



August 2019

MX-5 alive

## From the drivers seat...

**Ten years ago in July, Bill our French Area Co-ordinator changed jobs and moved down south. I was invited to become one of the AC's for the Peaks and Pennines Area, Lesley joined me as an AC shortly after Jill stood down, so what has been achieved since then?**

Firstly the average number of cars out on the Sunday runs has gone from under 10 to 15 to 25.

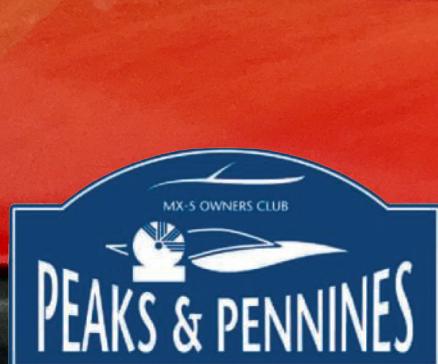
The number of members attending the Social Meetings has gone from 5 or 6 couples to up to 50 members and visitors, the number of members who have registered to be in the Peaks and Pennines area hit 200 for the first time in May! We are now in danger of having to move our meetings from the restaurant to the barn banqueting suite at The Rockingham Arms.

I have tried to take the Sunday runs to interesting places each month, without repeating the routes used. On the P&P website there is a list of the places we have been to, and the places I propose to visit. It is still being added to, a big thank you to the members who have brought me information about venues they have found.

So what of the future? The area has grown too large for myself and Lesley to organise without help. I am proposing to set up a steering group. This will consist of members who have already organised or are going to organise events. The group will meet 3 or 4 times a year to discuss the proposed events and runs, more about this at the next meeting.

In the meantime safe driving.

Burton and Lesley



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# *Sports cars in the park*

**13 cars set off from Silkwood Business Park and were later joined at Newby Hall by our party of 3.**

After queuing to get into the venue for over an hour and a half we all parked together in the MX5 show area.

Newby Hall is one of Britain's finest Adams Houses and is the family home of Mr & Mrs Richard Compton an exceptional example of 18th century interior decoration. Built in the 1690's by Sir Christopher Wren, the house was later enlarged and adapted by John Carr and subsequently Robert Adams.

The park was full of super sports cars all highly polished and admired by the public. All displayed in their groups, to name but a few. Fiat Abarth, Ford owners club, Lamborghini Aventador, Ferrari, Aston Martin and the best in show Mazda MX5s .

After our picnic 6 cars set off for a further run to Whitby, on the most scenic of roads. A steep run up and down Sutton Bank, through the picturesque villages of Helmsley, Keldholme and Hutton-Le-Hole, then over the top of the North Yorkshire Moors and Rosedale Chimney.

We arrived in Whitby a Yorkshire seaside town which is split by the river Esk on the east cliff overlooking the North Sea.

The ruined Gothic Whitby Abbey was Bram Stokers inspiration for "Dracula". Whitby is also known for holding Goth weekends where every one dresses up in outrageous outfits.

We ate at Mister Chip's fish & chip restaurant, they were delicious. After a short walk through the cobbled streets we had to partake in a quick drink before setting off back home.

With thanks to Mike & Sharon, Andy & Marie for organising this day a great time was had by all.

*Card x*



# Derbyshire at it's best

**The run with Alan and Christine at the helm started from Moorlands, was short but very, very SWEET.**

13 cars set off with lovely sunshine, 2 cars did join up with us, I car all the way from Newcastle.

Heading towards Castleton and Hathersage, the sun was shining with plenty of other traffic out for the day. Turning up Sheering Hill, taking us off the main road heading up to the Norfolk Arms, over the moors with views to die for, we could see for miles. Fortunately Gary and Claire waited at a junction, or we would have gone straight past.

Thanks for that. MX etiquette. As we headed into Castleton, Alan waited to regroup, all the traffic were holding things up. Passing Speedwell Cavern heading towards Edale. The amount of push bikes on the road was making driving very slow, I was getting very sick of LYCRA.

Coming down Mamtor and heading back into Castleton, 3 back markers were held up with traffic, we were separated from the group so Rob (good old Rob) put the postcode in the satnav so we made our way to Yondermans Cafe, on arrival the group were all waiting for us. After a hearty breakfast, (not everybody was a PIG) we made our way to Eyam. Parking up we all walked through the very pretty stone built houses, shops. In the 1600s many people died of the plague. A very enjoyable coffee at the village shop, then a slow walk back to the cars. Time to say our goodbyes.

Thank you so much Alan for a lovely run from all the MX5 group. Looking forward to the next.

