

MINI

Mini Car Club of Auckland



OCTOBER 2016



CLUB CONTACTS

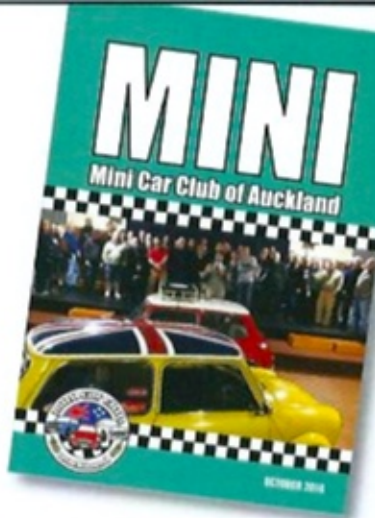
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CLUB ROOMS

Northern Sports Car Club
Mt Richmond Domain
Great South Road
Otahuhu
Ph: 09 276 0880

Meets 7.30pm 1st Tuesday of each month
Committee meets every 3rd Tuesday each month.

Address correspondence to:
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Auckland New Zealand



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Event Calendar

Friday 21st - Sunday 23rd October	2016 Mini Nationals. Hosted by the Otago Mini Owners Club, the event will be based in Dunedin. Please see http://www.otagominis.co.nz/#!2016-mini-nationals/booqo for all the details.
Sunday 30th October	Caffeine and Classics. Please note the temporary change of venue this month. The event will be held at NorthWest Shopping Centre, Gunton Drive, Westgate. See https://www.facebook.com/events/566387233547395/ for the details.
Tuesday 1st November	Club Night. Venue: Northern Sports Car Clubrooms, Gt South Road, Otahuhu. Proceedings get underway at 7:30pm.
Sunday 13th November	Interclub Motorkhana at Te Kowhai organised by Minis Waikato. More details as they come to hand but this is a fun event on grass so plan to be there.
Sunday 27th November	Caffeine and Classics. Smales Farm, Takapuna. There will be a "Westie Poker Run" leaving from C & C at 11.15am so be there for a briefing at 11am. Deryck has plotted a 40km run that will end up in the Swanson area for lunch at an interesting destination where lunch can be purchased.
Tuesday 6th December	Club Night. Venue: Northern Sports Car Clubrooms, Gt South Road, Otahuhu. Proceedings get underway at 7:30pm. Christmas BBQ
Sunday 11th December	Combined Minis Waikato /MCCoA Follow the leader Picnic run to the Nikau Caves at Waikaretu. There is a Cafe at the caves or if you are more adventurous you can book to do the Caves tour. More info will be put up on the club website.



Club Captain

Hello Club members!

Great to see the club night number on the rise almost back to old numbers we are trying to make the club night a night to look forward to with interesting topics. If any members want to share stories or interesting projects please approach me or any club member.

This year is almost over please try attend the christmas club night fancy dress and prizes will be given for the best costume. That all for now hope to see you on a run or a club night.

Cheers, Simon

Club Captain



Part 1: Deryck's First Taupo Fun Day

This year's Mini Fun Day was held in Taupo at "Bruce McLaren Motorsport Park" on the 2.2km National Circuit. This is organised by the Mini Racing Drivers Club Inc (MRDC) and is open to all Affiliated NZ Mini Clubs. The Auckland contingent (Kevin, Lee, Simon) travelled down on the Friday making a stop at Tirau to "see a man about a dog" and refreshments while I played catch up, not finishing work early enough to go down with them. Later that evening we met up with Chris and Christine Roper and Brent and Michelle Fitness who now live in Taupo, and enjoyed a great night at a local Indian Restaurant.

The weather forecast for the weekend was dismal BUT we woke up to patchy blue skies and that was how it stayed for most of the day. Arriving at the circuit around 8am we went through scrutineering and briefing and everyone convoyed around the circuit to give a chance to familiarize themselves with corners and coned areas. The track was damp from the night rain but was not long in drying out.

The format for the day was to set off and complete 5 laps and exit again, and re-join the circuit when ready for the next 5 laps. The 5 Auckland cars ran together and were very well matched, we also rented a garage for the day which gave us somewhere to keep gear and do any tinkering.

