

# Mini Car Club of Auckland

Incorporated



*There is always something exciting happening during club night.  
Here we have a Mini quietly getting fitted with a FuelStar canister.*



*Keep Labour weekend (21-22 October)  
free for the Mini Nationals 2006!!!*

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August 2006

# Mini Car Club of Auckland

Volume XIV

Issue 4

August/September 2006

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## **Clubrooms**

Northern Sports Car Club  
Mt Richmond Domain  
Great South Road  
Otahuhu  
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**New Zealand**

This magazine is the official Newsletter of the Mini Car Club of Auckland. The opinions expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of the Mini Car Club of Auckland, the Executive or Editor. Nor will the Club be held responsible for any information or advice in the Mini Car Club Magazine.

The Mini Car Club of Auckland is an affiliate member of MotorSport New Zealand

Don't forget to touch base with:

<http://www.minis-auckland.org.nz>

Lots of goodies, the Club's points list,  
and the mag in full colour!!

Deadline for the next issue:

**15 July 2006**

# President Report

Warwick Robinson

---

The July Committee Meeting was held at ‘Team McMillan MINI’ on Great South Road Newmarket in their Boardroom. A very flash showroom – lots of beautiful new Minis. Andrew Ryan welcomed us and gave an overview on up and coming new BMW Minis and work kits available. Andrew was saying that he hopes to have a far greater involvement with the Mini Car Club of Auckland.

“(Remember 3 or 4 years ago BMW Mini wanted to have nothing to do with the Classic Mini. This is a complete 180 degree turn and has come from BMW Germany)”

Heritage Minis are now invited to BMW Mini events. Andrew was saying that he hopes within the next 2 to 3 years to have 150 plus BMW Minis as part of our Club. He and Ian Ferguson are going to develop a brand new professional joining form for Mini Car Club of Auckland and these will be in the delivery pack of each new Mini. But to achieve this our club needs to become more professional in its approach. Our finances need to be more professional and magazine needs to be improved. Of course this costs more money, but the extra members will pay for this.

A light supper was provided.

Welcome to the new Mini Car Club of Auckland Era.

Arrangements for the Mini Nationals are progressing well. Registration forms are soon to be sent out to all Mini Car Clubs in NZ, and also will soon be on our Data Base.

**EL PRESIDENTO  
WARWICK**

# Club Captain Report

Gary Ashton

It's hard to believe that another year for the Mini Car Club has been and gone. I feel it has been a great year for the club with a full and varied calendar. The club's success at events such as Concorso Euro, Galaxy of Cars and in particular the Ellerslie Concours are very satisfying and a brilliant way to keep our club in the public eye. I would like to thank everybody that has been involved in the last year, without you we would not have achieved any of this.

There are a number of people who are working very hard putting the Mini Nationals together and your efforts should be applauded. I am looking forward to seeing a spectacular event come Labour Weekend 2006.

Beyond the Nationals, more opportunities for the club to excel in the public arena present themselves. We are going to Big Boys Toys in November, then Concorso Euro again and the beginning of 2007 is the challenge to win at Galaxy of Cars and the Ellerslie Concours.

At our AGM and prize giving we will be joined by racing driver Mike Eady. On August 25, 26 and 27 Les is organising a trip to Taupo. Get in touch with Les if you are interested. On Sunday 27 August the Bruce McLaren Trust are holding a run, entry form and details are elsewhere in the magazine.

Our special guest at the September club night is three times NZ Rally Champ Neil Allport. On Sunday September 17 Chris Roper is organising a follow the leader run in West Auckland.

In October we will only hold our club night so that final touches can be put on the Nationals. November is going to be busy also. If you would like to help at these events, please let your committee know.

Again thank you for your involvement in the last year and I would like to wish the new committee well in the challenges for the new year.

Hang on a minute, I have an idea.....

Gary Ashton

# Editor Ramblings

Frits Schouten

Finally I'm getting involved again. Took a little while but it all seems to come together really nicely. My first club night for ages was really nice and as usual a good crowd was there again. Kevin's Mini got fitted with a FuelStar canister. This got hand in hand with lots of testimonials from the presenter that night. I'm personally a non believer in this sort of addons and that's okay, many others swear by it. There was also a demo of FrictionMaster. Again, it looked impressive and anyone can have it's own opinion about whether it is useful to their car or not.

Ah, and there was the Annual GoKart event on the 9th of July. I made lots of photos and they are all on the web. Just go to my home page at

<http://simple-pages.homeunix.net> and

follow the link to the GoKart event. There were some really fast racers doing around the 33sec per lap. Some of the Karts were in a poor condition which disadvantaged some, with Chris topping it, having to swap Karts three times during the race. Eventually they let us go for an extra 5 laps in the last race to compensate for this. I have to say that they are in the process of replacing all Karts. The new frames are already lined up.