We never get tired of Derbyshire.

Eileen



## A big thank you

Lisa Turan CEO of The Child Brain Injury Trust receives the donations from Roddo and Burton.

The additional money raised by members of Peaks and Pennines at their monthly meeting, brought the total amount raised for the Trust to over £4000.00.

Our sincere thanks to all who contributed.



## 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!

# The Mk 4 - To Buy or Not to Buy, or How to Spot a Lemon

Another Rodders Special Night Out - By our very own newly crowned technical reporter, Steve 'white wheels' Dobrowski

Now then you readers, I've not done one of these before, so if it's not technical enough, you can either forgive the ramblings, or write the next one yourself. Deal?

So, here goes .... We - that's me, and Janette, yes indeed, one of the fair ladies amongst us, the Peaks and Pennines MX5 Club that is, have been to almost all of Paul Roddison's TEK Nights ("TEK", aka "technical" for the "we speak proper English" amongst us, and "Nights" as in after 6 pm) in the past couple of years. Keeping up?

Well, if you were to attend one of these TEK nights as around 15 of us did on this occasion, you'd be able to wouldn't you? Previously, it's been "How to Fail an MOT", easy when you're over 60, or own a red MK 3 with white wheels (only joking), "Mazda Mayhem and the crappy - just another techie term - Mk 4 Gearbox?", "How to keep your car from going off the

road" or more precisely "Tyres, Tracking and Balancing", and "Knitting for Beginners". Or maybe I just dreamed this last one! Burton? And the June 2019 issue, "How to Spot a Lemon when Buying a Mk 4".

Well, even though we were not looking to buy, this last one caught our attention not least because a year or two back, Rodders had been pretty much slating the marque because of its gear box (or was I dreaming this one too?). Well, without going anywhere near a spanner, Paul went through the moving parts - the engine (which doesn't use or lose any oil), the limited slip diff. (which doesn't need a lot of oil), the gear box (which, now on its nth - I think it's the 4th or 5th iteration, is now perfectly OK for the typical road user), and a few other bits too. But hold on there, he did do something with a spanner and took a LSD apart to show how it worked.

And didn't Alan (Round) do well, eh? He got a freebee with Paul's very, very, very secret oil squirted into his diff. (and no, that's not a techie euphemism!). All in all it was yet another good TEK night, and now we all know what to look for when buying a Mk 4.

Good on ya, Paul.



## Getting to know you, Steve and Nicola

I've been a club member since I bought my Mk3 MX5 1.8 SE back in the summer of 2016. I've had a variety of cars since I learnt to drive from a 1.0 Nissan Micra, Peugeot 205 1.9 GTi, Vauxhall Frontera Sport Convertible (my first venture into soft top driving – yes it was a 4x4), Honda Civic 1.6 VTi, various company cars, shared Nicola's Mini Cooper, Seat Ibiza FR 2.0 TDi, Audi A1 2.0 TDi Black Edition S Line and finally we get to the 5, and what fun it has been. Various Sunday runs with the club, 3 trips to Wales and regular runs to the east coast to see both sets of parents.

It's our daily driver so we are averaging about 30k miles a year. I kept it stock for a year, then added the Go Perform backbox, centre pipe and de-cat after sitting behind Andy's 5 on a run to Quarry Hill. The alloys were next to go as they were absolutely shot and a different make of tyre on each corner. So shiny new 17" rims and matching tyres were added along with Tein coilovers to drop the car 40mm.

So enough about the car and my car history, Nicola and I have been together for 19 years, married for 6. We met at the Travellers Rest pub on Harewood Avenue. The pub was the Friday night hangout for a group of us and Nicola was there with a couple of friends. A mutual friend worked behind the bar so even though he wouldn't give Nicola my number he was quick to part with hers for me. We have lived together around the Leeds area till we got married, then found the house we are in now in Millhouse Green.

I proposed to Nicola back in April 2011 at the top of the Great Orm where Nicola was more interested in taking pictures than what I was trying to do. Happily she said yes and we got married on 20th April 2013 and honeymooned in Jamaica. During our 19 years together we have been fortunate to visit some great places around the world, doing some amazing excursions along the way – Tunisia, Dominican Republic, Cuba, Egypt, West coast of Mexico, and most recently the East coast of Mexico for our holidays. An overseas driving holiday is definitely one that needs to be done in the 5.

For my sins I work as the IT Manager at a own brand company that manufactures first aid products for the major supermarkets and pharmacies, whilst Nicola works as a Buyer of ingredients for Tangerine Confectionery which means she can bring me lots of sweets home to satisfy my need for sugar.



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Newsletter

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