

# MiniScript

*AGM & Annual Inspections  
12th June.*

*New location: WA Mufflers,  
Dixon Road, Rockingham.*

May 2011



## Inside this issue:

Presidents Page	3
Prodrive Quotes	3
Editor's Etchings	4
Milanese Mini parking	5
Sports Torque	6
AGM & Conc. Licensing	7
Calendar	8

Mini returns to the top flight of Rallying.



# MiniScript

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## CLUB REGALIA

**The Club has many items for sale, as listed below. If you wish to**

**purchase an item, please contact Sue Elliott 93367037**

## 40TH ANNIVERSARY ITEMS AVAILABLE

**Prints \$35**

**Prints block mounted \$50**

**Coffee Mugs, embossed with Old & New Logo \$8 each or 2 \$15**

**Stubby Holders \$5**

**New club shirt beige with blue collars \$25.00**

## Presidents Report

.It has been a very busy time for El Presidente of late. I have been recovering from the ankle joint replacement and it is now quite good if not perfect. I can drive the Mini OK which was the most important test of all; the car has had very little use in the last 12 months because of maintenance of the owner not the car, makes a change. At work my company has won the contract to look after the big radio transmitter at Exmouth and I have been doing some work on that, the plan was for me to go and work there for a few years but the Government will not allow me to because of the metal in my legs being affected by the radio wave energy. All this means that I am now available to keep working on MCC stuff, lucky me!

Work is well underway on the National Motorkhana Championship which will be run on the first weekend in October. If you only work on one event this year make it this one. The Club will need lots of helpers on the day, there will be 4 tests running concurrently, so everyone will be busy. If you are at all interested please let Jim Newell or myself know.

The Targa "season" is just around the corner as well, Targa South

West will be run on 21-22 May based at Pemberton, several MCC members will be helping out on this event as we did last year. It is a great "low key" weekend, with good company, good food and fast cars, what more could you need. Targa West will be on again in late August, I will have more information for members when it comes out.

There is an interesting article in the latest Top Gear magazine (No 034) where a journo borrows a full rally prepared Mark 3 Cooper S and drives it up the Col du Turini Monte Carlo rally stage in the snow with a new Mini Countryman 4WD. Despite the obvious size, power and technology advantage the older car is not any slower because of power to weight, this and the fact that it was much more fun. Seems the Mini owner had told them "don't do anything stupid", snow, dark, large drops what could possibly go wrong? It will be interesting to see how the new MINI does in the WRC, though they are really kit cars so it is not a good indication of the road cars.

I was lucky enough to get an invite along with Dave Elliot and Jim Newell to the V8s at Barbagallo last weekend courtesy of the Minister

for Sport and Rec. He had invited people from all sports as a thank you for their volunteer activities, seem CAMS nominated us along with Ross Tapper and Colin Arkell. We were the only Motor Sport people there; we had a front row seat and a great time. I took the opportunity to stroll through the pits and meet up with some old mates from my V8 racing days, amazing how many are still around, the cars are very evenly matched now days so qualifying and tyre management is the secret as well saw on Sunday. The startline accident on Sunday showed us all how important safety is in motorsport, without all the safety equipment, clothing and car strength the outcome could have been very different.

Mid year is fast approaching, and with it our AGM. Make a note of the date and try to attend, it is your club and needs your input for it to prosper, consider volunteering for the committee if you have never done it before, it is not a big ask and can be quite satisfying.

Till next time, safe motoring

Ted Curr

## Prodrive quotes after Rally Sardinia.

.David Richards, Team Principal: "I think we have shown the performance of the car. We have proved what we can do and I think it has set the mark and set the standard. I wish Kris could have carried on the way he was in the early stages. If he had carried on like that I think we would have been in a very strong position, but that is life, this is testing and we are learning as we go along. All signs are really encouraging and we have no real reliability problems at all that we are concerned about. We have to take a lot of positives from the event.

"This morning we had to take the decision not to re-start with Kris. We know what the problem is but we didn't have a

**"I am happy to finish, the car is good and so is the team."  
Danni Sordo**

solution to it here, and anything we did would have been compromised and may have resulted in a recurrence of the problem. I just didn't believe it was worthwhile taking that risk. We know how to fix it and it can be fixed in a few weeks' time with the right components.

