

# Cadwell Park Sunday 9th September 2018



**A few owners club members from the Peaks & Pennines area made the trip across Lincolnshire to the family friendly, and very picturesque motor racing circuit at Cadwell Park on Sunday 9th September.**

Saturday qualifying was very wet with difficult conditions but thankfully Sunday dawned fine and dry and stayed that way all day. An early start from home was order of the day to see the first Max5 race. Needless to say our Co ordinators, Burton & Lesley were in the paddock for the weekend with their motorhome and as always Lesley held "open house" with the kettle on constantly. Always welcome, and thank you Lesley from the P&P crowd!

The highlight of the meeting which had a varied programme of club races was to support the MX5 cars racing in their own Max5 Championship and star of the show was our very own Paul Roddison of Roddison Motorsport fame and someone very well known to most Peaks & Pennines members as he services a number of our MX5's.

Paul won both races comfortably in his Mk4 but further down the order there was close and exciting racing among the Mk3 and Mk1 cars. I am told there is promise of further Mk4 cars joining the grid next year which will be very welcome.

Paul also hosts our club "Tech" nights at his garage in Sheffield and has enlightened us this year with a number of very interesting evenings, from the shortcomings of the Mk4 gearbox in race trim to the vagaries of changes to MOT parameters introduced this year, and an interesting comparison between the MX5 Mk4 and the Fiat Spider, a car of each make on the ramps, allowing members to view at close quarters the two quite different marques.

Another great day out on roads to and from the circuit, that were made for the MX5!

Paul

## Getting to know you, Steven and Janette



Stolen! You have to go back a long way ... to October 1970, when the greatest theft perpetrated to mankind took place. To when Janette's parents upped and offed with their children to South Africa, leaving two childhood sweethearts (it all started with Janette dishing out mashed potatoes at the school dinner table where Steven was a prefect) bereft of one another's company. Tears. Now cut to the future ... to May 2014 when "Facebook" brought them together

again, and February 2016 when the sweethearts got married on Janette's 60th. More tears (happy ones). There's a plot here for a soppy, tear-jerking movie!

Steven drove his first car, a bright orange 850cc mini with gearbox from a 1300cc something-or-other, in 12-car overnight rallies, (his second was brilliant cerise, nylon-flock-coated, and drew eyes like flies to .... but that's another story) and even an unexpected meeting with the corner of a barn on a practice run didn't dampen the enthusiasm for zipping along country lanes in the dark. Young Janette though, had a bit of a thing for motorbikes, off road too. With some classics - Fiat 124 (phutt phutt), Cortina 2000 GXL (as in Life on Mars), SAAB 96 V4, BMW 2500 - and a long list of numerous others in our separate pasts, it's fair to say we've both got petrol in our veins.

We're now both semi-retired, Steven from a career as a university academic (chemistry and forensics), and Janette from a small family business in SA shipping slate across the globe. Though we both now

run a cleaning company (and that's another story) whilst more than occasionally tripping off to distant places. It's a tough life if you don't smile.

Steven's first MX5 (mk2, Jasper Conran, black, Y-plated) came along in 2004 (when he went out shopping with Natasha, his then 13 year old Daughter. Mum didn't know and wasn't too pleased!). And he's had it ever since. Natasha died unexpectedly just three months later. It's a very special car. And (now) it's a lot of fun.

Joining the MX5 owner's club didn't happen until twelve years later after Janette and I attended an event at Oulton Park, and oh boy, we've never looked back. For us both, especially Janette coming to live here in the UK after 45 years in SA, it's helped us make some wonderful new friends, and given us an opportunity to visit places on our doorstep we didn't even know existed. Thank you Burton and Lesley, and all of you for making what must surely be the best MX5 club in the UK. And thank you too (Paul) for our second (yes we have two!) pre-loved MX5 (mk3) - the bright red one with white wheels. It's another head turner and helped turn one of young Janette's dreams - to live in the city and drive a fast sports car - to come true. And the other - to marry her childhood sweetheart - well, we know how that's turned out. Don't we?!