The weather held right through to the afternoon, and even that wasn't enough to stop Lee's enthusiasm which saw him have the wet track to himself for a while. Eventually he got the other Auckland cars to return and it was an all Auckland affair while the other clubs were busy packing up and heading home. The day was an absolute blast and thanks must be given to MRDC and in spite of the fees for the Track Hire doubling they still kept our entry costs down to encourage more cars to participate.

I will certainly be part of the Auckland contingent next year and would certainly hope others will give this a try too.

Deryck F

Part 2: Kevin's Taupo Fun Day Report

A slightly smaller turn out from MCCoA this year but those that turned up had a great time as usual. In an effort to keep up this year I had Minibitz fit a rear sway bar to MINTED and in the interests of safety a 4 point harness and I found that both of these made quite a difference. The sway bar holding the Mini flatter on exiting corners allowing me to get back on the throttle earlier. And the support of the full harness belts meant that I wasn't having to wedge myself against the door handle so I could just concentrate on steering the Mini in the right direction. I was using a 10" Momo steering wheel that I had bought years ago but put away because it was too hard to use on a road Mini but on the track it was perfect. Lee, Ben, Chris, Deryck & I would head out onto the track together and try to stay in contact as much as we could given the other traffic on the track, a lot of it going much quicker than us.

It was good to see a cluster of Minis from Tauranga/ Rotorua out on the track for the day as well.

Chris & Anna McMurray were there with BYGGLS and the Ashtons and Craig Luxmoore was also there with his race mini. We also got a glimpse of Trent's next race mini which was on its way to Wellington to be worked on. Mid/rear Honda powered it has the makings of a rocket ship, hopefully ready for the next seasons racing.

After a great day on the track (the MCCoA crew were the last to leave) we headed back to our various accommodations to clean up & have a cuppa. Andrew Carter had booked us into the Taupo Cossie club for dinner and he joined us for a meal and to listen a few stories about the day.

Cheers, KevT



to Mt Richmond Domain
Whenua, Ph: 09 276 0880



Hi ever yone!

First, I'd like to thank everyone who attended the AGM. It's really good to have so many club members taking part. It's an important event for the Club, so good attendance really does help. This time the meeting had a bit of extra entertainment value, thanks to a rather good Mr. Bean impersonator. AGMs can be pretty dry events, so he really did help bring a bit of life to the proceedings. And of course, many of you would have noted that we have a good sized committee now. Thanks to those who have decided to get involved in that - the help is appreciated! For the next magazine, I think it'd be a good idea for everyone on the Committee, and also our Club Officers, to introduce themselves. We're always happy to answer questions or help out, and we're easy to find at meetings, as we all have a name tag.

Secondly, you might note that picture up the top of this page is of my father and me, and a Targa rally car. That might have confused anyone who's been following the Targa recently, as you won't have seen us or that car in the event: I think the last one we did was 2008. That's quite a time to be away, so we've decided to give it another go this year. The event starts in Taupo on the 12th of October, and then via Ohakune (13th), Palmerston North (14th), and Havelock North (15th and 16th). It's always a long, tiring event, but lots of fun. We're still looking around for sponsors and perhaps a support driver too, so please drop me a note if you're interested in being involved. And of course if you're in the area, we always like meeting other Mini owners (present and past) at the various stops. So do visit the competitors at stops during and at the end of each day, and say hi. It's one of the best reasons to do an event like this in a classic car.

Cheers,

Mike



Club AGM

& Annual Prize Giving Awards, 2016

Congratulations to all our 2016 winners!

