

EasternRegion

March 2006

www.mx5easternregion.co.uk



MX-5 OWNERS CLUB

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March mutterings

■ HI all, and welcome to the Eastern Region March Newsletter. As I write this, the weather is still cold, damp and generally very miserable. But the spring will soon be with us and rather than worrying about getting cold ears in the 5, we will be worrying about getting our heads burnt again! I can't wait....

Over the last few months the Eastern Region has attracted quite a few new members. Hopefully you will all have received a welcome e-mail from me, but with the launch of the new club website and its new membership database there is a chance that someone could have been missed. So just in case, "Welcome" again to all new members, and if I have not been in touch and you wish to be added to the Eastern Region e-mail list then please e-mail or phone me. **MARTIN**

Sell your MX-5 stuff

■ WE all have various bits of MX-5 we would like to sell every now and again, so we thought we would try to help out. We plan to have a scrap-book which members can browse at the monthly meetings. So if you want to get rid of a few bits, then put the details – for example a description, ideally with picture, the price you are looking for and your contact info, on an A4 sheet. Then, either bring it along to a monthly meet, or post/e-mail it to Martin, and he will put it in the book.

Come and join us

■ WHY not come along and find out exactly how "the Eastern Region has more fun!"

We would love to see you and any other new members at one of our monthly meetings.

We meet on the first Wednesday of every month at 8pm, at The Manger, Bradfield Combust, near Bury St Edmunds. A spirited country drive which starts at The Beagle, Ipswich, (departs 7.30pm prompt) is all part of the experience if you fancy it.

Detailed instructions on how to get to both pubs, are on our website or contact Martin for directions.

Best of British

ER EXCURSION

**HERITAGE MOTOR MUSEUM
SUNDAY, MARCH 19, 2006**

A DAY trip to the Heritage Motor Centre, Gaydon, is planned for Sunday, March 19 with an Eastern Region convoy run.

The museum houses the world's finest collection of historic British cars (I hope they've got an Allegro with the square steering wheel!) with over 150 vehicles on display, including many famous models that have made motoring history.



■ Monte winning Mini Coopers are part of the 150 strong collection on display at Gaydon

The Motor Centre is situated in the heart of the Warwickshire countryside, 12 miles from Stratford-upon-Avon and nine miles from the town of Warwick – that's about 140 miles from Ipswich.

We will have our own parking area on site, as well as special discounted admission of £6 for

adults and £4 for children.

Please let us know if you are planning to come along as the museum need an estimate of numbers before the day. We plan to leave Beacon Hill Services, near Ipswich at 7.30am sharp with pick-ups along the route. Further details on the ER website and OC Forum.

It's time to get your hands dirty

ER TECHNICAL

**TECH DAY 1 (PRIORY FIVES,
CAMBRIDGE)
SUNDAY, MARCH 5, 2006**

■ ALWAYS popular, the Eastern Region tech days are a unique and fascinating opportunity to learn more about your car in a workshop environment.

It's the perfect opportunity to carry out minor jobs such as changing engine oil and brake pads or just to get the chance to put your car on a ramp and have a look underneath. All with plenty of assistance from other members, and the benefit of Priory Fives' Robbie Marsh's vast experience as a trained Mazda technician.

The event held at the Mazda dealership in Cambridge will also feature an MOT test demonstration, with Robbie running through the full procedure to show you exactly what happens and what the



■ Members cars being worked on at last year's tech day held at Priory Fives in Cambridge

inspectors look out for.

If you wish to attend and carry out work (for which you can purchase discounted Mazda parts) then please contact Robbie ASAP. Either phone him at Priory Mazda on 01223 242222 or e-mail: prioryfives@priory-motorgroup.co.uk detailing what

jobs you plan to carry out. If you would like Robbie to order genuine Mazda parts for you, please also supply your MX-5/Roadster's chassis (VIN) number to make sure he sources the correct parts for your car.

Payment for parts will be by cheque on the day.

Hurry, limited bookings

SEE STOP PRESS ARTICLE BELOW

PRIORY Fives



Save nearly **40% OFF** Mazda main dealer labour rates

Priory Mazda in Cambridge now operates a Saturday MX-5/Roadster workshop exclusive to Owners Club members*. You get a main dealer stamp, main dealer facilities and the knowledge that your car is being worked on by a highly-trained Mazda engineer who's also both a genuine MX-5 enthusiast and Owners Club member. Not only do you get this peace of mind but our labour rate has been slashed by nearly 40%. On top of this you also receive up to 15% discount off all genuine Mazda parts, oils and fluids.