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December 2018

# MX-5 alive

## From the drivers seat...

**As this will be the last insert in Soft Top Hard Top of the year it is a good opportunity to look back on the last six months of the year, and think about our events in 2019.**

**I am not going to give a long write up on each event, they have had comprehensive reports in our own newsletter, back copies of which can be found on our website.**

Unfortunately Lesley and I were unable to attend to the Spring Rally at Goodwood as we were busy packing for our forthcoming Mediterranean cruise, you had sun and 20 degrees, we had rough seas and 12 degrees!

- On May 5 a few P&P members had competitive day at the Curborough Sprint Circuit.
- May 6th saw a sizeable number of MX5's attend the Sports Cars in the Park event at Newby Hall, followed by a late afternoon meal in Pickering. By popular request we will attend this event next year.
- A record number of members displayed their cars at S & H's Hope Motor Show on June 11th.
- June 17th saw P&P members driving into Staffordshire and picnicking at the Moira Furnace, followed by a short canal boat trip.
- The Woodhall Spa 40's Weekend was my favourite event of the year, we were stopping there over the weekend. Paul Graham lead a run across to our own private parking area on the outskirts of the town, Lesley's mobile greasy spoon was open offering tea, coffee and biscuits to the thirsty arrivals. If you want to know more, have a look at the report and pictures our web site. All who attended are keen to go back, who knows, there may even be a appearance by our celebrity super star, Andy, the day was finished with a few beers and BBQ back at the campsite.
- On Aug 7th Paul Roddison kindly hosted a second TEK night where the subject was the Mazda Mk4 v Fiat Spider, followed by the obligatory buffet curry.
- Our August 11th finishing point was somewhere different, BSC Scunthorpe's plant where we had a reserved coach all to ourselves on the Preserved Steam Railway.
- The new location of the Carding Shed Cafe was the coffee stop on our September run, we were made very welcome at this atmospheric location. After a run across the moors our finishing venue was the David Mellor Complex in Hathersage, where we had an interesting and enlightening factory tour.

- September 29th Black Country Living Museum, 11 members visited this interesting museum, and stayed overnight at The Village Hotel, Dudley, which was extremely good value for money at £85.00 D B&B. Before we went onto the MX5 Owners Club National Rally at Ragley Hall, where 10 cars from the P&P area joined us for the day. A very impressive, well organised event, with over 2000 cars attending, some came across specially from Europe.
- The October run had a lot crammed into a few hours, a trip down memory lane at the coffee stop at The Antiques Centre Budby, followed by an educational few hours at Pleasley Pit Museum, then Ten Pin Bowling in Chesterfield, followed by an excellent Carvery at the Riverside Restaurant in Chesterfield.
- And onto the events which have been organised before the end of the year. Last run of the year is to Hardwick Hall NT (more glass than wall) the house will be dressed for Christmas.

A Festive Fayre Menu will be available at our last Social meeting of the year in Nov. And the Christmas Dinner Dance at Wortley Hall now fully booked, with a waiting list.

**On to 2019. What do members want? Already planned!**

- MX5 Spring Rally April 30th. I am planning a 2 day event based at Stableside on the outskirts of York.
- Wales 2019, Unfortunately Trevor Walker says that this will be his 7th and last time organising this event.
- Woodhall Spa 40's weekend, exclusive, private parking has been negotiated.
- Sports cars in the Park, I have already told the organisers that we are attending.
- A joint meet with the surrounding Owners Club Areas in June somewhere in the Lower Derwent Valley, either at The Bakewell Showground or at Rowsley Station with reduced cost rides into Matlock on the Steam Train.
- And for those who work on Sunday, a Saturday Run, the Thirsk / Mouseman Furniture Trail?
- Lastly one for those who are not watching their figure, Cadbury World?

Please let me know your thoughts?

Safe driving

Burton and Lesley

Is your's as big as Andy's?  
And does size really matter?

After recently appearing in The Full Monty, Peaks and Pennines own babe magnet Andy reveals all (again!)



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## Pit Stop & Bowling

**Today I was in the driving seat. No time for a chat on the walkie-talkie. But when it was safe to do so, I did manage to say few words. Can't keep me quiet all together.**

20 cars met at the Stock yard, a cool but clear day. Having asked Burton to put on the soft pedal we made our way through Maltby, Blyth, towards Retford, we did a lovely little TOOTLE through Clumber Park. Still keeping in convoy we reached the Antiques Centre and coffee stop. It was like an Aladdins cave, full of memorabilia. Not enough time to have a good look around, but I am sure we will be calling again.

