



Yorkshire Ridings Area Newsletter

"We're having a laugh"

Issue Date: January 2019

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

Hello and welcome to the first issue of Yorkshire Riding's newsletter for 2019. I hope you've all had a great festive period and that Santa brought everything that you wished for.

By the time this newsletter drops through your letterbox hopefully the weather will have been more co-operative than it was during the early months of last year and the initial club runs of 2019 will have gone off without a hitch.

Although Dave and I were not able to make it to all of last years' runs, those we did attend were absolute crackers, meaning we were spoilt for choice when we had to vote for our favourite.

To all new members of Yorkshire Ridings may I offer a warm welcome on behalf of us all, and I hope that you will feel tempted to come and join us during the course of the coming year. If you have internet access check out the links **in red** above and have a little explore. There's loads of information about us and our activities to be found on our website, and a perusal of the smugmug photo archive will give you an idea of what we and our MX5's look like. Don't be put off by the fancy dress photos from the Halloween and Xmas runs, we're all (well most of us!) quite normal friendly folks, and we'd love to meet you. If a run out with us round the beautiful Yorkshire countryside doesn't appeal, how about joining us for a social evening where the emphasis is on having the time to chat and get to know one another a little better, all whilst enjoying a meal, oh and I can guarantee that we'll live up to our motto and there'll be lots of laughter.

For those of you who use social media we have our own closed group Facebook page, open only to members of Yorkshire Ridings. Search it out and ask to join and our AC Keith will let you in. Once there you will see information posted by Shirley on upcoming events and be able add your name to attendance lists if you so wish.

Here's looking forward to another successful and enjoyable year of events for Yorkshire Ridings, not least the Spring Rally which we are hosting at Elvington. See you all soon.

Rosie xx

Future Events

Sat. 26th January – AGM followed by Social – Burn Hall – Shirley Pickett

Sun. 3rd February – Run - TBC

Wed. 13th February – Social – The Waterwheel – Carol and Mike Brownlow

Sun. 3rd March – Run – TBC

Sat. 30th March - Social – Greek Night at The Sidings – Shirley and Tim Pickett

Guisley Wetherby Whaler Social

10th November 2018

Organised by Pete & Maureen West

Report by Dave Morford

Photos courtesy of Homi Tehrani & Dave Morford



Fourteen members accepted Pete and Maureen's invitation to join them for a Saturday evening at the Wetherby Whaler fish and chip restaurant in Guisley, a popular venue with our elder members due to the availability of "pensioner specials", the attraction for everyone being some of the best fish and chips around.

For those of you who have never been this fish'n'chip restaurant is a cut above, with chandeliers providing light and a pianist supplying live entertainment; no piped music here! And the superb food served up definitely matched the surroundings.

As always at our socials we lived up to our club motto with plenty of laughter.

Shirley and Norma organised the raffle with their usual efficiency, although there were a few cries of "fix" as the first two tickets drawn from the bowl belonged to, yes you've guessed it, Shirley and Norma!

A splendid evening came to a close with the restaurant staff hovering discreetly round the corner of a now empty room, probably wondering if we were ever going to go home and allow them to clear up.

Thanks to Pete and Maureen for hosting another excellent social evening.

See the Seals Run

12th November 2018

Organised by Mike & Carol Brownlow

Report by Mike Brownlow

Photos courtesy of Dave Morford & Mike Brownlow



This destination has been used several times over the years with runs organised by our very respected Ray & Jean Phillips. Sadly they were unable to join us as Ray has been having health issues. Rowland & Norma Kassel were going to organise the run but unfortunately Rowland had to have surgery to his shoulder and was not allowed to drive for a while so I was asked to take the helm.

So the OS maps came out and the wonderful Google Earth utilized. One bright morning Cath Conelly and myself set off in "Big Annie" (New Kuga) to ensure roads would be suitable, make tulip route and most important test out a coffee and cake stop. A great day had and route sorted.

So thanks to Cath for assistance in route, thanks to Shirley for posting event as Carol and I needed to top up our sun levels with a quick holiday just prior to the event.

At the start Carol and Cath did the "office" things whilst I got the important stuff sorted like, getting coffee and chatting. The weather was excellent and we departed on time.

As the sun goes down very early at this time of year we had to make swift progress down into Lincolnshire, M62, M18 and M180. So a 09.15 for 09.45 depart was imperative. As hoped we were on our way spot on time.

Turning off the M180 on to the A15 for a short run and then on to the B1205 heading to Caistor we passed Dave & Rosie Morford taking pictures. Super roads but in places very bumpy! Coffee stop at Caistor Lakes Leisure Park. This was a super find and certainly well worth visiting if you are ever out that way. Excellent coffee, cakes and service.

