

# North Thames Region

Area web site at - <http://NT.mx5oc.co.uk>

(With thanks to Andrew Ford for his updates on the site !!!)



Issue 109

November 2008

## Forthcoming local events

### 30th November Bury St Edmunds Christmas Market

See :

<http://www.burystedmundschristmasfayre.co.uk/>

for details. Please e-mail Eric Terry at [eric.terry@virgin.net](mailto:eric.terry@virgin.net) or call 01621 740906 to register your interest.

Details of meeting place and route to follow.

### 13th December North Thames Christmas Dinner

Bookings for the **Christmas Dinner** are now past the original confirmation date of **September 5th**. Now additional places will be subject to availability.

If you would still like to join us please contact Gillian ASAP on [mx5ocuk@mac.com](mailto:mx5ocuk@mac.com) or telephone her on 020 8524 9098 and she can advise.

The venue: Holiday Inn Brentwood, located at the junction of the M25/A12.

The cost: **£25.00 per head**

### 17th - 20th July 09 - German Wanderings.

The proposal for 2009 is a long weekend in Bonn, departing on 17/07/2009 and returning on 20/07/2009.

The proposed hotel is the **Hotel Consul, Bonn**. It does have parking, however you might have to pay for this. The hotel can be booked directly through: [www.travelres.com](http://www.travelres.com).

Currently the price **PER ROOM** is as follows: Single including Breakfast, 55 Euros per night, Double including Breakfast, 65 Euros per night.

The Ferry crossing using Norfolk Line is currently £42 return. [www.norfolkline.com](http://www.norfolkline.com).

Please contact Andrew Evans at [andrewdjevans@hotmail.com](mailto:andrewdjevans@hotmail.com) for more details ASAP as he would like to see how much interest there is at an early stage of planning.

## Monthly Meets

Please Note

The meeting is always held on the last Wednesday of the month (Except December)

At "The Eagle" Public House

Kelvedon Hatch

From 8 pm

Good food....Good beer....and a good car park....

### Next Meetings

**Wed 26th November / No December meeting / Wed 28th January 08**

FOR MORE INFO on North Thames  
Please contact -

Andrew or Gillian Fearon

Tel: 020 8524 9098

or e-mail [mx5ocuk@mac.com](mailto:mx5ocuk@mac.com)

(Andrew's Mobile is 07836 201 929)

or Eric Terry

e-mail [eric.terry@virgin.net](mailto:eric.terry@virgin.net)

or telephone on 01621 740906

Good to see so many of you at the monthly meets at the moment along with plenty of new faces.

With apologies to anyone we have not had a chance to speak to. With so many at the meets currently (along with the regular pub customers) its sometimes difficult to get to see all the "new faces" on the night!

*Eric, Andrew & Gillian*

## **First North Thames tech Day 18th October 08**

It has long been an ambition of some of our North Thames members to hold a Tech Day. The problem was always to find a suitable venue. Mark Ferguson (Fergy) set about the task and eventually came to an agreement with Supertyres in Maldon. They were prepared to let us use one of their service bays and all associated facilities on a Saturday free of charge. In addition they offered a free alignment check to everyone who attended and a discount on all parts or services purchased on the day. This was an offer too good to refuse. A post on the Forum quickly secured enough support to make the occasion viable so the date was fixed for the 18th October.

With such a positive response from 26 members expressing an interest in a whole host of jobs from a simple oil change to a complete clutch, gearbox and transmission swap it was decided to limit the day to the more simple tasks such as servicing, simple modifications and detailing. Many more members just wanted to come along to observe and pick up a few tips.

By 4 o'clock the jobs were completed, the tea and cakes were gone, everyone was exhausted and there was just the clearing up to do. Positive comments came flooding in. Fergy, our technical advisor and frequent contributor to the Forum said "Thanks to everyone who turned up today, and also a big thanks to Supertyres. I won't need a lot of rocking tonight ZZZZZZZzzzzzzzz". Daniel Chinaea said "I had an awesome day and got to see a load of different repairs and services which will help me tackle my own car I'm sure! My exhaust has since been rattle free so I'm chuffed to bits". Brian Noble said "Great day, learnt loads - Many ideas for jobs on the next Tech Day now". I could go on, but there's only so much space for this article.

At the end there was universal acclaim for the facilities and services provided by Warren Goodchild, Lee George and the team at Supertyres. Warren said "It was a pleasure to have the MX-5 Owners Club here and be able to make our facilities available to you. We look forward to an ongoing relationship with the Club." Warren has kindly agreed that we can hold Tech Day 2 there, hopefully in the Spring, so we can tackle some of the major jobs that we couldn't do this time.

For Full article see STHT *Eric,*

## **Cornish Wanderings 24th - 27th October 08**

Well now, what can I say about the trip. Even though there were fewer cars on the trip than originally planned it was certainly a good weekend. Sadly the weather was not all that kind to us, it rained for almost the entire weekend!!