Our last committee meet was held a quite a different place this month. The usual

place is Greenlane McDonnald but this time we got an invite from Team McMillan. They offered their board room for our committee meet. Thing is, they really think we are doing such a great job of keeping the Mini Marquee alive and are now proposing to put a very comprehensive registration form to our club with every MINI they sell. This can boost our membership numbers very quickly with several hundered members in the next couple of years.

You know that, even though the MINI does not carry a spare wheel, it now has a jack and a wheel brace in the boot. MINI owners are as passionate as Mini owners when it comes down to keeping the car in Show n'Shine condition. After all, if you want to keep your car clean, the wheels have to come off for cleaning too.

It is getting very close to the Mini Nationals 2006 which, this year, are held in Manukau. You better make sure you keep Labour weekend free for this National Event because you don't want to told that you've missed out a top Mini weekend.



# Minis Manukau bound

By Rebecca Gardiner

**Auckland Mini car drivers are revving their engines with enthusiasm in the lead up to New Zealand's 12th annual Mini meet.**

Around 120 of the little beauties take centre stage in the Manukau event due to be held over Labour Weekend in October.

This year's meet is hosted by Auckland's Mini Car Club and features events including a gymkhana and autocross at the Manukau Sports Bowl, a sightseeing tour of Auckland and a show 'n' shine display in front of Manukau City Council's Kotuku House.

Auckland Mini Car Club vice-president Michael Wigmore is expecting a good turn out and says preparations have been going "sweetly". "We're trying to get it really big," he says. "It's always a big event and more and more people are coming along each year. There is definitely lots to see."

Team McMillan Mini is the major sponsor and the council is also supporting the event along with a number of others including Landscape Cars and BNT Automotives.

Auckland club member Les Gubb, known as "the guru on Minis" by his fel-

low members, believes the weekend will be a great success with the variety of events on offer and effort being put in by organisers. "A lot of people have gone to a lot of trouble," he says.

But why hold a Mini expo? What makes the cars so special? With a glint in his eye, Mr Gubb says: "If you've driven one, you'll know." Mr Gubb has been a Mini lover since their creation in 1959 and says they're an acquired taste for which there is no middle ground. "You'll either love them or hate them."

As Mr Gubb and other club members will say, Minis may be small but size isn't everything when it comes to good motoring. Mr Wigmore says Minis are easy to get addicted to because of their unique character and easy driving style. "They're nice and small and compact. People always have a smile on their face when they're driving," he says.

Local Mini Club members Ross Hammonds, Andrew Spittle and George Brown share a lifelong love of the little motors and are excited about the upcoming meet.

Howick's Mr Hammonds says organisers have been "beaver away" furiously on preparations. He has a 1976 British racing green Mini that he enjoys driving be-

cause it's "nippy", easy to park, economical on fuel and holds a lot of memories. Fellow club member and Meadowlands resident Mr Spittle says he has always had a passion for Minis, spending the past two and a half years building a car from

and wife Jan consciously file away receipts they have accumulated over the years for rebuilding work on their Mini. The Auckland group is also looking forward to the 50th anniversary of the Mini in 2009, when they hope to head



*Local Mini Club members George Brown, Ross Hammonds and Andrew Spittle are all smiles in front of Ross's prized 1976 Mini.*

TIMES PHOTO MICHELLE HYSLOP

scratch.

"It was a complete nothing before with no parts. It's been a real labour of love, but the time is nigh - I've got to have it ready for October."

The local trio admits they're lucky their wives like Minis too, as maintaining the cars can be expensive and time-consuming. "Our wives are very patient," says Mr Hammonds, who confesses that he

over to Europe for the celebrations. Although the design has changed since 1959, Mr Gubb says the car has been popular throughout and will be appreciated by new generations of Mini lovers. "It was and still is an icon."

## ***Everything you ever wanted to know about Electrickerly.***

### **The Lucas Theory of Electricity**

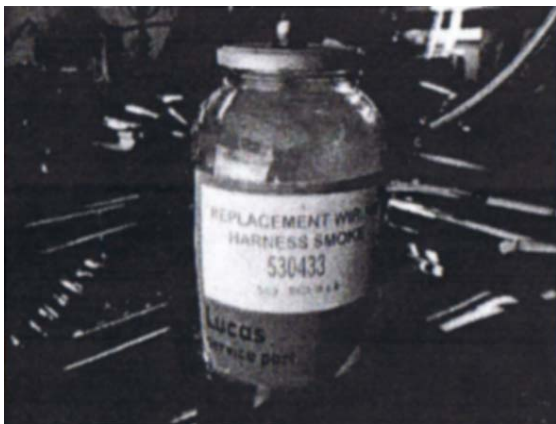
Have you inadvertently let the smoke out of the wires on your classic British car? This then is the solution to your problem!

