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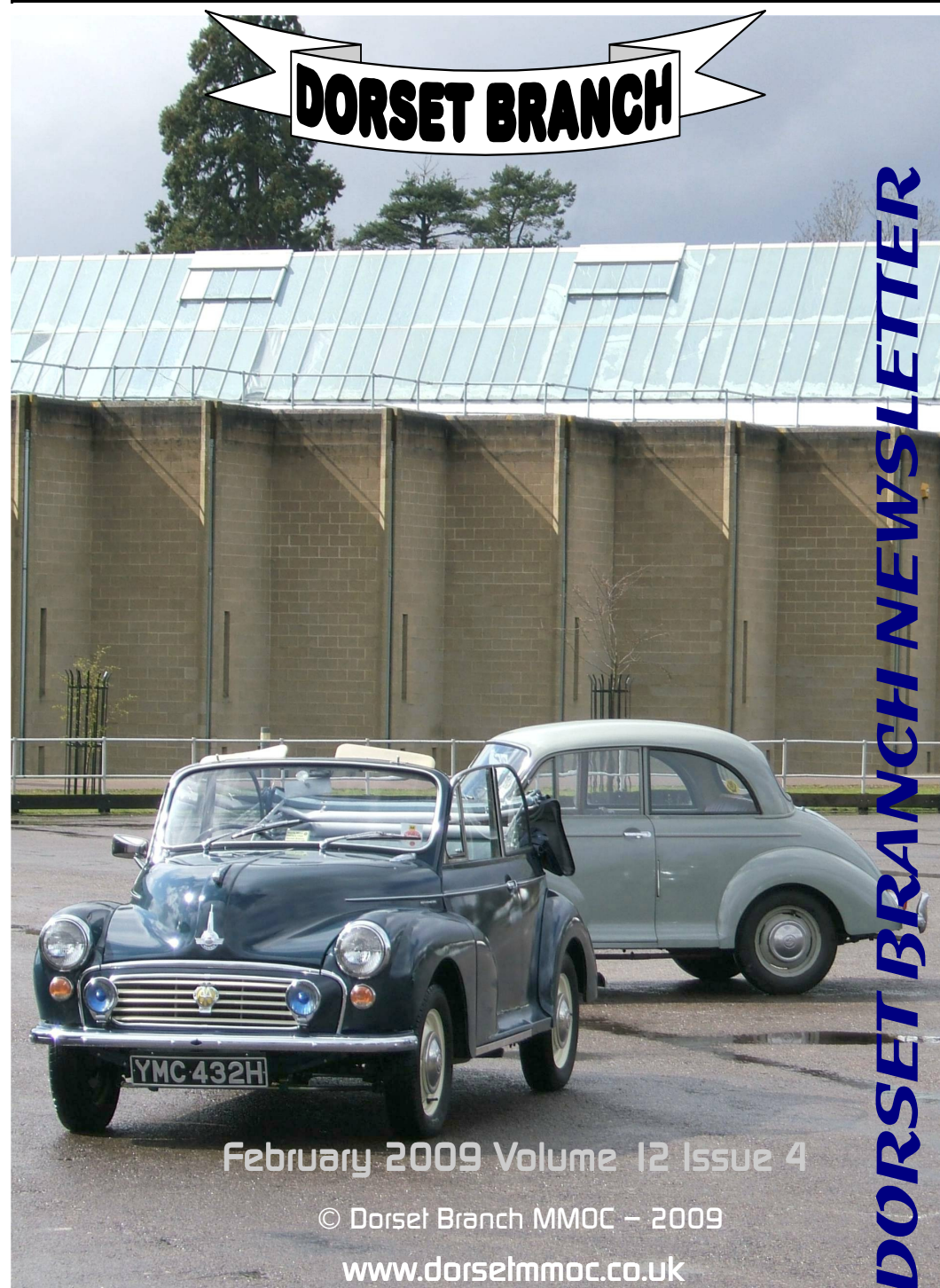
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MORRIS MINOR OWNERS CLUB