"What has come out of this weekend very strongly is that we have a real team effort and all members of the MINI WRC Team have instantly gelled together. I want to thank everyone for the hard work to get us to this point. It has been an amazing effort and the outcome has been very encouraging for all of us. It was also nice to see our efforts recognised as the team has been given the

Abu Dhabi Spirit of the Rally Award."

### **Dani Sordo:**

"I am happy to finish, the car is good and so is the team. I think the weekend was very positive and after many kilometres on the rally we have learnt more about the car, which is important. Also the team has taken a lot of data and are now working hard for the future. In the fast parts of the stages we were close to the top times. The positive is the chassis is really good and it is really nice to drive on the fast road. If you have a good chassis this is most important."

## Prodrive Quotes (cont.)

### **Dave Wilcock, Technical Director:**

"Obviously from a team perspective we are very, very happy that we have got Dani home. Throughout the rally he has been performing competitive sector times and from that we can see where we are fast and where we need some work, which is all very positive. We are very disappointed for Kris. Having checked over the data last night, with Kris's small issue we decided not to run him today. We really needed his data today so we could compare the two drivers. The special stages today were exceptionally low grip and Dani was struggling in the low grip sections, so with their two driving styles it would have been really nice to have Kris's feedback and data as well. It is disappointing in that respect, but we are very pleased with the team's performance and where we are right now for our first rally."



### **Kris Meeke:**

"We said before the rally we wanted to see the speed of the car and we showed we have entered at a very good level in terms of speed. Obviously Dani's car has worked faultlessly and he has had very good reliability. I have had a minor technical glitch and it appeared on both days and we didn't want to take the risk running again today. We know the solution for that but we can't do it this weekend but we will put that right in the coming weeks. Everyone is very positive so we just have to take it from here and go forward. We have to start our tarmac development now as we have three tarmac rallies coming up towards the end of the year. We have to start to learn the car on all different surfaces so we have a lot of development testing coming up. We just have to

## Editors Etchings.

Firstly, apologies for the gap in publishing a magazine. I have been trying for bi-monthly but the untimely passing of a computer has led to an unintended delay.

Of course, since the last issue we now know what that the Mini WRC team are competitive. Kris Meeke, before his off, was winning a stage on split times. Is it misleading to say this if this was during the period when his throttle was jammed? But all in all a good start.

With the news that VW are entering the WRC with a Polo R Mini is placed to be competing in a championship which may be about to boom again. Why a child in a Darth Vader costume was in the VW release shots I have no idea.....

I am hoping that the Moke makes this years inspection. A clutch master cylinder failure ended last years attempts to attend. On behalf of all Moke owners I can only thanks everyone for ensuring this event is during winter, normally on a wet day. Please make sure you do go to the new location.

Something that some may have missed is that production cars have returned to Longbridge. The MG6, a hatchback between the Focus and Mondeo size, which is being put together from knock down kits ex-China. (see pic right). Reports are that it is a worthy effort a little behind the latest Euro offerings. The engine is a development of the much maligned K series, and this is the main source of nega-

