

APRIL 2002

Lincolnshire Mini Owners Club

April News Letter, not much to report this month and there is little in the way of major change to the Years Diary.

I do apologies for any problems that may have occurred on Sunday at Lincoln, I did not go in the end and it seems that I have some Emails floating in hyperspace!

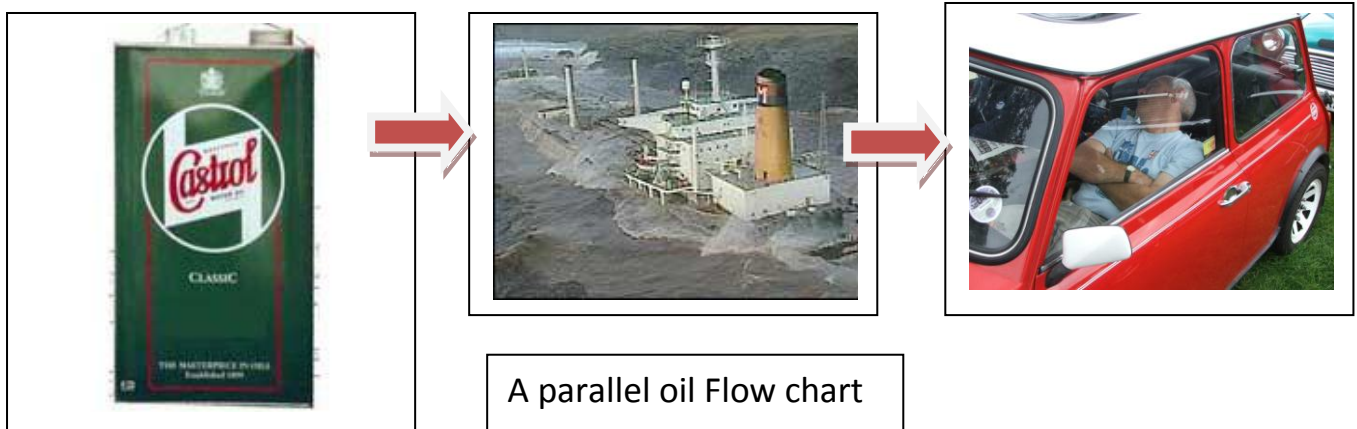
Still I hear all those who went found it to be a great day out, thanks mainly to the pleasant weather.

I have had problems with Garry's spot lights and I am still working on them before we go on holiday soon. Having said that, Garry passed his MOT again and did not need anything doing - that's four years on the trot - though when we got him home, Di found that there was oil on the drive where he had been standing overnight. Looking under the bonnet, there was oil all over the front of the engine/gearbox.

So out came the power wash, then giving the front end a good dosing of WD40 to break the oil deposits up, and giving the wires and leads a coating so as not to damage them, I then power washed the front and underside of Garry's engine/gearbox.

The front of the engine etc was now spotless, so I got Di to start him up, leaving him ticking over for about ten minutes, after which the oil leak showed up - it was coming down the engine block from the oil return pressure pipe, from the filter. He lost what seemed to be gallons, but it was only a thimble full, but it spread like an oil slick from the **Torrey Canyon**. So out with the tools, 18mm open ended spanner to undo the pipe clamping nuts, taking both ends off to allow inspection of the rubber ring seals. The seal at the block end was looking a bit worse for wear, but not having a replacement I had to use a bit of PTF tape, at which point I had to ask Darren next door if he had any tape. Being a resourceful lad like me, he produced the goods, and the tape was applied to the leaking part. Once refitted and re-cleaned, again using the WD40 power wash combination, I shouted Di from the back garden to start Garry up, as my hands were black with oil!

Di started him up, and low and behold, the leak was cured, and the engine and gearbox are as clean as the day it was made, so something good came out of the oil leak.



<http://www.ar-sheldon.com/acatalog/Castrol-Classic-Oils.html> - This is the site to get the right oil for Your MINI and classic cars.

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We are looking at having a stand at Normanby Hall in June. Unfortunately it clashes with Di and I going up to the Lake District! We are looking to see if there is any interest in continuing with a stand - I know Peter and Sylvia are up for being there - but are YOU! Let us know if you are interested on Sunday and I will send your contact details to the organisers. I will tell you now, it's a great event and getting better every year, it's also in Lincolnshire and within easy reach of us all.

Club gear, Polo's, Jackets, Sweatshirts etc. are available, you do need to contact Shelia if you are interested in any article of clothing, and she will sort out whatever you want.



Jane Upsall's lovely pair of mini's.

First night run.

We will be meeting at Byards Leap Cranwell at 6.45 Sunday night and have a steady run round the country side, ending up at the Horeshoes for 8pm:-why not try to make it, and give your mini a good run, ready for the Mini events season.

Good news for BMW mini factory - production has started to lift, and build levels are improving - is this a sign of us coming out of the recession?

Take a visit to our Web Site www.lincs-minis.co.uk