

EASTBOURNE AND DISTRICT MINI CLUB – A year ago Darren Brown was browsing through the internet searching for a Mini Club to join - but he soon discovered that the nearest club was in Brighton, so he started his own, and at the first meeting at the British Queen in Lower Willingdon 10 Mini owners turned up. Since then the club has gone from strength to strength and the meetings continue to be held at the same venue at 7.30pm on the second Monday in the month. The first AGM was held in December 2005 when a committee was formed and Darren was elected chairman and it was decided that there would be an annual membership fee of £5.

There are currently 106 members on the website message board and about 75 of these have attended one or more of the monthly meetings.

Mini car enthusiasts come from as far afield as Hastings, Newhaven and Peacehaven.

The photos on the club's website would indicate that they all had a good time at the first birthday party on January 9.

There are a number of national events and meetings that some of the members will be attending during the coming year – and even a trip to Poland.

The club is also interested in raising money for charity and the committee is currently planning a rally from Eastbourne Hospital to Canterbury Hospital for Sunday June 25. The event will be limited to 30 vehicles and each owner is expected to raise £100 in sponsorship money. Money raised will be divided equally between the children's wards at both hospitals. The idea is to camp in Pevensey on the previous night and then set off in convoy – with probably a navigational quiz to complete. There will also need to be a £10 charge to cover expenses. For more information about the Mini club check the website www.edmc.co.uk or ring Darren on 501753.