**Bradley Russell Memorial Award
for Club Spirit:**

Kevin Taylor

Certificates of Appreciation:

- Aquacut 2000 Ltd
- Repco Limited- Rob Apanui
- Mini Bitz
- Trent Dixon

Aggregate Club Points Award:

1st: Kevin Taylor, 68pts

2nd: Tony Maulder, 51pts

3rd: Alan Murie, 42 pts

Trials Points Award:

1st: Alan & Shelagh Murie

2nd: Peter & Cherry Chadwick

3rd: Kevin & Viv Taylor

Show 'n Shine - Classic Mini

1st: Chris Roper

Show 'n Shine - Modified

1st: George Gray

2nd: Deryck Freeland

3rd: Shelagh Murie

Show 'n Shine - Restored

1st: Brian Smith/Grant Bowyer

2nd: Ray West

3rd: Dave Cotty

Show 'n Shine - Custom

1st: Alan Murie

Show 'n Shine - BMW Mini

1st: Tony Maulder

**Show 'n Shine - Judges Choice (Ngaire Stephens
Memorial Trophy)**

Ray West

**MCCoA – Motorkhana/Autocross (Graham Crispe
Memorial Trophy)**

1st: Lee Norman

2nd: Kevin Taylor

3rd: Alan Murie

Club Model Night Best Display:

Ray West

Motorsport Award:

Trent Dixon

Motorsport Highly Commended:

Chris Mc Murray

Most Improved Car Award:

Richard Underwood

Lead Foot Award:

Deryck Freeland

Automatically Earned It Award:

Steve Clapham

Dip Stick Award:

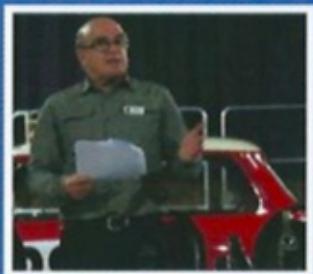
Dave Cotty

Switched ON/Off Award:

Steve Broadbent

**Female Club Member Award
(Warwick Robinson Trophy):**

Catherine Ashton









Auckland Classic Brit and Euro Car Show



On the 6th March a new Classic Car Show was held at Lloyd Elsmore Park, Pakuranga. The day dawned fine and 22 Minis convoyed from the meeting place to the park at 8:15am.

Our allocated site was well placed with plenty of space which allowed Simon scope to display the vehicles in an arc with the Club Tent and Simon's crowd drawing Caravan to the rear.

Although there was a large selection of vehicle marques at the show, the Mini display proved popular with large crowds in attendance (some said more than the Ellerslie Concours) and many with a story about old Mini ownerships or fond family Mini memories.

A successful day was enjoyed- bring on next year.





Mini toy model club night

John Bennoch gave us a talk on the toy model scene today. He said with the proliferation of online sales today there are fewer walk-in car model shops around today than say 5 years ago when he, as an importer, had some 27 shops in NZ he supplied - now down to 4. Stoker Models is the only one in Auckland now. He said he is now moving to online pre-ordering by his customers from catalogues. Have a look on his web site spr-models.co.nz. He must have some serious collectors on his books as some order a couple of hundred cars at a time! An important point he made was most model cars are now die cast resin (which I called plastic at our show). Molten resin flowing thinner than metal through the dies allows far more detail to the finished model, and the dies don't cost so much to make.

So, those die cast metal ones are even more collectable.

John is the NZ distributor of Spark models, a couple of members had heard of the brand. He had some Minis for sale at \$50 for club night, down from \$80. I hope some of you took advantage of that. He also had about 200 other models (mostly race cars) there from his stock of 2000.

Tony Garratt from DLG international came along also after a chance meeting at the last Caffeine and classics. He had a number of mini mouse models and memory sticks for sale for your computers. Also a range of car cameras. His web site is dlgint.co.nz

Much appreciated these two making time to come to our club night. What a great lot of toy minis were there! The hall was pretty full. George Grey showed his full scale GP.BMW Cooper S.



OVERALL WINNERS

Best display	Ray West	Monte Carlo Rally Minis.
Most detailed	Kevin Taylor	Tiny Monte Carlo #177 Mini.
Old Survivor	Peter Amies	1970 matchbox mini.



CLASS WINNERS

Fastest radio controlled	Brian Smith	Blue classic mini.
Smallest metal die cast	Kevin Taylor	Classic & BMW.
Smallest plastic/resin	Tony Maulder	Classic & BMW.
Biggest BMW	Tony Maulder	Resin & Die cast.
Biggest plastic/resin	Andrew	Classic mini.
Biggest metal die cast	Zak Gould	Classic mini.