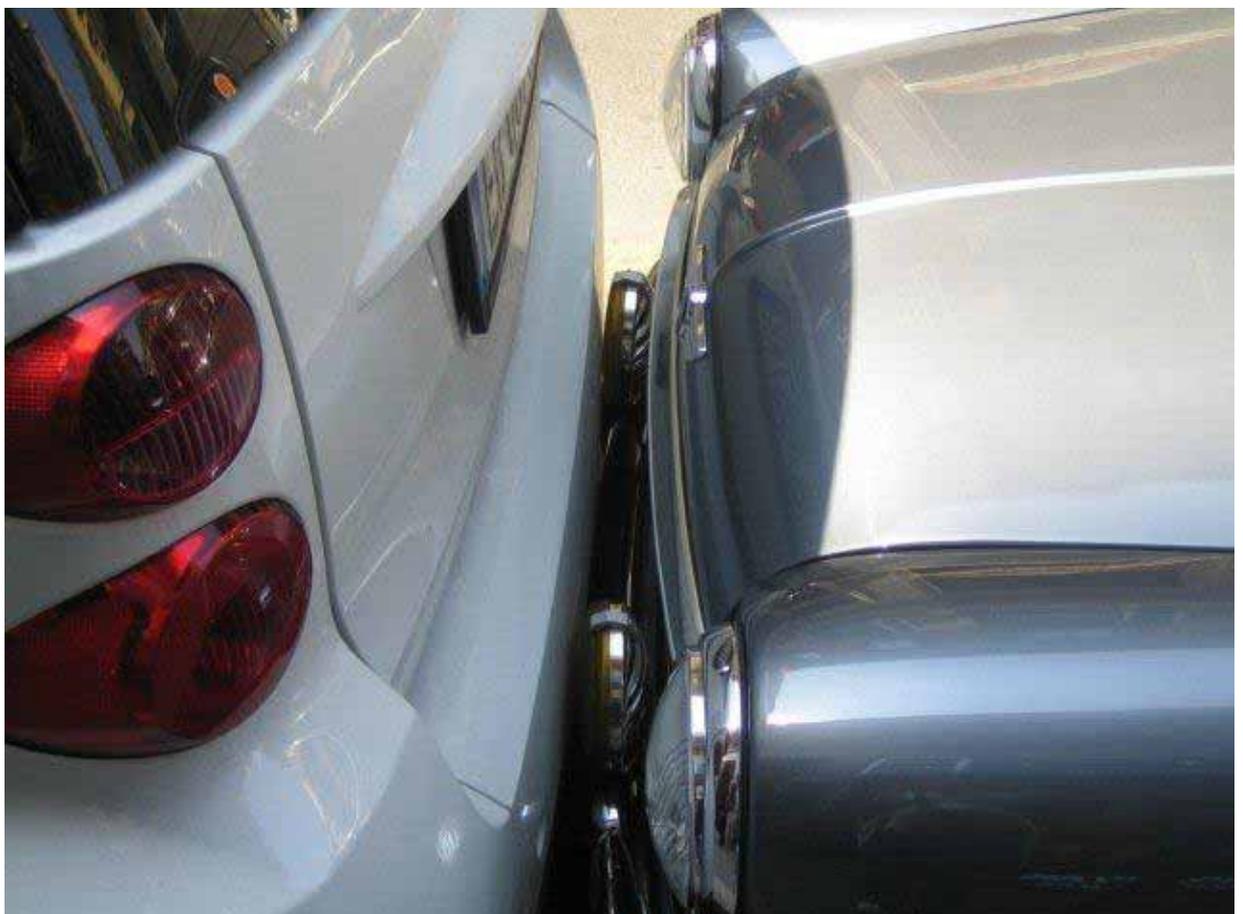
For years MG Rover kept rehashing old Honda designs with no new car in the European bread and butter market (the Mini and 75 being at either end of the size spectrum). Now with no factory to speak of, they are getting these cars to market.

And finally, as ever, a call for articles. A magazine can only be as good as its content—so please contribute where you can.





Parking Milan style.  
Courtesy Neville Grigsby.



## Sports Torque

Well what a fantastic start to the 2011 Motorkhana season !!

Sunday, February 27 saw the Mini Car Club run their annual "Beginners Motorkhana" although this year we tried something a bit different; we made it completely free for newcomers to enter.

The idea was to make it easier for people who might not be too sure what a motorkhana is to come along and give it a go at absolutely no expense. Thanks to Mike Brewer for proposing this move.

There was also a change to the name of the event to the 2011 Come 'n' Try Motorkhana ; to make the event appeal to a wider demographic.

The result of these changes was a massive response and a field of 75 drivers, more than half of which had not driven a motorkhana before. The event was therefore a huge success and it has encouraged the Mini Car Club to do the same next year, if not before.

The real good part though was a large increase in entries for the 1st State Championship round which was held on Sunday, March 27. Almost half of the Come 'n' Try newcomers jumped in and gave the State Championship a go.

As you probably now, 2011 is an important year for Motorkhana s is WA with the first weekend d in October seeing this years' Australia Motorkhana championship being held at the RAC Driving Centre (Peth Intl' Airport) so the more drivers we can get involved the better the event will be.

