

## BLOG July 2011 : Written by Jerry Filor

**P**ossibly the largest convoy of the year, seven classic minis and a Peugeot set off for a blast around Rutland water before finishing up at the Grain Store public house in Oakham.



We had just settled down when Mark and Clive disappeared off to collect chips, bags and bags of them.....and then it turned out that it was Clive's birthday (21 again !), so we all, helped by the Grain Stores regulars sang Happy Birthday before enthusiastically tucked into the chips !

**C**live's MPi (Cyril) is not MOT'ed and just needs a few small jobs finishing (like a re-spray and engine swap) before taxing and insuring. That will make it another road legal mini on the clubs books and one more to add to the convoy.....

Clive gave us an update on the St'elf saga....after successfully selling him on E-bay (advertised as a PROJECT that needed TRAILORING away), the winner of the auction turned up expecting to see a complete car that could be driven away – D'Oh ! Imagine the shock he got to see something that resembled a Elf in boxes of bits ! good job he didn't see the pre-welded pictures !

**M**ark has obtained Pete's clubby, I have a feeling the V5 was more attractive than the car as it seems that tinworm finally got the better of it !

**C**alum still has his engine at MED, once the work is complete, he is hoping to end up with an 1098cc being bored from a 998cc block...or thereabouts !

Mark has been putting time into Robin's mini which had had 3 attempts at an MOT recently....before melting piston No. 3 in the block ! It's also had a gearbox rebuild after an idler bearing failure.....the joys of Mini ownership !

My Brother (Sole member of the Derbyshire chapter of the Mini Wanderers) went to Crich for the mini festival and said it was packed ! there was a posse of bus trippers there adding to the normal mini occupant crowd. Note to self.....get a bit more organised sooner for that one next year ! going on holiday and missing the application date doesn't really help....

Following on from Gaydon, I must welcome Sam and Samir to the club, it's always nice to see new people and Samir was showing round some pictures of a rather tasty historic race specification Alpine Tiger that his place of employment looks after.....He said the noise when it fires up is awesome (which i can just imagine) and that the family also owns a road going Alpine Tiger as well as a couple more race cars (Ford Mustang and Lola prototype...Tiger Racing is the team !).

Both my Mini's have failed their MOT's since the last club meeting.....the Green one (Spi) will have to wait a bit as it's problems are greater...in that it needs a new rear subframe,

# WREAKE

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radius arm bushes and sundry electrical areas.....

The Blue one (Mpi) had more traditional problems with sills, rear wheel arch and exhaust, namely holes in each courtesy of the dreaded tinworm ! Hopefully this will be sorted and back with me very soon. Thank you to Mark and Clive in advance !

I am going to have afternoon tea at Prodrive on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> August with the Mini Cooper Register, hopefully I will be able to attend in a mini ! but I'll write about that next time, I might even get some pictures of the latest WRC mini or GT championship Aston Martin if I am lucky !

## **SOCIAL BIT :**

**14<sup>th</sup> August :** Mini In the Park. Book your tickets by the 8<sup>th</sup> August to save £5. Those going are planning to meet at the Gate Hangs Well @ 8.30am

**25<sup>th</sup> August :** Club Night – Cruise aaround the Vale of Belvoir ! Meeting at The Gate Hangs Well 7.20pm for depart @ 7.30pm. Melton posse to meet en-route at Wilton Road car park opposite the Kettleby Cross @ 19.45pm. Depart @ 8pm ish

**11<sup>th</sup> September :** Stanford Hall Mini Show, near Lutterworth. Always well attended ! A club stand has been booked for 8 – 10 cars, so keep that Sunday free !

I have volunteered to organise the Mini Cooper Register display so come and see if I have succeeded or failed to put together a good collection of hopefully some very tasty minis !

Club Night : Rutland Water