Here is presented for your perusal one Lucas Replacement Wiring Harness Smoke kit! PIN 530433, along with the very rare Churchill Tool 18GS4BBS adapter tube and metering valve. These kits were supplied surreptitiously to Lucas factory technicians as a trouble-shooting and repair aid for the rectification of chronic electrical problems on a plethora of British cars. The smoke is metered, through the fuse box, into the circuit which has released it's original smoke until the leak is located and repaired. The affected circuit is then rectified and the replacement smoke re-introduced. An advantage over the cheap repro smoke kits currently available is the exceptionally rare Churchill metering valve and fuse box adapter. It enables the intrepid and highly skilled British Car Technician to meter the precise amount of genuine Lucas smoke required by the circuit.

Unlike the cheap, far-eastern replacement DIY smoke offered by the 'usual suppliers', this kit includes a filter to ensure that all the smoke is of consistent size. It has been our experience in our shop that the reproduction Tawanese smoke is often "lumpy" which will cause excessive resistance in our finely-engineered British harnesses and components. This is often the cause of failure in the repro electrical parts currently available, causing

much consternation and misplaced cursing of the big three suppliers.

These kits have long been the secret weapon of the "Ultimate Authorities" in the trade, and this may be the last one available. Be forewarned, though, that it is not applicable to any British vehicle built after the discontinuing of bullet connectors, so you Range Rover types are still on your own...



*The kit*

This Genuine Factory Authorised kit contains enough smoke to recharge the entire window circuit on a 420 Jaguar, and my dear friend and advisor George Wolf of British Auto Specialty assures me that he can replace ALL the smoke in a W&F Barrett AllWeather Invalid Car (147 CC) with enough left over to test a whole box of Wind-Tone horns for escaped smoke. How much more of an endorsement do you need?

More, you say? Well, I once let the smoke out of the overdrive wiring on my friend Roger 1-lankey's TR3B, and was able to drive over 200 miles home from The Roadster Factory Summer Party by carefully introducing smoke into the failed circuit WITHOUT even prop-

erly repairing the leak. Another friend, Richard Stephenson, was able to repair the cooling fan circuit of his Series 1 E-type by merely replacing a fuse and injecting a small quantity of smoke back into the wires. So there!

## The Dark Sucker Theory

For years, it has been believed that electric bulbs emit light, but recent information has proved otherwise. Electric bulbs don't emit light; they suck dark. Thus, we call these bulbs Dark Suckers. The Dark Sucker Theory and the existence of dark suckers prove that dark has mass and is heavier than light.

First, the basis of the Dark Sucker Theory is that electric bulbs suck dark. For example, take the Dark Sucker in the room you are in. There is much less dark right next to it than there is elsewhere. The larger the Dark Sucker, the greater its capacity to suck dark. Dark Suckers in the parking lot have a much greater capacity to suck dark than the ones in this room.

So with all things, Dark Suckers don't last forever. Once they are full of dark, they can no longer suck. This is proven by the dark spot on a full Dark Sucker.

A candle is a primitive Dark Sucker. A new candle has a white wick. You can see that after the first use, the wick turns black, representing all the dark that has been sucked into it. If you put a pencil next to the wick of an operating candle, it will turn black. This is because it got in the way of the dark flowing into the candle. One of the disadvantages of these primitive Dark Suckers is their limited range.

There are also portable Dark Suckers. In these,

the bulbs can't handle all the dark by themselves and must be aided by a Dark Storage Unit. When the Dark Storage Unit is full, it must be either emptied or replaced before the portable Dark Sucker can operate again.

Dark has mass. When dark goes into a Dark Sucker, friction from the mass generates heat. Thus, it is not wise to touch an operating Dark Sucker. Candles present a special problem as the mass must travel into a solid wick instead of through clear glass. This generates a great amount of heat and therefore it's not wise to touch an operating candle.

Also, dark is heavier than light. If you were to swim just below the surface of the lake, you would see a lot of light. If you were to slowly swim deeper and deeper, you would notice it getting darker and darker. When you get really deep, you would be in total darkness. This is because the heavier dark sinks to the bottom of the lake and the lighter light floats at the top. This is why it is called light.

Finally, we must prove that dark is faster than light. If you were to stand in a lit room in front of a closed, dark closet, and slowly opened the closet door, you would see the light slowly enter the closet. But since dark is so fast, you would not be able to see the dark leave the closet.

Next time you see an electric bulb, remember that it is a Dark Sucker. Based on an unoriginal earwig sent by H J Robinson, June 1996.

## Mini Ads



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## Mini Web

The Mini story was featured recently by Wikipedia. Everything you wanted to know but were too afraid to ask.

Check it out at the below link;

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mini>

Photos of our annual GoKart event.