The sun was still shining as we made our way through Edwinstow, Warsop, Shirebrook, soon to reach Pleasley Pit our second stop.

Pleasley Pit produced coal for 110 years, owned by Florence Nightingale's family in the year 1873. A lot of the pit was demolished, but what we see to day was restored and saved by The Land Trust and loyal volunteers. The engine house roof and chimney has been restored also the headstock and engine house, still has its steam winders. The first Pit to have electricity underground.

Pleasley is also a Nature Park, being able to walk the paths to view the wild Sand Martins, Dragon Fly Ponds, Damselflies and many more butterflies.

The cafe was a welcome sight, a bacon butty or chips would do just fine. BUT!! When it came to order NO hot stuff was left, someone had eaten it all, (no names mentioned ) so I had to settle for a packet of crisps.

Our time was up, next stop, Chesterfield Bowling Alley.

We said our goodbyes to the group that had only done the run, (love your new MX5 Andy & Carol)

17 bowlers decided to have a go, a good time was had by all. Plenty of strikes and plenty of misses. Some feeling bad knees, arms, thumbs, But a little kiss made all the pain go away.

WELL DONE TO ALL THE WINNERS.

I must point out that the 1st lady and 1st gent were husband and wife.

- 1st lady Nicola - 191, 2nd lady Margarite -169
- 1st gent Steve Borwell - 252, 2nd gent Rob - 226

Last but not least

- Fiona 126, Roy 179

Well done to all those that took part.

Our day was not yet over. Our next and final stop was Riverside Pub, for a very welcome meal.

It was a brilliant meal, a very large room just for the MX5. Our thanks to Burton&Lesley for a very interesting run, and a lovely venue for our meal.

Also thanks to Trevor Allkins (my husband) for organising the Bowling.

A GOOD DAY WAS HAD BY ALL

Eileen

## National Rally - Sunday 30th September

**The highlight of the year for many Owners Club members the length and breadth of the UK is to assemble and attend the two major rallies of the year, the Spring Rally, held this year at the iconic Goodwood Motor Racing Circuit and the even bigger National Rally. This time held at Ragley Hall in Warwickshire, a private stately home set in 450 acres of gardens and parkland, it's own wonderful grounds a perfect setting for the "National".**

For any member who has never experienced this event, I urge you to at least "tick the box" once and make a point of visiting. The sight of 2000 plus MX5 cars, all models and all colours from all points of the UK assembled and parked together at the same time in the same place is a very special sight and equally as enjoyable is to meet and talk with like minded members about their areas and their beloved cars, and testament to their enthusiasm!

The owner's of Ragley Hall, it is the ancestral seat of the Marquess of Hertford, arranged conducted tours of the house for members which was very interesting. The house has been in the family for centuries and they still live there and call it home.

The house commands a wonderful position atop a hill with sweeping stone staircases both left and right of the frontage. Laid out in front of the house and down the hill as far as the eye could see was the Rally made up of everything MX5!!

A group of members assembled early on Sunday morning at the "truckstop" and travelled directly to the Rally, but twelve of us went down on Saturday morning and spent the day visiting the "Black Country Living Museum" at Dudley. What a great day out this is!!! The weather was warm and sunny and everyone enjoyed the visit, which takes you back to yesteryear... Every building on site which can be likened to a mini "Beamish" has been painstakingly demolished from areas within the famed Black Country and assembled piece by piece on site!! A Wonderful re-creation!

Burton and Lesley had sourced a very reasonable deal for dinner, bed and breakfast close to the museum, were we had a very enjoyable evening before Burton led us off after breakfast and down the M5 to Ragley Hall and the Rally.

Another fantastic weekend for Peaks & Pennines members.... Roll on 2019!

Paul



### Antiques meet antiques (which is the older?)



### The bowling elite (well not really)



### The Peaks and Pennines finest throwing their balls, sorry bowls...



## Monthly meeting

Come and meet this bunch of oddballs at the The Rockingham Arms, 8 Main St, Wentworth, Rotherham S62 7TL.

We'll be alternating the meetings between the first Wednesday and Thursday of every month. Please keep checking the forum for any last minute changes.

We'll start around 8:15 when everybody has finished eating. We'd love to see you there and you'll be made very welcome!