

BLOG February 2013 : by Jerry Filor

A relatively short blog this time, from the Gate Hangs Well.

Carl had arrived early taking pole position in the car park and also sporting a very fetching lime green fleece, to accentuate the linden green of The Rat ! He maintained that he also had matching neon green pants on, but in mixed company and an open bar we declined his offer to show us ! We might want to meet here again in the future.....if anyone sees any neon green accessories to make Carl, or The Rat really stand out he will gladly accept them with open arms....legs or car doors !

Glive's Peugeot 205 GTi (only a 1.6 !) had been rear ended, so he was unfortunately car less again, the only plus side is he probably knows a good garage where it can be fixed now that he is "the management", also he is making use of the works "white van" short term....and taking advantage of all that goes with owning a white van.....poor driving skills, wolf whistling at ALL members of the opposite sex and also placing a copy of "The Sun" newspaper on the dashboard.....

We now seem to have a start to the end of our Christmas celebrations ! Gary has kindly agreed to make enquiries at Langer Karting and hopefully will have details for the next meeting on 28th March, so be there or be square ! Much discussion then took place on the relative methods of karting skill...being light was definite bonus, and carry as much speed and momentum other skills that need to be mastered by those of us that are carrying a little extra ballast !

The landlord of the Gate Hangs Well said he will be starting up an additional classic car and

bike gathering, like Ashby Folville, at the pub on the second Wednesday of the month. This will follow on from Ashby which is on the second Tuesday. He said that there should be plenty of space on the grass at the back of the pub (flood waters pending !) and he might also put on a BBQ as well....of course he welcomed our support, because lets be honest...everyone loves a classic mini ;-)

SOCIAL BIT

Thursday 28th March : Club Night : Gate Hangs Well : From 7.30pm

May Bank Holiday 3rd to 5th : Donington Historic Festival. : We have a club stand booked and advanced ticket offers to get a 2 day ticket for £15 (when purchased in pairs). This is an excellent festival that has the best of pre '65 racing across a number of disciplines..... it also included a number of parade laps around the hallowed circuit. This year the even it adding an extra day on the Friday (for qualifying) so a full 2 day race program is possible. See details attached.

Club Discount tickets MUST be ordered before 19th April

Thursday April 25th : Club Night : Cottesmore cruise : The Gate Hangs Well 7.20pm for depart @ 7.30pm. Melton posse to meet en-route at Wilton Road car park opposite the burnt out Kettleby Cross @ 19.50pm. Depart @ 8pm

7th July : Gaydon Mini festival

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

11th August : Mini in the Park

15th September : Stanford Hall Mini Show

CLUB AOB

At the next meeting, for those still that haven't paid.... club subs are due.....as a reminder.

Single membership £10

Joint / Family Membership £15

JERRY'S MOTORSPORT

MAYHEM

On 3rd March I attended as an observer (unfortunately not competitor as the green cooper still isn't road worthy yet), at the Loughborough car club Spring Autotest. This was held on a marked out circuit on the car park of Seagrave Golf Club. It is very hard being an observer when all you want to do is compete, but the smell of burning rubber made me feel that you would need to do it properly as there could be costs for tyre replacement...

Competitors ranged from standard cars to majorly modified rally cars, with grouping to suit. It was very exciting to watch at such close quarters !

I am looking forward to late spring when the Autosolo (on the grass at Paddy's lane – A6006) starts and I can begin to perfect my hand brake turns and quick cornering technique ! Any volunteers for navigator will be gratefully received !

Before leaving the Autotest I was chatting to a young lad I had spoken last May (at the Autosolo), he was running a heavily modified mini, had done all of the work himself and at that time he was competing near the top of the East Midlands Autotest championship as well. This took him around the local area competing

at various clubs. He said that he had been locked in a battle for top honours with a lotus elise for the title....i asked how it all worked out and he told me that he had in fact won the championship ! so you could say that it is true to say that Classic minis are still competing in motorsport successfully 50 years on !

That's all for this month....see you next meet !

WREAKE

MINI WANDERERS



**DONINGTON
HISTORIC
FESTIVAL**

**FRI 3RD SAT 4TH
SUN 5TH MAY 2013**

Principal Partner

EFG  International

CAR CLUB BRIEFING DOCUMENT

Club name: Wreake Mini Wanderers

Club code:WMWDHF13

Many thanks for registering! I look forward to working with you over the coming months to make the 2013 Donington Historic Festival a fantastic event for your members.

