

Help Needed

In our continued efforts and fundraising, we are looking for volunteers to help with the running of our events.

If you think you can help in any way from helping marshal cars on the day at Gunwharf Quays, to assisting gaining sponsorship, drop us a line via the website or email.

2010 and Upcoming Events

• For 2010 we are looking at a few new ideas to make the event more fun. We are looking at expanding the event to a two spectacular with the Sunday still remaining our showcase day at Gunwharf Quays. The dates for this year are 4th and 5th September 2010, so mark the date in you diary now. Full details will appear on the website as soon as dates and plans are confirmed, but it going to be something special.

Mini Cooper Day, Beaulieu
Sunday June 13th 2010

**Quay for my Car
Poole Quay**

Friday May 14th
Friday June 11th
Friday July 9th
Friday August 13th

**BACK TO DOWNTON
Sat 1st May 2010**

The Brian Whitehead Sports Club,
Wick Lane, Downton, Wilts. SP5 3NF

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Minis4Kids

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Famous Son

2010 sees the thirtieth anniversary of the passing of one of Portsmouth most famous son's. Peter Sellers was born in Southsea on September 8th 1925, in a house overlooking Southsea common. His first stage appearance was aged two days at Kings Theatre, Portsmouth but he went onto radio and movie fame.

He was an avid car fan owning a number of classic sports cars, but he is best remembered for his Radford Mini which he used in his Pink Panther movie, "A Shot in The Dark".



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Ticket to Ryde and Gunwharf Quays

Welcome everyone to the first edition for 2010. After the successful start of Minis4kids, we are looking forward to this years event.

With the successful links with *Gunwharf Quays, Wave 105, AVIVA Insurance, Snows MINI and Scotthall MINI Hampshire and the Portsmouth Film Festival* saw our first year kick off in style and with some very famous guests including film producer Michael Deeley, Athlete Rob Tobin and Wave 105's very own Andy Jackson.



This year we are expanding our horizons outwards and we are currently negotiating with a number of outside parties to make 2010 bigger, better and more fun. The event will run over two days and there will be a number of options for entry over the two days. Entry forms and full details will be posted out soon. So keep an eye on the website.

As part of our ongoing commitment to supporting Wave 105 and the Cash for Kids charity, we will be looking at new ideas for other fundraisers as well as joining Wave 105's own events.

One idea which we are looking into is a calendar for 2011. We are looking for interesting photos of Mini's old and new, modified or standard in fun and different locations. If like me you get the customary calendar at Christmas with the Sport pack Cooper and the caption of "1969 Mk1 Mini" pictured outside some ones house then you know what we aren't looking for. So please have a look around and start snapping. We will feature any pictures submitted on the website and pick twelve ones that show the Mini scene at its best.



A word from the pits

We recently caught up with Gary Patterson, the driver of the Gold brick liveried Race Mini we had on display at Gunwharf Quays and his dad/race engineer Rex to ask them about their racing.

To get Gary out of his studio and being motor sports fans, he decided in 1999 he would like to race on the major circuits starting in the 2000 season. He had never raced before so had to get his race licence and do his race drivers course. You have to race with a learners 'X' on the boot until you have completed 10 races and had your licence signed by the clerk of the course.

Their first ever race was at Snetterton in 2000, in our newly built immaculate Grease the musical liveried Cooper. He qualified 14th out of about 32 cars which for a learner was brilliant apparently. (Long in the tooth drivers congratulated him). The race started and on the first lap, at the end of the pit straight where there is a Fast right hand bend. three cars had a coming together and one cannoned out of the collision and stuffed Gary's door and sill in, jamming the door. The race was red flagged and although Gary could still drive the car and came back round to the grid, but because the door would not open, he was not allowed to race by the safety scrutineers. The three other cars were written off. What a start to racing.

Having gained experience, and a lot of damage in the slower Mighty Minis class, they moved on to Super Mighty Minis in 2002 and built from scratch, their Kawasaki Green Racer, the colour is now favoured by many people.

In 2003 Gary won the Championship title in the car and set lap records that are still in force. Work commitments resulted in him being able to compete in only 7 of the 14 rounds in 2004. However he did win all 7 and put the car on pole position for qualifying in every round of the 7.

