



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

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Hello and welcome to the May edition of our newsletter, which I hope gives you a taste of what Yorkshire Ridings is all about and finds each and every one of you fit and well.

WOW, what a few weeks we have had. Congratulations to the Spring Rally Committee for pulling off, after endless meetings, many a sleepless night and the acquisition of a few grey hairs, what can only be described as the biggest and best yet. I believe that we've set a very high bar for other areas to aim for in the future.

I hope when you read about the Spring Rally and look at the pictures and videos it will encourage you to take an active part in your club and make you feel proud to be part of Yorkshire Ridings.

What a day we had at Newby Hall for Sports Cars in the Park, another splendid turn out by Yorkshire Ridings. The laughs were never ending, mostly at my expense!! We are not just MX5 enthusiasts but lifelong friends as well.

I would just like to take this opportunity to extend a warm welcome to all our new members, hope to meet up with you soon.

Hopefully by the time this newsletter drops through your letterbox some warmer weather will have arrived for us to enjoy our top down motoring, especially for those of us planning annual holidays in the UK.

Here's looking forward to the next few weeks when we have some more Sunday runs coming up and of course the annual BBQ, this year being hosted by Dawn and John Leggott at their farm, one event that I am especially looking forward to.

Wishing each and every one of you a happy and healthy summer.

Hoping to see you all, friends old, new and yet to be met, on the forthcoming events

Rosie xx

Future Events

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

Sat. 22nd June – Run & BBQ – Dawn & John Leggott

Sun. 14th July – Run – Maureen & Pete West

Wed. 17th July – Social – Diane & Kev Tweedy

Sun. 21st July – Run – Mark Norris

Sun. 4th August – Run – Antonia & Richard Hirst

Sat. 24th August – Social – Maureen and Pete West

MX5 Wolds Wander

10th March 2019

Organised by Val and Peter Rolt
Report and photos by Dave Morford



19 cars braved a day forecast to be somewhat damp as we met up at a new start venue for the club, The Star Inn at Sancton, at the invitation of Peter and Val Rolt. We were joined for the occasion by several "newbies", keen to see what we were all about, namely Hilary and Chris Petterson, Lynn and Paul Brattan, and Ruth and Neil Hannah. A fourth car that we didn't recognize initially turned out to be Keith Lea in his superb looking newly "BBR'd" and liveried MX5. I don't know about the BBR tuning but the Yorkshire Rose and stripes on the bonnet must have added a good 20hp!

Although departure time was scheduled for 10.00, everyone arrived for 9.00 to take advantage of hot coffee/tea and some splendid bacon butties, efficiently produced for our consumption by Ben and Lindsey and their young daughter.

Vittels consumed with relish, it was time for Peter to deliver his briefing which included warnings about standing water and slippery mud covered roads before we departed to head for our first stop. With the rain having abated to a light drizzle, one or two souls took the opportunity to leave the car park with roofs lowered to take advantage of a bit of bracing Yorkshire air.

Having left The Star as tail end Charlie due to photographer duties, imagine our surprise when barely 6 miles into the route we were met by most of the convoy appearing from an unexpected direction out of a side road! Had we gone wrong already? No; turns out Peter was following his sat nav rather than his tulip map! and everyone just followed him. So suddenly we were 6th rather than 19th. I'm sure that there was a section in the briefing about follow the tulip directions, not the car ahead!

Anyway, with everyone back on route we continued to follow a variety of narrow twisties around East Yorkshire to find our way to the first stop at Hutton Cranswick Farm Shop, a changed and new to us venue as Burton Agnes Hall had closed after their snowdrop season and wouldn't be opening again until later in the year. Well done Peter to find another stop with plenty of parking, reserved seating, tasty cakes and excellent waitress service at short notice.

Duly refreshed we exited the building to find that the rain had increased in intensity and was now interspersed with sleet, lovely, so it was roofs up all round. As photographer we departed 5 mins early and a priority was to find a location offering a little shelter from the weather as well as a photo opportunity. Photos and drowned rat appearance successfully acquired we again tagged on the end of the convoy to wend our way across the Wolds as we headed north and then west to find our destination, The Talbot Hotel in Malton. By the time we reached Burton Agnes the rain had abated to spits and spots, and with a brighter looking sky and the odd small patch of blue in the direction we were heading and few roofs descended and heaters were cranked up to max as we took the opportunity to take in some of the fabulous views that can be enjoyed across the Wolds. A misprint of mileage on the tulips led to another of those "are we going the right way or are they?" moments of confusion, resolved with a brief discussion and setting off in the wrong direction! Somehow, more by luck than judgement we ended up back on the correct route and all arrived safely at The Talbot, where an excellent meal was enjoyed by all those who were staying for it whilst others chose to depart for home.

Thanks to Val and Peter for organising a great run out, with some excellent new venues. Shame about the weather although we did get a bit of beautiful sunshine and blue sky for the latter part of the run and at least the weather had cleared the route of cyclists, walkers and horses, of whom, like fair weather MX5ers we saw no sign. Plus everyone got to take a liberal coating of Yorkshire Wolds scenery home with them!