DORSET BRANCH



February 2009 Volume 12 Issue 4

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www.dorsetmmoc.co.uk

DORSET BRANCH NEWSLETTER

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

Or <http://homepage.ntlworld.com/brian.wood13/index.html>

Dorset Branch of the Morris Minor Owners Club

Helping to preserve the post war Morris Minor in the Dorset area and beyond

The MMOC Dorset Branch

was founded in 1977 by Graham Melly and chaired in the early days by Aubrey Batt. It is a Branch of the National Morris Minor Owners Club but has its own accounts and organisation (see Constitution for further details) **We meet on the first Wednesday of every month (7:30 for 8:00)** at the Bournemouth Electric Club, Broadway Lane, BH8 0AA. We have an active calendar of events throughout the year – particularly in the Summer months when we attend many rallies and other shows. The monthly Clubnight is an opportunity to meet the other enthusiasts and enjoy a presentation or other activity organised by the Committee.

Membership currently costs £9 per year, £11.50 for joint membership.

Please ask Branch Secretary if you require a copy of the Dorset Branch Constitution. For more details contact Laurie Blewer on 01202 522673 or John Jenkinson on 01202 576690

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Committee Members 2008-09:

President: Graham Jarvis (07914 637429)

Chairman: John Jenkinson (01202 576690)

Secretary: Laurie Blewer (01202 522673, 07947 525884)

Treasurer: Jacky Wood (01202 573501).

Membership Secretary – Des Waller (01202 573403)

Events Organiser/H&S Supervisor – Neville Gerry (01202 747687)

Newsletter /Website Editor: Brian Wood (01202 573501)
(brian@dorsetmmoc.co.uk)

Non Committee posts:

Raffle Coordinators: Chris Tilley and Val Palmer

Spares Manager: John Bainbridge (01258 458749)

Regalia Manager: Richard Cyster – (01202 526660)

Catering Executives: -Sue Blewer, Lyn Gerry

FRONT COVER
A 2008 Beaulieu
Photoshoot mem-
ory showing Eddie
Pateman's blue
convertible and
Nick Palmers grey
2 door saloon



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



Good evening and welcome to February club-night. Nice to see a good turnout of hobbies – other than Morris Minor or classic car related at the last meeting. Tonight's auction is to raise cash for a charity chosen by club members this year. So please get your cash out and bid for these 'wonderful prizes'. I would like to thank Roy, our 'resident' auctioneer for his efforts. I was asked if the club would like to take part in the Shaftesbury Carnival again this year on Saturday 3rd October and we are currently making arrangements. There has been a date change to one of the club events. The visit to the Winton MOT centre will now be on 14th June (not 21st as previously advised). I am hoping to go to Shepton Mallet car show next month – the first of the year – 2009. I was on e-bay the other day and found some parts for my 1961 Fiat Autobianchi. I have never seen parts for sale before. There are two new greeting cards coming out with Morris Minors featured and we will be getting some. We are also re-ordering 'Bournemouth Square' greeting cards and mugs. See you all soon. Happy Minor-ing, John.

BRANCH REBATE SCHEME

You may be aware that the branch receives a financial rebate according to the numbers of national MMOC members who attend the monthly clubnights. We therefore need to update our records so that we can take advantage of this scheme. Please would you advise Des Waller (or any Committee Member) of your MMOC membership number and renewal date and make sure that you sign the attendance sheet at the clubnights. Thank you.



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1965 Traveller. Spares or repair, sold with large quantity of spares – some new. Will not split. **£150.** (Spares listed on web site in full) John Webb Tel 01204 532033 – **Bolton** (02/09)



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MORRIS MINOR REGALIA - DORSET BRANCH

Our Branch Regalia stock is managed by **Richard Cyster** and is available at clubnights and our outdoor events. (The stock list is also shown on the website www.dorsetmmoc.co.uk)

POLO SHIRTS -VARIOUS SIZES / COLOURS: £12 EACH
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BEAULIEU MONEY BOXES £5.00 EACH
COASTERS £1.99 EACH

PLACEMATS £4.99 EACH
MOUSEMATS £5.99 EACH
KEYRINGS £1.99 EACH
CERAMIC TRAVELLER MONEY BOX £12.50 EA
CERAMIC EGG CUPS £5.00 EA
MORRIS MINOR PARKING SIGNS £ 7.50 EACH
MORRIS MINOR CAR STICKERS £ 1.00 EACH
2008 CLUB EVENT DVD £3.00
2007 PHOTO CD OF CLUB EVENTS £2.50
30TH COMMEMORATIVE PHOTO CD ALBUM £2.50
BRANCH KEYRINGS £1.00 EACH
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MODEL MORRIS MINORS - £3.50 EACH.