### **Friday.**

We met up at South Mimms Services at 09:00 to begin the long journey to Cornwall. I took the lead with Eric & Dave following on behind. Even allowing for a comfort & fuel stop at Gordano Services near Bristol, we still arrived in Penzance by 15:30.

### **Saturday.**

This was a free day to explore the local area.

### **Sunday.**

After breakfast we left the hotel & made our way to Treasure Island to meet up with The Cornish 5's. There were a total of 10 cars on the run. After going along a lot of minor roads we eventually ended up in St Ives. The arrival of a convoy of ragtops certainly created a bit of interest as we paraded along the Promenade & back through the town.

After this we headed to the Tythrington Arms for lunch before all going our separate ways.

A big thank you to Sharon & all the other Cornish 5's for making the day so much fun.

### **Monday.**

Sadly it was time to head for home. *Andy Evens*

With thanks to Andy Evens for his hard work in organising the event.

## **Brands Hatch 9th Nov. 08**

We all gathered at the Holiday Inn, Brentwood for the run down to Brands Hatch for the Ma5da Racing Day. We were joined there by some of our friends from Eastern Region and eventually 27 cars set off in convoy for the run down the M25 and A20. We certainly turned a few heads on the journey down. At the circuit we were directed to the parking area assigned to the Owners Club and there we met many members from adjacent areas of the Club. It was quite a social gathering too with more than 90 MX-5's attending.

The highlight of the day was to be a lap of the circuit and we had to draw lots for a place as the number of entrants was limited. Sandra Reeves and Bob Pain did a brilliant job of organising this. Unfortunately the weather was not very kind to us on the day but we did not let it spoil our enjoyment. The tricky conditions provided some great spectacle on the track as we watched Saloon Cars, Lotus Elise's and the MX-5's racing.

At 3.30 we assembled for the parade lap of the circuit and although it was cold, at least it did stop raining. The bravest Club members did the parade lap with the hood down as you would expect. You can see a selection of photographs on the North Thames Forum at <http://www.mx5ocforum.co.uk/viewtopic.php?t=68221>

*Eric,*

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## **North Thames Google Calendar**

North Thames now has its own Google Calendar on which to publicise events. Go to the Google web site <http://www.google.co.uk> and sign in. Select 'Calendar' and search public calendars for 'North Thames MX-5 OC'. All the North Thames events will be shown there. If an event is missing or incorrect contact [eric.terry@virgin.net](mailto:eric.terry@virgin.net). The Owners Club and some regions also have their events set up on Google Calendar. Search the Public Calendars for 'Eastern Region' and 'MX-5 OC Events' and you can add those to your list of Calendars. Google calendar works well. You can switch all or some calendars on and see either all events across selected calendars or restrict it to just your own.

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### **Please Note**

If you wish to receive additional updates of last minute events please e-mail me at [mx5ocuk@mac.com](mailto:mx5ocuk@mac.com) with an e-mail address of your choice so we can keep you informed of what is going on.

This also has the advantage of getting your Monthly Newsletter a couple of weeks earlier than publication date in the form of a PDF attachment .

# **Local Dealers offering discount** **and** **Recommended by members**

Having been asked by members where to get "Non Franchised" Servicing, spares etc., we now include this list of members local recommendations in monthly updates.

## **PLEASE CHECK CURRENT RATES OF DISCOUNT DEALERS ARE OFFERING BEFORE COMMENCEMENT OF WORK.**

**Romford Mazda** - 299/307 Collier Row Lane, Romford, Essex, RM5 3ND,  
Tel. 01708 735 735.

**Don Baikie in the Service and Parts dept. is a regular at our monthly meets.**  
10% off Servicing and Parts

**Milcars Mazda** - Watford Otterspool Way, Watford, Herts, WD25 8HL Tel: 01923 257777  
Service & Parts 01923 257755  
10% discount on service and parts to Club Members

**Docklands Mazda**, 259 Plaistow Road, Plaistow, London, E15 3EU, Tel 0208 519 4343  
**Colindale Mazda**, 319 The Hyde, Edgware Road, London, NW9 6TH, 020 8358 8633  
**Potters Bar Mazda**, Baker Street, Potters Bar Hertfordshire, EN6 2DZ, 01707 622775  
10% off Servicing and Parts

**Dennis Goldings Motor Engineers of Chingford** - Non Franchised - All kinds of servicing  
MOT's upgrades etc.  
Call Grant on 020 8529 7979

**Supertyres**, Unit 15, West Station Ind Est, Spital Road, Maldon, Essex, CM9 6TW.  
Tel. 01621 840100

Free alignment check and Full alignment at special rates on presentation of membership card.

**Freelancemazda** - 12 Alexandra Avenue, Gillingham, Kent, ME7 2LP  
MX-5/Eunos Roadster specialist. See [www.freelancemazda.co.uk](http://www.freelancemazda.co.uk)  
Tel. 01634 829444

## **PLEASE NOTE**

**These are local Mazda Dealerships offering Club discount and members recommendations - NOT "Club" endorsements.**