

Le Mans 62 Register Bulletin

Number 15



What have I let myself in for!

Well this is my first offering of a bulletin as the new Registrar of the Le Mans 62 Register. Little did I know what I was starting when I purchased my Le Mans 62 (LM54) back in June this year. (More of the 'Le Mans Racing Start...' is included overleaf)

I thought it might be interesting to discover more of the owners of the other 79 cars. A quick search on the Morganville Register allowed me to discover several Le Mans Owners with email addresses and so with the wonders of 'junk email' blasted all the names on the list. Blow me if I didn't receive a prompt email from Peter Alt that slowly revealed to me the information that was already started by his good hand in 2002. It was clear that a fantastic foundation was already in place and Peter was happy for me to develop the Web Site (originally created for my own use and 'showing off' my car) to what it is today a more general site for all Registrants and to continue his great work. Thanks Peter for all your assistance!

So where are we at the moment?

We now have confirmed 24 Registrants and with details of 46 in total from the 80. So I will continue to track down the rest and try and confirm the others, any information of course will be very welcome!

So why bother!

Why not!... But seriously it seemed strange to me that with such a brilliant 'marketing concept' that Morgan Motor Cars developed for the Limited Edition Le Mans 62 it should be continued, to tell others of the Le Mans story and of course increase the interest in our cars. The stronger the brand the more attractive it becomes, and even more reason to flaunt it at every possible occasion!

I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible and in the meantime hope that by the means of this Newsletter and emails we can all keep in touch.

I am now managing an updated Group Email list and supplied individual Sixtytwoers email addresses in the enclosed Register as you may want to contact individuals to arrange local Noggins. I will willingly forward emails to all of those on email in the Register if they are sent to my email address with a request to forward. This will allow us to inform other members of attendances to National and International Events wherever possible to have a Noggin.

To this end the main reason to expand the register is for the **Centenary Celebrations** next year in and around Malvern. Already Malcolm Lamb from the Factory has contacted us to consider displaying cars and also reserve a dedicated Parking Area at the Cheltenham Event. I have already had a kind offer from Keith Ahlers (Mr. TOK 258!) who by the sound of it will be bringing a Transporter full of Morgans to support us and the event in general. I will be looking for notification of interest from yourselves to get numbers attending to secure the necessary spaces. So if you intend to attend the Centenary please let me know as soon as possible.

Regalia



Peter Alt will continue to offer his range of Le Mans 62 Regalia and details are available on the Website. He has, however, past on to me the responsibility of holding the few remaining 'Le Mans 62 Register Badges' that are left, so if you don't have one, please contact me directly and I can arrange to get one to you (for a small fee!) Talking of fees it is not my intention (as was Peter's) to charge for membership to the Register and I will continue to develop the Web Site and Register as best I can. *However 'Beer Tokens' are always welcome when I meet you!!*

Drive Safe and keep it rubber side down!

Keith and Rita Hofgartner
Email: Keith_hofgartner@trimble.com
Or feel free to call me +44(0)1908 524072

Le Mans Racing Start!

– by Keith Hofgartner

A strange but apt title to a tale of 'fast' Morgan ownership, and a means of introducing myself to you all!

Well I suppose it wasn't that fast a decision that finally got us into Morgan ownership but over years of 'I'll never be able to afford one of those.....but if only I could' moments, the time finally arrived. This tale is almost a continuation of the 'My Mog' story in the May 2008 edition of Miscellany. Entitled 'Bloody Morgans!', ironically in my first copy of Miscellany received after becoming a full paid up member of the MSCC and just before taking delivery of the car. This article certainly helped to justify the decision we had already made to become Morganeers!

How did we get here? We seemed to again have followed a similar road to the Bloody Morgan! Saga from May. Over 16 years of sensible caravanning and many towing miles we felt that we (my wife, Rita, in particular) wanted a change. Nice hotels, short breaks and all the usual elements that make a good excuse for a 'silly' sports car. Add in the inevitable Mid Life crisis but with one significant sobering factor. Rita was diagnosed after a routine screening with Breast Cancer in October and a long planned holiday to New Zealand was postponed and treatment commenced. Treatment is over and we are looking forward to enjoying a new phase in our life. What better excuse do you need to buy a Morgan. Oh yes the money! Well with stocks looking ever more dodgy and uncertainty all around in these safe 'bank' places an easy decision to liquidate and invest in 'Transport' related long term stocks or I will call 'Morgan Pounds'.