Social - Greek Night at The Sidings

30th March 2019

Organised by Shirley and Tim Pickett

Report by Dave Morford

Photos by

28 members accepted Shirley and Tim's invitation to join them for a smashing night at The Sidings at Shipton-by-Beningbrough.

After gathering in the bar for pre meal drinks we all adjourned to the dining area sited on what was the old station platform to enjoy a tasty three course meal, whilst being serenaded with music by the resident bouzouki player.

With the food consumed Shirley and Norma performed their customary efficient organisation of the "everyone's a winner" raffle. Then the music volume was cranked up and Karen "meat balls" Knighton led the Greek style dancing whilst other members tried to copy her moves without getting in an almighty tangle.

A stack of plates then appeared for a session of traditional Greek plate smashing, a number of enthusiastic styles being demonstrated by various members of the club. Being a true Yorkshireman my first thought was "ow much did them plates cost? Worr'a waste of good crockery!"

All in all a great evening enjoyed with excellent company and lots of laughter at the end of which many were shattered.

Social – Wetherby Whaler, York

13th April 2019

Organised by Norma & Rowland Kassell

Report and photos by Pete & Maureen West



The Wetherby Whaler at York was the venue for the April Social and was the first trip there as a club. Seventeen members enjoyed fish and chips, or variations of, and had a good laugh and natter. It was quite busy when we arrived but we soon sorted that with our excessive noise! Among those attending were four new members, Sue and Glenn Duval and Jackie and John Tevlin. Time will tell if they can stand another social. Shirley and Norma arranged the customary raffle, only 9 tickets, but the raffle queens managed to muddle them up, much to everyone's amusement, not sure that Chris & Hilary can stand another raffle, then there seemed to be a prize short, horror of horrors!!! It transpired that Dawn Leggott had conveniently forgotten to hand hers in and was hoarding it for later. It was wrestled from her hands by a determined Shirley for next time. Overall a great night as usual with plenty of merriment.

Spring Rally- Elvington

28th April 2019

Report by Dave Morford



Just a few words on the Spring Rally as I'm sure that it will get plenty of coverage elsewhere. Well what to say? How about **WOW! well done Yorkshire Ridings**. By the time you read this we will hopefully have received ratification from Guinness World Records but it would seem we smashed two world records right out of the park.

Spring Rally contd.

The sight of row upon row of MX5's that disappeared over the horizon was truly an unforgettable sight to behold. Massive thanks to the organising committee of Keith Coutts, Andy Henwood, Keith Lea, Mike Brownlow and Dave Thistlethwaite for all the hard work and effort to ensure that the rally was a huge success. Anticipated attendance was expected to be higher than normal for a spring rally at around 800 – 1000 cars, in fact we exceeded the higher of those figures by more than 50%! So well done too to the 46 members of Yorkshire Ridings who stepped up to the plate on the day (and many the night before) to ensure that everything ran as smoothly as possible despite the vast numbers attending. Like all good YR members we were all still laughing and smiling at the end of a long and tiring day, and our visitors from all parts of the country departed having enjoyed a day that they will remember for a long time to come. What few grumbles heard were about issues that were outside our control and influence.

Congratulations are due to Tim and Shirley Pickett, who won the "Show and Shine" class for Mk3's with their recently acquired 25th Anniversary edition, well done for finding time during the poor weather of the preceding days for washing and waxing.

Ten years ago YR hosted the spring rally at Elvington and the attendance was 350 cars. Given the growth rate, in another ten years we're going to need a bigger venue!

Sports Cars in the Park – Newby Hall

5th May 2019

Organised by Mike Brownlow

Report by Dave Morford

Photos courtesy of Mike Brownlow & Dave Morford



After a few years of increasing numbers of Yorkshire Ridings members attending the event, it was decided that this year "Sports Cars in the Park" at Newby Hall would become an official club event. And it attracted a good turnout, around 50 MX5's of which 22 were from Yorkshire Ridings.

An early start to the day saw us meeting at Wetherby services at 8.00am where Mike checked that we'd all purchased our entry tickets and got everyone present organised into a colour co-ordinated convoy before we set forth to Newby Hall as we played follow the leader with no tulip maps to follow on the short run north.

Quite surprisingly we arrived en masse at Newby with our convoy intact, and a fine sight it made as we slowly edged forward along the entrance route for display cars. We'd also arrived at the venue immediately behind a group from Tyne Tees area, further boosting the number of MX5s as we swept through the gate and onto our allotted parking area.

Keith Coutts raised the Yorkshire Ridings banner, and with assistance the gazebo, which was swiftly occupied by the catering team of Cath and Carol who were quickly producing some tasty bacon butties for a small donation to this years charity, the Yorkshire Air Ambulance.

Unsurprisingly first in the queue for a butty was yes you've guessed it, Pete Cresswell, who had volunteered to be chief taster. Quality approved and a queue rapidly formed.

To follow, Dave produced some buns and tray bakes, packed with some of your 5 a day options such as blueberries, dates and cacao BEAN extract (aka chocolate), and low calorie Aero (no calories in an air bubble!).

Breakfast consumed, we then dispersed, cameras in hand, to view the vast array of gleaming makes and models parked around the grounds. Something for everyone's taste, from dinky Fiat 500 Abarths to hulking Mustang muscle cars and sleek angular supercars.

Thanks Mike for organising the day.



