

Le Mans 62 Register

News Bulletin

Bulletin No. 22

January 2010

LeMans62



'Bonne Année!'

Jean-Christophe Rigeaux sent a lovely seasonal picture of Car 62

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Register News

Bonne Année, Glückliches Neues Jahr, Buon Anno, Godt Nytt Aar, Gelukkig Nieuwjaar, Happy New Year to you all!!

Thanks for all your greetings and I hope that you all had a great Christmas and New Year.

2010 may not be as significant as 2009 but it is the first year of the next centenary for Morgan so let's continue the celebrations in our own way..

Keep in the warm...

Achim Niemeyer (Car 21) and his family know how to continue the 'Morgan feeling' during the winter months in Switzerland and he proudly sent me pictures of how they do this...

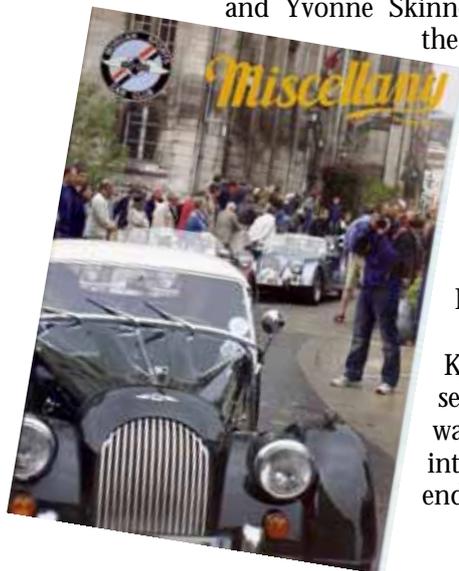


As Achim states...."To overcome the long Morganless wintertime, the boys and I have redesigned our slot race course; Goodwood is so far away! As you can see sometimes I am beaming myself en miniature – and guess where I am parking best... So, always pole position in 2010 and happy morganeeering!"

Thanks for sharing this with us Achim, looking forward to meeting again at Goodwood.

Cover Girl – Yvonne Skinner

In the last edition of the Bulletin we covered Alistair and Yvonne Skinner's experiences at the Angouleme event last year and it was with great joy we saw that Yvonne (as she put it) made the 'Cover Girl' for the January edition of Miscellany!



Keep it up, nice to see the photo-grapher was particularly interested in her rear end! (The car that is..)

Christmas Cards

It seems that being artistic may be a factor of owning a Le Mans 62. It could be why we appreciate the graceful artistic lines of this beautiful car.

I felt very privileged to receive a card from Frank Manclark (Car 11) and Clifford Pratt (Car 9), both a shining example of each of their handiwork. You will have already seen Clifford's card as he allowed me to use it for the Register e-card. But here is a sneak view of



Frank's card that was sold by the Morgan Sports Car Club (so you know where to go next year for your christmas cards).

Clifford has kindly sent me some of his past works and I have uploaded scans to the website. There is a [link](#) to them from the 'Bulletin page'.

Hard Top Modification

(By Keith Hofgartner (Car 54))

We all appreciate that the hard top is a 'special' feature of the Le Mans 62. However I never realised until the Centenary Weekend how inefficient it appears at keeping the rain out!

What follows is a description of work in progress to try and improve on the factory design. (*why does that phrase sound so familiar amongst Morganeers*)

When we decided to attend the Centenary Weekend we decided that we would be displaying the car (with other LM62ers) with the hard top on. But being held at the end of July we should plan to spend the majority of the week with the top definitely off. (If only we knew what the weather would really be like!) With this in mind we set about locating accommodation that would allow us to store the top whilst not being used. This we achieved and led to us ironically driving most of the week with the soft top attached during the evenings and using the Storm Cover during the night to ensure the cockpit remains dry. This was probably the longest we had driven the car with soft top and the diversion to visit a friend during the week in Aberystwyth, via the mountain road with the inevitable poorer weather allowed us to discover the fact that the soft top leaks at the seams, right down the back of your neck!



Those glorious sunny July days!

Still all would be well when we put the Hard Top on so decided that the Storm Cover would not be required when it was fitted the night before the Cheltenham display.

Mistake! There was more water in the cockpit than anytime before with the soft top on, so why?

From investigations it appears that water runs from the top to the sides and actually runs under the rim above where it meets the side screens and drops behind the side screens straight on to the leather covered internal door sills. This resulted in 'bubbled' leather and wet carpets (since dried out).

I realised that what was required was a 'gutter' as in any car roof. But how...?

After many months of contemplating the problem, I decided upon the use of plastic trim (used for trimming in DIY projects and easily available from Hardware and DIY stores).

This has been sprayed (Primed with suitable Plastic Primer and Ford Ivory from Halfords seemed the nearest match) and attached using external double sided tape. Take care when forming the bend at the corner otherwise this can buckle.



To date this appears to certainly have improved the situation significantly and to my mind adds a certain 'finished' appearance to where the side screens meet the top.

Longer term tests will truly tell if this is a lasting success, but was not a difficult project to undertake.



VSCC New Years Day meet

(By Keith Hofgartner (Car 54))

Although we have been marooned in the snow for some time now, we were lucky to get a chance to blow the cob-webs off the car (and clear the head) and visit a new event on New Years Day.

The Vintage Sports Car Club used to hold an annual gathering at the local (to us), Old Thatch at Adstock. This event used to attract many beautiful Vintage cars but was so popular that I understand the villagers objected. So it has moved to a larger and I must say far more suitable venue in the Market Square of Stony Stratford (some may recall our attendance at another event for a wider car group here held in the summer).

We tried to 'blag' a spot in the Vintage car park but was told politely that it was for cars built before 1940...never mind there was a very suitable car park nearby and included several MG's and a couple of Morgans.

There were many fine pre-war cars and a coach to view and then puttering to the car park along came a beautiful Morgan 3-wheeler. Absolutely stunning I am sure you will agree. The owner was very modest but was quickly surrounded by many interested admirers. See for yourself this beautiful car....



It appears this event is to be repeated next year so maybe we might see some of you (more local) attend as I am sure that the local Morgan Centre (CranMog) will include it in their calendar of events for 2011.

[More photos are available at
http://tinyurl.com/NYD-VSCC-Stony-Stratford](http://tinyurl.com/NYD-VSCC-Stony-Stratford)

Happy New Year

I think that is about it for now, lets look forward to better weather (apologies to our overseas members, but I think most of Europe is suffering with us too..) and the chance to enjoy our cars again.

Keep warm and safe! Rita and Keith Hofgartner



'Is it safe to go out to play yet!!'