There was also another very good display shown with a wide variety of Mini models: A tin surfer's Mini, a completed Lego Mini, a couple of early Matchbox Minis and the Italian Job set. A good compact collection. Many others collections I saw were obviously treasured ones. Peter Amies came the furthest, coming in from Waiheke. Kevin Taylor's collection fitted in a shoe box and my one packed out my whole car.

Thanks to the judges who helped out - John M, Simon L, and Kevin P. I hope the Club can run this again next June, with maybe a few of the classes combined, and possibly a static race car class?

OFF THE BEATEN TRACK

19 – 27 MARCH 2016



Did you recognise any of these locations?



1

Day 1 - Aratiatia Rapids, Taupo



2

Day 1 - Waipunga Falls, Napier-Taupo road



3

Day 1 - Taupo Lookout



4

Day 1 - Tuakau bridge



5

Day 1 - Sanatorium Hill, Manungakawa near Cambridge



6

Day 3 - Springvale suspension bridge, Gentle Annie road



7

Day 4 - Main street, Mangaweka



8

Day 6 - Raetihi



9

Day 4 - Dam for Mangaweka power station,
on Mangawharaiki River

10

Day 7 - Okau Road tunnel, near Ahititi



11

Day 4 - Makohine viaduct,
near Mangaweka

12

Day 8 - Paritutu Rock, New Plymouth



13

Day 8 - Sherwood Forest, Tukapa Street,
New Plymouth

DAY 1 DRURY TO PUKEATUA

We met Brian and Grant at BP Drury at 9am. We left there and exited the motorway at Drury to get "off the beaten track". We then followed Gt Sth Rd and through some back roads to SH22 (photo 4) through Waingaro to Ngaruawahia, skirted east of Hamilton and headed to Maungakawa Reserve (near Cambridge) with fabulous views over the Waikato area. This reserve is also known as Sanatorium Hill, as it was at one time a TB sanatorium for returned servicemen. We had a late lunch at Cambridge. Next we drove over the Karapiro Dam and back (photo). Then onto Arapuni swingbridge, which is 100m above the Waikato River. Needless to say as I don't like heights I didn't go onto the bridge, thank goodness for a zoom lens on my camera. Grant & Brian continued on to stay with family in Tirau, we carried on to "Out in the Styx" guest house for our dinner, bed and breakfast. The menu was "take it or leave it" – four courses with plenty for all. A brass plaque on the bar said credit was given to 80 year olds accompanied by both parents.



Day 1 Karapiro dam



Day 1- Arapuni swingbridge

DAY 2 PUKEATUA TO NAPIER

We met Brian and Grant 5 minutes down the road and then drove south – we had been recommended to drive Mangare Road, which is used on the Targa rally, so we did. An enjoyable road then via Whakamaru to Taupo. Unfortunately, as you can see from the photo, the weather didn't allow much of a view from the lookout above Taupo. The showers didn't stop us viewing the Huka Falls and then the Aratiatia Rapids at the noon opening of the gates. Andrew Carter, Auckland club member resident in Taupo, met us there. We then met up with Chris and Christine Roper for lunch in Taupo. After a tour of their new home in Taupo, we drove through the botanic gardens

and onto the Napier Taupo road. We stopped briefly at the Waipunga Falls. Our next side trip was Glengarry Road and Puketitiri Road – back roads into Napier. This was not taken slowly as we were to meet some of the Hawkes Bay Mini club for a shed visit at 5pm. Brian and Grant followed us and on arrival at the motel said "that was fun".

After checking into the motel it was off to the shed visit at Les Glesson's – 5 nice minis that the guys checked out thoroughly. The ladies enjoyed a good chat. Next stop was the Taradale Club for dinner with some of the Hawkes Bay Mini Club members. A very enjoyable and sociable meal was had by all.