So the inevitable pouring and surfing in the trade press and on the Web, to first of all, understand the difference between a +4, +8 and 4/4. 2 seats or 4 seats, alloy wheels or spoke wheels I think we all know the drill. So I need to speak to someone but who?

We live in North Buckinghamshire and a quick look at the Thames Valley Mog website listed a Classic Car Show at Hambleden, not too far for a pleasant drive in the air-conditioned 'wagon' more suited to towing and a possible Pub Lunch, AND a possible couple of garages with likely candidates to view as well (if by chance we passed them!). So the plan was made.

We arrived and it was a baking hot day (one of the few in May you may recall) and the cars looked a dream although plenty of competition with surrounding Jags, Lotus and TVR to name a few BUT my heart was still set on a Morgan. So after much learing and looking I finally plucked up courage and spoke with a very helpful owner Brian Miller. Brian in a very brief period was (almost) able to induct me into the mysteries of type differences and gave me a good few pointers and with added 'sales technique' from his wife Ann to Rita the decision was becoming easier. A 4/4 would be my choice. (Brian has a beautiful Yellow 4/4 4 seater amongst 5 in the family!). Already we were feeling the social influence of Morganeering, thanks Brian and Ann.

By this time it was too late to view one private sale and the garages were closed so a quick peer over the fence at a couple in another garage and on home to revise the web searching..

Our local Morgan dealer is Allon White in Cranfield and I had already tried a very early 4/4 a couple of years ago before the Mid-Life Crisis really hit and decided that I should try one again after all I wasn't getting any younger and nor was my back. So in we went like lambs to the slaughter...there were certainly a couple of interesting cars and I was intrigued to see a car at the back of the showroom without a price ticket, a hard top and what appeared slick racing tyres – the garage track car perhaps? No a 2002 Le Mans 62 4/4. So without a 'to do' we were out on the road for that all important test drive. I am intrigued how you are able to assess a car that is completely different to drive and bears no resemblance to a 'normal' car but we did it and we were well impressed. So the dye was cast and we would be the next 'loving' owner of 'Millie' (as Rita has called her).

.....the rest will be history!



Useful stuff.....

It would be good to share 'experiences' with our cars so that we can all benefit from others. So please keep me informed of anything that you feel you can share with others.

To start this off I will describe a simple modification that hopefully will allow us all NOT to experience the scary moment that Peter Alt described in his Newsletter #14 (available from the Web Site).

Very removable Hard Top!

On investigation it is clear that the screws holding the catches on to the top of the body (rear of the door) appear to be insufficient for the job, considering the high forces that they can be subject to due to the 'suction effect' when travelling at 'speed'. After recommendation from Peter Alt, I have replaced the factory fitted 20mm



screws (shown) with longer ones (50mm) this was relatively easy with slight increase to the hole size in the mounting plate and slight deepening of the countersink. Another useful

tip is to then place rubber (best) or plastic tubing (as in photo above) inside the moulding to force the top away from the catches for stronger 'bite' by catches.



Events



Goodwood Revival

If anyone is attending this years 'Revival' at Goodwood, Rita and I have tickets to attend on the Saturday session and it would be great to meet up with any other 'Sixtytwoers'. (Call my mobile +44(0)7711032604)



Centenary Celebrations

Hopefully we can start to build a list of those attending and we can co-ordinate a meet at one of the many events planned for the week! Don't forget to book your accommodation well in advance. Please let me know if you are planning to attend with your car so I can estimate the number of spaces required for the dedicated parking/display area and report back to Malcolm Lamb in Malvern.

Interested in....

In this section I intend to list suppliers of interest to Sixtytwoers. These are NOT adverts as I do not get paid to place them but information that I genuinely feel maybe of interest to others Sixtytwoers...

Oil Paintings of your beloved (or car!)

Sixtytwoer Frank Manclark (aka. 'The Leith Artist') SLM. has not only sent me a fine selection of photos of his valued LM62 (Car 65) but also of his fine works of art depicting owners cars. These are available by commission and Frank can be reached by phone 0131 552 2489 and by email - leithart@fsmail.net (mention Le Mans 62 Register!)