<http://simple-pages.homeunix.net/>

**MCCoA club magazine archive**

[http://simple-pages.homeunix.net/mini/  
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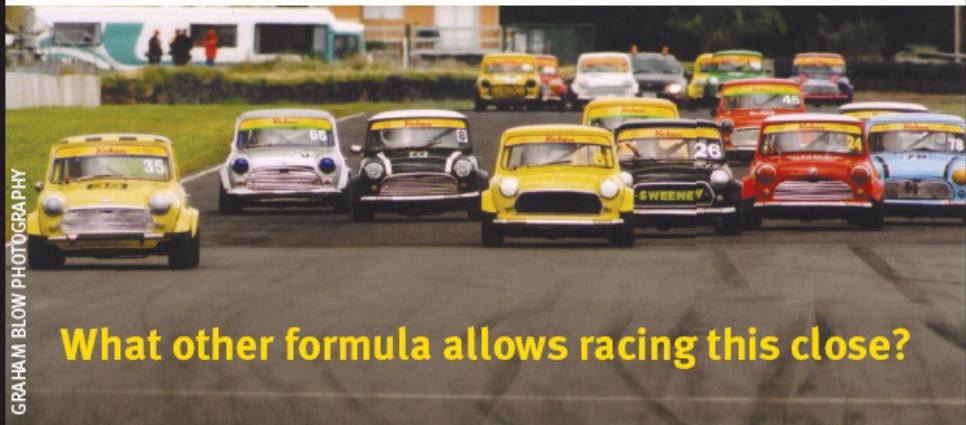
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**OR PHONE STEVE PRICE TEL 06 354 4015**

**Please make a photo copy of this page and take it with you to the Coast to Coast Run. (ED)**



**Bruce McLaren Trust Coast to Coast Run**  
**Sunday 27 August 2006**  
**Entry Form**

Drivers Name	
Address	
Phone no. include mobile	
No. of passengers, ie: Co-Drivers, Navigators, Back seat drivers, mechanics children & others	
Car Make/Model & Colour/Year	
Category of entry	Historic      Classic      Modern
Registration No.	
Trust Member No. If applicable	

I/we the undersigned acknowledge that this event is held on public roads and the normal road rules and speed limits apply.

I/we the undersigned indemnify the Bruce McLaren Trust from any claim or action as a result of my participating in this event.

Name

Signature

**Entry Per Car \$85.00 Includes 2 lunches at the finish**

**Additional lunches \$17.50 per person**

Payment: Cheque, Credit Card, Cash

Visa / Mastercard No. ....

Expiry Date .....

Signature .....

Post to Bruce McLaren Trust, P O Box 109050 Newmarket, Auckland

Or Fax to 09-309-3595

# NIGHT TRIAL SOUTH AUCKLAND

---

I decided the mini needed a proper run after 7 years of Show and Shines and thought the Night trial would be the answer....the first ever for me and Kerryanne

We proceeded to the meeting point at the karaka Bloodstock at 6pm...wow. What a great turnout. Not only from our club but also some members of the Nissan "Z" club and some Minis from the Waikato...everyone looked to be an expert...big spotlights, proper map reading lights, and the odd roll-bar. I was thinking about going back home at this stage!!!!

We set off at intervals and proceeded through the back of Papakura through a roundabout and bingo...down the wrong street (the first of many)...the first u turn and we were on our way to Opaheke through Ponga Rd and heading for the hills looking for the first clue, a number and name on the gate...came across a guy in the middle of the road waving a large stick.no not the right person or name.he was waving his stick at the cars.seems he was peeved at all the spotlights up his driveway (seems he hadn't been in the Auckland traffic!!)...At this point we were getting hot so opened the sunroof. Then it was too cold, so closed

the roof.then it was too hot.this carried on for the next 2 hours!!

Felt it was time for another u turn as hadn't seen any cars in front or behind, then 2 passed us so turned around again...conversation in the car was getting louder!!!.Finally we got to Jones Rd then Papakura to Clevedon Rd heading towards Clevedon, we managed to get the next clue and answer and we were so excited we missed the next 3!!!.. we proceeded to Twilight Road over the hill and into Clevedon. From Clevedon we headed passed the Hunua Falls, on to Hunua Rd through Hunua and passed another clue being Camp Adair...on to Ararimu rd then to Rama Rama (got the clue there too...so the second sheet was now not as blank as the first one, we were getting the hang of this!!!...Sadly from here we went to the top of the Bombays and the Finish, for a meal and a beer...the carpark was full of minis...mostly the ones that started after us. Oh well, we had lots of fun and only passed one incident where an anonymous person decided to reshape a bend!!! We know who u are!! and another removing beer from his bladder.

