

BLOG September 2010 : Written by Jerry Filor

A good turnout for our club night at the Badger Sett at Cropston, a nice pub and not too busy this time ! a cosy corner was found and for me as information gatherer it was small enough to pick up a range of conversations going on !

We had a new member that had hooked up with the club from visiting Stanford Hall (courtesy of Carl and The Mini Forum). Hi Sharon ! I haven't seen pictures of Stanford in the Mini magazines yet..I am sure Jon has taken some to put on his flickr page though...I did however spot Robin's Mini + trailer in the 2 page picture spread of Crich Tramway Mini day from July. I cant remember whether it was before or after he went to France with Mini + trailer.

Jon's Stanford Hall pictures

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/38287160@N06/sets/72157624945603704/>

Pete was saying that he was still having a problem with the Clubbie, with continued Wheel bearing / hub nut issues. He is trying to purchase an internal seal for the Minisport alloy callipers that he bought to get things rolling again, but unfortunately they remain out of stock.....A debate then followed about the appropriateness of parting 2 sides of the brake calliper to replace the said seal. It became a straight fight between the "leave well alone" side and the "it's got bolts in it so it must be able to be taken apart" side.....

Galum is now cracking on with his Mini and it is now at home tucked up in the garage with glass, subframes and engine in ! next up is the

interior. He also showed some pictures of his rattle can refurbished mamba alloys. Very nice they looked to ! it's nice to hear that it is slowly coming back together...

Even more interestingly Pete and his partner turned up in her daughters Bini ONE and following it to Cropston you do realise how much bigger they are compared to the classic mini of the same name !

Chris has now received his tickets to IMM 2011 – Switzerland . He now has to book the ferry, which he plans to do in November, then it's all systems go for the 750+ mile journey. His car should be MOT'ed this month and he is keen to get some mileage under his belt before the off next year.

The matchbox special mini now benefits from an Aldon electronic coil, electronic dizzy, a maniflow exhaust and will have to remain with it's current 6 x 10" weller wheels for the time being....as the cooper reverse rims catch on the wheel arches. D'oh !

There is a bit of a story to the dizzy, I think Neil gave it to Jon in a bag of bits, Jon then gave it to me when I was running red Shaun the sheep mini, but never got round to fitting it (as I don't understand car electrics) and it laid in a box in my garage for a couple of years in my garage ! I was therefore very pleased that when Chris told me that he had fitted it to his mini and it worked as it should..i must say though...if you breakdown on the way to Switzerland I am not responsible !

Glive's recently purchased Mpi mini should hopefully be on the road legally by the time of our next meeting in October. He was asked about his major project, the St'elf but said that work commitments and an iffy welding machine (overworked on St'elf no doubt !) had halted work somewhat....

Mark has purchased a 1980 shell, with log book, subframes and interior for £100, and to top it all the shell needs NO welding ! he has purchased a 998cc engine which will hopefully be ready to be put back into the newly painted mini soon. The colour is going to be Ford RS Blue with a white (possible checked) roof. He also bought Jon's rover cooper minilights to complete it's sporty new look ! ideas for the interior include Cobra low back bucket seats and classic triple clock centre binnacle.

Ideas for the future

- a) Gary floated the idea of using Club funds to buy tools that we all could use, eg) good quality torque wrench or powder coating equipment. Gary will compile a list of the "most wanted" tools then we can see if any members have them to lend, and then look to buy stuff people don't have !
- b) Idea from me, has anyone got computer facilities to create a Club calendar. I'm personally fed up with seeing absolutely perfect minis on the calendars you see and think it would be nice to see pictures of Work in progress cards (St'elf) or any fellow club members cars in whatever state...whole or in pieces !

We could even send one to Mini Magazine or Miniworld to advertise for us, you never know we could end up emulating the Wi calendar – clothes on of course...

SOCIAL BIT :

Sunday 24th October : Mallory Park, The final round of the Masters "Top Hat" series of races for pre-1970's race cars, also including the pre-66 mini cup. Mallory park, for those who have not been before, is a nice spectator friendly circuit near Hinkley and guarantees close racing between Mini's and Lotus Cortina's and if it rains the racing is even better ! Anyone interested let either Jon or myself know.

October club meet

Thursday 28th October : Quorn Slot car club – 7.30pm for racing to start at 8.00pm. The cost is £5.00 per entrant for a fast and furious racing evening with no damage to your pride and joy guaranteed ! The venue is behind the Station Public House, Derby road, Loughborough, LE11 5AG (for those of you with sat nav). Don't forget to duck if you are heading into the bar.....those of you that have been before will know what i mean !

Gary has recently attended the outdoor karting track Stretton 2000 based at Leicester East Airport, Stoughton. He said it is likely to cost around £40.00 and said that the fastest lap times are achieved in February. Expressions of interest to Gary on that one....

Finally, if anyone wants to convoy to Switzerland with Chris in May 2011 for the IMM, contact Chris.