



It's Show Time!

From seeing the infamous Tiger tank in action at the UK's Tank Museum to heading Down Under to experience AusArmourfest, the 2020 show calendar again promises an action-packed year of exciting re-enactment battles, impressive armour displays and interesting militaria. The number of shows is vast, making the decision on which to attend a difficult one. Over the following six pages we showcase some of the world's top events to help with your planning.

TOP: Tiger 131 makes an appearance at a previous Tiger Day. THE TANK MUSEUM

RIGHT: The Sherman tank 'Fury' can be seen at the Tank Museum. THE TANK MUSEUM

Tiger Day 13/14

Date April 25/September 19

Location The Tank Museum, Bovington, UK

Website www.tankmuseum.org

Comments Tiger 131 only makes two appearances in the arena at the Tank Museum and April 25 and September 19 – Tiger Days 13 and 14 – have been earmarked for 2020. The infamous German tank is usually accompanied by guest vehicles, so this is a great chance to view armour from World War Two. At Tiger Day 11 last year, more than 4,500 people attended, so booking is essential. Museum curator David Willey said a "significant" amount of work went into keeping the Tiger running. "During the war, it took 10 hours of maintenance for every hour the Tiger ran – now it takes



the museum staff and engineers an astonishing 200 hours," he said. The Tiger tank was a formidable weapon introduced by the Nazis and the capture of 131 allowed the allies to understand exactly what had been unleashed.

Verdict A great opportunity to see the world's only running Tiger I tank in action. Accommodation in the area is at a premium, so book in advance.

Other information Accommodation on site: No / Advance tickets: Yes / Car parking: Free / Dogs allowed: No

Ciney Militaria (Belgium)

Date April 26/October 26

Location Ciney Expo SA, Rue du Marché Couvert, 3, 5590 Ciney, Belgium

Website www.cineyexpo.be

Comments With more than 600 exhibitors from all over Europe, this is one of the biggest militaria shows in the world. Attracting around 12,000 people each year, collectors travel from far and wide to view specialised items such as uniforms, helmets, weapons, medals, badges, flags, spares, engravings, books, postcards, photographs and other old documents. The April 26 show is expected to draw large crowds again to the covered market where a vast array of items are on display across an estimated 5km of tables. If you can't make the April show, a second event is planned for October 25.

Verdict Well worth the effort for serious collectors.

Other information Accommodation on site: No / Advance tickets: Yes / Car parking: Yes / Dogs allowed: Small breeds on leash



A re-enactor watches a column of military vehicles at the Yorkshire Wartime Experience

Victory in Europe Day

Date May 8

Location Various

Website www.veday75.org

Comments This year marks the 75th Anniversary of Victory in Europe Day (also referred to as VE Day). The early May bank holiday has been moved from Monday, May 4 to Friday, May 8, to mark the anniversary. This is only the second time that the early May bank holiday has been moved – the first was in 1995 to mark the 50th anniversary. Commemorative events will be taking place across the country to honour the incredible sacrifice men and women made during World War Two. The occasion will remember the contribution of British, Commonwealth and Allied armed forces personnel; those who contributed to the war effort and safeguarded the Home Front. As well as marking the Allies' victory in 1945, the bank holiday will serve as an opportunity to pay tribute to those who have served and continue to serve in the UK armed forces and their families.

Verdict Find an event and get involved.

Other information With so much planned, keep an eye on the events page in CMV and your local press for further details.

45th Annual MVPA International Convention (United States)

Date May 14-16

Location Hancock County Fairgrounds, 1017 E Sandusky St, Findlay, Ohio 45840, United States

Website www.mvpa.org/convention

Comments Each year the Military Vehicle Preservation Association's annual International Convention brings together historic military vehicle enthusiasts from around the world and throughout the US. Many of the best vehicles – of all types and eras – and recognised experts are

grouped together in one place for this three-day event. Hundreds of restored and original vehicles are put on display, judged and some are even for sale. Scores of vendors provide access to parts and information while technical seminars and discussions groups are held. Importantly, new friends are made as military vehicle enthusiasts are brought together by a shared interest.

Verdict A great opportunity to view high-level restorations.