A New Steering Wheel for Christmas?

I received an interesting email directly from Mike Lempert who crafts bespoke steering wheels. Mike tells me he can offer "a more traditional steering wheel" than the factory fitted wheel on the



Le Mans 62. The suggested wheel is shown on his website at www.pbase.com/mdlempert/morgan. The wheel, at 16.5" is much too large for a car of today, but a smaller one at 15.5" would make a good size for our cars, and can be seen at .. www.pbase.com/mdlempert/bugeye

In Mike's view it would be a better match than the factory fit Moto Lita wheel. Mike would be happy to come up with something specific if there turns out to be enough interest. It will be necessary to fit new hubs/bosses as the wheel does not use the large Moto Lita nine hole mounting pattern.

Feel free to contact Mike Lempert directly. mlempert@bellsouth.net, www.lempertwheels.com

The Register

Car	Car Reg.	Custodian	Email	Location, Country	Country
Confirmed					
1	VU52 MYL	Dennis Glavis	dennis@morganwest.net	Santa Monica	USA
6		B.M Louwes	l.louwes@versatel.nl	Hijken	Netherlands
9	CP02 MOG	Clifford Pratt	clifford.pratt@btconnect.com	Hampshire	England
18	LT52 UGV	Phill Thomas	philliphuwthomas@aol.com	West Sussex	England
19	DK 48222	Bjorn Schage	schage@online.no	Oslo	Norway
21	SG 124 340	Achim & Andrea Niemeyer	achim.niemeyer@bluewin.ch	St. Gallen	Switzerland
22	GD02 UCR	Jeremy Parr	jeremy.parr@Linklaters.com	Kent	England
23		Fabio Ongari	ongarif@iol.it	Milano	Italy
25	OTG 276	Terence Gilmour	terry@terrygilmour.com	Hampshire	England
28		Paolo Lazzari	info@4s-morgan.it	S. Margherita Ligure	Italy
38		Patrick J. Ward	No Email	Devon	England
42	PRL 943	Tim Cook	tim.cook@oakwoods.eu	Cornwall	England
44	A19 TOK	Steve Green	spinnergreen@aol.com	Berkshire	England
54	S4 KRH	Keith and Rita Hofgartner	Keith_hofgartner@trimble.com	Buckinghamshire	England
57		Ian Hargreaves	hargreaves.ian@btoopenworld.com	Lancashire	England
58	K9 TOK	Max Archenbold	morgan_le_mans_62@yahoo.co.uk	Cornwall	England
63		Don Grayson	No Email	Hertfordshire	England
65		Frank Manclark	leithart@fsmail.net	Lothian	Scotland
67		Roberto Galloni	roberto.galloni08@alice.it	Florence	Italy
68		Robin D. Pickering	info@shepfair.co.uk	Gwent	Wales
69		Keith Ahlers	keith.ahlers@btinternet.com	Jersey	Channel Islands
72	VU52 MYH	Helen Days	helen.days@hyde-housing.co.uk	Worcestershire	England
75	OF-NR 750	Peter Alt	info@pa-classics.de	Oberthausen	Germany
79	G2 TOK	Recently Sold..			England
Un-confirmed					
5		Christian Hallan	No Email address details	Oslo	Norway
11	NU52 NNP	Andy Young	No Email address details	Gloucestershire	England
14		Gisela Savic	No Email address details	Winterbach	Germany
20		Gerrit Pies	No Email address details	Solingen	Germany
24		Alain Harrari	No Email address details	St. Aubin	France
26		Manfred Möller	No Email address details	Meppen	Germany
35		Martin Burrow	No Email address details	Cheshire	England
36		Angela Spee	No Email address details	Kirchheim	Germany
45		Stein Annexstad	No Email address details	Asker	Norway
46		Ellis Watson	No Email address details		Scotland
48		Christopher Thomas	No Email address details	S. Glamorgan	Wales
49		Cristiano Argenti	No Email address details		Italy
52		Stephen Elsey	No Email address details	Essex	England
53		Bob Tombs	No Email address details	Hampshire	England
56		Martin Laggner	No Email address details	Fieldkirchen	Austria
61		Gerry Allen	No Email address details	Pembrokeshire	Wales

Please respect the information enclosed and use only for social purposes.

www.LeMans62.org.uk