

Le Mans 62 Register

News Bulletin

Bulletin No. 17 – April 2009

Le Mans 62



Rudolf Herensperger with Car 80 as a reminder of the sunnier days to come!

www.LeMans62.org.uk

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Number 17



Happy New Centennial Year!

So where are we at the moment?

We now have confirmed 40 Registrants and with details of 46 in total from the 80. I had a busy week at the end of March with 3 new owners coming forward. I think it was after I requested a Link on the new look Morgan Sports Car Club Website. (I tried to get them to list us in the Affiliated Clubs section in Miscellany but they were not too helpful. Useful having a good email relationship with the MSCC Webmaster ☺) So I will continue to track down the rest and try and confirm the others, any information of course will be very welcome!

Welcome to new Sixtytwoers!

Car 46 Alistair Skinner who has purchased this car and by now (hopefully) converted it to LHD to enjoy in France as they have relocated now.

Car 47 resides in UK but owner, Nigel Johns lives in New Zealand. (Read his story further in this Editorial)

Car 76 was sold by Frank Manclark and has been purchased by John & Maren Caldwell and stays in Bonnie Scotland.

Car 80 has been confirmed after Achim (Car 21) spotted it in Switzerland. Welcome Rudolf Herensperger. (and thanks Achim!)

Regalia

Don't forget if you want to look the part of the Centenary Event that you may want to flaunt with a T Shirt or Polo from Peter Alt Collection. Peter continues to offer his range of Le Mans 62 Regalia and details are available on the Website. I have now 'Sold Out' of the remaining 'Le Mans 62 Register Badges'. If you don't have one, please contact me directly and I can start a list of those that would like one and organize a new run. I have also included information on the remaining Le Mans 62 Merchandise available direct from Morgan Motors a Key Fob and Lapel Pin on the Regalia Web Page. These are in limited numbers too so be quick. (As of earlier in the year!)



Website changes

We now we have a multi-lingual site thanks to Google Translator tools. So keep looking for updates.

We have had over 7,700 hits since this was set up only a year ago! So there are some interested people out there.

The following is an interesting 'tale' of LM62 ownership by Nigel John from Auckland, New Zealand.

I have lived and worked overseas for more than 30 years and been a Morgan owner for the past 14 years.

My first Morgan experience was in 1985 whilst I was on holiday in the UK and made a visit to the factory in Pickersleigh Road. I was so impressed by the traditional methods used to construct a Morgan, I ordered a 4 / 4 there and then, through the Morgan Sales Director Mr. Derek Day. At the time of ordering Mr Day advised me that there would be several years wait before a car could be supplied to me. (Mr Day also had the unofficial title as "Rationer of Morgans")

A letter sent to me by the factory 7 years later in October 1992, advising that a car would be available to me within the next 3 to 4 months, went astray, as I had moved from Japan and was now living in Bangkok and I lost my "spot" on the order list. Following an appeal to Mr. Day my order was reinstated and a 4/4 1800 Ford Zetec, in Corsa Red with black leather upholstery piped in red was built to my specifications from the vast "extras" list and with registration number M317NWP was delivered to me in April 1995 – a wait of about 10 years!!!

I always had the car serviced by the factory and on a visit to Malvern I noticed in the delivery bay some very interesting cars, looking a little different from the standard cars, and on enquiry I was told that this was a limited production run of Le Mans 62 cars, however, they were all sold and none were available.

I was so taken with the idea of a Le Mans 62 lookalike, to commemorate the class win at Le Mans 40 years earlier, that I did some more research and found that there were two new cars for sale at Morgan dealers, one in Harrogate, and the other in Bristol. I contacted Williams Automobiles in Bristol and eventually did a deal to acquire the Le Mans 62 in part exchange for my 1995 4/4.

I took delivery of my LM62 in September 2002 and have driven it around the southern parts of England and Wales during my annual (summer) visits to the UK.

We look forward to meeting Nigel in Cheltenham for the Centenary Event!

Drive Safe and enjoy the Spring weather! (Sorry Nigel)

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

Modifying a 'Le Mans 62' (4/4)

Written by Emil Thorkildsen (Car 45)

As a reaction to the story in the last Bulletin about.. 'modifying' a Le Mans 62 (+8) I received the following details of modifications to Car 45 a 4/4 variant in an email dated Nov 2008.

I purchased No 45 (Stein Anexstads 4/4) two years ago and he forwarded your letter with the No 16 Bulletin - so I got aware of the Registers existence a few days ago.



I am sorry to say that I have modified the car - changed the engine and put in a Zetec 2,0 litre (which has the same external dimensions and mountings), a Rotrex supercharger, water cooling system for the supercharger, new air inlet, new fuel rail

with bigger fuel jets etc. and a KMS programmable ECU (engine brain) - which in total has given the car Dyno tested 205 HP. I have also

fitted parts to lighten the steering and made some improvements to the suspension. So it has turned out to be a brisk performer and a joy to drive. I have also fitted a new dash board from Matthias Kauffelt, MK Holztechnik, Germany, so I have probably all together ruined the car, but it has still the original Le Mans 62 badge from the factory (now mounted at the inside of the left door). Every original part including the 1800 Zetec engine is also stored, so they can be replaced if an owner in the future should prefer so.



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. I have now archived these in the 'Tips & Stuff' Web Page on our website..

Unfortunately nothing new this month ☹

Events



Centenary Celebrations

At the moment I have a list of the following Sixtytwoers attending various events but more importantly the 'Centenary Festival' static display for the Le Mans 62 Register. Here is who I have at the moment, I have suggested to the organisers that we could be 15 so we may be limited to this number. So if your name is not below please let me know as soon as possible....

- Car 6 - Keith & Elizabeth Wait
- Car 9 - Clifford Pratt
- Car 18 - Phil Thomas
- Car 21 - Achim Niemeyer
- Car 46 - Alistair Skinner
- Car 47 - Nigel Johns
- Car 51 - Keith & Elizabeth Wait
- Car 52 - Stephen Elsey
- Car 54 - Keith & Rita Hofgartner
- Car 58 - Max Archenbold
- Car 69 - Keith Ahlers
- Car 72 - Helen Days
- Car 75 - Peter Alt

I am investigating the creation of a Rally Plaque to commemorate the attendance of the above to Cheltenham and I guess any other Sixtytwoers who would like to 'flaunt one' at various events this Centennial Year.

They are printed on durable plastic from a well known supplier of these plaques and I would need a firm idea of numbers of Members who would wish to purchase so I can get a firm price. I would suspect that including delivery (To UK and small additional premium for our continental and international

Members) they should be less the £ 8 (€ 9), Each Plaque will be individually numbered to suit the Car Number and I believe will make an attractive addition to the Display and the car at any time during the Centennial Year.

Below is a very good 'mock-up' of the final product and can be affixed with cable ties, double sided pads etc. I am sure that the restricted air flow will make little difference in a usual British Summer expected in July / August! But I am sure the ingenuity of Morgan Drivers will find alternative places to stick them if required!!



Centenary Noggin

It is also my intention to see if we can have a meet at some stage outside of the Main events and just checking suitable venues and date.

TOX258 Kit Car...

A kit car surely not.....In the next issue I hope to show the stages in completing this 1:43 scale white lead model car. I purchased it off 'ebay' some months ago and been waiting for the weather to improve so I can spray it up and start construction. For some reason Rita wouldn't let me spray it indoors!! More details in the next Bulletin...