EXCLUSIVE TO MEMBERS OF THE MX-5 OWNERS CLUB
*Valid membership card required

01223 242222 for enquires, quotes and bookings - ask for Mark Goddard or Robert Marsh or e-mail: prioryfives@priorymotorgroup.co.uk

Priory Fives is affiliated to Priory Mazda, Cambridge Autopark, 315 - 349 Mill Road, Cambridge, CB1 3DF

Looking ahead

ANNUAL OWNERS CLUB CHARITY EASTER EGG RUN SATURDAY, APRIL 8

■ THIS event is now in its fourth year and several Eastern Region members took part last year. The object of the run is to deliver easter eggs and gifts to the children's ward at the Royal Marsden Hospital - with a drive around Surrey wearing the obligatory bunny ears thrown in! Details on the Owners Club Forum.

EASTERN EASTER DRIVE SUNDAY, APRIL 9

■ IF you can't make the Saturday run (above), then we are having our first proper Eastern Region run of 2006 through Suffolk on Sunday. More details on the ER website.

LAKE DISTRICT WEEKEND SATURDAY, JUNE 24/SUNDAY, JUNE 25

■ A CAMPSITE is already lined up for the proposed weekend away in the Lake District - and we are assured a warm welcome because the site near Lake Windermere is run by a couple of former Owners Club members.

If the weekend is half as good as last year's Derbyshire trip, then we will have a great time. There will be the option to find b&b accommodation for those not keen on camping, but a barbecue is planned in the evening for all.

Please let Martin know if you are interested.

Roadster Robbie's tech day top tip

■ SPONSORED by Priory Fives. "Always use a de-icer, as scraping ice off your windscreen with a 'dry' scraper can scratch the laminate!"



■ Close racing was the order of the day at February's PlayStation2 GT3 race evening

MX-5 racing makes debut at Manger February meet

■ AT the monthly meeting on Wednesday, February 1, the first round of the Eastern Region PlayStation2 Gran Turismo 3 (or ER PS2 GT3 for short) challenge took place.

The three linked Sony PlayStations saw some very competitive, if not at times aggressive, racing. Of course all competitors were restricted to the same 2004 Mk2.5 MX-5, albeit in a colour of their choice. For those of you who know the game, the object of the racing was to post the fastest single flying lap of the Apricot Hill Circuit.

Rumour has it that certain members are already practicing for the next round!



TOP THREE FASTEST LAP TIMES:

1.41.414 RICHARD COOPER

1.43.161 MARTIN CURTIS

1.44.598 JON ELSEY

Your sponsorship will help Ady in the long run

■ OUR very own Ady Neill is taking part in this year's London Marathon on Sunday, April 23.

He is running in support of the charity Asthma UK for which he hopes to raise at least £1500. Ady will also carry the Eastern Region name and honour on the run so it would be great to get behind him and make sure he reaches his fundraising target.

If you would like to sponsor Ady then there are several options: Make a donation via the www.justgiving.com/ady website or via Paypal account: ady-marathon@hotmail.co.uk

Keep an eye on his training progress on the Owners Club Forum.

It will be quite a challenge for him but no doubt we can assist with his training at some point by getting him to run along behind some MX-5s!

MaX5 race dates



Apr 23 Mallory Park

May 7 Donington Park

May 27-28 Pembrey (2 races)

Jun 17 Oulton Park

Jul 22-23 Silverstone

Aug 5-6 Snetterton (2 races)

Aug 19-20 Brands Hatch

Sep 3 Cadwell Park (2 races)

Sep 30 Silverstone (2 races)

■ WE will be supporting MaX5 again this year - more details in due course.

STOP PRESS

Priory Fives set to take five

■ CHANGES in circumstances at Cambridge's Priory Mazda has meant Priory Fives will cease trading at the end of March and will need to find a new home.

The MX-5 based concern's founder Robbie Marsh said: "I hope to get

the opportunity to restart Priory Fives in the very near future.

"And, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all Priory Fives clients for their valued custom and support over the last year.

"Watch this space!"