The next State round is part of the Albany Classic weekend which is always a fantastic weekend away. Traditionally the motorkhana is on the Saturday making Sunday free to watch the Round the Houses event. Thanks to Garry Turner, the venue is again at CBH and Supp Regs will be available very soon, so keep an eye out for them in due course.

Of course the Motorkhana won't be the only place to see Minis at Albany; there will be a fair share competing at two hillclimbs over the long weekend as well as in the actual Round the Houses event. This event wouldn't be the same without Minis; they're a crowd favourite.

For more information on Motorsport or Clubsport events contact Dave Elliott (Competition Secretary) on 9336 7037 or [DSelliott@aapt.net.au](mailto:DSelliott@aapt.net.au).

Dave Elliott



**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING &  
CONCESSIONAL LICENCING INSPECTION  
SUNDAY 12TH JUNE**

***WA Mufflers, Dixon Road, Rockingham***

If you have your car on concessional licence, it will need to be inspected by the MCC appointed club scrutineer. **No excuses.**

If you have a car that is valid for a concessional licence and would like to apply for a concessional licence bring it along for inspection.

**Scrutineering will start at 10am & finish by 11.45am**

The club is putting on a Sausage Sizzle for lunch, which will start at 12noon

**The AGM will start around 12.30ish after the sausage sizzle.**

All MCC members are eligible for a position on the committee  
and also the right to vote.

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**YOU MUST BRING WITH YOU A COPY OF YOUR CURRENT REGISTRATION  
FOR YOUR MINI / MOKE**

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**Contact: Ross Bennett 9332 1245**

**These are items to be inspected for concessional licence.**

**1. Electrical** – Headlights, high beam dip beam. Park lights, taillights, number plate light. Brake Warning lights. Flashing indicators. Horn, dash lights, heater/demister (if fitted). Windscreen wiper. (washers if fitted). Wiring in good order. Battery secure. Reflectors and reverse lights.

**2. Brakes** – Primary & parking brakes to operate efficiently. No leaks from hydraulic or air systems. Rods and cables in good condition with locks and split pins fitted. Warning lights to operate if fitted.

**3. Suspension and steering** – No excessive play at steering or suspension joints. Shackle and suspension bushes to be in good condition. Front and rear wheel bearings to be serviceable with correct free play. Shock absorbers to be in serviceable condition. (if fitted). No corrosion/rust in chassis or components.

**4. Wheels & tyres** – Wheels to be in serviceable condition (including spare). No excess play in split rim or spoke wheels. Tyres to be compatible and have legal tread depth or comply with manufacturer's original equipment.

**5. Drive Line** – Engine, exhaust. Transmission and differential. Speedometer and speed limiter. Vehicle performance. Fuel and oil leaks.

**6. Body & trim** - Body and chassis to be in serviceable condition with all doors and windows to operate correctly. No tears in mudguards. Paint work to be in a presentable condition.

**7. ADR** – Vehicle to comply with relevant Australian Design Rules if applicable at time of manufacture.

***Please do the right thing with your Concessional Club Licence as the old car movement has worked hard to get the privilege for you.***

***If you are caught abusing the system, your vehicle will be placed on the full licence and you could be fined.***

# MINI CAR CLUB OF WA (Inc)

## JUNE

4 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup>	State Motorkhana Rnd 2	Albany	Contact Dave Elliott
12 <sup>TH</sup>	Concessional Licencing AGM & Sausage Sizzle	10am WA Mufflers Dixon Rd Rockingham	Contact Ross Bennett 9332 1245
14 <sup>th</sup>	Motorkhana Meeting	Chez Elliott	7.30pm

## JULY

10 <sup>th</sup> 7 <sup>th</sup>	State Motorkhana Rnd 3		Phone Dave Elliott 9336 7037
19 <sup>TH</sup>	Committee Meeting	Chez Elliott	7.30pm

## AUGUST

21 <sup>ST</sup>	State Motorkhana Rnd 4	RAC Grogan Rd	Phone Dave Elliott 9336 7037
25 <sup>th</sup> – 28 <sup>th</sup>	Targa West	Toodyay	Contact Ted 9592 8292

## SEPTEMBER



VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR THE MINI STAGE AT TOODYAY  
PLEASE CONTACT TED CURR ON 9592 8292 IF YOU CAN HELP OUT