



Yorkshire Ridings Area Newsletter

"We're having a laugh"

Issue Date: March 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

Hi everyone and welcome to the second issue of our club newsletter for 2019. As you will see from the contents of this month's newsletter the weather has been kinder to us for the first couple of runs than it was in early 2018. With the short dark days of winter behind us we can hopefully look forward to some lovely weather to get out and about in for some roof down zoom zooming. In fact as I write this in late February a glance out of the window reveals a beautiful blue sky and warm sunshine, with birds singing and insects buzzing. Very unseasonable but hopefully a portent of things to come!

A quick glance at the schedule of events for 2019 on our website shows that there are going to be plenty of great runs and socials during the year to hopefully attract your interest.

On the subject of club events the "biggie" for YR is obviously going to be the Spring Rally at Elvington Airfield on the 28th April so if there's one event you do take in this year make it this one. Amongst the usual attractions there may be opportunity for some track time for those interested, also on the day we are going to make an attempt on the world record for the most MX5's on track at one time so come on down and add your car to the parade. If you fancy volunteering to help organise things on the day, get in touch with Keith Coutts, there's plenty to do so the more the merrier to help things run smoothly and leave visitors with memories of a great day out in Yorkshire. It promises to be a terrific day and best of all its FREE entry to anyone in an MX5 so we hope to see as many of you there as can make it, let's see if we can't set a record for the greatest number of MX5s on track in the country's greatest county.

This year we will be once again raising funds for Yorkshire Air Ambulance as our chosen charity, a very worthwhile cause I'm sure you will all agree. Hopefully no member of our club will ever need their services. If you wish to make a donation to Mike Brownlow's Just Giving page visit www.justgiving.com/fundraising/michael-brownlow.

Looking forward to meeting as many members, both old and new, as possible over the coming months for some top down fun and laughter.

Rosie xx

Future Events

Sat. 13th April – Social – Wetherby Whaler, York – Norma and Rowland

Sun. 28th April – Spring Rally – ELVINGTON – Yorkshire Ridings

Sun. 5th May – Cars in the Park – Newby Hall – Mike Brownlow

Sun. 19th May – Run – Lynn & Keith Parsons

Sun. 9th June – Run – Heather & Rob Witty

Ladies Too Run

6th January 2019

Organised by Carol and David Wooler
Report by Dawn Leggott
Photos courtesy of Mike Brownlow



We all met up at Hawthorne Farm, Yeadon, near Leeds Bradford airport with the option of a tasty breakfast. There was a very good turn out with 16 cars and 13 lady drivers.

New members welcomed were Janet and Trevor Kettlewell.

At the Xmas party a plan had been hatched to keep the ladies run a secret from John Leggott.

Apparently he is a nervous passenger when wife Dawn is driving so Ian Wynn decided he himself would come dressed as a lady and be John's driver on ladies day. And unbeknown to John he would also have to dress up and have to wear pink.....

When Ian arrived looking absolutely stunning dressed as a lady, John looked surprised; and then when he was informed it was a ladies run, and that Ian was his driver and he was to navigate for Ian he was even more surprised! He was given a lovely pink hat, coat and scarf to wear. For a Yorkshire farmer this was a true challenge! He took it really well, but had great difficulty reading the tulip map. It was not idiot proof.

Dawn and Dianne had no such problems in their car which was no surprise to them.

It was a beautiful sunny day when everyone set off, the ladies leading and the men at the rear. The lead lady kept waiting for everyone to regroup which kept it really friendly. We stopped for a toilet break at a country store but were soon on our way again.

The next leg of the journey was to Lakeside Cafe near Scorton. Here we were tempted by lovely cakes and refreshments, served by very friendly staff. We had travelled nearly 60 miles now but were eager for the next leg travelling through some beautiful countryside and twisty roads.

Our next stop was G and T cafe for an ice cream, if you weren't too full from the delicious cakes we had just left 30 miles ago. There was a bit of confusion about parking here at this cafe with the farmer, but Tim and Rowland came to the rescue and smoothed it over.

Now we were onto our final leg of this exciting run. Driving through Otley was extremely busy and it was dark before we arrived at the Wetherby Whaler, our final destination. We all enjoyed a lovely meal here and we had great company. The organisers had done us ladies proud.

A big thank you to Carol and David Wooler and all their helpers.

Ian remained beautiful all day as he replenished his lipstick at every stop, John the Yorkshire farmer however ditched his pink accessories half way round for fear of being recognised.

We are all waiting with baited breath for our next adventure.



AGM & Social at Burn Hall

26th January 2019

Report by Dave Morford
Photos by Dave Morford



41 members were in attendance for the 2019 Yorkshire Ridings AGM, held once again at Burn Hall. The existing committee was re-elected for another year and the results of the voting for person of the year and run of the year were announced. Person of the year was Keith Lea for all the work that he put in to the organisation of the weekend of the chairman's visit. The run of the year was awarded to Shirley and Tim for the Hey Diddle Diddle run.

Shirley announced that this summer's BBQ will be hosted by Dawn and John at their farm on the 22nd June.

After a show of hands it was agreed that Cars in the Park at Newby Hall in May will be added to the list of official club events so keep an eye out for further details.