In 2005 they were able to compete at all rounds and he again won the Championship title that year. As it had such a good race pedigree and they thought they would give the full on racing a break. They then sold the car as it could fetch a premium price. Mini World and Mini Magazine featured it constantly in its race reports which helped.

In 2007, a racer who owned a large garage and recovery business in Norfolk, (a bit like Boarhunt but bigger), got so fed up with his Super mighty breaking down, he offered it to Gary and Rex to see if we could sort it out. They found several things wrong, plus the suspension set up and corner weights were all over the place. Having put them right, Gary and Rex entered it in 6 races and won all 6 before giving it back to the garage owner.

Gary and Rex decide to compete in 2009 because it was the 50th Anniversary of the mini. To ensure we were off to a good start, in 2008 they got their application in for race No 50 for 2009. Rex purchased a 1996 Cooper Spi and proceeded to strip it, get rid of the rust and rebuild. The idea was a base colour of black overlaid with gold bullion bars to celebrate 40years of the Italian Job and Gold also for the golden anniversary. The car would also have the Morris emblem and type one side and Austin shield and script on the other.

As it turned out, Rex finished the car in time to Race at Donnington in June. We took the car to brands for a test beforehand. At Donnington, qualifying was in the pouring rain and once Gary settled in to the Racing mode, he overtook about 6 cars on the outside down the Craner Curves. Gary put the car on pole position by over a second. Before the race itself, loads of people approached the car to photograph its 'homage' to the Mini. Come the race, he led virtually the whole time and won.

They next raced at Silverstone where he qualified 14th!!!! Out of 22. When he came in after, I checked the car and found a rear camber bracket had worked loose and the wheel had slipped forward on one side giving massive toe in. Once corrected, he had a battle on his hands from 14th but managed to fight his way through the pack to win. There was a big write up on his outstanding driving and win in Autosport.

Ticket to Ryde

We are pleased to announce that plans for the weekend event are nearing completion. We have already gained the support of Beaulieu Motor Museum, Gunwharf Quays, Wave 105, IOW Tourist Board, Mark One Limousines and Wightlink.

The Saturday will take the form of a day on the Isle of Wight with camping included. The full day plan will be out soon, but this will be a fun day

The Sunday will feature our Mini invasion of Gunwharf Quays, but this year with more activities taking place in and around the complex. We already have confirmed a Mountain bike display incorporating a Mini and in honor of Peter Sellers, a Pink Panther will be arriving by Limo to start our fundraising activities. More activities are currently being planned and will blow the doors off anything we have done before.

Entries will be for full weekend or Sunday only allowing entrants to take part in the full weekend. These will be based upon one Mini with a driver and passenger only.

Entry forms and full details will be posted out on the website very soon. So if you want to be first in the queue, contact us directly via the website and we will be in touch very soon.

Friday 23rd April at 7:00pm

Join Steve Power, for an entertaining evening at POSH, Southampton, to raise funds for Jon Brooks, Sales Director at Wave 105, who is running the London Marathon in aid of Wave 105 Cash for Kids.

Steve will keep you in stitches with stories of his life.

Tickets are £20 per person and includes dinner buffet, plus cash bar and raffle.

To book tickets please call 01489 481057.

Venue:

P.O.S.H Indian Restaurant, 1 Queensway, Southampton, Hampshire,

SO14 3AQ

www.posh-restaurant.com 023 8022 6377

Situations vacant

Key supporter

Due to the success of Minis4Kids, We are currently looking for an enthusiastic volunteer to join our expanding team.

We are looking for someone who has an aptitude for event organisation and can attend a meeting a month probably in the day-time in Portsmouth area, as well as an occasional evening meeting. Meetings would be arranged at lunch time or 5pm start for Portsmouth meetings.

The exact role is to be confirmed, but the person would complement our existing team.

If you feel you could help us or would like further details, please email us direct at:-

Minis4kids@ntlworld.com

Fundraising

We are dedicated to supporting Wave 105 Cash for Kids charity. In doing so we are supporting children within our local area.

We have already presented a cheque for £800 to DJ Simon Clarke of Wave 105.

For 2010 we have a number of ideas, but without your support we could not do this.

We will be announcing some new fundraising events and ideas very soon.

So please spread the word about these via your clubs and contact lists, and lets make 2010 a milestone year for Minis4Kids.