From coffee we had a trot across some excellent roads to RAF Donna Nook to join the queue of cars for car parks. I had however booked us in already so once there we were directed to our own area.

See The Seals Run contd

I have seen more seals there in the past but there were 950ish seals and pups on view.

After 1hr we departed for our meal at the Pear Tree Pub some 16 miles away from where we had an excellent meal, served very hot and with a smile.

As dusk started we all departed with tulips to take most via M180 to M18.

What a great day out, just managed to get it all done in daylight, looked like every one enjoyed and thanks for the good weather.

MX5 Christmas Tour de Yorkshire

2nd December 2018

Organised by Andy & Wendy Henwood & Keith Lea

Report by Dave Morford



Andy, Wendy and Keith found us some excellent new venues for this years' Xmas run, beginning with the start point at the Cafe and Bistro on Thorpe Arch trading estate, not far from Wetherby services on the A1 but much quieter and more parking space.

41 members gathered there on a grey,damp murky morning for coffee, goody bags and a briefing from Andy. Amongst those present were newbies Izabela Korpala and Peter Buzusi and old friends Jean and Ray Phillips. Good to see Ray looking so well after his recent op. and we look forward to them being able to rejoin us on runs once his lengthy convalescence is over. There were demands for the NSPCC to be called when Mary and Joseph abandoned "baby Jesus" on a table top in the cafe but luckily for them Dawn stepped forward to take care of him.

A light drizzle had set in on our return to the cars, those who'd left roofs down having to do a quick mop of seats whilst many chose to keep roofs up on departure.

The route took us along some familiar and not so familiar roads to go through Boroughbridge and Ripon to entertain those out on the streets. We heard a few cries of "look there's Santa! and there's another one!" from youngsters as we passed by. Then we were heading north along a well used MX5 route to Masham and our comfort stop at the Black Swan Inn in the nearby village of Fearby, another excellent venue for both quality and value for money.

With the odd patch of blue sky and wintery sunshine appearing it was time for everyone to go topless on our departure from Fearby, the route taking us past Leighton reservoir and over the moor tops to drop down into Nidderdale via Lofthouse. Although the rain had returned we were able to maintain sufficient speed to keep it passing over rather than into our little sports cars.

Time to wave to the crowds again as we travelled through Pately Bridge and continue cross country to our destination, the Dower House Hotel and Spa in Knaresborough. This too proved to be a splendid venue where we were warmly greeted and looked after by the staff. The food proved to be superb, piping hot and efficiently served. Meal over and it was time for Andy to reveal the results of the voting, so in no particular order:

Best dressed female: Sue Harker

Best dressed male: Andy Henwood

Best dressed couple: Heather and Rob Witty

Best decorated car: Heather and Rob Witty



Thanks to Andy, Wendy and Keith for organising another excellent Xmas run and well done everyone with all your efforts with fancy dress and car decorating which all adds to the enjoyment of the day.

Final note: If Heather and Rob go missing for some months it may be that social services have called and taken them away for intensive parenting skills training following reports that "Mary" and "Joseph" had left "Jesus" unattended in the car in the car park at the Dower House for several hours! Shocking behaviour I think you will all agree.

Xmas Party at Burn Hall

8th December 2018

Organised by Shirley Pickett & Norma Kassell

Report by Dave Morford

Photos by Mike Brownlow



A busy schedule for Burn Hall meant an earlier than usual date for our Xmas party this year, with illness and prior commitments leaving 59 members to congregate for some festive celebrations. Joining us for the first time were Julie and David Shillito, who hopefully have not been put off and will be joining us for further events during the course of 2019.

Some of us; well Rosie and myself specifically only just made it in time, having volunteered to act as a taxi for our eldest and his wife who were attending a party in the middle of York and needed dropping off near York Minster. And to think the days of "Mum and Dad's Taxi" had long since passed!

So just time for us to quickly grab a drink from the bar and take our place at a table in time for the meal to be served by the well organised staff of Burn Hall, to whom we must extend a vote of thanks.

The sound of conversation went down a notch or two as everyone tucked in to their three courses, then it was time for the DJ to crank up the volume as members decided whether to hit the dance floor or the bar and lounge area.

The next few hours seemed to fly by in the blink of an eye and it was suddenly time for the last dance and then we had to flee before Rosie turned into a pumpkin when the clock struck one! Confession time, that last bit isn't true; it was actually time to play dodge the drunken pedestrian as we headed back into central York in Mum and Dad's Taxi to collect the other branch of our family out partying that night.

A massive vote of thanks must be extended to Shirley and Norma for stepping in and organising another splendid Christmas party, a great night was had by all.