Following presentations from Keith Lea, Adrian Joyce, Andy Henwood and Mike Brownlow a secret ballot was held and Yorkshire Air Ambulance was chosen to be the club's charity for 2019, a very worthy cause, let's hope that no club members should ever require their services.

A show of hands agreed that the £2 donation to club funds at runs would remain the same but that in future club funds would not be used to buy prizes for best dressed car and person on the Halloween and Xmas runs, nor for an Xmas present for those taking part in the Xmas run as some members who did not attend these events felt that they were subsidising others.

Following on from incidents in the last few months it was agreed that making abusive posts towards other members on our Facebook page will not be tolerated and admins will delete any such posts immediately and the member will lose access to the club Facebook page.

The AGM was concluded with Keith giving us the background to the Rob Beckwith Trophy presented each year for the car of the year. Rob tragically died in an accident at the age of 22 and the trophy was presented to the club by his family as a memorial.

The minutes of the AGM are available to see on www.mx5yorkshire.co.uk.

AGM over and 31 members remained behind for the usual social with much chat and YR laughter as always before we all headed off home.

Last Minute Run Two

3rd February 2018

Organised by Tim & Shirley Pickett with Norma & Rowland Kassell

Report & Photos by Dave Morford



After a few late drop outs 14 cars made it to Wetherby services on a bright but chilly morning following a sharp overnight frost. Despite weather forecasts of heavy snow showers over the preceding days there was little snow in evidence in the Wetherby area.

With tulip maps collected and warming drinks consumed indoors, we ventured out into the car park for quick briefing from Tim then 'twas time to turn heated seats on and dial heaters up to max to push cold air out of open cockpits as we set off along some familiar twisties, taking us via Knaresborough and Ripon to make a loop through Studley Royal deer park. Unlike the same run last year when the deer had scarpers, this time we saw a small group of Fallow deer running along the slope parallel with the drive. Most of the lake surface was a sheet of ice, just a small area clear for the wildfowl to feed. The deer are clearly MX5 fans as they stood still on the hillside to watch our convoy pass by on the way out!

Heading north once more in a loop towards Masham, as we reached Galphay, the temperature noticeably dropped as the sky started to cloud over and the fields and roadsides were covered with a thin layer of snow, as was the car park of that old club favourite, Brymor Ice Cream, our first comfort stop of the day. Whilst some were unable to resist the lure of ice cream, others decided that hot drinks and cake were more appropriate given the weather.

According to Lynn, Keith Parsons is always hungry, which would explain his choice of giant Yorkshire pud filled with sausages and gravy. Very tasty it looked too!

From Masham we headed east, to pass through Thirsk, skirting along the edge of the Hambleton hills through Coxwold and Ampleforth and passing the ruins of Byland abbey. A few members of the convoy dropped out to head for home whilst the remainder made their way to Castle Howard for our final comfort stop.

By this time it had turned somewhat chilly, with a cold wind getting up and blowing through the archway into the courtyard so hot drinks were the order of the day, although Shirley did buy a couple of ice creams for herself and Tim to warm their hands on!

The remaining cars then departed in the direction of York as folks peeled off to make their way home.

Thanks to Shirley and Tim for organising a great run as fears of weather interruption earlier in the week proved to be unfounded, it was great to get out and blow away the cobwebs.

Social at The Wishing Well Selby

13th February 2018

Organised by Carol and Mike Brownlow

Report by Dave Morford

Photos by Jean Phillips



15 members of the club accepted Mike and Carol's invitation to meet up at the Wishing Well for a Wednesday evening of natter and nourishment. It was great to be joined for the occasion by old friends Jean and Ray as Ray continues to make steady progress recovering from his operation.

An excellent evening ensued with plenty of YR laughter, Carol and Cath took over the raffle duties to give Shirley and Norma an evening off and of course Jean was busy trying to catch us out with photos of large forkfuls' of food entering gaping mouths. Great value food, good company, I don't think we disturbed the other diners too much and all too soon it was time to head for home.



2018 Charity Report

During the course of 2018 Yorkshire Ridings raised a total of £1548.25 for our nominated charity CRY.

As many of you may know, this charity was nominated by Dave and myself as it is very close to our hearts having lost a nephew to young sudden cardiac death in 2015 at the age of 14 so many thanks to all of you who donated during the course of last year.

It was our intention, not only to raise funds but also to raise awareness which I hope that we have achieved but I'll run through the statistics one more time for anyone that has missed our previous messages.

Every week 12 apparently fit and healthy young people aged 14-35 die from an undiagnosed heart condition, 80% of those with no prior symptoms. Heart screening has been shown to reduce the incidence of death by 89%.1 in 300 of those tested is found to have a potentially life threatening cardiac condition and 1 in 100 has a condition which will require monitoring and could cause health problems in later life. CRY uses the funds it receives to offer free heart screening sessions for young people nationwide as well as funding research and giving support to bereaved families.

If you know someone in the age group 14-35 encourage them to visit www.testmyheart.org.uk to book an appointment or register an interest in attending a screening session, you could potentially save a life, you know it makes sense and it's FREE. More information about CRY can be found on www.c-r-y.org.uk