Other information Accommodation on site: Camping

Militracks (Netherlands)

Date May 16-17

Location Overloon War Museum, Netherlands

Website www.militracks.nl/en/visitors-info/future/

Comments Set in woods near the Overloon War Museum, many classic military vehicle enthusiasts' rate Militracks as a must-attend event. It specialises in German motorcycles, passenger cars, trucks, half-tracks and tanks that were predominantly in the service of the Wehrmacht. German vehicle technology at the time was in many cases better than that of the Allies. Participating vehicles can be seen driving around the special, 1.5km trail on the museum grounds and visitors can often get paid for rides on some of these vehicles – be it a motorcycle or in the back of an armoured vehicle – creating a whole new experience for those attending. Prices vary according to the type of vehicle.

Verdict A great opportunity to view German armour and vehicles used in World War Two.

Other information Accommodation on site: No / Advance tickets: Yes / Car parking: Paid / Dogs allowed: Yes





ABOVE: Most shows welcome dogs on leashes, although just make sure yours won't be spooked by loud bangs and explosions

Overlord Show

Date May 23-25

Location The Lawns, Denmead, PO7 6HS

Website www.overlordshow.co.uk

Comments With hundreds of military vehicles and re-enactors from World War One through to modern-day on display, the Overlord Show bills itself as the south coast's premier military spectacular. The event is organised by the Solent Overlord Executive (SOE) Military Collectors Club and brings together vintage military vehicles owners from around the country. Vehicle displays are accompanied by militaria traders, so it has wide appeal to vehicle enthusiasts, collectors and history buffs. A host of events included professionally re-enacted battles take place in the arena.

Verdict The SOE Military Collectors Club know what military vehicle enthusiasts want to view and with approximately 300 vehicles on display, 50 plus trade stalls and 30 plus re-enactment groups in attendance, this is a well-supported show.

Other information Accommodation on site: No / Advance tickets: No / Car parking: Free / Dogs allowed: Yes, on leash

D-Day Commemorations (France)

Date June 6

Location Normandy

Website Various (see below)

Comments Numerous events and activities are planned each year around D-Day and 2020 will be no different. While this year's 76th Anniversary is not expected to draw the crowds witnessed for last year's 75th Anniversary, the event will still draw military vehicle enthusiasts from around the world to the beaches of Normandy. Details of planned activities are often only released closer to the time, so it's worth keeping an eye on several websites for information in the coming months. These include www.dday-overlord.com; www.junobeach.org; www.ddayfestival.com; and <https://tinyurl.com/97dclsh>.



The grass bank provides an excellent viewing platform at the War and Peace Revival



Heavy armour is always a crowd-pleaser. WAR AND PEACE REVIVAL

Verdict A must for classic military vehicle enthusiasts wanting to commemorate and honour those who took part in the single biggest amphibious assault in history.

Other information With so much planned, keep an eye on the events page in CMV and relevant websites for further details.

Aquino Tank Weekend (Canada)

Date June 5-7

Location Ontario Regiment Museum, 1000 Stevenson Rd N, Oshawa, ON L1J 5P5, Canada

Website www.ontrmuseum.ca/tankmuseum/aquino-weekend/

Comments This is Canada's largest military show featuring tanks, battle re-enactments, artillery, static displays and lots more. Aquino is a small farming town in south-central Italy about 120km southeast of Rome and the Ontario Regiment Museum hosts its annual Aquino Tank Weekend to

commemorate the 1944 Battle of Aquino involving Canadian forces. The event draws thousands of people to Oshawa to witness battle re-enactments and simulated tank battles with some impressive armour on display. Among the museum's collection are M4A2E8 Sherman tanks, CVR(T) FV105 Scorpions, an M24 Chaffee and many other armoured vehicles.

Verdict Who needs an excuse to visit Canada? The Aquino Tank Weekend just adds another reason to go.

Other information Accommodation on site: No / Advance tickets: Yes / Car parking: Yes

Wickstead at War

Date June 12-14

Location Kettering, Northamptonshire

Website <https://wicksteadatwar.co.uk/>

Comments After taking a break last year due to the 75th Anniversary



There's always an interesting array of vehicles to be seen at Wartime in the Vale.
WARTIME IN THE VALE

commemorations around D-Day, Wickstead at War makes a welcome return to the show calendar. The living history show is for the whole family and features an action-packed arena, hundreds of tanks and military vehicles with re-enactors camps and battles as well as aircraft flyovers.

Verdict One of the year's smaller events, but there's enough on offer to satisfy most enthusiasts.

