

# West London Area Robert Pain

## Issue 47 – April 2008

Hi folks

Plenty of write-ups and future events to fill this month's newsletter, so just space to say don't forget the Spring Rally and hope to see some of you there.

## Robert (aka Bob)

### Past Events

#### 17 February – Valentines Drive



Another big turnout! 24 cars from across the south east assembled at Chartwell for a quick cuppa (thanks to the café for opening up early just for us!) and a chat before we headed off into the Kent and Sussex countryside. The weather was fantastic – cold but sunny – so it was tops down all around ☺.



Our route took us through picturesque villages and beautiful countryside, criss-crossing the area between Chartwell and our lunch stop at the Green Man in Ringmer, just outside Lewes. The owner, Danny, and



his team did a splendid job of feeding a hungry group of 40 MX5ers – when he was only expecting 30!

With several people making heading off in different directions after lunch, the convoy was reduced to around a dozen cars for the return journey. The Lewes one way system once again proved our downfall, but somehow we all managed to re-group for the final leg to the Grasshopper pub in Westerham, for a well earned hot drink before heading home.

Thanks to all who turned out for this event – a great mixture of new and regular faces, plus many guests from the South East area and further afield.

#### 2 March – Goodwood Breakfast Club

The first event of the season clashed with Mothering Sunday, so the turnout was somewhat smaller than on previous occasions. Still, those of that made it had a great drive down to Goodwood and saw some fantastic older cars at the circuit – this month's theme being 'Tax Free – cars registered prior to 1973'.



### West London Area - Additional Information

#### Website (webmaster required!!)

<http://wl.mx5oc.co.uk>

#### WLA e-group

Keep up with all the latest WLA news using the WLA e-mail group (see the WL website contacts page).

Also, look out for events and updates on the National website and **Forum** (<http://www.mx5ocforum.co.uk>)

Look out for our own West London section on the Owners Club Forum. Don't be shy – say 'hello'.

## West London Area

### Future Events

#### 06 April – Goodwood Breakfast Club

This month's theme is 'Modern Sports Car Legends – great drivers' cars, from 1980 to the present day'.  
<http://www.goodwood.co.uk/breakfastclub/>

We will meet at Ockham Common Visitors Centre, Boldermere Car Park, Old Lane, Cobham, Surrey, KT11 1ND. This is on the A3 just south of Junction 10 of the M25 (you have to approach it from the slip road off the roundabout of the A3/M25 junction). As our cars are in theme this month, I'm going to find out if we can form part of the display – if so we'll have an **exceedingly early** start! Meeting and departure times will be confirmed on the club forum and website.

From here we'll be driving down to Goodwood Motor Racing Circuit for a spot of brekkie and to look at the cars.

#### 20 April – Spring Drive

We'll meet at Heston Services on the M4 heading out of London, from 10:00 for a 10:30 departure.

This will be a full day's drive, with a pub lunch stop and visit to the White Horse monument along the way, finishing at Chieveley Services on the M4. Let me know if you are coming so that I can book the pub for lunch.

#### 18 May – Spring Rally at Haynes International Motor Museum

Keep an eye out on the club forum for details of what we'll be doing in terms of either a convoy on the day or staying over Saturday night for the weekend.

#### 1 June – Goodwood Breakfast Club

See above for details. This month's theme is 'Supercar Sunday – the ultimate performance machines'. I'll be on holiday, but I'm sure others will be going!

#### 24 August – Wings & Wheels at Dunsfold Airfield

Half air show, half car show – what a great combination! This was a phenomenally successful event last year – and we'll have an even larger display area this year ☺. Thanks to Maria for organising this event once again.

More details can be found on the club forum, or just ask me at the monthly pub meeting. Get your booking in quick before all the display area slots get filled.

### Other events in the pipeline!

Here are just some of the other events we have planned, a broad indication of when they might take place and whether an organiser has volunteered:

- Wheel alignment tech day – Wheels in Motion
- Yorkshire weekend away – June/July (Helen)
- Watership Down Drive & Picnic – Summer (Lazza)
- Watching MAX5 Racing at local circuits
- Local classic car shows (e.g. Bentley)
- Weekend trip to Holland (Wout?)
- Tech Day – if we can find a venue
- Christmas Meal – December (Bob)

If anyone has an event or activity they would like to suggest or, even better, to organise, then please let me know.

Don't forget, you're welcome to join in with any other area and regional events as well as the National ones.

### Monthly Pub Meetings

We meet at Café Dysart on the first Monday of the month. The Dysart is located on the A307 Petersham Road, between Richmond and Ham. It's a restaurant/bar and offers good, but pricey food and has a large car park.

People arrive any time from 7.30pm. Come along and have a chat and a bite to eat. You can always give me a call for a chat a few days before you turn up and I'll look out for you on the night. We have a regular table in the window seat to the left of the bar.

We get anywhere between 6 and 20 people turning up, so the chances are you'll find someone with a similar mindset to talk to, whether you're interested in tuning and modifying your car, keeping it clean, need advice on servicing or just want to chat about other stuff!

The next monthly meetings are scheduled for:

- 7 April
- 5 May
- 2 June (you'll have to cope without me)

Following the refurbishment of The Dysart, it looks as though either the prices have gone up on the menu, or else it's just that they have removed any main meals under a tenner! I appreciate that this can make for an expensive night out, so we're therefore reviewing our venue for the monthly pub meeting, to see if we can find somewhere else suitable nearby.

Suggested venues are more than welcome and if we get a few we could spend a Sunday checking them all out (steering clear of the alcohol) and having a drive too!