Great night well done Gary and Catherine for a well organised and enjoyable evening

Charles Tisdall

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12<sup>th</sup> Annual Mini Nationals  
21-22 October 2006

### REGISTRATION FORM

#### INFORMATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (Home): \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (Work): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Club: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of co-driver: \_\_\_\_\_

#### VEHICLE DETAILS

Make: \_\_\_\_\_ Model: \_\_\_\_\_  
Colour: \_\_\_\_\_ CC: \_\_\_\_\_ Year: \_\_\_\_\_

##### ENTRY

##### Full Weekend

- 1 car Show 'n' Shine, Gymkhana and Autocross
- 1 car Navigational trial
- 1 person Sat night spit roast

COST

\$50.00

Qty

\_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

##### Saturday Only

- 1 car Show 'n' Shine
- 1 car Navigational trial
- 1 person Sat night spit roast

\$40.00

\_\_\_\_\_

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

##### Sunday Only

- 1 car Gymkhana and Autocross or

\$10.00

\_\_\_\_\_

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

##### Sunday Tiki tour

\$00.00

\_\_\_\_\_

##### DINNERS

Saturday night spit roast – additional adult

\$20.00

\_\_\_\_\_

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Sunday Prize Giving Dinner – adult

\$30.00

\_\_\_\_\_

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Sunday Prize Giving Dinner – child

\$15.00

\_\_\_\_\_

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

##### Mini Nationals 2006 Merchandise

Baseball cap

\$15.00

\_\_\_\_\_

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Tee Shirt S, M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL

\$25.00

\_\_\_\_\_

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Polo Shirt S, M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL

\$35.00

\_\_\_\_\_

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Size

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Colour: Navy Only with white logo

TOTAL

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make cheques payable to Mini Car Club of Auckland, PO Box, 72-970, Papakura, Auckland.  
Registrations must be received by 24 September 2006.

Completion of the entry form will generate automatic acceptance and compliance in full with the organiser's instructions in respect to safety etc as described in the Event Booklet.

**This is the proposed programme for the  
12th Annual Mini Nationals  
21-22 October 2006**

**Friday 20 October**

2:00-6:00pm

**Documentation and Scrutineering**

**Saturday 21 October**

8:30am- 12:00pm

Manukau Shopping Centre

**Show and Shine**

1:00pm

Around Auckland

**Navigational Trial**

5:00pm

Clubrooms

**Barbeque Dinner**

**Sunday 22 October**

8:00-5:00pm

Option 1:

Manukau Sports Bowl

**Auto cross and Gymkhana**

1:00-5:00pm

Option 2:

Around Auckland

**Tiki tour**

5:00pm

Bar open

7:00pm

Dinner

Manukau Sports Bowl

**Dinner and Prizegiving**

**Monday 23 October**

9:00am

Farewell Breakfast at Denny's from 7.30 - 9.30 to put a display of Mini's at the Race meeting / Living Legends / Targa Prologue at Pukekohe

# MINI gossip.

To mark the centenary of the birth of one of Britain's most celebrated car designers, Sir Alec Issigonis, the Heritage Motor Centre, Gaydon, is organising one of its largest rallies to date on Sunday 15 October.

This year is the centenary of Issigonis's birth and what better place to celebrate this important date than the Heritage Motor Centre, which is home to a special Issigonis exhibition and a range of cars he designed, including the production models and a number of rare prototypes.

"This will be a rally with a difference," claims John Bishop, Heritage Motor Centre's Car Clubs and Rallies Co-Ordinator, who goes on to say: "We're organising the biggest rally ever to bring together all his designs in one place. If you have an Issigonis car, please come and join us to honour the great man."

Issigonis was the mastermind behind two of the most important British cars of the twentieth century; first the Morris Minor and then the Mini, which became a national icon and was voted this year as one of the top ten British icons on BBC2's Culture Show.

The rally is open to all. Drivers of Issigonis cars will gain free entry to the show where dedicated parking will be available to them. Their passengers will enjoy reduced entry rates of adults £6,

children £4 and under 5s free.

All derivatives and marques are welcome from the Austin 1100 to the Morris Minor. This also includes overseas versions and non-production designs, visit [www.heritage-motor-centre.co.uk](http://www.heritage-motor-centre.co.uk) for details of the full list. The Centre is also offering a unique prize on the day to the participant who brings the widest variety of Issigonis-designed cars on the list.

The Rally opens at 10am and finishes at 5pm. The Centre offers a variety of outdoor activities for all the family including Go-Kart racing, Children's Roadway and 4x4 off-road rides. Tickets also include access to the Museum. Show entrance fees: £8 adults; £7 concessions; £6 children (5-16 years) under fives FREE. The Heritage Motor Centre is situated in the Midlands, close to Junction 12 of the M40 between Warwick and Banbury. For more information log on to [www.heritage-motor-centre.co.uk](http://www.heritage-motor-centre.co.uk) or telephone 01926 645120.