Other information Accommodation on site: Camping / Entry: Free / Car parking: Paid / Dogs allowed: Yes, on leash

Wartime in the Vale

Date June 20-21

Location Ashdown Farm, Badsey, Nr. Evesham, Worcestershire WR11 7EN

Website ashdowncamp.com/events

Comments It's one of the UK's largest World War Two military vehicle and re-

enactment shows, and the annual event held at Ashdown Farm near Evesham in Worcestershire always draws strong crowds thanks to an exciting array of military vehicles and its family-friendly atmosphere. Wartime in the Vale features a mix of military and vintage civilian displays at the World War Two camp so there's plenty for the whole family to enjoy. In excess of 500 vehicles will again be on display along with outstanding living history displays, BBMF flypast, American Civil War camp and battle, more than 60 stalls selling military parts, uniforms, militaria, vintage clothing and collectables of all shapes and sizes.

Verdict A fantastic show that you can take the whole family to.

Other information Accommodation on site: Camping / Advance tickets: Show tickets No, Camping Yes / Car parking: Yes / Dogs allowed: Yes, on leash

Tankfest

Date June 26-28

Location The Tank Museum, Bovington

Website www.tankmuseum.org

Comments The annual event, held at the Tank Museum, Bovington, is scheduled for three days and draws tank aficionados from around the world. The museum displays some of the finest running armour from its own collection in addition to guest vehicles, which for many enthusiasts provides a rare opportunity to see these vehicles in action. There were plenty of firsts for military vehicle enthusiasts to enjoy at last year's Tankfest including the appearances of a World War Two Panther, a Sherman Firefly from the same period, a Type 95 Ha-Go tank used by Japan during the war and the impressive Leopard PRTL from the Royal Netherlands Army. Expect more this year.

Verdict An extremely well-organised event made even better by the fact that the Tank Museum's arena is surrounded by good viewing points.

Other information Accommodation on site: No / Advance tickets: Yes / Car parking: Free / Dogs allowed: No

Yorkshire Wartime Experience

Date July 3-5

Location Hunsworth Lane, Hunsworth, Nr Bradford, BD4 6RN

Website www.ywe-event.info

Comments With more than 500 military vehicles on display, 72 re-enactment groups in attendance and more than 80 vintage, military and collectable stalls, there's plenty to keep enthusiasts entertained throughout the three-day event held in Yorkshire. Highlights last



A battle re-enactment at the Yorkshire Wartime Experience

A battle re-enactment at War and Peace Revival. WAR AND PEACE REVIVAL



ABOVE: Visitors to War and Peace form an early morning queue. It's a good idea to book tickets in advance if the show allows you to do so

LEFT: Many of the shows are family-friendly. Visitors to the Victory Show collect potatoes at the 2019 event

BELOW: Long Range Desert Group re-enactors at the Victory Show

year included a flypast from a Spitfire and some impressive pyrotechnics during World War One and Two battle re-enactments in the main arena. Now in its ninth year, the show has grown from strength to strength and part of its popularity is because it offers something for everyone. It is the only show in the north of England where you can see real wartime tanks live-firing their guns in realistic battle re-enactments.

Verdict Well worth the trip for the pyrotechnics alone.

Other information Accommodation on site: Camping / Advance tickets: Yes, but only combined camping and show entrance / Car parking: Free / Dogs allowed: Yes

BELOW: Last year's Harborough at War had an impressive array of tanks on display



Capel Military Show

Date July 4-5

Location Aldhurst Farm, Temple Lane, Capel, Surrey

Website www.capel-military-vehicle-show.com

Comments The Capel Military Show was born from a long-standing desire of chairman John Dale to marry his love of historic military vehicles, his farm and the desire to generate support for the Military Vehicle Trust and military charities. The show is held in support of the Help for Heroes Charity and several military and local charities. Held for the first time in 2013, it surpassed expectations and has since taken place annually. Last year was



the seventh staging of the event which showcases everything from military motorcycles to main battle tanks and frontline helicopters while retaining a small intimate feel.

Verdict A show that each year gets bigger, better and more action-packed than ever before.

Other information Accommodation on





A column of military Land Rovers at War and Peace Revival



'Highlights last year included a flypast from a Spitfire and some impressive pyrotechnics'

site: Camping / Advance tickets: No / Card payments at gate: Accepted / Car parking: Yes / Dogs allowed: Yes

The War and Peace Revival

Date July 28-August 1

Location The Hop Farm, Paddock Wood, Kent

Website warandpeacerevival.com

Comments The military and vintage festival extravaganza held at The Hop Farm in Kent has become more than just a military show for enthusiasts from around the UK and world who have turned it into an annual pilgrimage. It's not uncommon for families, friends and couples to set up a camp on the grounds a week or so in advance of the popular event, incorporating it into an annual family holiday. The War and Peace Revival is not just a gathering featuring incredible action-packed battle re-enactments, a massive array of military vehicles and stalls packed with militaria but is also a show where old friends catch up, restoration stories are swapped, and deals are struck.

