



Yorkshire Ridings Area Newsletter

"We're having a laugh"

Issue Date: July 2019

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 members old and new. We've had quite a few "try before you buyers" on recent runs, who are most welcome. Some have taken the next step and signed up to the club and we look forward to getting to know you and your car better over the coming months.

We have yet again had some superb runs through the glorious Yorkshire countryside that we are lucky enough to live in. All the brilliant runs in this issue of the newsletter were organised by couples making their first attempt at doing so, well done to all of you.

If you fancy having a go at planning a run or a social event for next year have a word with Shirley Pickett, (that's if she hasn't collared you first!). There is a step by step guide to planning a run, and offers of help are always available.

Calling all photographers. If you've taken some photos on a run or at a social meeting please take a few minutes to upload them to our photo archive site www.yrmx5.smugmug.com.

The process is simple, visit our club website www.mx5yorkshire.co.uk and click on the heading **Photo Archive**, then scroll down and click on <http://yrmx5.smugmug.com/upload/jkwNF/recent> and follow the instructions from there on. If you have any problems contact our web master Dave Thistlethwaite (you'll find his email address in the information about him by clicking on **The Committee** on our website) as I'm sure he'll help you out. Whilst on either our website or photo archive have a good look round if you've recently joined Yorkshire Ridings, there's lots to see and find out more about us.

Well the holiday season is nearly upon us so here's hoping that some summer weather will manage to put in a more regular appearance for some topless motoring although I have to say we have been very lucky with the weather for our recent runs.

Whatever you are doing over the coming months drive safely and stay safe, enjoy your holidays and I'll see you all soon.

Rosie xx

Upcoming Events

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

Sun. 18th August – Run – Keith Lea with Wendy and Andy Henwood

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

Sun. 1st September – Run – Shirley and Tim Pickett

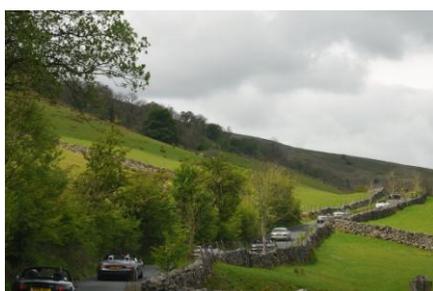
Sat.14th/Sun.15th September – National Rally - Gaydon

Vroom with a View or Two

19th May 2019

Organised by Lynn & Keith Parsons

Report by Chris Petterson



When E.M.Forster wrote his literary classic 'A Room with a View' in 1908 he could not have foreseen that Keith and Lynn Parsons, planning their first club run, would take this title, give it a clever twist, and between them create their own 'Tour de Force'. Swapping the rolling hills and countryside of Florence for the natural landscape and man-made limestone architecture of the Yorkshire Dales, with incredible views and vistas stretching as far as the eye could see. And all this splendour captured, albeit briefly, from the cockpit of 4 generations of MX5's with their numerous marks and special edition models.

But let's start at the beginning. We met at McDonald's car park, St James Retail Park, Knaresborough for breakfast and coffee. Twenty seven cars joined the run, with another, quite by accident, joining us in Knaresborough. Amongst them 4 new members including Hilary & John Catley, Peter Ashby, Jo & Martyn Hodgson and Kirsty & Paul Greenwood. A further three 'Try before you buy' participants including Liz & Ian Bottomley, Glyn Smith and Declan O'Reilly swelled our convoy. Despite low-level clouds, the air felt warm offering an invitation to go topless and a chance that it would stay dry which, apart from one brief light shower, it did.

Briefing from Keith over, we headed out towards our first comfort stop at the Yorkshire Dales Sailing Club, Grimwith Reservoir. The route took us on undulating and long uninterrupted roads, through charming villages, beautiful small towns and gentle rolling countryside that have made Nidderdale an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

We arrived at Grimwith Reservoir having made good time despite the busy roads, and with our reserved parking spot next to the clubhouse and water, we were superbly looked after by Pam and Charlotte who cheerfully run the 'Grimwith Galley'. We were provided with an impressive array of home-made cakes and buns, with prices so cheap you would question your need to ever bring your own and were treated to amazing views of boats and yachts sailing on the reservoir.