DAY 3 NAPIER TO TAIHAPE

Before we left the motel Alan tried to fix our indicators, the left hand one was not working all the time. We drove towards Clive to visit the British Car Museum. The owner met us at the door with the words "I will be checking your pockets before you leave as I saw what you are driving." What a collection – Morris 1000's, minis, Bedford vans, etc, etc. After a couple of hours there we drove up Te Mata Peak. We had lunch while looking at the view. While we were there a 5 seater trike drove up. The owner was taking 2 tourists for a drive – he said it was the best way to make it pay for itself. After leaving Te Mata Peak we had lunch then we drove the Gentle Annie road. Now that this is sealed all the way it is a pleasant drive, we had a few stops along the way for views and a swing bridge. After checking in at the motel Alan had another go at the indicator – now fixed. We discussed where to eat and chose the restaurant within walking distance. After a pleasant meal and bottle of wine we returned to the motel for after dinner drinks.



Day 3 - view from Te Mata Peak

DAY 4 TAIHAPE – LOCAL AREA

Brian and Grant left us about 9am to head back to Auckland. We headed into Taihape information centre for some local knowledge. We then drove up to Mokai Gravity canyon – to view the bungy and the 100 mile an hour flying fox while having a coffee. Not to be – the 7 days a week operation was shut, with no signs up before we drove 15km from the main road. Back to Mangaweka to have an early lunch at the DC3 – shut! So lunch at the next door café. We explored the main street of Manaweka – which didn't take long. We then drove along Ruahine Road, stopping at the Mangaweka Power Station site and the nearby dam. We followed the Peep O Day route on a brochure, which had some historical information at various points along the way. We decided to go to the Cheltenham Hotel



Day 3 - British Car Museum



Day 4 Mangaweka, parked under the shop verandah

for a beer for afternoon tea, we arrived around 2.30 it was closed until 4.00. We had an ice cream from the dairy instead. We returned back to Taihape via Vinegar Hill and the main road. Today was a day with lots of places closed, but a good drive.

DAY 5 TAIHAPE TO WANGANUI

We left Taihape travelling north and stopped at the Tangiwai Memorial. Then we turned south heading towards Fields Track. At the intersection with Fields Track, we headed further south on our alternative route - Mangamahu Road - with only about 8 miles of gravel. Along the way we stopped for our bakery lunch and a coffee. This road had a few road works and 2 new suspension bridges as it had been closed by the February 2015 floods. I took a photo of the speedo at one stage to show Alan can drive slowly - 25 miles per hour - I took a photo of the road condition as well. We then arrived in Wanganui via Durie Hill. We wandered around the riverbank area of Wanganui then visited a friend of ours, Murray who built our mini roadster. We then checked into our motel and had dinner at the local cosmopolitan club.



Day 5- lunch stop near Mangamahu

DAY 6 WANGANUI TO TAUMARUNUI

We left Wanganui in the rain and drove along SH4 until the turn off for River Road. We followed the brochure - information about each village and historical sites. This road was sealed - except for the almost continuous roadworks! The road had been closed after the February 2015 floods. One puddle was rather deep and the splash went over the windscreen and onto the roof - thankfully the roof was on. The car was now so dirty that you could hardly read the front number plate. We arrived in Raetahi, and called on friends who live there. After a couple of beers for Alan, I then drove to Taumarunui.



Day 5 - Mangamahu Road



Day 6 - Wanganui River



Day 6 - Our mini after travelling on River Road

order food in order to taste some beer. Some ice cream was bought and 2 beers tried. We continued onto New Plymouth and checked in at the motel. Then we cleaned the car with the fire hose – with permission.

DAY 8 NEW PLYMOUTH – LOCAL AREA

We woke to rain. After watching a movie on Sky the rain continued and the traffic on the main road outside the motel crawled. We decided to drive into town – big mistake! Why do people go nuts after one day of the shops being shut! We drove to the port area, then Paritutu Rock, then around the outskirts of the city to Egmont Village and then up to North Egmont. We could see Mt Egmont as we approached. We arrived at the parking area – which is not big enough! There were lots of cars parked on the side of the road – we were lucky and found one space near the café. We wandered around to the lookout and a memorial then the clouds closed in and the rain came. Back to the motel – another movie – 50 sky channels to choose from!