Verdict It's the biggest show of its kind in the UK and must be experienced to properly appreciate its size and scale.

Other information Accommodation on site: Camping / Advance tickets: Yes / Card payments at gate: Accepted / Car parking: Free / Dogs allowed: Yes (limited to 1 dog per person)

Harborough at War

Date August 8-9

Location Market Harborough Showground, Gallow Field Road, Market Harborough, Leicestershire

Website harboroughatwar.co.uk

Comments A newcomer to the show

circuit, Harborough at War was first held in 2019. The World War Two 1940s centred war re-enactment and living history spectacular was supported by two big names in the military vehicle world – Armourgeddon Military Museum and Crouch Military. Based at Market Harborough Showground, a former World War Two airfield in Leicestershire, organisers said that after a very successful 2019 the 2020 event promises to be bigger and better. This year's show will again feature re-enactment groups, living history groups, military vehicles, battle simulations, displays, trade stalls and a Saturday night 1940s Big Band dance with 1940s DJ.

Verdict Bigger is not always better and sometimes smaller shows like this are where all the fun is to be had.

Other information Accommodation on site: Camping / Advance tickets: Yes / Car parking: Free / Dogs allowed: Yes, on leash

AusArmourfest (Australia)

Date August 29-30

Location 2 Skyrail Drive, Smithfield, QLD 4878 Australia

Website www.ausarmour.com/ausarmourfest

Comments The privately-operated Australian Armour and Artillery Museum has one of the largest collections of military muscle in the Southern Hemisphere. The team scour the world's battle sites, scrapyards and abandoned collections to fill this massive museum which boasts more than 150 artillery and armoured pieces, some dating back to World War One. Boasting such a large collection, it was a natural progression to

hold a show and in 2014 the first annual AusArmourfest was born. Among all the armour on display, visitors are offered rides on some of the vehicles, which last year included Armoured Personnel Carriers used by the Australian Forces in Vietnam to a rare, original German Panzer 1V D.

Verdict A must-see event that is growing stronger every year.

Other information Accommodation on site: No / Advance tickets: Yes / Car parking: Free

Victory Show

Date September 11-13

Location Foxlands Farm, Croft Rd, Cosby LE9 1SG

Website www.thevictoryshow.co.uk

Comments Sadly, organisers of the Victory Show have announced that the 2020 event will be the last. In a statement on the website, organisers said: "After 15 amazing years of running the best event of its type in the UK, we will be closing our gates for the last time." The Victory Show provides a unique take on the 1940s war years with a range of military vehicles and aircraft on display. There's a nice, relaxed vibe to the event and while it's held over a 100-acre site, it doesn't feel overly big and retains an intimate feel. Equipment on display will include static World War Two aircraft and military vehicles along with 1940s working and static farming machinery.

Verdict Highly recommended, even more so with it being the last show.

Other information Accommodation on site: Camping / Advance tickets: Yes / Card payments at gate: No / Car parking: Free / Dogs allowed: Yes, on leash ◀

2020
FEBRUARY

2 Stoneleigh Militaria

The Venue
Stoneleigh Park
Coventry
www.militariashows.com

MARCH

15 SMVG Annual Swap Meet

Held at the Institute Hall, Bridge of Earn.
2 mins off junction 9 M90.
Sale of militaria, military vehicle parts
and collectables.
Admission 10am-4pm. Adults £1,
accompanied under 16's free.
Email: swapmeet@scottishmvg.org

27-29 PC Classic Car & Restoration Show

NEC Birmingham
www.necrestorationshow.com

APRIL

5 Newbury 4X4 & Vintage Spares Day

Largest Land Rover Autojumble in Europe
plus large Vintage Spares Section alongside,
over 800 plus traders usually attend
Newbury showground, Chieveley,
Berkshire, RG18 9QZ
www.4x4sparesday.co.uk

19 Newark Militaria Fair

Newark County Showground, NG24 2NY,
just off the A1/A46 junction, in the Lady
Eastwood Hall. Up to 100 trade stalls
selling Militaria. Sell your vehicle too.
Call 07889 516401, email jeep.promotions@btconnect.com or visit
www.newarkmilitariafair.com