Departing Grimwith Reservoir all too soon, we split into two groups with Keith and Lynn leading one group and Tim and Shirley the other in order to safely traverse the busy and narrow roads on this leg of the run. Our destination, Castle Bolton near Leyburn in Wensleydale. Driving through spectacular and breath-taking countryside with amazing limestone architecture, dry-stone walls weaving their way across rolling hills in all directions, passing alongside rocky streams, the brooding buttress of Kilnsey Crag, crossing Buttertubs Pass and driving through delightful villages and small towns, including Hawes the highest market town in England and home to the famous Wensleydale Cheese.

A cyclist honeypot, the narrow roads and challenging hill climbs and descents attracted many cycling clubs and teams which, if not for the genius of Keith and Lynn, would have proved frustratingly difficult to navigate, and yet they somehow ensured that we were travelling in the opposite direction to the cyclists! I simply don't know how they managed that but so grateful they did! Ok, so there were one or two mavericks who decided to cycle in the same direction as us but their nuisance value was zero so all was good.

We arrived at Castle Bolton for lunch where Keith and Lynn had secured us free car parking in a lovely green space next to land reserved for wild boar and with spectacular views of the castle. Is there nothing these two can't do? Out came the picnic hampers, chairs, tables and blankets and whilst some visited the castle cafe it provided a great opportunity to talk 'shop' and just enjoy each other's company and sandwiches! All too soon we had to pack away the hampers, chairs and tables and once again put our foot down to keep up with our lead drivers.

The last leg took us from Leyburn to Masham passing Aysgarth Falls and the beautiful village of Grassington nestled amongst Upper Wharfedale's stunning scenery. The drive and descent from Lofthouse to Ramsgill and on towards Masham providing scintillating driving and breath-taking scenery with sharp bends, long undulating roads, unbroken views and next to no traffic making this a spectacular end to an amazing run. Our journey finished at The Old Station Cafe and Bistro for a final comfort break, hot drinks and a refill of cake.

Many thanks to Keith and Lynn Parsons for organising and leading such a brilliant and fun run, and to Tim and Shirley Pickett for leading the second group safely home.

A wonderful day shared with wonderful people driving wonderful cars on wonderful roads through wonderful scenery, what is there not to love?!

Hawaii MX5-0! Run

9th June 2019

Organised by Heather and Rob Witty

Report by Dave Morford

Photos courtesy of Dave Morford & Sue Duval



Question, do Yorkshire Ridings members like to dress up and have a picnic? The answer is clearly in the affirmative as 30 cars assembled at Clifton Moor, York for this run organised by Heather and Rob. Amongst this gathering were “newbies” Marjorie & Jason Wallis and Barbara & Michael Senior, together with “try before you buyers” Lisa Webb, Charlie Cromack & Pat, Diane & Andrew Ellis and Doreen & Paul Parsons.

Given the grey and damp weather of the preceding week hopes were not high but as we all know YR members are an extremely righteous group of people (ha ha) so as we collected tulip maps and complementary leis the clouds duly lifted and parted to reveal the blue above, which stayed with us for the rest of the day!

YR being a shy and retiring bunch, the pre event instructions to wear something bright were duly followed and the shades were necessary to prevent damage to retinas from some eye popping tops! We got a few smiles and waves from people passing by heading for the shops who were probably wondering where our carers had got to.

Once Rob had delivered his briefing a colourful convoy of MX5s (cars and occupants) swept out of the car park and headed round the York bypass before swinging left to follow some familiar winding roads northwards up to and over the Howardian Hills and on into the Vale of Pickering.

Once over the A170 Thirsk to Scarborough road we passed through the picturesque village of Hutton-le-Hole before climbing up onto the North York Moors for a quick blast past the still to flower heather, whilst keeping a wary eye out for errant sheep.

All too soon we were snaking down the steep twists and turns of Rosedale Chimney to scatter ourselves around Rosedale Abbey in the hunt for a parking space before making our way to the Abbey Stores and Tea Rooms by the village green for our comfort stop.

This took a little longer than anticipated due to the presence of a large group of cyclists who had arrived half an hour before we did. But with no pressing rush to make it to our final stop for a specific time, we were happy to wait to be served, the cafe staff coping admirably with two large groups of customers in a short space of time. Still we were able to pass the time chatting and watching the cyclists, having taken on some carbs for an energy boost, limbering up and doing their stretching exercises in preparation for tackling the ascent of Rosedale Chimney. Rather than me, mad fools.