This document contains everything you need to know to be able to start promoting the Festival to your members, and hopefully will also enable you to answer many of their queries. Please go through it carefully, and don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

I'll also be issuing regular Car Club News Updates by email to all registered clubs, so please keep an eye out for them. These will cover things like provisional and final timetables (when issued), access times for setting up, links to site maps, arrangements for car club parades, etc. They will also include news stories about the race series/special attractions etc. as they are confirmed.

And at the event in 2013 I won't be confined to the Media Office (as regular attendees might remember) - instead I'll be out and about in the infield for much of the weekend, which will give me the chance to meet you and to enjoy your club display, but also - more importantly - to help with any queries/issues that arise over the weekend.

Following below :

- Spreading the word – brief Festival description and links to images/logos
- Car club ticket booking deadline – vital!
- How your members book tickets online
- Booking over the phone
- See Tickets' charges
- Ticket despatch
- Infield vehicle passes
- Car club parades

Donington Historic Festival - Donington Park, May 3rd, 4th and 5th 2013.

Donington Park has seen many unforgettable racing moments over the decades and, for 2013, the Festival is celebrating two particularly iconic ones; the 30th anniversary of the first time the late, great Ayrton Senna got behind the wheel of an F1 car, and the 20th anniversary of his extraordinary display of mastery over the rain in the 1993 European Grand Prix. This tribute to Senna, combined with the close-fought and exhilarating competition out on the track – with over 400 historic racing cars, spanning seven decades – looks set to prove a big draw for classic car enthusiasts from across the UK and internationally. This is the first time that the Festival has been held over three days. On each day of the Festival gates open at 07.30am and the circuit activity starts at 9am, finishing at around 6pm on the Friday, 7.30pm on the Saturday and 6pm on the Sunday.

Racing will take place mainly on the Saturday and Sunday, with qualifying taking place mostly on the Friday. The provisional timetable will be announced early in 2013. Members of car clubs registered to attend the event benefit from a two-for-one ticket offer on advance tickets when they quote their unique club code at time of booking (deadline Friday, April 19th), and will receive one infield pass for every pair of tickets they buy, allowing them to join the other cars on display in their club's dedicated infield parking area, to create a fantastic exhibit for all spectators to enjoy. www.doningtonhistoric.com

BOOKING TICKETS

Car club ticket deadline

Please note the club ticket booking deadline of midnight on **Friday, April 19th** - it is important that you make your members aware of that, as last year we had lots club people trying to book at the last minute (not from your club!) and they were very disappointed that they had missed the offer.

How your members can buy tickets online

There's a button on the home page of our website that links directly to advanced ticket sales, or if you want to embed a link directly to ticket sales in your own website, the link is:

<http://www.seetickets.com/Event/DONINGTON-HISTORIC-FESTIVAL/Donington-Park/672844>

Your members must enter your club's unique offer code - WMWDHF13- and press the 'use code' button, then the prices on the page will change to your club prices, rather than the full prices originally displayed.

NB, in case you get any queries, please note that car club discounted tickets are offered in multiples of two, and the price shown is the discounted price for one ticket. When they add two tickets to their basket, they will therefore be getting two tickets for the (full) price of one. If they want four tickets for the price of two full-priced ones, they must click '4!' We did have one or two people last year who got a little confused and consequently only bought half the amount of tickets they needed...

Up to 50 tickets can be bought together in one transaction online, larger quantities must be bought via the phone hotline. Children aged 15 and under (accompanied by an adult) get in for free. And each ticket gives two-for-one entry to the Donington [Grand Prix Collection](#) over the weekend and for the following two months.

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Buying tickets over the phone

Our ticket hotline number is: 0844 873 7355 (use the WMWDHF13 code for discount)

See Tickets' charges

Please note that See Tickets, the booking agency, levies the following additional charges on top of our ticket prices - a booking fee per ticket to cover their admin costs, plus a transaction fee on the total order. Booking fees are:

Ticket type	Booking Fee
£12 Friday ticket	60p
£20 Saturday or Sunday ticket	£1
£36 3-day weekend ticket	£1.80

So two Friday tickets bought using a car club two-for-one offer code will incur a 60p total booking fee and therefore cost £12.60 (i.e. £6.30 per person) plus the transaction fee. The transaction fee is a one-off post and packaging cost for the total order, and that is the same whether a member is buying one pair of tickets or 25 pairs of tickets. The transaction fee is £1.95 per order for first class post and £6.50 for registered post. So the total cost for those two Friday tickets bought using a car club code and sent first class post will be £14.55.

