



# CLUB

## Newsletter – August 1999

Editors : Jonathan Slater, Tel.: (01375) 676798 and Liz Kingsford, Tel.: (01708) 450201

Web Site: <http://www.essexminiclub.freemove.co.uk>

MINI 850 MINI 1000 WOLSLEY HORNET RILEY ELF MINI SPECIAL MINI COOPER MINI COOPER S MINI VAN MINI PICKUP MINI CLUBMAN MINI 1275GT MINI MOKE TURBO

First, something a little different...

### Our 1979/83 Mini City Clubman 850/1000cc Saloon

*By Paul Wiggins*

'Twas cold and damp, late winter '98  
When helplessly, I fell to the fate  
A car for my love, soon heavy with child  
And a brown City min', was what she desired.

Her sister purveyor, of this mini in question  
To take a look, was my best suggestion  
A service was due, and a MOT needed  
And the caution of friends, was not a bit heeded

The barter began, and eighty pounds passed  
And off we both set, but not very fast  
It later was clear, that more work was due  
And the MOT sheet, was a lot less than true

I lifted the front, and the lump near fell out  
All of the mounts, were worn down to nowt'  
The valves and the guides, were so deep in the head  
I reckon the springs, would be stretching instead

The bulkhead was stripped, and I started to clean  
And some of the bits, did very near gleam  
Copious paint, and under seal too  
And still all the welding, was waiting to do

New skins on the doors, and repairs to their bottom  
The A panels and floor, were nearly as rotten  
The best of the rot, was still yet to come  
But I hadn't looked there, It was all too much fun

The clutch was shot, and oily too  
And fifty quid wanted, to by one from new!  
The primary gear, was too small for its seal  
Or the other way round, it depends how you feel.

All of this done, and front placed on the car  
She fired the first time, and could be heard from afar  
I drove into the yard, with little for brakes

Leaving behind, dark oil coloured lakes.

The breather was blocked, from years of neglect  
And a solution to this, I was soon to elect.  
When the coast was clear, and Claire was out shopping  
It was into the bath, that I was soon hopping.

With breather in place, on the head of the shower  
A few gallons of fairy, and plenty of power  
It wasn't that long, before it went with a boom  
And detergent and oil, was all over the room.

Carburettor & pipes, the list just got bigger  
The neighbours by now, were starting to snigger  
I tried throwing paint, on the bits of neglect  
And proved very good, at the curtain effect.

The boot was so rotten, it had to be cut  
And the boot lid so bent, it barely would shut  
With fearless intent, the worst soon came out  
The new pans in place, with plenty of clout'

New brakes were soon fitted, at the end called the rear  
But the shoes (made by Clarks), still filled me with fear  
The MOT fail, was soon to follow  
But I wasn't left long, to dwell in my sorrow

The chap round the block, known as Jonathan S  
Was already intrigued, by my god awful mess  
It was off with the arm, and new bushes in place  
And armed with new brakes, round the garage I raced

With eight months past, and blood sweat and toil  
Not to mention the soap, and a bath full of oil  
New ticket in hand, and a cheque for the tax  
And all it needs now, is a smegging good wax.

Now it's clear to see, from what's written above  
For the car called the mini, I've developed a love  
It might not be grand, or the very best one  
But for me it has been, all manner of fun.

July '99

## THE MINI YEAR AHEAD

Contact Jacky Reynolds (Tel. 01375 676798) or Sam Swaisland (Tel. 01708 448219), Essex Mini Club's new Events Co-ordinators, for further details of these, or any other Mini events you'd like to see the Club attend

7/8 Aug	Southern Mini Days, Hop Farm Country Park, Beltring, Kent. Contact: Southern Mini Owners Club, PO Box 1959, Sevenoaks, Kent TN14 6GT or <a href="mailto:moospeed@netsite.co.uk">moospeed@netsite.co.uk</a> <b>Sunday visitors: EMC will be setting off from Thurrock Services at 9am</b>
13-15 Aug	IMM 1999 UK, British Motor Industry Trust, Gaydon, Warwickshire. Contact: Mini Moke Club, Highgate, Leys Lane, Meriden CV7 7LQ. Enclose SAE.
15 Aug	Mini In The Park, Witney, Oxfordshire. Organised by Mini Magazine <b>Sunday Visitors: EMC will be setting off from Thurrock Services at 8:30am</b>
21-22 Aug	Rover Group Mini 40 <sup>th</sup> birthday event. See website: <a href="http://www.mini.co.uk">www.mini.co.uk</a> Tel.: 0181 944 1115
29-30 Aug	2 <sup>nd</sup> Mangapps Transport Show, Mangapps Farm Railway Museum, Burnham-on-Crouch. Will accept Mini Club for special 40 <sup>th</sup> display
30 Aug	National Mini Cooper Day, Curborough
18 Sept	Miniworld Action Day, Castle Combe Circuit, nr Chippenham, Wilts., contact: 01249 782417, fax 01249 782392
3 Oct	40 <sup>th</sup> Mini Anniversary, Heritage Motor Centre, Gaydon, Warwickshire. Contact BMIHT on 01926 641188
20-31 Oct	Italian Job 1999 (provisional dates). Tel: 01273 418100

