

- Stannington Parish, Morpeth, Northumberland. NE61

Sat/Sun - 18/19th - Bottisham at War

- Bottisham Airfield Museum, Wilbraham Road, Bottisham, CB25 9BU

Sat/Sun - 18/19th - The Romney Marsh Wartime Weekend

- Romney Marsh Wartime Collection, Ivychurch Road, Romney Marsh, TN29 0EE

Sat/Sun - 18/19th - Lotherton Hall 1940s Weekend

- Lotherton Lane, Aberford, Leeds, LS25 3EB

Sat/Sun - 18/19th - Wheaton Aston WW2

- Wheaton Aston, Staffordshire

Sat/Sun - 18/19th - 1940s Weekend

- Keith & Dufftown Railway, Dufftown Station, Dufftown, Banffshire. AB55 4BA, Scotland
- Satnav Post Code for Dufftown Station is AB55 4BA

Fri/Sat/Sun - 24/25/26th - Springwell 1940s Weekend

- Springwell Village, Community Venue, Fell Rd, Springwell Village, Gateshead, Tyne and Wear, NE9 7RP

Fri/Sat/Sun - 24/25/26th - Battle of Britain Airshow

- Headcorn Aerodrome, Shenley Road, Headcorn, Ashford, Kent TN27 9HX

Sat/Sun - 25/26th - Padiham on Parade

- Padiham, Lancashire, BB12

Sat/Sun - 25/26th - Crowland 1940s**Weekend**

- Crowland, Peterborough PE6 OAY

Sat/Sun - 25/26th - Wartime in the Vale

- Ashdown Farm, Badsey, Nr Evesham, Worcestershire, WR11 7PA.
- Use postcode WR11 7EN for entry to the show

Sat/Sun - 25/26th - A Blitz Weekend

- The Staffordshire Regiment Museum, DMS Whittington, Lichfield, Staffordshire, WS14 9PY

Sat/Sun - 25/26th - Cornwall at war Museum Armed Forces Weekend

- Davidstow Airfield and Cornwall at War Museum

COMMUNITY NEWS

Love of the 40s is all about helping the 40s community to come together. It all really started in 2015 when I met Pete and he became interested too but there was no one place to go to find what you needed. I had set up a Facebook group a few years before which didn't have many members and together we changed the name and started to grow the nearly 10,000 member strong Group which we have today. Then along came the App, Website and Love of the 40s was born. Now we are extending this again to a Newsletter which we hope you will find informative and encouraging in your love of the 40s.

Let me explain a little about what this newsletter is all about. By getting to this Community News section means that we haven't bored you stupid yet and must be doing something right. Each month we will issue a new newsletter with two months of dates listed, the month of the news letter and the next month. We will be doing a range of 'Meet the ...' articles, which will differ each month from traders, performers, organisers and display groups. The Roving Reporter will be offering up reviews on events and you will have lovely little nuggets of waffle from myself to entertain you. The Newsletter will be uploaded in PDF format to Love of the 40s Facebook page, 1940s Events and Social Space Facebook Group and be available to download on the website.

The Website! Hopefully by now all our long standing followers already know about the website www.loveofthe40s.co.uk where you can find dates for 40s events, some are Multi-Period (MP, these are usually anything from Medieval onwards) or Multi Era (ME, these are the more 1900's based) and are marked as so. You can also find listings for Entertainers, Traders, Hairstylists and more, including Vintage Fair Ground Rides, and Churchill. As if the Website wasn't enough we have an App, Love of the 40s & Vintage, which you can find the link to on the website, supported for both Android and IOS, which is a copy of the Website at your fingertips wherever you are. The Website and App is completely free to download and use. We do have a donation button on the website, and I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you again to everyone that donated during the past two years as we were able to offer our advertisers a respite while in lockdown.

If anyone has any questions about the 40s we are open to a readers letters section which can be printed without names if required. Or any suggestions about articles you may like to see then please email through to loveofthe40s@gmail.com and we will see what we can do.

Marie x

THE ROVING REPORTER

No Man's Land Event 2022

PHOTO CREDIT - PAUL BULL &
ANDREW HARRISON

An excellent multi period event in the stunning grounds of Bodrhyddan Hall, near Rhyl in North Wales. The sun came out for the weekend and record numbers of public came out to support the event.



There were a large number of WW2 re-enactment groups on site including Afrika Korps 200 FG, The Japanese Re-enactment Association, The Bloody Red Tabs, Dukes at War,

Blackstar Blitz, Fallschirmjager Regiment 2, 284th Rifle Division, Zaboronu, Garrison Artillery Volunteers, Jedburgh and the Marquis of Brittany and many others.



Montgomery and Winston Churchill were at the event interacting with reenactors, groups and the public. This is always an welcome addition to any event.

There were a number of military vehicles located outside across the



grounds courtesy of the Military Vehicle Trust.

There was an afternoon display of World War 2 firepower from different re-enactment groups. This was really interesting and expertly described.

There were also a number of traders on site including Tommy's Treasures, Total Relics and Seagrave Militaria. The entertainment was provided by the Goodnight Sweethearts.



For military and civilian re-enactment groups this is an excellent event well worth supporting in future years. The organiser Peter Wood and his family have done a brilliant job managing this event.