Once we'd consumed coffee and delicious cakes it was time to follow the leader to our picnic destination, the village hall in Wintringham, our route taking us through the market towns of Pickering and Malton, followed by a route along winding and undulating roads through the beautiful Wolds countryside around the village of Sledmere.

Roads very familiar to me from the time I worked on farms in the area as a much younger man so I was enjoying a trip down memory lane.

The village hall proved to be an ideal location with plenty of parking and a large grassy area for everyone to set up chairs, tables etc. Plus should the weather deteriorate we would be able to adjourn indoors. Access to the kitchen enabled those who wish to do so to make a brew and Rob was able to set up a music system to add appropriate background music.

So a big vote of thanks to Heather and Rob for organising a splendid day out, greatly enjoyed by all who took part.



All Things Bright and Beautiful Run & BBQ

22nd June 2019

Organised by Dawn and John Leggott

Report by Dave Morford & Jean Phillips

Photos courtesy Dave Morford



This year's charity BBQ and run organised and hosted by Dawn and John Leggott certainly lived up to its' title. Twenty member's cars were greeted by bright blue skies and warm sunshine when they congregated at Strikes Garden Centre just north of Northallerton. Joining us for the first time were new members Ian Sadler and Janet. The lyrics of the hymn then runs "All creatures great and small" and John ran through a whole menagerie of creatures to keep a wary look out for during his briefing but as it turned out the only creature to cause any problems for us was a cyclist! Navigators were also set two additional tasks for the run; guess which was Dawn's favourite "picture postcard" view (reproduced at the bottom of the page), and identify John's favourite feature (the packhorse bridge above) in one of the numerous picturesque villages we were to pass through.

Briefing over we filed out of the car park to follow the route around the area to our comfort stop at Lordstones Country Park near the village of Chop Gate. Never straying any great distance from Northallerton or our ultimate destination for the day, the farm where Dawn and John live, the aim of the run was to show us their local countryside. And what beautiful countryside it proved to be as we skirted through the edge of the Hambleton and Cleveland hills, every bend in the road seeming to reveal another stunning view or pretty village.

Arriving at Lordstones we parked in the area set aside for wedding parties and found the outdoor area reserved for our party, to be swiftly served with our pre-ordered drinks and delicious scones and cakes. Before departing again we made our way to the ancient stone circle to take in the spectacular view which swept from Roseberry Topping, via the North Sea beyond Redcar, round to the industrial area of Teeside, though distant details were somewhat obscured by heat haze.

On then via more scenic roads to our final BBQ destination where photographer Jean recorded our arrival. Great to see Jean and Ray after such a long time, Ray looking particularly well and making steady progress since his op.

Dawn and John had hired local butchers Johnsons of Thirsk to run the BBQ and a splendid feast they put on for us. AC Keith then announced the results of the vote for car of the year, the winners of the Rob Beckwith Trophy being Shirley and Tim Pickett with their recently acquired 25th AE, to add to the trophy that they won at the Spring rally.

With regular sidekick Norma being on holiday, Shirley was joined by Maureen West to run the raffle, which raised the splendid total of £280 for this year's charity, Yorkshire Air Ambulance.

Thanks to Dawn and John for organising such an enjoyable day and getting the weather absolutely spot on.

We have a further contribution to the report on the day from Jean Phillips which I have added below, thanks very much Jean.

A lovely summers afternoon saw us driving up the A1 to Yorkshire Ridings summer BBQ, most of you know why we had to miss out on the run. Feeling one's feet is quite an apt saying, and hopefully with the progress Ray has made hopefully it won't be too long before Ray is feeling his feet again. I would like to thank everyone for welcoming us back into the fold, we thoroughly enjoyed the evening catching up with everyone. A good few laughs were had during the raffle, the irony of our prize being an Autoglym car cleaning set, the little red car not being out of the garage for a year. It is a long time since we've chatted to so many people i think our voice boxes were worn out. We both felt a bit hoarse chatting about our outing on the way home. In a lovely peaceful country setting, good food and good company was enjoyed by all. However as the evening bird song started up and with the evening chill beginning to creep over the hedgerows it was time to head for home. Thank you Dawn and John.



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