MMOC Dorset Branch Newsletter

February 2009

Volume 12 Issue 4

- Clubnight activity:
- Blind Auction



Inside....



DORSET BRANCH

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Next clubnight

The Dorset Branch Newsletter is published on the first Wednesday of the month and sent by post to paid-up members. It is also available for free download from the Internet usually about 10 days before the clubnight.

THIS MONTH'S NEW MEMBERS

Morris Minor owners who have joined the Branch in the last month are: Stuart Broomfield of Christchurch, Mark Chapman from Weymouth, David & Christine Fletcher, Peter & Janet Johns, Paul & Janet Palmer (all local) and Bruce Eggleton from Chobham
A warm welcome to you all.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Dear Brian. You were kind enough to help me earlier this year, concerning the possibility of acquiring a 1958/62 ish Traveller. Having "ummed and aahed" a great deal, I've just bought a 1959 2 door saloon (with a tow-bar for my 1960's trailer) and would like to join the Dorset branch of the MMOC. I am also in urgent need of an inlet/exhaust manifold gasket for the car, as I've got a rip in the one that is fitted, together with the sporty gruff noises and duff idling that go with it. I've tried a few of the motor factors, and they

don't carry anything this old. The car has been looked after by a series of mechanics who have patched and replaced very diligently (two fat files of bills and 61000 genuine miles) but I'd be prepared to spend a reasonable amount on getting the structure, bodywork, paint and detailing absolutely right, so that I can keep it that way. The fiftieth 'birthday' is coming up in October 2009, and I thought it would be good to get the work done by then.

I'm very taken with the car, and having driven it from Essex to Dorset via Sussex, have had a real reminder of the sheer fun that these little cars can be. Everyone seems to either like, or at least tolerate, Minors. I plan to use the car as my 'one and only' when it is suitably restored, and would like to get the 'right' restoration job done. Best wishes Mark Chapman.

DAVID SMITH MOTORS

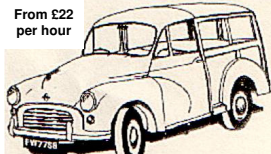
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WHAT'S ON?

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

(Don't forget to check the website for latest updates to events)

2009

4th February – Clubnight – Mock Auction
 4th March – Clubnight – Call my Bluff type quiz.
 1st April – Clubnight – (TBC)
 12th April – Arf's Easter Run (not organised by DMMOC)
 19th April – Aubrey Batt Run (Details TBA)
 6th May – Clubnight – Talk by Dave Daniels (TBC)
 16th/17th May – Beaulieu Spring Autojumble
 3rd June – Clubnight – Autojumble
 7th June – Southern Regional Rally – Milestones, Basingstoke
 14th June – Visit to Winton MOT Centre
 21st June – Hampshire Rally
 25-28th June – National MMOC Rally
 10-12th July Dorset Branch Rally – Avon Heath
 19th July – Show – Muscliffe Community Park
 5th August – Clubnight – Reverend Timbrell
 2nd September – Clubnight – Antiques Evening with Phil Traves
 6th September – IOW Rally
 27th September – Area 6 Picnic at Watercress Line
 3rd October – Wimborne/3 in 1 Run (details TBA)
 7th October – Clubnight – AGM
 28th November – Dinner and Dance Quality Hotel, Bournemouth
 27th December – Mistletoe Meander



MORRIS MINOR SPARES - DORSET BRANCH

Please order from; **John Bainbridge**, 334 Bournemouth Road, Charlton Marshall Blandford, Dorset DT11 9NJ Tel (01258) 458749. Or see at Club Meetings. (The stock list is shown on the website www.dorsetmmoc.co.uk)

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Good evening and welcome to February clubnight. I hope you all enjoyed last month's hobbies night. Tonight is our annual blind auction for charity. Please get your thinking caps on for this years charity – lets try to keep it local if possible. Many thanks to Roy for being our auctioneer for tonight.

