



Yorkshire Ridings Area Newsletter

"We're having a laugh"

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Area Website: www.mx5yorkshire.co.uk

Events link: <http://www.mx5yorkshire.co.uk/social-events-club-runs>

Photo archive: yrmx5.smugmug.com

Area Coordinator: Keith Coutts Tel: 07733 040110 Email: keith.coutts@btinternet.com

Events Coordinator: Shirley Pickett Tel: 07882 784857 Email: shirleypickett56@outlook.com

Welcome to the March edition of our club newsletter and welcome to the new members who have joined us recently. If I haven't already done so, I hope to make your acquaintance during the course of this year. Do come along to some of the Yorkshire Ridings events that will be organised throughout the year, you'll find us a friendly, welcoming bunch and we do like to live up to our motto, so be prepared for a few laughs along the way. Yorkshire has some stunning scenery and great roads, perfect for enjoying in an MX5 with the roof down (hopefully). Or come along to a social where we meet up for a meal and the opportunity to chat and get to know one another better.

It's been a disappointing start to the year weather wise, in fact it seems as though there's barely been a day go by without rainfall for months, plus a series of Atlantic storms sweeping across the country causing widespread flooding and putting a damper on topless motoring, even causing the cancellation of one club run, a rare occurrence. I do hope that you and your homes have managed to stay dry.

As I look out of the window whilst typing daffodils are opening en masse in the garden and fresh new green leaves are appearing so hopefully spring is upon us and will bring us some better weather.

There is however a dark cloud upon the horizon in the shape of a viral pandemic and it remains to be seen how that will affect our activities over the coming months.

So it remains for me to say to you all, please stay safe and healthy and I look forward to seeing you all when Grandma duties will allow. Oh and keep washing those hands.

Rosie xx

Upcoming Events

Sun. 5th April – A Run of Three Halves – Mark Norris

Sat 18th April – Social @ Wetherby Whaler, York – Norma & Rowland

Sun. 3rd May – Run to Cars in the Park, Newby Hall – Mike Brownlow

Sat. 9th May - Social

Sun. 17th May – Run – A Plaice By The Sea – Keith Lea

Sun. 7th June – Run – Dawn & John Leggott

'Spirit of Yorkshire' Run

12th January 2020

Organised by Andy Henwood and Keith Lea

Report & Photos by Dave Morford



The first run of the new decade was to be a short one and saw an excellent turnout of 22 cars, including new member Vasilis Loukos, gathering at The Balloon Tree Farmshop near Stamford Bridge at 9 o'clock.

Whilst catching up with everyone post Xmas and New Year some members partook of some very tasty looking cooked breakfasts and bacon butties.

Vittels consumed and tulip maps distributed, Andy delivered his briefing before we ventured out to the car park.

The grey drizzly start to the day had by now turned to steady rain gradually increasing in intensity so it was clearly going to be a roof up adventure today so after a short delay whilst windows were de-misted we were off, heading cross country in the general direction of Malton.

The dramatic scenery of Thixendale and Burdale was somewhat hidden by the rain as we headed east across the Wolds. Unusually for a Sunday run we hardly saw any cyclists/walkers/horse riders, can't think why!

What we did see plenty of, courtesy of the weather conditions were expansive puddles on the inside of many bends, and mud courtesy of the farmers who had been tempted out onto the fields by the previous two weeks of dry weather. I seem to recall that the last run led by Andy involved a lot of flooded roads too.

Following some familiar twisties heading east towards Bridlington we arrived at our destination, The Spirit of Yorkshire distillery on Hunmanby industrial estate, to be warmly greeted by the staff in the cafe who served up some tasty and very reasonably priced grub.

Whilst we ate the sky slowly brightened as the band of rain crept out into the North Sea so before everyone departed Keith strategically parked his own Spirit of Yorkshire and we gathered for a group photo which the distillery may be able to use on their website.

A few members then took an interesting tour of the distillery, the drivers amongst us being provided with samples to try later once we had returned home so that we didn't miss out on the tasting session.

Sod's Law the sky was blue and the sun shining so whilst some members of our group headed to Filey others were able to indulge in a roof down blast back across the Wolds to blow away some of the festive season cobwebs.

Thanks to Andy, Wendy and Keith for organising an excellent little run with some great refreshment stops.

AGM – Burn Hall

18th January 2020



Well done to those members of Yorkshire Ridings who turned up for our AGM, a disappointing 33 out of several hundred.

The minutes of the AGM are available to view on our club website if you click on "Details" alongside the AGM listing in the calendar of events for 2020.

The award for the best run of 2019 went to Dawn and John Leggott for their BBQ run so we can look forward to repeating that sans BBQ later in the year. Persons of the year award went to Shirley and Tim Pickett. Congratulations to both couples on well deserved wins and thanks to the committee members who are staying on for another year for all their hard work over the past 12 months.

The charity for 2020 is to be Yorkshire Cancer Research which received a unanimous vote.

