

Humpty goes to Germany

As some of you know I recently took part in a charity drive to the Nürburgring for the Forget Me Not Children's Hospice in Huddersfield. It certainly was an eventful trip for myself and my co-pilot Alex Bray. We covered over 1,400 miles, been to 4 different countries, and conquered the Nürburgring.

Here's a brief diary.



Day 1: Huddersfield to Maidstone

Our first destination after leaving the hospice was Silverstone. Unfortunately we were not allowed on the track as there was an event going on, but we did get a great team snap under the Silverstone entrance.



Next stop Brands Hatch. We didn't get on the circuit but we got the chance to watch some F3 and F4 race cars and yet another opportunity to pose for some pictures.

Day 2: Maidstone - Nürburgring

A four and a half hour journey from the Euro Tunnel through France, Belgium and Holland before our end goal, the infamous Nürburgring in Germany.

Once we got to the track we were all like kids at Christmas, some amazing cars on show and thousands of people enjoying the atmosphere. With the track tickets purchased we were ready

to go, or were we..?

We all managed to get on track, however as you can see from the pics at the start, our colleagues from UK Christmas World had decided to do the run with a Christmas tree strapped to the roof of their car. Without thinking, they pulled into the starting blocks ready to go, then comes the gentle knock on the window from an Nürburgring official who then told them they were not allowed to drive on the track with the tree on the roof, although he was very impressed with the LED Christmas lights which were lighting up the track. So with their heads down and a smile on their faces, they had to do a u-turn in front of the hundreds of amused racing fans, drive past several awaiting super cars and pull back in to the car paddock to dismantle the Christmas tree, wedge it in the back seat with Santa and get back in line!



Myself and Alex got on 'the ring'. This was the only time we had the roof up – we felt that this would add at least one second to our lap time. I did the first lap and I have to say you needed eyes in the back of your head. Unfortunately we only got one lap in as a biker had a crash and they had to close it. So off to the hotel for beer and food, then back tomorrow.

Day 3: Nürburgring - Bruges

Back to the Nürburgring. We drove through lots of fog and when we got there they shut it again! So after a couple of hours of hanging around, buying stickers and T-shirts we managed to get back on track for another lap. Alex driving this time. We only got one lap in as another biker had a crash and they had to close it again. You can see the theme here. We had two laps left to do, but time was

against us. So we said our farewells to the Nürburgring (our unused laps are valid for 3 years so we'll be back) and headed off to Bruges in Belgium which was a good 4 hours away.



Day 4: Bruges - Huddersfield

We headed back to Calais through Belgium and Holland. After the short trip on the train we were back on home soil. Now all we had left was a short 4 and a half hour drive back up't north where the finish line awaited us.

With 1,400 miles covered in 4 days, 4 different countries visited, lots of laughs and great memories, we had finally made it, the finish line was in our sights. The epic journey was complete, we had done it, we had conquered the Nürburgring.

However that's not the exciting part, the teams that have taken part in this epic journey have raised close to £14,000 for the Forget Me Not Children's Hospice, and that's what counts. It has been an amazing experience, we have met some great people, shared some laughs and have enjoyed every single minute of it. At the end of the day, we have all done this with the same goal in mind, not to conquer the Nürburgring in under 10 minutes but to raise as much money as possible for the charity that is close to our hearts, the Forget Me Not Children's Hospice.

Thanks to the great support I've had from the Peaks and Pennines. You've helped make a difference.

Mike

By Mike 'Humpty' Hall



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PEAKS & PENNINES

MX5 alive

MX-5 OWNERS CLUB

December 2015

From the drivers seat...

Twenty Fifteen is almost over, just three more events in this year's calendar! Mark, the landlord of The Queens Head will be putting on a Christmas menu for us. It needs to be pre-booked so names to Lesley by Nov 30th please if you would like to join us. The following weekend the Sunday run is to Nottingham's Christmas Market, leaving from Costa Coffee Barlborough at 2pm.

Please check the forum for any last minute changes before leaving home.