We have started to put together quite a packed programme of events for this year. The Aubrey Batt Memorial Run will be going to Monkey World and will be held on 19th April. More details to come. I have sent off the forms for our stall at Beaulieu over the weekend of 16th and 17th May. This year the large display will be put on by the Ford Anglia 105E Club who are celebrating their 50th anniversary. I bet their display won't be as good as ours though! June is looking to be a very busy month with the Southern Regional Rally at Milestones on 7th, the HAM-MOC rally at Portsmouth Dockyard on 21st and the National Rally at Haynes Sparkford Motor Museum on 28th. We are hoping to go to all three of these events.

We are hoping to organise a Pudsey Run for Children In Need in November. Nev has booked the Christmas dinner and dance for 28th November this year. It is being held at The Quality Hotel again as it was last year. Please make a note of the date in your diaries.

The entry forms for this years Dorset Branch Rally have been posted out to all of last years rally entrants and you should all have received one with your newsletter tonight. Please don't leave it until the last minute to return it to me, let me have it as soon as you can.

Have you all purchased your copy of the 2008 picture disc? If you haven't I thoroughly recommend that you do. Brian has done a superb job in putting it together. Don't forget that Dorset Branch sweatshirts are now available for purchase from Richard on the regalia stall.

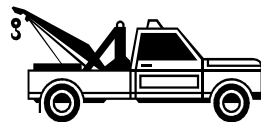
Nev and I have been busy in the garage over the last month and will be for the foreseeable future! We are working on the engine rebuild for Victoria – my 1936 Austin 12/4 Ascot. The engine we are rebuilding was one I managed to pick up a couple of years ago as the engine currently in Victoria has a cracked block – but it still runs, albeit not very well any more! The “new” one had been sat under a workbench for at least 40 years but it wasn't seized. It's now completely stripped and we are assessing the condition and whether it needs to be re-bored etc. We are hoping to use the crank in the old engine as the bearings are white metalled and this is very costly to have done these days. It will be great once Victoria has a new engine as she didn't get used at all last year because she had become so unreliable – in fact she has trouble pulling herself out of the garage!

This month also sees the 40th birthday of my Traveller. It was first registered on 14th February 1969 – Valentines Day. Hopefully the weather will be kind that day and we can take her out for a celebratory run.

I think that's all from me for this month – so until next time
Happy Minoring
Laurie.

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G3ZJY

EDITORIAL



Classic Cars on the Prom had a good turnout of about 230 cars on Bournemouth Sea Front on new year's day. We went along for a few hours and mingled with the classic car enthusiasts and the hardy souls who went in for a traditional new year's day 'dip' in the sea! (Didn't fancy that myself).

On a personal note, I had mentioned previously that I was made redundant from my loss adjusting job in November; but by a strange

twist, I got almost the same job back again (same money, more work!) by the time the 1 month's notice had expired. The end result was a seven week Christmas holiday for which I was extremely grateful. A by-product of this period of 'idleness' was some re-decoration of the house and work on the 4 door Minor. Another result of the excess spare time was the DVD of club events which is now available from all good Dorset MMOC regalia outlets for the meagre sum of £3.00. (see page 8).

The Hobbies evening went well and there are a few photos of your displays in this newsletter. What an interesting lot you all are!

We have now purchased our own LCD projector with the intention of using it at club-nights for any presentations that involve photos. So if anyone has something they would like to offer up for a clubnight activity – please let us know. I can help with putting the display bit together.

The club activity calendar has got a bit bigger this month, so please remember to check it and keep those dates free for your favourite Dorset Minor activities. The forms for the Branch Rally in July are also now available and all those who went last year should automatically receive one from Laurie.

That's all for now – Brian

STRANGE BUT (ALLEGEDLY) TRUE

Thanks to Chris Tilley for this one. (originally published in the 'Newsletter of the Mudeford Mens Club' September 2008

Abraham Lincoln was elected to congress in 1846

John F. Kennedy was elected to congress in 1946

Abraham Lincoln was elected president in 1860

John F. Kennedy was elected president in 1960

Both were concerned with civil rights

Both wives lost their children while living in the White House,

Both presidents were shot on a Friday

Both presidents were shot in the head

Now it gets really weird

Lincoln's secretary was named Kennedy

Kennedy's secretary was named Lincoln

Both were assassinated by Southerners

Both were succeeded by Southerners named Johnson

Andrew Johnson who succeeded Lincoln, was born in 1808.