Source: BMW Press

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A new world record for the number of people being able to stuff themselves inside a 1999 Mini was set in Malaysia.... read about it at the below link;

[http://www.int.iol.co.za/index.php?set\\_id=1&click\\_id=29&art\\_id=qw115061580437R131](http://www.int.iol.co.za/index.php?set_id=1&click_id=29&art_id=qw115061580437R131)

# MINI gossip.

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The John Cooper Works garage at East Preston, near Worthing, is to close. The garage was named by legendary race engineer John Cooper, who built Grand Prix winners for drivers including Stirling Moss, Bruce McLaren and Jack Brabham before going on to work with BMW on motorsport versions of the original Mini and, of course, the Mini Cooper itself. Cooper went on to produce aftermarket tuning kits for the Mini after it was discontinued, as well as running a Honda dealership, and prior to his death in 2000, he worked with BMW on the development of the all-new Mini Cooper which continues to bear his name.

John Cooper's son Mike has carried on the family tradition, running the East Preston garage to sell both 'new' Minis and classic Minis, mostly with the John Cooper Works (JCW) kits and modifications. Mike Cooper has recently collaborated with BMW on models including the recently-launched limited-edition Mini GP, a Mini Cooper S with the JCW GP kit. However, he has now taken the decision to close down the retail side of his garages, and will no longer sell Minis from the East Preston showroom, which will be shut, along with the workshop.

"Mike will continue to work with BMW", a Mini spokeswoman confirmed. "He wants to concentrate on producing more tuning kits and devel-

oping upgrades."

Mike Cooper explained that: "The JCW kits are fully BMW-approved. They are now available at all Mini dealers throughout the world, who can fit them as factory options. To move forward as a retailer myself would mean a large investment to relocate to new premises, i.e. to turn into a BMW dealership and move out of the area. I just want to design, develop and manufacture the tuning kits."

The East Preston workshop has also sold and tuned classic Minis. "I didn't want to go into restoration", Mike Cooper said, "but I will keep JCW parts for classic Minis, and can supply direct to people for fitment themselves or at their local Mini specialist. I am still very much involved with the classic Mini - it's in my blood. I'm still involved with, for example, the Italian Job rallies. I will always continue to support classic Minis."

Cooper will keep a head office, but much of the engineering work on future JCW kits for the Mini will now be sub-contracted; he will not keep a permanent workshop. But although he wouldn't give details, it's safe to assume that Mike Cooper is working on a number of JCW tuning kits and modifications for the upcoming Mk2 MINI and its variants.

The John Cooper Works brand, far from dying out as some Mini enthusiasts have suggested, is now likely to gain further international recognition via the partner-

# MINI gossip.

ship with BMW. However, it's a shame that the Works garage, which has become a bit of a Mecca for enthusiasts of Minis old and new, will be closing its doors.

**Courtesy of Channel4.com**

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Win The Ultimate MINI Road Trip with Mobil

Our super-sleuth spy, Hermin, tell us the following;

It has just been announced that Mobil Service Stations will be giving away a brand new Chilli Red MINI Cooper and a drive through trip to Great Britain in an upcoming promotion starting July 18<sup>th</sup> until Sept 11<sup>th</sup> 2006.

Purchase minimum of \$25 worth of fuel and get an entry form. Double your chances by buying two Cadbury chocolate bars for a second entry form.

Why fill up with any other fuel during this promotion?

Remember that Mobil offers 91 and 98 octane fuel ( 98 unavailable at Shell ).

Sick of people writing "clean me" in the dust or dirty back window of your Mini? Check out this novel way of turning something that needs washing into an art form;

<http://www.statesman.com/news/content/news/photos/062706dustart/index.html>

"how much is that doggie in the window...woof woof"

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You want a fast MINI.

Check out the following link that takes you to a short story of a 640bhp hibrid MINI.

<http://www.leftlanenews.com/2006/07/21/hybrid-mini-offers-640-hp-0-60-in-45-seconds/>

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Here is a link to the best spy shots yet of the New Generation 2007 MINI model courtesy of worldcarfans.com.

<http://www.worldcarfans.com/spyphotos.cfm/spyphotoID/6060525.002/page/1/country/ecf/mini/next-generation-mini-sedan-and-wagon-spy-photos>



**www.TeamMcMillanMINI.com**

# MINI gossip.

Our super sleuth spy, Hermin, tells us that the MINI Challenge practice day went well, and the scream of superchargers entering the front straight at Pukekohe was music to mini ears.

Apparently one of the drivers had an “off” circuit experience and needs some new panels.

He tells us that Will Selles, the ex-Porsche driver, was lapping in 1 minute 9 seconds - not too bad for first time out. If my memory serves me well that is about the same lap record of Classic Mini racing class (Mini Seven owners will know if this is correct).

All in all, the excitement is building and this will be an excellent series.

More news as it comes to hand,

**Peep-peep for now,  
Minnie.**

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This week MINI will reach its fifth anniversary since the car first went on sale on Saturday 7 July 2001. The launch created a storm and the car introduced a new level of quality to the small car market. MINI became an instant global success.

Andy Hearn, MINI UK General Manager, said: “MINI’s instant UK hit has been mirrored around the world, from South Korea to Spain, the US to China. The car’s design, great driving dynamics and ownership experience set it apart from the competition. Five years on, MINI is still winning group tests against new competi-

tors, and quality and safety are second-to-none.”

