

BLOG January 2010 : Written by Jerry Filor

A good collection of members gathered for the first meeting of the year at The Midland. Gary distributed the annual treasurer's report and the current membership list, with Membership numbers.

Membership forms for 2010 were also handed out and fees are due for this coming year, so please can you bring payment to next meeting. The prices remain unchanged from last year at £10 for Single and £15 for family membership.

Gary turned up in "Pinkie" his special mini rather than "pukka pie"....he then went on to explain that pukka's engine basically cried "enough!". Pukka ended up being coaxed home on a couple of cylinders, smoking heavily (nasty habit



that....) and has now been parked up next to Charlotte's project mini (which has to be finished in time for here to learn to drive in November.....where has the last 3 years gone Gary ?).

The tales of woe continued – Mark's clutch arm had been bent and was minus a clevis pin....

Clive passes around some pictures of St'Elf, or parts of it. We then had a competition to guess what we were actually looking at. A colander seemed to be the most popular assessment ! It looks like Clive has quite a bit of work on his hands there, if he is to be ready for IMM 2010 !

Ryan's mini is going to have Mark 1 grille . moustache combo with some new fibreglass

front end parts. Glyn said that changing the head gasket has improved the running of the car. Road holding is now also taken care of by new up-rated shock absorbers, which have recently been fitted.



Clive also mentioned that Simon's former Mini van is now up for sale by it's new owner...

Jon told us about this years dates for the Goodwood Revival and thoroughly recommends it (based on his experience of last year...).

SOCIAL BIT :

Next Club Night : Thursday 25th February at the Midland : 8pm onwards

If there are any suggestions for new destinations for summer meetings, please bring them to the next meeting.

There was also a discussion on a proposed "Club Day" with potentially a treasure Hunt in the morning and something else in the afternoon, followed by some food laid on at the Pub (or maybe even at the lunchtime break). Do you still have a planned treasure Hunt Jeanette and Simon ?

Jon has requested that if anyone is taking photos of their Mini Adventures – be it individually or during club runs / shows then please e-mail them to him at : clappyjrb@ntlworld.com . That way, he can integrate them into the Blog and website....

With no IMM in the UK this year, 2 definite shows this year must be :

Mini In the Park (Sunday 15th August) at Santa Pod Raceway. Camping is available, with entertainment on the Saturday night.

Stanford Hall (Sunday 12th September) – Eeveryone's favourite and always a good end to the year !

And for something a little different (if not a bit further afield)

Miniworld Action Day (Sunday 25th September) – Castle Combe racing circuit in Wiltshire.

And finally.... Chris' wife is paying for him to go to IMM 2011 in Switzerland, wouldn't it be nice to get a convoy going from the Midland ! I think Chris said that is was only about 750 miles.....certainly a true "Mini Adventure !".

Post club Meeting – club run to The Bingley Hall Mini fair (Sunday 31st January).

A good turn out from the club with 7 Minis and a corsa (you know who you are.....). The weather was as you would expect for this time of year....cold, icy roads and a bit of snow covering



the ground on arrival at Staffordshire County show ground.

After a split convoy, and re-group on site there was drama a plenty in parking ! Carl, pulling up sharply on the snow narrowly missed Mark's mini in a comedy moment....who would have thought that Snow is in fact slippery !

The Mini Fair at Bingley certainly ticks all the right boxes ! Separate parking for Minis outside, everything else inside (except for the cars for sale area) to include, huge indoor exhibition area which this included some excellent Countryman's, traveller's and vans – being as it is their "50th Anniversary" this year.

Inside the show there was some exceptional examples of Mini Saloons, Clubman's and other variants. The quality in the show and shine is always very good, especially indoors !

All of the top suppliers were present, Mini Spares, Mini Sport, Somerford, Minispeed, local boys Mini Mime, as well as Mega Mini, Huddersfield Mini Spares and many more familiar faces. One of the best things about Bingley is the quantity (and quality) of Autojumble.....it certainly pays to have a good rummage !

The buyfest started.....Simon and Jeanette who we met in the show said they had been 2nd people in (that must have been an early start because it is always good to have an advanced ticket, and capitalise on a different queue).

Clive was after anything Riley Elf and Carl was trying to sell "The Rat" from a snowy car park position.

Glyn and Ryan had a Mark 1 bonnet and grill....

Pete's clubby was full of panels for Calum's mini. Being noseey I could see wings, fibreglass bonnet and boot lit, rear opening windows and a front panel. There were probably more panels underneath, as they had estimated a total of 27 new panels to make good. Good job Pete has a clubby estate !

WREAKE

MINI WANDERERS

After some good haggling Jon managed to secure another Speedwell rev counter, that wasn't complete but had some serviceable parts from the Autojumble. He also bought some Newton commercial dash panels and some under-bonnet bling in the form of a DSN retro sport coil bracket.

Mark bought a new clutch clevis pin and fitted it in the snowy car park while the posse was assembling to convoy home. No dramas were witnessed on the way back.

To finish the day on a high....Glyn had his day made by Ryan letting him drive home...

The Wreake Mini Crew Bingley Runners !



Club Line-up @ Bingley Hall