DAY 7 TAUMARUNUI TO NEW PLYMOUTH

Before leaving Taumarunui we filled up with petrol and cleaned the lights and number plates. We drove some of the Forgotten Highway, then turned north to Mt Damper Falls. We continued on this road to SH3 on the coast near Ahititi. We met up with friends (from Auckland and Hawera) at Mokau for lunch. They were on motorbikes so we followed them towards New Plymouth for a while but by the time we got to Mt Messenger they were out of sight. Next stop Mike's Brewery – as it was Good Friday we had to



Day 7 - Mokau



Day 9 - Last day lunch stop Marokopa

DAY 9 NEW PLYMOUTH TO AUCKLAND

We left near 9am and picked up some lunch from a bakery. We headed along the coast, then just after Awakino we turned north along the coast. The very recent map said "47km unsealed, narrow scenic road" – it had 10 miles of gravel. We stopped for lunch at Marakopa then continued north until we turned inland onto the Kawhia road. We then headed north through Pirongia and joined the main highway at Ngaruwahia. We returned home about 4pm.

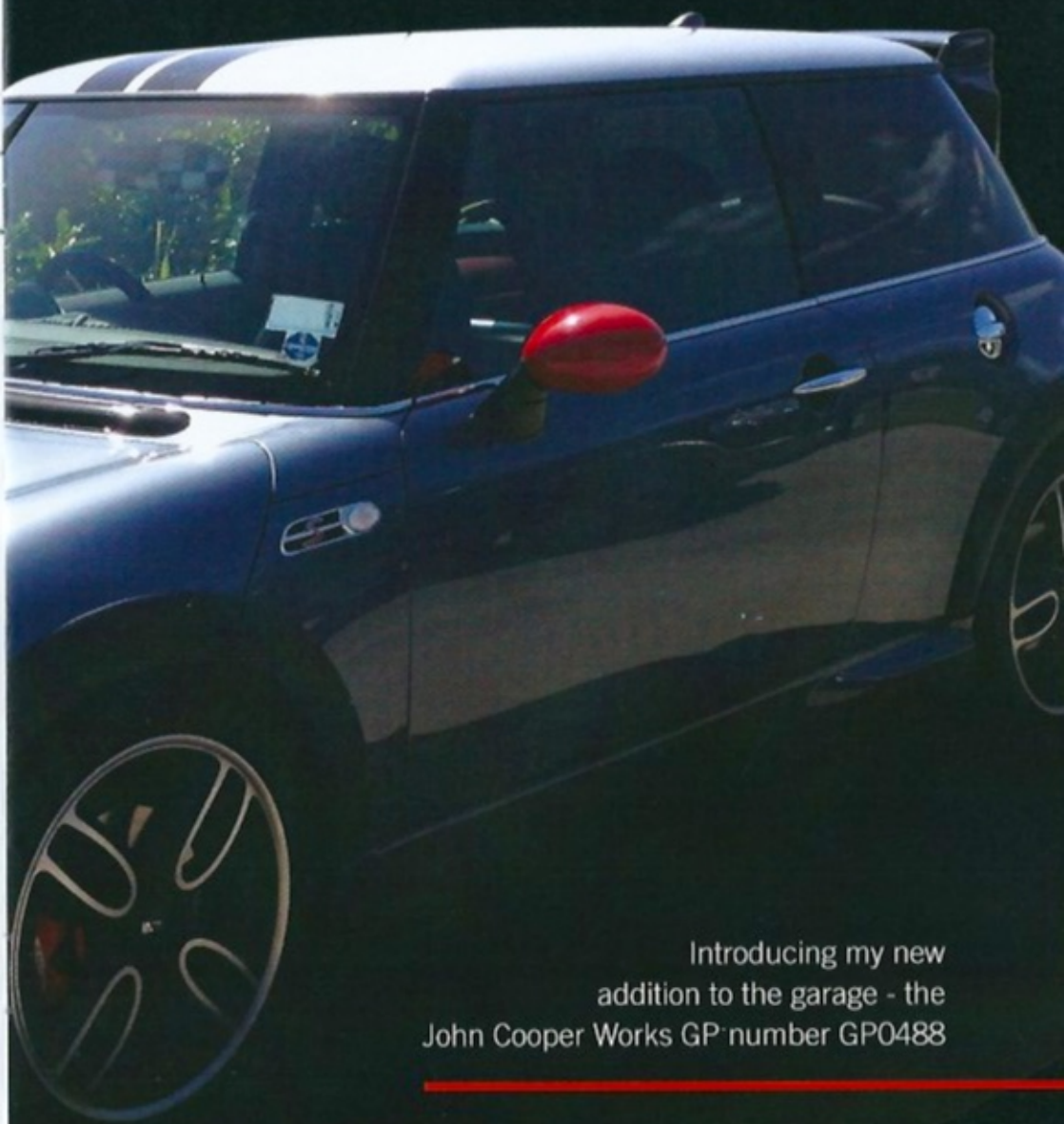
We covered 1196 miles and used \$290 of petrol. Our original plan wasn't to travel so many unsealed roads, but when we ended up on our own we changed our plans and travelled some roads we had never been on. All of this route was planned at home using google maps as well as paper maps. While on the trip we only had paper maps as we don't have a smart phone. There were a few loud discussions but we were never lost.