Your members will be able to choose their preferred method of postage at the checkout.

Ticket Despatch

See Tickets usually start sending tickets out about three weeks before the event.

Infield parking passes

See Tickets will automatically issue one infield parking pass (for 'club appropriate' vehicles) for every pair of club tickets purchased. I appreciate that some of your members will need further passes, as not everyone is buying a pair of tickets to cover a driver and passenger. If further infield passes are needed, the club member will need to email me: karen@doningtonhistoric.com.

Club officials in non-display vehicles, and anyone else needing to gain access to set up the stands etc. will also be issued with vehicle passes, though we do ask that you then take the non-display vehicles out of the infield area, unless they are performing a vital role such as supporting an awning or acting as your club office on site. More details will follow nearer the time.

CAR CLUB PARADES

These are always hugely popular with the car club members and, as those of you who have attended before will know, we are restricted on numbers and it can become a little hectic as our team tries to track down all the parade cars in time. For 2013 we will be confirming numbers of parade cars per club in advance and producing special parade car passes, making it easy for our team on the ground to identify the parade cars. We will be liaising with each club to make sure that the passes are issued to the correct cars before the event. Full details will follow in due course

WREAKE

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Rally cars head to Donington Historic Festival

Rallying with Group B and the Historic Rally Car Register (HRCR) are joining forces to stage spectacular live demonstrations at this year's Donington Historic Festival (May 3rd, 4th, 5th), bringing added excitement to an already action-packed weekend.

Throughout the Festival Donington Park's Melbourne Loop will see the legendary Group B rally machines in action; a powerful reminder of the 1980s, when Donington Park was a RAC Rally stage and Group B cars dominated the world of international rallying. The Melbourne Loop will also see stage and road rally cars from the HRCR – including, it is hoped, several iconic ex-works cars from the 1950s and 60s - tackle a mini stage-type course and autotest, showing just how nimble they can be, and demonstrating why historic rallying has become such a popular sport.

With its live action demonstrations, Rallying with Group B recreates the glory days of a short but significant era from rallying history. Introduced in 1982, Group B regulations resulted in outrageously fast performances from cars such as the Audi quattro, MG Metro 6R4, Ford RS200, Lancia 037, Porsche 911 RSR and Peugeot 205 T16. Lightweight composite panels, four-wheel drive systems, complex turbo and supercharging combined to produce cars which, with in excess of 600bhp at their command, could out-accelerate Formula One cars of the period on gravel. However, in 1987, following a number of high-profile accidents and prominent driver deaths, Group B was banned, with enthusiasts' only chance to see the cars in action now restricted to demonstration events.

The Historic Rally Car Register celebrates its 30th anniversary at the Festival. Initially founded to preserve genuine ex-works rally cars, the overwhelming response to its first-ever rally in 1983 marked the foundation of the international historic rallying movement. HRCR members are providing a wide selection of historic rally cars to represent a full cross-section of all aspects of historic rallying at the Festival. This will include Mini Coopers - made famous when HRCR President Paddy Hopkirk took one to victory on the 1964 Monte Carlo Rally – and Sunbeam Tigers, linked with the Alpine Rallies of the mid 1960s. MGs and Austin Healeys will also take part, together with cars representing the long-distance events of the 1970s such as the Triumph 2000 and Austin 1800, plus Mk1 and 2 Ford Escorts, which now achieve major successes within the British Historic Rally Championship.

And, of course, with the Festival's open paddock, spectators will be able to get a really good look at all the rally cars as well as the more than 400 historic racing cars, spanning seven decades, which are due to compete at the event.

Donington Historic Festival organiser Duncan Wiltshire said, "We are thrilled that the two clubs are staging what promises to be an unforgettable spectacle for Festival visitors, to compliment the fantastic historic racing.

"The sight and sound of the Group B cars taking to the tarmac, all spitting flames and whining turbos will be enormously exciting, while the HRCR displays will show spectators that the cars many of us remember from the roads of our youth are capable of considerably more than a trip up the motorway. I suspect more than a few of our visitors will go away vowing to give historic rallying a go for themselves!"