There are a few places left for our last event of the year, the club's dinner dance at The Burntwood Court. Please contact Lesley straight away if you are interested in joining us.

It seems really strange typing seasonal greetings sat in the motorhome, during a break in the racing at a very wet and extremely windswept Anglesey Circuit. Our commiserations to club member Paul Roddison, his MK4 was badly damaged after a high speed spin and finally written off after a steering part failure put him into the pit wall. I understand that he will be building another MK4 to race next season. Anyway...

Lesley and I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Safe driving.

Burton and Lesley



MX-5 OWNERS CLUB
PEAKS & PENNINES

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A new leader and the Subterranean world of Poole's Cavern

August 2015

We didn't join the group at Moorlands, but said our hello's at The Travellers Rest, Brough.

All the Yorkshire Ridings' MX-5's were meeting there for a bevy plus toilet stop. Peaks & Pennines (22 cars) also arrived after their run round to see the Well Dressings.

It was a glorious day, sun out and very warm. Yorkshire Ridings went on their way after a half hour stop. Peaks & Pennines went on a different route. It took quite a while to get out of the car park, so we didn't get the information passed for our next instructions. Five cars got split from the group. We headed towards Castleton, then up Winnats Pass towards Buxton. John took over the lead as he knew the way, we went to the back so no one else got lost. He took us onto the A6 towards Buxton, A619 towards Matlock, which eventually led us into Chatsworth.



Well done John, I am very proud of you. Next time Burton will let you lead more cars (joke!)

Yorkshire Ridings plus the rest of Peaks & Pennines had already arrived. We parked up then joined the very large circle to eat our picnic lunch. Please let me just to say, it was lovely to see Christine, it was very unexpected.

The sun was still out, but the dark clouds were gathering, so the group started making their way back to the cars.

We all said our goodbyes. It had been a good day, very warm and still no rain. The Yorkshire Ridings seem like a nice group, we will have to do it again.



October 2015

We all met at Crosspool Tavern. My role today was in the driving seat, Oh! Boy! I hope I don't get us lost, or we won't be able to keep up with them. We took our place as Anchor car at the back, but Rob stayed close so we wouldn't be left behind.

Well, we finished with 19 cars at Poole's Cavern. I felt very pleased with myself and my co-driver Trevor managed to work the walky-talky, take pictures and make notes as we went along.



But I have jumped the gun. 18 cars set off, no rain had been forecast. We made our way to Lady Bower, all through the lights. Next, Hope Village, turning right to the Vale of Edale, round the back of Mam Tor up Mam Nick, then down the other side into Chapel-En-Le-Frith where we stopped at Morrisons for a coffee break. Back on the road again we made our way through Kettlethulme, Errwood Resv, then up Goyt Valley, picking up Pat & David on the way, weaving our way past cyclists, and walkers. What fantastic views, stopping at the top to regroup and a quick natter.

Poole's Cavern is situated in Buxton. Having arrived, some of the group said their goodbyes so they could have a look around Buxton, others stayed to go down the Cavern.

A very interesting venue, thousands of years old this limestone cavern with its glistening stalactites and stalagmites. A prehistoric cave dwelling going back to Roman times. Legend tells of medieval robbers hidden treasure (unfortunately we didn't find any). We could see sculptures made by the drips and flow of the water, the famous 6ft stalactite, the frozen waterfall, a 6ft slug and many more. It was well worth a visit.

Finishing the day with a cuppa and something to eat, we thanked Burton & Lesley for organising a very enjoyable day.

The sun was still shining, so with the top down we enjoyed the hour trip home.

Thanks to Burton & Lesley for organising a couple of the brilliant trips.

Eileen



Coming soon - Drivers' wives (Clothes must be kept on)



Right! Who's set their walkie-talkie up wrong? C'mon own up!!



OK, Who wrote on Humpty's car?

Monthly social

Takes place at the Queen's Head, 12 Main Road, Ridgeway, Sheffield S12 3XR. Meetings are on the first Wednesday of every month and start around 8:15.

It would be great to see you there.
Burton & Lesley