**"We covered 1196 miles and
used \$290 of petrol"**

HONEST GEORGE'S

**MINI JOHN COOPER
WORKS GP.**





Introducing my new
addition to the garage - the
John Cooper Works GP number GP0488

GP0488

The Mini John Cooper Works GP is painted in a very cool Thunder Grey metallic paint combined with red on the exterior mirror caps and the side air intakes in the front apron. A JCW logo appears on the lower air intake and the tailgate

The car comes with a pretty cool aerodynamic package which includes a large front and rear aprons, striking side sills and model-specific roof spoiler. On the front a large spoiler has been used in order to reduce drag coefficient by 6%.

The model comes equipped with xenon headlights in black shells, foglamps, sun protection glazing, air conditioning, DSC with special GP mode, and a Sport button

For the interior Mini opted to remove the rear seats and focused on the needs of the driver and "co-driver". The model comes equipped with Recaro sports seats with special GP stitching and a very cool cargo guard that prevents items from sliding forward out of the luggage compartment in sporty driving situations. The interior package continues with a thick-rimmed leather steering wheel and the gearshift knob with chrome ring and red shift diagram; an anthracite roof liner, piano black interior surfaces and door grips, and an anthracite rev counter and speedometer dials.

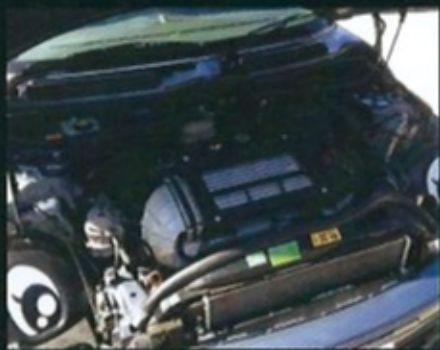
Under the hood Mini has placed a heavily modified 1.6-liter, 4-cylinder turbo engine that

delivers a total of 218 HP at 6,000 rpm and a peak torque of 191 lb-ft from just 1,750 rpm. The model will sprint from 0 to 60 mph in just 6.3 seconds, accelerates from 50 to 75 mph in fifth gear of just 5.9 seconds and can hit a top speed of 150 mph. The turbocharged engine also delivers outstanding efficiency: 39.8 mpg imp.

The new JCW GP is the first MINI model that comes equipped with an individually adjustable coilover suspension that allows the ride height to be lowered by up to 20 millimeters. Among other things, this means the suspension set-up can be fine-tuned to different circuit conditions whenever the MINI goes out onto the track.

Next to this system, the model is also featuring racing-derived sports brake system, featuring six-piston fixed-calliper disc brakes, vented at the front and a very cool set of low-weight 17-inch alloy wheels.





SPECIFICATIONS:

Owner:	George Gray
Make:	Mini
Model:	JCW-GP
Engine:	inline-4
Horsepower / RPM:	218 @ 6000
Torque @ RPM:	191 @ 1750
Displacement:	1.6 L
0-60 time:	6.3 sec.
Top Speed:	150 mph



