

BLOG March 2012 : Written by Jerry Filor

I am sure all attendees were ready and willing to hand over their membership fees on Thursday but "The Management" (Gary to you and me) thought it made more sense to postpone the collection of subs until our June club night. The rationale behind this being that, there are still a lot of mini projects "in progress", some will be mentioned in the blog on a regular basis, and as it gets warmer (heading towards summer) club members become more adventurous and their prized classic minis get more exercise, only the hardcore run their minis in winter (so Jon keeps telling me !). So June it is ! pencil it in your diaries and a reminder will be posted in the blog nearer the time....

Nothing lasts forever.....as the Outcast song goes, and this ties in with the topic of subs as well, as the club gazebo needs replacing. Gary will be speaking to the bank (nicely) to release our funds to the current club management team to allow us to purchase a new "event shelter" as they are now called..... this is why it will be important to collect subs in June, to replenish the club funds !

It was nice to see a returning Dave, who is intending to reinstate his mini which has spent many a year under wraps at his house.

Karl continues to drive the Rat and brought it out of hibernation for this month's meet. E's been getting earache from his better half as "ratty (by name and nature....) had been regularly dropping small amounts of oil on the newly re-laid driveway.....we've all been there I think !

James G and Matt were in deep conversation about their next big mini projects. James showed some pictures of his recent purchase.....a Yukon Grey / Black roofed Clubman shell which will house his fresh build engine. The shell features a removable / flip front, fibreglass skinned roof and carbon fibre



boot floor.....as well as plastic windows ! it had certainly had a weight loss diet in its previous life when it

sported a Vauxhall 16v engine ! The original car had been magazine featured in 2009 in Minimagazine (confirmed by Jon with his back catalogue library ☺) and James just needs to fettle a few bits before he gets it back on the road.



Matt was saying that he wants to see James' project finished before he starts on his next similar project.....

Mark showed Jon a slide show of the recent re-installation of a new(ly) painted and prepped engine....courtesy of a swap situation. Jon now maintains a different MG Metro engine (from

WREAKE

MINI WANDERERS

Peters ex-Clubbie estate, currently undergoing a Vauxhall Red top transplant) that certainly doesn't leak oil like the last one !

Mark was expecting Alex to be back at some point during the evening with a van full of useful bits for the Vauxhall transplant...including a new front subframe to house the red top beast ! Mark was currently undecided on whether to use the injection system (currently on the engine) or to revert to twin weber cars...which is reported to give improved power (at top end.....)

SOCIAL BIT

If anyone is interested, I can organise a social event at a local Gliding Club near Market Harborough. Bungee and Aero tow launching are available with costs for a flights from £20.....a second launch would be from £10, so good value ! The Gliding club also offers bar facilities and food can also be provided...so could be something different to experience !

Sunday 22nd April is National Drive It Day, when owners of classic cars are encouraged to drive their cars to promote their hobby to the public at large....so expect to see lots of old cars broken down steaming at the side of the road (Jon) if you are out and about !

April 26th : 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



4 – 5th May (Bank Holiday) :

Donington Historic Festival 2012 : 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.....last year it also included a number of parade laps around the hallowed Donington circuit.

31st May : Club Night : Foxton Locks : Club run starting from The Gate Hangs Well 7.20pm for depart @ 7.30pm. Volunteers for routing.....

3rd July : Gaydon Mini Festival : Advanced Entry fee is £8 per car for mini drivers (so cram in as many people as you can). On the day it rises to

29th July : Crich Mini Day, a lovely setting and one that a number of members have attended over the last few years. Applications for free entry for car, driver and up to 1 passenger to Jerry (registration of car and named driver to jfilor@talktalk.net). This year BMW minis will NOT be admitted to the "show area" as a change to the event format, so it will be classics only ! www.tramway.co.uk.