25 Tiger Day XI

The Tank Museum, Bovington, Dorset,



ALL IMAGES ANDREW STONE

BH20 6JL
www.tankmuseum.org

28 Newark Militaria Fair

Newark County Showground, NG24 2NY
£5 per person
07889 516401
jeep.promotions@btconnect.com

MAY

8 VE Day Event

Ripon Racecourse
Looking for military vehicles and
equipment on the day to join in.
Email: ajweidemann@googlemail.com or
phone 079171 56093

8 VE Day Event

Shaftesbury, Dorset, in the High Street

outside Town Hall.
Starts 4pm, ends 11pm. World War Two
military vehicles and re-enactors display, live
music. Two aircraft doing twilight aerobatics
and airborne pyrotechnic display. Food and
drink stalls. Free to attend.
Vehicles and re-enactors wanted. Contact
Pete on 07879490893

8-10 VE Day Celebration

Thoresby Park, Nottinghamshire
10am-4pm
Re-enactment, military vehicles, museum
displays, singer, afternoon teas
www.thoresby.com

9-10 Gaydon Land Rover Show

A weekend celebrating all aspects of
Land Rover





British Motor Museum, Banbury Road
Gaydon, CV35 0BJ
www.britishmotormuseum.co.uk

16-17 Militracks

War Museum Overloon, Museum Park 1,
5825 AM Overloon, The Netherlands
German vehicle event
info@oorlogsmuseum.nl and
www.militracks.nl

23-25

The Overlord Show

Military vehicles and living history with
militaria and food traders
The Lawns, Denmead, PO7 6HS
www.overlordshow.uk

JUNE

D-Day Festival Normandy (various dates)

A total of over 80 events take place at
Bayeux, Longues-sur-Mer, Arromanches,
Sainte-Mère-Église, Carentan, Utah, Isigny-
sur-Mer and Omaha.
On **June 6**, a commemorative day takes
place at Arromanches, with a ceremony in
tribute to the veterans.
www.ddayfestival.com

20-21 Wartime in the Vale

Ashdown World War Two Camp, Ashdown
Farm, Badsey Rd, Evesham WR11 7PA

26-28 Tankfest

The Tank Museum, Bovington, Dorset,
BH20 6JL www.tankmuseum.org

JULY

3-5 Yorkshire Wartime Experience

Military vehicle and re-enactment show

Hunsworth Lane, Hunsworth, Nr Bradford
BD4 6RN

4-5 Capel Military vehicle Show

Aldhurst Farm, Temple Lane, Capel
Surrey, RH5 5HJ
www.capel-military-vehicle-show.com

19 Malvern Summer 4X4 Spares Day & Sortout

Land Rover, 4X4 and Vintage Spares Day
Three Counties Showground, Malvern,
Worcestershire, WR13 6NW
www.4x4sparesday.co.uk

JULY / AUGUST

28th July - 1st August 2020

War and Peace Revival

Military vehicle and re-enactment show
www.warandpeacerevival.com

AUGUST

8-9 Harborough at War

Market Harborough hosts its World War
Two and post war re-enactment, and living
history spectacular
Facebook: @Harboroughatwar

15-16 Alford 1940s Weekend

Alford, Lincolnshire
Military vehicles needed for new event
taking Alford back to the 1940s.
Contact Den: 07703 611249

24 Ripon 4x4 and Vintage Spares Day

Auto jumbling, classic car and bike shows,
4X4 events and vintage tractor/truck
shows
Ripon Racecourse, Ripon
HG4 1UG

29-30 Military Odyssey

Multi-period living history and re-
enactment event
The Kent Show Ground, Detling,
Nr Maidstone, Kent ME14 3JF

SEPTEMBER

11-13 The Victory Show

1940's event weekend including battle
re-enactments, schools day, air show,
evening dinner dance and more
www.thevictoryshow.co.uk

OCTOBER

4 Newbury 4X4 & Vintage Spares Day

Largest Land Rover Autojumble in
Europe plus large Vintage Spares
Section alongside, over 800 plus traders
usually attend
Newbury showground, Chieveley,
Berkshire, RG18 9QZ
www.4x4sparesday.co.uk

25 Malvern Summer 4X4 Spares Day & Sortout

Land Rover, 4X4 and Vintage Spares Day
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NOVEMBER

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