### ESSEX MINI CLUB'S NEW COMMITTEE

Sue kindly took, and typed up, the minutes of our first AGM, to be published separately. In summary, a Committee was elected as follows:

	Name	Tel.
<b>Chairman:</b>	Jonathan Slater	01375 676798
<b>Secretary:</b>	Liz Kingsford	01708 450201
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Jacky Reynolds	01375 676798
<b>Events</b>		
<b>Co-ordinators:</b>	Sam Swaisland	01708 448219
	Jacky Reynolds	01375 676798

#### Newsletter

**Editor:** Jonathan Slater 01375 676798  
Chris & Rebecca Hill (Tel. 01375 403029) and Sue Oakley (Tel. 01375 361356) offered their services as signatories, so we can always get two when needed for a Club bank account.

Membership fees were established at:  
£10 single person  
£15 joint membership  
under 17's free.

Many thanks to everyone for coming along to help set this up. Watch this space!

## SOUTHERN MINI DAYS 6<sup>TH</sup>, 7<sup>TH</sup>, 8<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 1999

Please let the Club Events Co-ordinators know if you'd like to camp over this weekend. A number of members have expressed an interest in visiting on the Sunday only: these members will meet at Thurrock Services, to leave for 9am on the Sunday morning.

### MINI IN THE PARK SUNDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 1999

The Club will be setting off from Thurrock Services at 8:30am. Please let Jacky know if you are going so that we know who we are expecting to join us for the day.

### MINI 40 - SILVERSTONE FRIDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> TO MONDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> AUGUST 1999

A number of members will be setting off from Thurrock Services on Friday afternoon. Others are aiming to arrive at Silverstone on the Saturday, and a few members will be visiting on Sunday only. Please contact Jacky in all instances – she will take the phone number of the first person to phone for each day, and will pass this on to the next caller in each instance so that people can choose to travel together if convenient.

In case you cannot travel at the same time, club members who booked camp sites through the club have been allocated places in Camp Site C, pitches C3 to C12 – come and find us!

## FOR SALE

Mk1 petrol tank, 5½ gal. - <u>bolt-in</u> sender	£4
Grey roof gutter trim	£2
New BL left-half Clubman front valence - ideal repair panel	£5
Clubman bonnet	£10
Alternators	£5
Starter motors	£5
Matt black, round front, slatted grill	£4
All the above are O.N.O. - no reasonable offer refused.	

Tel.: Jonathan (01375) 676798

4 x Mini Special (10") alloy wheels with very good Yokohama A008 (165/70R10) tyres + steel spare. £100

Tel.: Alison 01702 557773

or Keith 01255 674089

also Mini 1000 engine and pair of Mk3 doors for sale on behalf of third party – Tel. Alison as above 01702 557773

Mini 40 Silverstone tickets (Aug 21/22). Tickets for 2 adults for both Saturday and Sunday, plus camping for Saturday night. Will sell for £20 o.v.n.o.

Tel.: John Collins 01268 776990

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4 x Dunlop Denovo wheels, trims & good tyres	£75
Wooden dash centre oval style with two glove boxes	£20
Leather Mountney steering wheel	£10
2 <b>BRAND NEW</b> front seats, fixed rake, green vinyl - ideal for restoration project	£50

Tel.: (01277) 230026

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Clubman front bumper and Clubman front indicator/sidelight units. 2 x 145 70 12 tyres, with or without wheels.

Contact Madeline, via  
John Collins, Tel: (01268) 776990

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Information for building a diagnostics plug-in for the Mini 1.3i single point injection. As most of you know, we recently bought a Mini Cooper from Liz and Daren, and I just cannot resist the urge to fiddle with it! I'll have a go at programming my PC to interpret readings, but need information about a suitable interface to hook it up to the car – anyone got any ideas? I'll have a go at building a unit if its not too complex.

Tel. Jonathan: (01375) 676798

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All early 1275GT (pre-'74 Mk1) bits... will consider any good condition GT bits, especially Clubman chrome bumpers, ochre colour trim, old remote control gearbox bits. Also - early 1½" carburettors (external idle speed adjustment, fixed needle, no wax-stat), all GT brake servo bits, Rostyle wheel centre caps, etc....

**Also**, detailed info on BL's 1275 GT'S' "Pluspac" Sport Performance Kit, part No. C-AJJ 4082

Tel.: Jonathan (01375) 676798

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### **Minis wanted:**

- Up to about £1500. Good bodywork essential. Contact Paul Dear via Jonathan (01375) 676798.