Dr Anton Heiss, Managing Director BMW Group Plant Oxford, said: “It is not just the high quality of vehicles produced here but also the customer focus and production flexibility that have played such a major role in the car’s success. Year-on-year we have produced record production figures. The 100 million pound investment programme currently underway will allow us to increase production flexibility and capacity further and meet the growing worldwide demand for MINI.”

Over 800,000 have sold around the globe in over 70 markets.

Eight models in the range: MINI One, MINI One D, MINI Cooper, MINI Cooper S, MINI One Convertible, MINI Cooper Convertible, MINI Cooper S Convertible and MINI Cooper S with John Cooper Works GP Kit.

A record 44,770 were sold in the UK last year.

UK is still the most popular market for MINI, with America and Germany taking 2nd and 3rd places respectively.

All MINIs are built at Plant Oxford. A record 200,119 were produced last year. Original predictions for production were 100,000 a year!

Plant Oxford employs 4,500 people. An increase of 2000 since the first MINI rolled off the production line. All future MINI petrol engines will come from BMW Plant Hams Hall, based in the Midlands. BMW Group Plant Swindon sup-

# MINI gossip.

plies body panels for the MINI.

Between 2000-07, £380 million will have been invested in Plant Oxford. MINI is now the 3rd largest car manufacturer in the UK.

MINI will be present at the British International Motor Show later this month and making two UK debuts. The MINI GP and MINI Concept London. The concept MINI is a modern interpretation of the Mini Traveller of the 1960s and a version based on the concept has been confirmed for production within the next three years. MINI has been awarded well over 100 awards since 2001. From titles including Top Gear, The Sun, Sunday Times, Car, Autocar, Auto Express and What Car? In 2003, MINI was the first British-built car to win 'North American Car of the Year'.

More Pure Silver MINIs have been chosen than any other colour in the UK since 2001.

300 options and accessories are available for customers to personalise their cars. Statistically, only two out of 100,000 MINIs produced at Plant Oxford will ever be exactly the same due to the number of options available.

**courtesy of MINI Press**

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MINI Drive Day and MINI Challenge series instructor Mike Eady and the Kiwi Team Nurburgring have won their Group N class at the Nurburgring 24 hour event. Congratulations to Mike and the team.

Read all about it at : <http://www.ktn.co.nz/latestnews0416.html>

Kiwis can fly!

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A while back we reported a MINI Cooper paddling pool that was being offered through UK stores. These quickly sold out and have been unavailable.

We have just come accross a couple of these being offered on ebay uk at the below link;

<http://cgi.ebay.co.uk/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=6058954801&ssPageName=ADME:B:EOIBSA:UK:41#ebayphotohosting>

Be quick though, these will not last.



If the auction expires you can trace them through the auctioner's listing.

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Click on the below link for a turbo conversion kit available in USA giving 300hp;

[http://www.madnessequipped.com/turbo\\_conversion.htm](http://www.madnessequipped.com/turbo_conversion.htm)

# MINI gossip.

**Vienna/Munich.** In 2006 MINI once again supports Europe's biggest AIDS charity event, Life Ball 2006, hosted at Vienna's town hall. In a joint venture with international VIPs, MINI will set a positive example in the fight against AIDS. For the sixth time running, this event represents an ideal platform for MINI to emphasize its social commitment.

In the course of the Life Ball 2006, Renzo Rosso, founder of the Italian cult label **DIESEL**, will present a



MINI Cooper Convertible, which has been exclusively designed for the event. Following the event, this unique MINI will be auctioned-off via eBay worldwide ([www.ebay.com](http://www.ebay.com)) during the period of June 20- 30, 2006. The proceeds will be used entirely in support of the Life Ball.

**Austrian Airlines** now have one Airbus A330 which has MINI AD on it. "ATTENTION! PILOT IS A MINI DRIVER" is displayed on side of the airplane. This airplane will carry VIPs of [Life Ball 2006](#) from New York to Wien.

At the Life Ball 2006 the French movie star Catherine Deneuve will



present the "Life Ball Crystal of Hope" award. This distinction recognizes and honours the fight against Aids.

As the acting president of the American Foundation for Aids Research, Sharon Stone will hold a speech regarding the global Aids situation at Vienna's town hall square in front of 40.000 spectators.

Naomi Campbell will present the DIESEL fashion show. Alongside 60 top models, including Alexandra Richards and Markus Schenkenberg, numerous VIPs will step onto the catwalk: Bruce Darnell, Andreas Goldberger, Renate Götschl, Arabella Kiesbauer, and Hardy Krüger Jr. Further international stars attending the event are Anastacia, Nina Hagen and Kool & The Gang.

