

BLOG April 2011 : Written by Jerry Filor

April signalled the start of our monthly trips out to different areas of the county on Club night and this month was a run to Cottesmore, more specifically The Sun Public House in the centre of Cottesmore village !

We took a very convoluted route to Cottesmore through sleepy villages, single track and country roads, taking in the sights of Wyfordby, Stapleford, Teigh, market Overton and Barrow before hitting Cottesmore. En-route we crossed the railway line twice, surprising a manual crossing operator at one set of level crossing as 5 Minis and Calum's Focus ST170 rolled up....it was probably the most "traffic" he's seen in a while ! Once the train had passed, we travelled onward.....



When we arrived at Cottesmore we met up with the Exton chapter (Lisa + friends), parking up in front of the pub with a selection of Red, Pink and blue Minis ! The blue mini kept it's owner entertained while trying to drink his pint inside by resetting it's alarm and setting itself off !

Before we left Melton, we welcomed William and Richard, owners of a 100cc Studio 2, to join our small but perfectly formed convoy ! They live in Greetham, which coincidentally

meant that by the time we got to Cottesmore they were virtually home again ! They hope to come along to all our future trips having found us a welcoming bunch.

Calum was in a newly acquired Focus ST170, to replace his previous stricken Fiesta while his mini engine is being re-bored (at MED). Gary calculated that the + 0.90" bore should put the 998 to about 1100 cc, give or take....

Pete is open to offers on his clubbie estate if anyone is interested let him know....

I am going to talk about the Donington Historic Festival in this month's blog if I



may.....What a weekend, excellent weather (if not a little blustery) surrounded by classic car clubs on the circuit infield, and treated to a feast of top notch historic racing ! the highlight of the weekend was probably the 2 parade lap sessions...totalling 5 laps and all for

£15.00 for the whole weekend !

We were surrounded in the car club area by Jaguars, Bentleys, Morgans, Loti (is that the plural for lotus ? answers on a postcard....), Porsche, AC's – Ace and Cobras, Sunbeam Tigers and even some yank muscle Corvettes.....

WREAKE

MINI WANDERERS

We were there with 5 cars on Saturday and 4 on Sunday holding up the Mini honour !



Derbyshire Classic Mini Owners Club would have been in attendance, if they had managed to bolster enough numbers...We met a small group, including Andy (their chairman) and his wife Mandy and even extended the courtesy of a ride round the track as part of the parade..... When my camera failed my passenger (Andy) was able to film some of our formation driving using his Iphone, which he is going to post to YouTube. I'm hopeful that this could also lead to some part of a joint activity in the future with perhaps a min cruise to Matlock or a tour auto around the Derbyshire Dales !



SOCIAL BIT :

26th May : Foxton Locks Club run : The Gate Hangs Well 7.20pm for depart @ 7.30pm. Volunteers for routing.....

25th June : Chip run to Cromer. Details to be discussed next meet.

3rd July : Gaydon Mini Festival, club stand has been applied for with upto 12 free entries + 6 "support" vehicle passes.

www.minifestival.co.uk

31st July : Crich Mini Day, a lovely setting and one that a number of members attended last year. Applications for free entry for car, driver and up to 1 passenger to Jerry (registration of car and named driver to jfilor@talktalk.net)

www.tramway.co.uk



11th September : Stanford Hall National Mini Show – Jerry has applied for a club stand with up to 12 cars...so please keep this Sunday free and your car on the road for then !

Random Donington Shots....taken from Jon's flickr page :

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/38287160@N06/sets/72157626632488806/>

