

January 2020

MX-5 alive

From the drivers seat...

The events calendar for 2020 is falling into place nicely, since the last newsletter a new overnight venue which offers excellent value for money has been tried and tested in the Cotswolds, it is close to the centre of Morton in Marsh. By the time this newsletter comes through your letterbox the details will have been finalised.

Our Inter Area Meeting in June will be a return to The Trolley Bus Museum at Sandtoft, this year the East Yorkshire Thoroughbred Club will be showing their cars in the display arena.

The P&P Area has been invited to display their cars at the Yorkshire Motorsport Festival on the outskirts of Holmfirth, the organisers tell me it is going to be a 'three day event of motorsport and family entertainment in the heart of Yorkshire'.

Details of the Clubs National Rally has now been published in Soft Top hard Top, it is going to be on The Claydon Estate on Sunday July 5th, because of this our run to the see Victoria and Alexandra in the Ellenroad Engine House Steam Museum has been moved to November.

Weather permitting, Lesley and I plan to visit the Masham area to find suitable accommodation for our proposed run to see the Scarecrows and visit The Forbidden Corner in early February, we could well also check out Theakstons Brewery! It would be rude not to!

As usual full details will be on the Peaks and Pennines website.

Safe driving.

Burton and Lesley

Transport Festival 2019

Twenty cars set off from The Stockyard at Bramley.

The sun was shining, something the forecast didn't say. After enjoying our first drink (not to mention bacon butty's) we made our way through Maltby, Tickhill, Bawtry and many more sleepy villages. Alex decided to join us making 21.

The autumn weather, now with us, making the trees look fantastic with all different colours, especially with the sun still out. Crossing the River Trent and paying our 40pence at the Toll Bridge, we made our way to Doddington Hall. By now we had lost the sun and the sky showing dark clouds.

Our leader decided he needed to make a call opposite Doddington Hall, so like obedient little chicks we all followed. Causing mayhem in a very full car park with MX5 drivers trying to do a U TURN. Back on the road we then made our way to the Teal Industrial Estate. There we caught an old Double Decker Bus to the Vintage Bus Museum on the outskirts of Lincoln.

I was totally gob smacked to see so many people interested in old buses. The museum had many stalls with so much memorabilia, boxes of old buses, cars, books, video's, pictures, every thing for the keen enthusiast to buy. Outside, old cars were parked ready for people to sit inside and drool over, THE GOOD OLD DAYS.

We caught one of the old double Decker buses into Lincoln, having a coffee and a walk around (and the sun once more came out) we then got on a single old bus to take us back to the museum.

All the staff at the museum were volunteers, They took the ONO 59 bus all over the world, driving all the way to India, then shipping it to Australia, New Zealand and then across the Pacific Ocean to the Americas then back to New York over 2 years and 120,000 miles later finishing in Southend where the trip began.

It had been a lovely relaxing day, another double decker took us back to our cars ready to start the short journey to The Pyewipe Inn just outside Lincoln. Burton and Lesley had made reservations for us to have our evening meal.

A good meal was had by all. Paul stood up and we all showed our appreciation to thank Burton and Lesley for another great day out. They work so hard just to make our day go smooth.

Darkness had descended so we all said our goodbye's

Thanks once again Burton and Lesley from all P&P members.

Eileen



Shugborough Hall

Winter is now upon us, damp, cold, frosty, but no rain or snow. Fifteen cars set off from the Moorlands Pub.

The drive went very smoothly. Making our way towards Bakewell, past Haddon Hall, Longfield, past Tissington Ford, passing through Ashbourne. At one bit it did start to rain but at the same time the sun was trying to get out, such funny weather.

Getting through Ashbourne with no problems, we headed towards Fairway Garden Centre for our coffee stop. A lovely drink and plenty of choice to eat. The only downside, not enough time to look around the beautiful decorated shop with all their xmas stock.

Taking to the road again, we soon entered the estate of Shugborough Hall, bathed in blue sky and sunshine. WOW. Shugborough Hall is one listed mansion, and 900 acres of land. formerly owned by Lord Litchfield, a cousin of the Queen. Who passed away in 2005. In the 1500 it was owned by the bishops of Litchfield past down several hands until it was bought by William Anston a lawyer in 1624. When William died he left it to his 2 sons. Thomas and George.

George was a sea faring man, he sailed all over the world, plundering treasure ships, by the time he died he was worth £91' 000, which he left to his brother.

Thomas also travelled the world bringing back antiques, sculptures, and art. The money his brother left went towards landscaping the grounds. Currently managed by Staffordshire county Council leasing the estate (90 year lease) to The National Trust in 1966 then in 2016 NT took it over after paying £20'5m over a period of 3 years to restore to its present state.

It was another brilliant day out. Thanks to Burton & Lesley who work so hard to make it.

Thanks from all the group.

Eileen



Holiday Inn 2019

On behalf of MX5 club I would like to thank Steve & Nicola for organising and doing an excellent job on booking and sorting out our Christmas dinner dance at the Holiday Inn, Barnsley (before Brooklands).