Lyndon Johnson who succeeded Kennedy was born in 1908

John Wilkes Booth, who assassinated Lincoln was born in 1839.

Lee Harvey Oswald, who assassinated Kennedy was born in 1939

Both assassins were known by their three names and both names are composed of 15 letters.

Now hang on to your seat.

Lincoln was shot in a theatre named 'Ford'

Kennedy was shot in a 'Lincoln' car which was made by Ford

Lincoln was shot in a theatre and his assassin ran and hid in a warehouse.

Kennedy was shot from a warehouse and his assassin ran and hid in a theatre.

Booth and Oswald were both assassinated before their trials.

And, here's the kicker.

A week before Lincoln was shot, he was in Monroe, Maryland.

A week before John F. Kennedy was shot.. (you can fill this bit in yourselves)

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2008 PRESS CUTTINGS

...style' as sold to us in the glamour on all things bright

with my dear old Morris Minor

Adrian May on his CD Roadworks invoking William Blake's Jerusalem by rhyming 'that wondrous motor of old' with the 'bow of burning gold'.

And I have to quote the last verse to make the point: 'If Christ revived, what would he drive, to make our roads diviner?/I see him stuck in a queue on the M25 in his old Morris Minor.'

This bulbous little creation, Britain's first mass-appeal car, celebrates its 60th birthday this year. Unlike many of its occupants, it's hard to believe it has only just become a pensioner; it seems to me to have been born one — a pipe-and-slippers sort of a car.

Doting owners call it a moggy, which adds to that impression. Wainwright, who is deeply in love with his subject, meets first, second and third-generation owners in his research for this quirky little history, and visits a tumbledown factory in Sri Lanka which to this day turns out new MM body shells.

Packed with riveting MM information and anecdotes, this is the story of a remarkable product of British engineering, a gripping sliver of social history and, above all, a wonderful love story. What could be better? Toot toot!

CARLA MCKAY

Adored: 1957 Morris Minor



SOUTH AFRICA TO LONDON

THE Morris Minor Owners Club has been organising a series of events throughout the year in celebration of "the world's biggest small car".

There are estimated to be 30,000 Morris Minors still in existence and 1480 of them gathered at Stanford Hall in Leicestershire in June.

Three of them had been driven there from the southernmost tip of South Africa, a distance of 11,000 miles.

One of the trio dated from 1949 and the youngest was from 1956.

At least one of the three Morris Minors which made the trip all the way from South Africa will be talking part in the Lord Mayor's Parade in London on November 8, in which the Morris Minor Owners Club will have two floats.


And they will also be featuring prominently at The Classic Motor Show at the NEC in Birmingham from November 14 to 16.

On Sunday, November 30, there will be a morning parade featuring one car from each year of the car's existence, through the streets of Oxford, starting at the Mini plant in Cowley.

And a white Morris Minor named Katy is travelling the country raising money for Marie Curie Cancer Care.

Supporters buy a daffodil sticker that's then put on to the car, which is swiftly turning from white to yellow.

A prototype Morris Minor on show at the National Motor Museum, Beaulieu, earlier this year.



2009 BRANCH RALLY

Morris Minor Owners Club
Dorset Branch Rally
Sunday 12th July 2009
Avon Heath Country Park

You are invited to join in with our annual celebrations at this year's Branch Rally for the weekend or just Sunday for the Rally.

The Rally will be held as usual on the green near the visitor's centre at the Avon Heath Country Park.

There are some interesting countryside walks and the facilities provided on site include toilets and a café where snacks and drinks can be bought.

Avon Heath Country Park is situated just a few miles away from the historic towns of Ringwood, Wimborne and Christchurch and just 10 miles from Bournemouth with its famous sandy beaches. Camping will be available on site from 4:30pm on Friday 10th July with the pre-rally party being held on Saturday 11th July. The main rally day will be on Sunday 12th July and will feature judging of all your favourite classes. There will be a separate section for vehicles, which have won at concours level. We will have trade stands, raffle, cake stalls and a 'Working Minors' Class and a Post Production Convertible class.