19 members stayed after the AGM for a laughter filled social and the food surpassed all previous efforts by Burn Hall.

Here We Go Again Run

2nd February 2020

Organised by Norma & Rowland Kassell

Report and Photos by Dave Morford



At short notice Norma and Rowland volunteered to organise a run, choosing to repeat a run which they led last February. In 2019 the preceding weeks weather had been wintry but this year had seen fine dry conditions. Then the weather gods intervened and sent over a band of heavy rain the night before.

Undeterred an excellent turn out of 31 cars, including new members Joanna and Richard Taylor and try before you buyer Ryan Halkyard, assembled at Weatherby services, with the promise of some sunshine later in the day. With so many cars it had been decided to split the group in two, departing 10 minutes apart.

Once everyone had collected tulip maps and Rowland had completed his briefing the rain had abated to a light drizzle so many chose to drop their roofs on departure.

The early part of the run took us along familiar roads through Knaresborough and Ripon and out towards Pately Bridge to perform a loop in and out of Studley Royal. Two years ago a club run revealed zero deer, things improved slightly last year when half a dozen fallow deer hung around despite a convoy of noisy exhausts, this time was third time lucky as large herd off red deer were present on the hillside

From Studley Royal we made our way round the back roads across country to our first comfort stop at that old favourite of the club, Brymor Icecream Parlour. And bang on queue, as predicted by the weather forecasters, around mid-day the skies lightened, clouds broke up and patches of blue sky and sunshine appeared.

After a break of about an hour for consumption of refreshments, during which the day got brighter and warmer, the run continued in an easterly direction to head for and pass through Thirsk. Following some more familiar twisties we passed by the ancient ruins of Byland Abbey and skirted along the edge of the Hamleton Hills through the villages of Coxwold and Ampleforth, a place that brings back teenage memories for me of visits to the famous college to play rugby against them for various school teams. Destination was our second comfort stop at Castle Howard, another old favourite of the club.

Coffees and ice creams consumed, some members then chose to head for home from this point, the remainder following some more familiar roads back to Clifton Moor retail park on the outskirts of York.

Thanks to Norma and Rowland, assisted by Shirley and Tim, for organising a run at short notice, terrific roads, excellent food stops and as always some great company to enjoy the beautiful Yorkshire scenery with.



Charity for the Year 2019 – Yorkshire Air Ambulance

A report by Mike Brownlow

Well it all started on 1st February for me with the decision made for a target to be reached (£1500) if at all possible. It's hard because I really wanted it to be achievable and realistic. Being involved with our World Record attempt at Elvington I invited YAA to attend rather hoping the our forecasted 800 cars (my reckoning 1600 people) might generate quite a collection for them. So the day came, 1500 + cars (3000 people?) I ws a pretty busy chap on the day doing this and that and also lots of Yorkshire Ridings members doing a fantastic job (thanks again everyone)

I think, YAA are going to be doing so well.

Disappointingly they only achieved £370 and most of that was donated by people taking part in the Auto Test. Never the less £370 better off and as we say here in God's own County "Better than a slap in't belly wi a wet kipper, eh"! and the other disappointment is? no confirmation as yet that we did it? I am now convinced after all these months sadly we haven't done it. Might mean another attempt eh? and Elvington just the place.

We had some spare baseball caps from the World Record attempt which were very much sought after by members and made quite allot at auction.

So throughout the year my garage was cleared and lots of "stuff" donated to auction. Thanks to all of you who donated, thanks for the summer BBQ hosted by Dawn and John Leggot, for the spontaneous whip arounds at events, DeLacy Motor Club also made a large donation following their Heritage Rally.

Thanks to you all and Carol for supporting me and a last minute push enabled my target to reach an amazing £1511 and a bonus of £333 was also gift aided making a total of £1844.

So forward to this years Charity "Yorkshire Cancer Research". If you have any items in your garage that you can pass on for auction, please do via our Face Book page or contact Tim Pickett who will post on your behalf. If you would like to just donate you can do it via: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/tim-pickett>



Breakfast Social at The Crooked Billet.

8th March 2020

Organised by Shirley and Tim Pickett

Photos courtesy Jean Phillips



Despite the best efforts of Norma and Rowland to find a route for a club run mother nature was determined to prevent any zoom-zoom fun as persistent rain and storms flooded roads and countryside in all directions so the decision was taken to cancel.

Step forward our heroes of the hour, Shirley and Tim, who quickly arranged an alternative for us in the shape of a breakfast social at the Crooked Billet in Saxton.

And a popular event it turned out to be with 37 members attending, greeting one another with elbow bumps rather than handshakes as we did our bit to keep coronavirus at bay.

The splendid turnout meant that we occupied both the dining room and the conservatory, where everyone was swiftly served a generous helping of full English, plus help yourself to as much tea or coffee as one could consume.

Thanks to Shirley and Tim for organising an excellent social at such short notice, great food, good value, happy and cheerful company as always and everyone left for home with a full belly.



