

BLOG April 2013 : by Jerry Filor

Bit of a strange one this, only 4 minis with 5 members aboard headed out to Cottesmore. The final destination was the Sun Inn hostelry in the centre of the village. It was expected that more people would be turning up to pay their karting deposit. As it is I think if the Karting is to go ahead (which at the time of writing was a faint possibility) you need to dash round to Garys house with your £10....or five of us will be driving two karts each on the night and Gary will definitely win.

NEWSFLASH : Karting now cancelled due to lack of numbers.....next club night will be a mystery run from the GHW.

Back to the night.....I'm sure by now you have noticed differences in the club website. Jon has now registered the web domain : www.miniwanderers.co.uk and started to rebuild the website with "cloud hosting" (whatever that is !). What it means for us, as a club, is the opportunity to update it regularly ! He has populated the pages with a basic introduction, events calendar, gallery, , links and a contact page. If you haven't already done so.....take a look ! A future feature could also be "Projects", so if you've got photos and a description of what you've done so far....and what you plan to do e.mail Jon and he can start editing a page format !

Since our last meet a few of us mustered the energy to attend Donington Park for the Historic festival at the start of May (over the Bank Holiday weekend). Out club stand consisted of 2 of my mini's + Jons.....



Racing was excellent with the added bonus of good weather and the return of the Group B rally car display on the Melbourne Loop. Best rally car round the loop had to be the Mini cooper....driven with great gusto !



Racing during the day was spirited with a range of machinery on track. One of the highlights of the day was to see an MG Metro Turbo being piloted by Patrick Watts overtaking a V8 Comero at the top of the Craner Curves.....who would have thought it !

WREAKE

MINI WANDERERS



There was plenty of Mini action in the under 2 Litre touring cars, mixing it up with Lotus Cortina's and Alfa Guilia's.



Jon's photos can be seen here on his flickr feed :

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/38287160@N06/sets/72157633435434934/>

Further highlights included the Battle of Britain memorial flight, consisting of Lancaster Bomber, Spitfire and Hurricane in formation flying ! what sight it was, and I can only imagine what the passengers at East Midlands Airport thought as they flew past and over the race circuit !



Unfortunately there was a tragic end to weekends racing, when, on Sunday during the pre 66' Touring car race, an incident between the Mini Cooper of Christian Deveraux and a Ford Mustang resulted in Christian losing his life. Much has been written since in the motorsport press about the risks involved in racing classic cars, although the safety equipment involved now is very much improved over what would have been available in the 60's !



WREAKE

MINI WANDERERS

Finally, to all of the people that went to Bingley Hall in January this year, can you remember a rather bent 1275GT shell that was near the entrance? The shell had been rescued from the tunnels beneath Longbridge (having been shrouded in folklore and myth) and was due to be restored to its former glory being the LAST ever mini to leave Longbridge.....Unfortunately the owner has had to change his plans and has now put it up for auction. It has 11 miles on the clock and is being sold as seen, no MOT or running gear. It is being auctioned on the 27th July with the proceeds going to a Hospice in Selly Oaks, there is no reserve so raid your piggy banks for a piece of mini history!

Car Club. I got the Cooper back just before the Donington Historic Festival, so pressed it back into service and managed to get out on the Saturday parade lap in it for its first taste of Motorsport.....

Hopefully more news next month!

SOCIAL BIT

Thursday May 30th : Club Night : Mystery Cruise
: The Gate Hangs Well 7.30pm for depart @ 8.00pm.

22nd / 23rd June : Brands Hatch Mini Festival

7th July : Gaydon Mini festival

27th / 28th July : Shelsey Walsh Hill Climb : Mini Cooper register / DEWS series

11th August : Mini in the Park : Sunday admission £15 on the day or Saturday evening pre-show party and camping + £10

15th September : Stanford Hall Mini Show

28th – 29th September : Sywell Props and Pistons.

JERRY'S MOTORSPORT

MAYHEM

I am pleased to announce that I now have my Green mini cooper back and am preparing for this seasons Autosolo events with Loughborough