Entry forms for Minors and other 'visitors' classic cars are available from the branch or on the website www.dorsetmmoc.co.uk

A map showing the directions to the Country Park will be sent with your Rally entry number.

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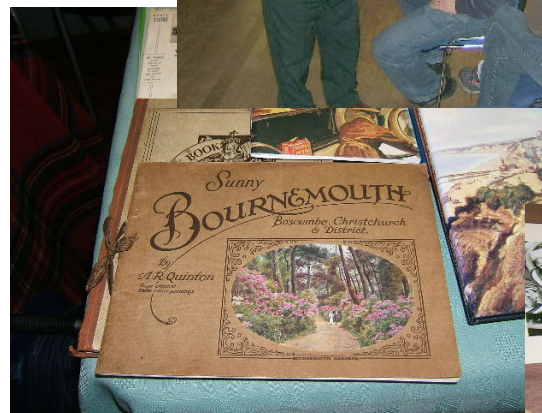
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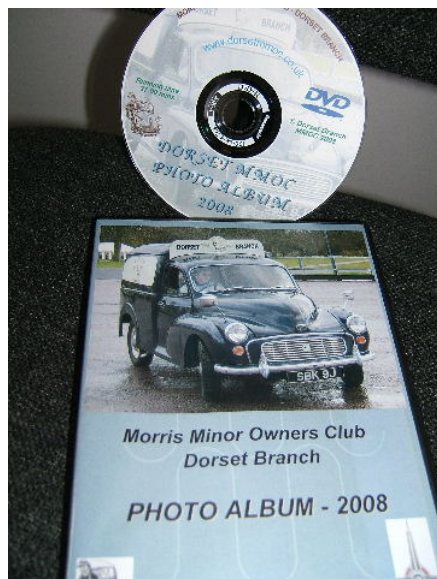
I am a papercut artist specializing in original hand-cut designs depicting the subjects of hobbies and interests. My latest designs include a Morris Minor and a Morris Minor Traveller. My customers have suggested to me that other Morris Minor owners may be interested in the pictures and acting on this suggestion I would like to offer the designs to your members at a discounted price.

My website is at www.johnspeight.co.uk

Please note that my pictures are individually hand-cut artwork (not prints) and that I can only post to the UK at present.

Many thanks, John Speight

2008 PHOTO ALBUM ON DVD



The 'official' record of the Dorset Branch events is now available on a DVD which plays as a 37 minute 'movie' extravaganza set to music.

There are 14 sections covering most of the activities and events of the 60th year of our favourite car from the Plowmans Lunch in January to the Mistletoe Meander in December. There are one or two actual 'movie' scenes but most are still photographs with many provided by Branch members who are credited at the end of the DVD. It is amazing value at only £3.00 'while stocks last' (as they say).

CHANGING POLARITY (NEGATIVE EARTH)

A few people have asked me about this recently, so here is the relevant advice from the MMOC Tech tips Manual.

The procedure for changing over to negative earth is very simple. Most people do when they want to fit a radio as these are polarity sensitive. Disconnect the battery and turn it round the other way. Cut two 'U' sections from the metal bracket which retains the battery so it has adequate clearance from the battery terminals. Replace the two terminals on the battery leads (the positive and negative are different sizes). Connect the earth connection to the battery negative terminal. Disconnect both dynamo leads and use a length of wire to connect the small dynamo terminal to the battery positive for 5– 10 seconds. This is the 'flashing over' process which removes any residual magnetism so it charges the correct way. Reconnect the dynamo, reconnect the positive lead to the battery. If the red light on the dash goes out when the engine is running, all is well, if not repeat the 'flashing over' process.

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MISTLETOE MEANDER



The Mistletoe Meander was held on the 29th December and there was the usual good turnout. The run, organised by Dave and Jackie took us through the New Forest on a lovely sunny morning run. Then it was back to the West Moors Bowls club for lunch which was prepared by Steve, Carol, Colin and Heather.