**Information: MINI Press**

# MINI gossip.

## Who said small cars and MINIs wouldn't sell in the USA?

MINI USA this month has delivered the 150,000th MINI sold in the US to a customer in New Mexico. This sales milestone has been achieved three-and-a-half years ahead of schedule. The lucky customer, Ramon Aragon, picked up his Pepper White MINI Cooper that he purchased through Sandia MINI in Albuquerque, NM.

Like most MINI customers, the 21 year-old Ramon special-ordered his MINI Cooper from the factory, customizing his car with options that include a black roof and bonnet stripes, a Premium Package and the sporty "Checkmate Package" that offers special interior trim and exterior checkerboard graphics.

In fact, more than 60% of MINI owners uniquely configure the MINI they want and custom-order it from the factory. In addition, MINI owners add an average of \$5,000 worth of factory and dealer installed options to customize their cars. "We are delighted that we have achieved this sales milestone much earlier than expected." said Jim McDowell, Vice President, MINI USA. "MINI was planned to be a profitable business based on selling 20,000 cars a year. Last year alone

we have sold 40,820 MINIs in the US. It is truly a testament to the product and the brand that MINI remains highly desirable four years on from launch."

Sandia MINI, where the 150,00th MINI was retailed, opened its doors in Albuquerque, NM at the end of 2004 with a new state-of-the-art-facility. The 10,000-square-foot location is ideally positioned in the Southwest to serve the needs of MINI customers who may not be conveniently located near MINI's Phoenix AZ, Denver CO or Oklahoma City OK dealer points.

"My staff and I are thrilled that Sandia MINI has had the opportunity to sell and deliver the 150,000th MINI Cooper in the United States." said Mike Houx, owner of Sandia MINI. "The timely and "happenstance" delivery here in Albuquerque helps to underscore the strong sales momentum we have seen for MINI in the New Mexico market since we opened our store in December, 2004.  
**courtesy MINI USA Press**



[www.TeamMcMillanMINI.com](http://www.TeamMcMillanMINI.com)

# Mini Events

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**TUESDAY 1 AUGUST-** AGM and prize giving held at the Northern Sports Car Club from 7.30pm. It's time to elect our committee for the coming year and to make any changes that the club may need. This will be followed by our awards ceremony. Our special guest, Mike Eady is a Porsche GT3 Cup champion, advanced driving instructor and has just returned with a class win in the 24 hour race at "the ring"

**FRIDAY SATURDAY SUNDAY 25-26-27 AUGUST-** Weekend trip to Taupo to celebrate the Mini's 47<sup>th</sup> birthday. For details on this trip contact Less Gubb on (09)2985201 or 0252948293.

**SUNDAY 27 AUGUST-** Coast to coast run with the Bruce McLaren Trust.

**TUESDAY 5 SEPTEMBER-** Club night at Northern Sports car Clubrooms from 7.30pm. Our special guest tonight is three times New Zealand rally champion Neil Allport.

**SUNDAY 17 SEPTEMBER-** Follow the leader run which starts at the movie theatre at Westgate shopping centre at 9.00am. The run takes in some interesting roads in West Auckland with a visit to a model shop and will finish with lunch.

**TUESDAY 3 OCTOBER-** Club night at Northern Sports car Clubrooms from 7.30pm.

**SUNDAY 8 OCTOBER-** V8 Supercars at Bathurst.

**SATURDAY-SUNDAY 21-22 OCTOBER -** Mini Nationals Auckland.

**MONDAY-SATURDAY 23-29 OCTOBER-** Dunlop Targa

**TUESDAY 7 NOVEMBER-** Club night at Northern Sports car Clubrooms from 7.30pm.

# Mini Events

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**FRIDAY-SATURDAY-SUNDAY 10-11-12 NOVEMBER-** Big Boys Toys show. Our club will have a display at this show and we are going to need help to man it. If you can spare a few hours, please contact Gary Ashton.

**FRIDAY-SUNDAY 17-19 NOVEMBER-**Rally New Zealand

**SATURDAY-SUNDAY 25-26 NOVEMBER-** Concorso Euro, fun run, street race and classic car show in and around Waiuku. Entry forms in the New Zealand Classic Car magazine or at [www.lotuscars.net.nz](http://www.lotuscars.net.nz) The Mini club has been asked to help run this charity event, so if you would like to be involved in this spectacle please contact Gary Ashton.

**TUESDAY 5 DECEMBER-** Club night at Northern Sports car Clubrooms from 7.30pm.

**SUNDAY 10 DECEMBER-** Economy run.

**SUNDAY 14 JANUARY-** Dawn breaker run.

**SATURDAY-SUNDAY 20-21 JANUARY-** Kumeu hot rod and classic car show.

**SUNDAY 5 FEBRUARY-** Galaxy of Cars show and swap meet at MOTAT

**SATURDAY-SUNDAY 11-12 FEBRUARY-** New Zealand Classic Car weekend incorporating Concourse De Elegance



MCCoA annual GoKart event held at Auckland Raceway, Henderson.