

## BLOG May 2010 : Written by Jerry Filor

Starting off with Ashby Folville on 11<sup>th</sup> May – fine weather as Mark, Robin and myself set off for the bike and car meet at the village down the road. We set off quite late but were still able to park. As always, when it's fine weather, a great mix of old and new bikes and eclectic mix of custom, standard and modified cars were there. As well as our own little mini group, Back Street Mini's were there and we met up with Matt and Sean, in its tasteful blue hue....still going strong and recently MOT'd. The baying crowd lining the street were winding up participants for more tyre smoking take offs as they left....Fortunately for me, when I left, I tucked up behind a Rolls Royce, so spared my tyres and embarrassment (and the prospect of a new clutch...)

Going back to the mix of cars etc.....there were pristine classics, Healey 3000's, a Bertone Alfa Romeo GTV, used classics, Rally prepared



Mk1 Escorts, kit cars, a beautiful Split screen VW camper and at least a half dozen AC Cobras. The most bizarre being a Road legal Lexus dragster, complete with boot mounted parachute. James said is can do the 1/4 mile in 9 seconds....How cool to drive around with a parachute attached to the back of your car for the ultimate emergency stop ! And finally a

“Rat Look “ car which would be difficult to describe but looked like something out of an Indiana Jones movie.



### Club Night

Gathering at the Midland we then wended our way towards Loughborough skirting around the back of Bradgate Park before heading through Shepshed and onto Normanton on Soar.....Unfortunately we had to abandon Pete's clubbie at Zouch 9about 2 miles from our final destination) when his nearside front wheel was at a jaunty angle. The wheel hub nut had undone itself and the split pin had gone....apparently for the third time recently (since overhauling the brake system). A quick call to the WMW emergency mini support group, Mark, who arrived with sockets, a split pin and a helping hand ! it certainly saved a club rendition of “Three wheels on my wagon” in support of Pete !

At the pub, it was down to business. Good news was the Neil's personal employment circumstances had changed for the better and he has decided to keep his van.

Jon has almost take receipt of the cream leather interior form his brother. Gary has first

dibs on it for Charlotte's project mini with Simon a close second for interest !

Staying on the topic of seats....Pete said he also had a set of original Pick-up seats that could be on offer.....one is slightly marked.

Clive had been dipping in to eBay and said he had "won" a turbo from a Saab 9000. This, he hopes to fit to his Rover K series engine for Project St'elf. Clive showed some pictures of the progress on St'elf....it seems that he takes one step forward, to take 2 steps back....latest drama was related to the inner wings exposing previous bodging, so more work than first thought was involved. The main body area seems to be coming together but one problem has definitely arisen...Clive wants wind up windows on the elf...but mark I doors have sliding windows and mark III doors don't fit a mark one aperture....the plot thickens.

On a more positive note....Clive has been speaking to ABS Motorsport, fine purveyors of fibreglass and Carbon fibre pieces.

Discussions have taken place for a Carbon Fibre Elf bonnet....very trick !

Pete showed some pictures of Calum's mini, recently prepared by Rutland Mini's after a shell change from the original plan. An exotic paint white was chosen, not the classic Old English, Snowberry or Ermine white.....but a tasteful shade of white AKA "White Van man Transit White" ! hhhmmm, very nice !

Gary mentioned that a new company has opened in Syston called Future Motorsport and they have a rolling road facility. Gary is going to make a few enquiries and get back to us to see if they are interested in hosting (possibly) the first Wreake Mini Wanderers Power day.....

Mark and Clive have shown interest in IMM 2011 in Switzerland so Chris may well have some travelling companions for the "750 mile one way" trip. Clive said he would possibly buy a mini specially for it.

During a lull in conversation, four members whipped out their multimedia devices – I think they used to be called mobile phones – and started to talk about APPS and stuff.....I won't go any further as people might think I actually know what I am talking about (not for the first time...)

### **SOCIAL BIT :**

Next Meeting :

**24<sup>th</sup> June :** Rutland water, (hopefully with less drama this year !) be at the Midland for 7.20pm for depart @ 7.30pm.

Melton posse to meet en-route at Wilton Road car park opposite the Kettleby Cross @ 8pm.

**27<sup>th</sup> June :** Sunday Chip run to Cromer

**1<sup>st</sup> July :** Ace Café before it gets too dark, leaving early afternoon, with "tea" at the Ace.

**4<sup>th</sup> July :** Gaydon Mini Festival (Club stand), convoy time to be arranged

**25<sup>th</sup> July :** Crich Tramway Museum Mini Day : Club stand (Free tickets already allocated). Convoy to be arranged.

**15<sup>th</sup> August :** Mini in the Park, Santa Pod raceway. Convoy to be arranged.