



WELCOME TO THE Y TYPE NEWSLETTER



THE 22nd SPRING RUN AND WEEKEND MAY 5-6 2019

Jo flags the Y Types off!

It's staggering to realise that the Spring Run is the 22nd that the Register has organised since 'The Birth of the Y' held to celebrate the Golden Anniversary of the Y series, which were first built at Abingdon on March 17 1947.

Dennis Doubtfire, then our Secretary, asked me if I would organise an event to celebrate this. That was the first such 'project' that I had undertaken for the Register. From recollection,



Sue silk looks a tad cold as Mike gets ready for the off... but where is his hat?

we drew together 47 cars from across England and Wales. Whilst it was a great success, I had naively assumed that the navigators would be able to read an extract from an Ordnance Survey map. Wrong! I stood by a junction on the Fosse Way expecting a number of cars to pass through. None arrived, though eventually the rest came through in dribs and drabs! After that, I discovered the wonders of the *Tulip Diagram*. So much easier! This followed a request from Dennis to "do one next year please!" Along with dear old Richard Dick we arranged the next ten routes, whilst Jo and I did the rest. Finally, in 2012, I announced that we were doing no more and asked for a volunteer. Minutes after that our current Chairman, Chris Callaghan, came forward and suggested Annette and himself as possible organisers. Of course, I was very pleased to accept their kind offer.

Spring Runs and the emergence of the Spring Weekend

In the early years of the 'Run', it was just that. Many owners travelled not only considerable distances but also combined their day with a stay at a B and B the night before. It took me some while to appreciate that arranging an overnight stay before the run would be welcomed and allow greater time for folk to get together.





We used the Silver Jubilee in 2007 for this and through contacts chose the Charlecote Pheasant Hotel in Charlecote, Warwickshire. The Hotel kindly agreed to let us start and finish the run from there. We had great interest and had some 49 cars booked in, with a couple also entering on the Sunday. The evening meal was a great success but the weather was dreadful the following day, though everyone made a great effort. Several cars didn't make it on the day through failures and many made their way home after the initial photo-call and start of the run.



2019: Cricklade House and Sudeley Castle

Chris and Annette have done a great job in arranging suitable venues and runs and this year was no exception. Whilst a few regulars were committed to other Bank Holiday events, we all enjoyed an excellent evening with over 40 guests in attendance.



A few of the Y Types at the start

After dinner awards

After the Spring Run Dinner, Chris Callaghan announced some awards:

*The Dennis Doubtfire Award for the 'Car of the Year'**

For the greatest distance travelled and events attended in a Y between May 2017 and summer 2018

Jo and Jerry Birkbeck

European Event of the Year in Portugal, Isle of Wight and other events.

(Covering nearly 4,000 miles in their YT)

Castle, near Winchcombe. They also decided to hold the awards for 'The YA, YB and YT' that the participants would like to take home with them. There were 22 Ys present and, sadly, Nick Rowell's Y had a breakdown on the way to Cricklade, whilst

Jerry and Jo Birkbeck's YT was in Barnsley having an engine overhaul.

The NTG Cup for YAs was awarded to Roy Clapham's excellent two-tone model.

The Mollie Murray 'Caring Hands' Award

Selected by Mollie (the wife of the late and much-loved former Registrar Jack Murray) to the person or persons who have provided help and guidance to fellow Y Type owners across the world

Sue and Mike Silk
For their excellent and outstanding service in running and developing the rare products that other sources do not provide and forwarding them across the world.



Mike and Sue Silk's superb award winning MG YT

The Spring Run

Chris and Annette had arranged an interesting route of 35 miles to Sudeley



The Bill Atkinson Cup for YBs went to Alan Chick and his beautiful maroon car, formerly owned by his late uncle Alan (Chick) and a regular attendee at the Spring Runs.

The YT Cup went to Mike and Sue Silk's stunning YT which they have owned since 1971.

Special thanks to Chris and Annette for organising a very successful weekend.



Garry Gibb accepts the Piston Broke Award!



Alan Chick collects the Bill Atkinson Award for the YB from Chris Callaghan



Ys gather ready for the off



A lineup of Ys get inspected before starting the Spring Run

OWNERS' YS



Slater Reynolds stunning MG YA

A couple of brief notes about owners' cars, forwarded to me recently.

Slater Reynolds' YA (GL 9899)

Slater's Y 0330 has been in family ownership since May 20 1957, when it was purchased by his mother. It is a very early model, being first registered on May 16 1947. It had a body off rebuild between 1999 and 2002, when the engine and gear box were also rebuilt. Slater has used the Y regularly and is a long-standing attendee of the Spring Weekends and participated in the Round Britain Relay in 2017, marking the 70th Anniversary of the Y. It also appeared as a marquee representative at MGLive! in 2007 to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of the Y and again at MGLive! in 2017 on the Register Stand. The photograph shows GL9899 participating in the Kimber Trial in 2003, and why not?

Sadly, Slater and Sally, who downsized recently and have no additional garage space to store the YA, are reluctantly looking to sell this wonderful car that has been part of Slater's life for 62 years! Details can be supplied by contacting me by email or phone (information is on the header at the beginning of this Newsletter).

Alan Chick's YB (HKG 16)

Alan's YB 1274, constructed on May 2 1953, was purchased by Alan's uncle Alan (also Chick!) in 1959. Alan Senior had the car extensively rebuilt in the 1990s and used it on high days and holidays. Over the years it has appeared at nearly all the Y Register events both in the UK and abroad. Alan was accompanied for many years by his friend Mary. However, in recent years Alan was accompanied by a new driver, nephew Alan, and on his uncle's sad death in 2016 'young Alan' was left the YB. 'AJ', as I will call him for clarity (!), has maintained the car fastidiously and uses it regularly... and not just for popping down to the pub! It appeared on the MGCC Stand at the Classic Car Show in November 2017 and drew some very favourable comments.



Slater's YA participating in the 2003 Kimber Trial

At the Spring Weekend he opened the sun roof of the car, wound down the windows and all present were entertained by some 1940s swing and jazz music appropriate to the era of the car. All provided through a USB stick! Alan also has a wind-up gramophone to play suitable records from the 40s and 50s. Very atmospheric!



Alan and Alan with YB1274

AGM 2019

In recent years we have found it far more sensible to arrange the AGM on the Saturday of the Spring Weekend. There is always the chance of a reasonable attendance.

The following were re-elected:

Chairman	Chris Callaghan
Secretary	Peter Sharp
Treasurer	Mike Longman
Technical	Neil Cairns
Website & Facebook	Peter Vielvoye
Shop	Mike and Sue Silk*
	<i>(A potential replacement is in the pipeline)</i>
Scribe & Events	Jerry Birkbeck
Committee (without portfolio) ..	Maggie and Paul Grafham, Fran Smith

OTHER NEWS

Peter Vielvoye's YB will be appearing on TV later in the year, being one of the cars used in the *Father Brown* series. I will ask Peter to advise us when it will be seen