

## BLOG November 2012 : by Jerry Filor

This was the last blog of 2012 as December is now complete !

As we have migrated from Syston and our gathering base is the Gate Hangs Well but we never spend a great deal of time there we decided to stay put for Novembers meeting.....

The car park which a few days before had been underwater had now cleared to allow us to park. Main talking point of the evening was return of "The Rat" or newly titled, "Ratty", resplendent in its stunning new colour of Linden Green, with a satin black roof. Carl was very please with it and the colour really suited the custom silhouette that Carl has created.

James G was asking about going to the Ace Café Mod and Mini night on December 6<sup>th</sup>. The Ace is a marvellous venue, very evocative of a bygone era.....early 60's leather suited rockers and their modified café racers. The Ace was also home to the original "ton up" club, using the North circular as a suitable raceway, toying with the Police in their "Z" cars. Notwithstanding the nostalgia of the venue, you cant beat one of their classic All day breakfasts....worth of any trucker café ! The car park fills up rapidly on their theme nights, with a good mix of cars, scooters and bikes, so it pays to go early to get a prime spot ! in 2010 when I last went, Jon and I managed to get right outside the main building !

Back to December, in previous years we have had a club meal, or Karting experience at this time of year. Unfortunately due to the lack of key members at the November meeting we ended up with not 1, but 3 options (with the possibility of some free or discounted tickets to Leicester comedy club...). However, it would

seem that we will have to wait until January to see what option(s) we take up as a club.....answers on a postcard to Mr J Filor....

2013 celebrates 50 years of the Mini Cooper S so if you have one or a spare 20 -30K to purchase one for 2013, this will be the year to show it off ! if you have that sort of money hiding down the back of the sofa you may have already been down to Barons Auction on December 18<sup>th</sup> where a very desirable 1969 Wood and Picket Morris Mini Cooper S was available. This car had a unique provenance with former owners including Steve Marriott from the Small Faces and Denny Lane from the Moody Blues and Wings. It had a £12,000 bare metal restoration and a likely asking price of £35,000. What you wouldn't give to have that in your Christmas stocking, or under the tree this Christmas !



Photos courtesy of Miniworld Magazine.

**WREAKE**

**MINI WANDERERS**

On that note, a Happy Christmas to All our members and see you all next year ! ps. If you bought the W&P Mini cooper please bring it to the January meeting.....

## **SOCIAL BIT**

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> January** : Bingley Hall Mini Show : First show of the season, Advanced tickets recommended so you don't have to queue to get in. Meeting at the GHW 8.30am for 9am leave.

**Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> January** : Club Night : Gate Hangs Well : From 7.30pm

**May Bank Holiday 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup>** : 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. More details to follow next month.

## **CLUB AOB**

At the next meeting, for those that havent already paid.... club subs are due.....as a reminder.

Single membership £10

Joint / Family Membership £15

Jon will attempt to remember the membership forms and has agreed to collect the monies....please give generously !

## **JERRY'S MOTORSPORT MAYHEM**

Not a lot to report this month.....other than I now have the green cooper back on the drive ready for the next stage of pre-hillclimb preparation. I have some paint preparation to do and the obligatory sealing of the fire wall for competition which I hope to get done over the next few weeks if the weather plays ball.

Chris kindly donated me a Cobra bucket seat, so this has been trial fitted for size, but may need some further adjustment.

Hopefully next month I'll be able to report the progress of my race license application and the ongoing preparation of the car.