

## Shropshire Group's Report for TR Action 319

It has been quite a busy end to the year for the Shropshire Group. November began with our Autumn Run on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup>. 22 cars assembled at Salop Leisure, Shrewsbury for a drive along the top of the Long Mountain which effectively separates our part of England from Wales and provides great views. A stop was made at Powis Castle Gardens where the Acers were particularly spectacular. The congestion caused by the craft fair at a nearby garden centre caused some ingenious re-routing through Welshpool! Peter Napier obtained permission for us to drive along The Avenue at Linley Hall. This mile-long oak lined avenue is closed to the public and the owner asked that we make charitable donation. £80 was collected for the Lingen Davies Centre in Shrewsbury. The day concluded with a hearty meal at The Crown Inn in Wentnor.

A few Shropshire members attended the TR AGM at Sywel. We all thought this was one of the most positive and encouraging AGMs of the last few years.

Our Club Night on the 19<sup>th</sup> November was again very well attended. There will be no Club Night in December and the next one will be on Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> January. February's Club Night, on the 18<sup>th</sup> will be the Group AGM.

The annual Christmas Bash, aka The Turkey Trot, was held on 1<sup>st</sup> December. We drove from Battlefield, to the north of Shrewsbury, through Ironbridge to the Christmas Market at Apley Farm. This is the first time we have attended this event and it was excellent. The second part of the run touched the outskirts of the Black Country with the intention of a fast drive home along the "Rabbit Run" which is the back route between Telford and Dudley. However, the road was closed just after Wombourne and cars split off in various directions as each driver knew the "best way". Miraculously we all arrived at Houghton Hall within about 5 minutes of each other! We had a very good Festive Lunch followed by the usual "Secret Santa" distribution of presents. There was, of course, our fiendish quiz which was won by the team of Gordon & Sheena Grant and Diane Heaton.

Sadly, we said goodbye to Ken Rudge who passed away suddenly on 18<sup>th</sup> November. Ken was a long-standing member of the Shropshire Group and was actively and enthusiastically involved in Group events for many years. Ken and his wife, Diane, were stalwarts of the Shropshire Weekends, serving food to the campers from the luxury of their caravan. He was a thoroughly nice man who will be sorely missed. Our thoughts go out to Diane and the family.

For details of 2020 events please see our website at:

[www.tr-register.co.uk/group,shropshire](http://www.tr-register.co.uk/group,shropshire) .