The meal was excellent, served quick, piping hot, and the meat and vegetables were cooked PERFECT. They had a great band, playing all the good songs. The dance floor was packed with people having a good time. Decibels were a bit high but the music was good. We stayed the night, the rooms were very clean, warm, pillows to choose from, hard or soft. Our breakfast was also enjoyable, everything a full English should be.

It was a pity we couldn't do it justice as still full from the night before. Thanks once again to Steve & Nicola for a perfect venue.

Eileen



Getting to know you, Paul & Margaret

I have been a "Petrolhead" from an early age, always had an interest in cars and mechanics since before I was old enough to drive. I passed my test first time when I was seventeen and there was no looking back!... I was 22 years old when I met Margaret and had enjoyed my Lambretta scooter and nights out at the legendary "King Mojo Club" in Sheffield as part of the local "Mod" scene. I was lucky enough to see all the famous Tamla Motown artists live at the club, and 1964 - 1967 hold very special memories for me.

I was working on the railway as a booking clerk at Wombwell (West) station and living at home in Elsecar, 1967 and a promotion to Divisional Manager's Office, Doncaster was offered. Margaret lived and worked in Doncaster and she was Telephone Exchange Supervisor for British Rail Doncaster area, and it was on a train journey from Doncaster to London that a mutual friend introduced us. That was "In the Summer of 69" (I feel a song coming on!). I later asked her out for a date and that was the start of a wonderful relationship! We married in January 1973 and bought a house in Thorpe Hesley a village in which we still live.

I had always followed motor racing from the days in the 60's when I attended race meetings. We made a visit to a Kart Circuit practice session in August 1975, and I was offered the opportunity to drive a machine!.... There was no turning back after that experience... for anyone who has not done any motorsport racing it is hard to explain the sheer adrenalin rush that takes hold!! I enjoyed five great years racing myself with total support from Margaret who travelled the length and breadth of the country to every event with me. Friday night she would come home from work and "tip up" her wage to help pay for the weekend racing!. I had factory support for the chassis but the tyre war for constant new rubber made it very prohibitive with a young family on the way and I stopped racing myself in 1979.

We have two beautiful daughters, Claire the eldest was born in 1978 while I was still racing, and they have now given us four lovely grandchildren, the youngest are twins at 16 months old. One girl and one boy. And we love spending as much time as possible with them.



Before long, at the start of the 1980 season, I was approached for my knowledge and experience by a prominent member of the Great Britain Kart team to support and mechanic for him at race meetings. We travelled on the continent and competed in World Championship events. I later ran teams myself in Karting, later Formula Ford 1600 and Formula Ford 2000 running a driver in two National Championships in 1986 and 1987. At that time I was working for his father in the family Plastering and External Wall Insulation business as his Company Secretary and "dovetailed" the race series along with driving the business forward! (hence my grey hair!) Another interest of mine is playing golf I was both Golf Club Captain, and Captain of all Captains in the Society of Sheffield Golf Captains, positions I was very proud to hold. Margaret has always supported me 100% in all of my pastimes, but her love is gardening. Hence our visits to numerous Garden Centres, and I make a first class labourer!

We both had varied careers and after retirement at the end of 2010 looking for something different, we fancied a two seater sports car. One day driving past Paul Roddison's garage on my way to play golf, my head was turned by a beautiful True Red MX5 Mk 3 for sale! On my way home I stopped to enquire and was offered a test drive. I went home immediately for Margaret to tell her of my "find" and together we viewed and after the test drive decided this gorgeous little number was for us. That was 1st July 2013 and our love affair with the "5" started! We had great fun in the car before joining the Owners Club and Peak & Pennines at the "National" Donington Park in September 2016. We attended our first social at the "Rockingham Arms" at the beginning of October 2016, and were made so welcome by Burton & Lesley who are great co ordinators and makes all of us very fortunate to have their leadership. We have made so many great friends since joining, and love the monthly runs and weekend away. Along the way I added the "White Wheels" to our little red number! Which caused quite a stir within the club at the time, but we loved them!

We attended the "National" Rally at Gaydon in 2017, with no intention of changing the car. I saw a Mk3.5 2 litre Kuro special edition in Mica Red for sale at the show, with a BBR 200 bhp tuning kit, exhaust / suspension package fitted. I bought it there and then!! and what a fantastic car it is to drive.

We had always wanted to take the car on the Continent and in August/September 2019 we toured Europe in the "5's" along with Steven and Jeanette and had 4 amazing weeks visiting 6 countries, the Alps and the Alpine passes were amazing, and travelled 3100 miles, the roof down and endless sunshine for all but two days! a truly amazing adventure we shall never forget! We have driven the North Coast 500 route in Scotland on three different occasions now in both cars and never tire of the route. Those Highland roads were made for the MX5.

Now the appetite has been whetted.. What next... well I think the Wild Atlantic Way, a route down the West Coast of Ireland sounds amazing !!

Paul & Margaret

Monthly meeting

Come and meet Cosme along with all the fun bunch in this edition 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!



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Newsletter

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