

REAR VIEW



"Hey Laurie, it looks like we made on the January back page – shall we try for the hat-trick?"

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MORRIS MINOR OWNERS CLUB

DORSET BRANCH



January 2009 Volume 12 Issue 3

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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

Advertising: Cars or spares for sale or wanted £5 per entry (Free to members). Traders advertisements: £30 per year.



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E : stephen@addingvaluesolutions.co.uk - W : www.addingvaluesolutions.co.uk

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)

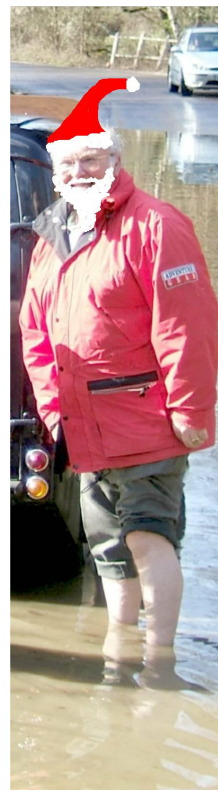
Catering Executives: -Sue Blewer, Lyn Gerry



FRONT COVER

Thanks to Nick and Val for kind permission to share with us one of their 'retired Minors'. This particular one is blending in nicely with the scenery!

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



Happy New Year and good evening at the start of 2009. I hope you all had a good Christmas and New Year celebration. It was nice to see a good turnout to the December clubnight. This year the committee are looking at a new car club badge so any ideas please let us know regarding designs.

I was pleased to hear that the Christmas Dinner and dance went well and that everybody enjoyed themselves. Thanks to Neville, Sue and Laurie for arranging it. This year's club rally is on 10-12th July 2009 and we are looking for some new ideas like stalls, runs and entertainment. So, if you have seen some suitable activities at other rallies – please let us know.

We are hoping to do some more work on the club van in a few weeks time. If any of the members would like to offer help, please let me know.

We will be looking for a local charity this year so please put your thinking caps on.

That's all for now, have a good Hobbies night, happy motoring, John.



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WANTED

The Traveller was sold, so now can I have a wanted advert for a driver's handbook for a 1960 vehicle? I had one for the later car but this went to the new owner
Dave or Jackie Walker 01202 877972 or mobile 07810 124039 (12/08)

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)

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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Assorted Greeting Cards Packs of 6: £7.00 per pack or £1.35 each card.
Christmas Cards Packs of 4, 2 designs available: £2.85 per pack
Large Cards - Asst £1.50 each
Picture Mugs - £5.99 each
Dorset Branch Mugs - £5.99 each
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 Calendars £4 each
2007 Photo CD of club events £2.50
30th Commemorative Photo CD Album £2.50
Branch Keyrings £1.00 each

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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MMOC Dorset Branch Newsletter

January 2009

Volume 12 Issue 3



DORSET BRANCH

- Clubnight activity:
- Hobbies Evening

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Next clubnight 'Blind Auction'
(see page 13 for more details)

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:

**Anita Payne (wife of Karl) from Bournemouth,
Peter & Valerie Webb from Bradford Abbas
And Cedric Sansom from Liliput.
A warm welcome to you all.**



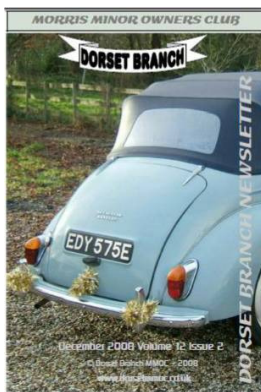
ALSO – 60th birthdays:

Nev Gerry: 3rd January

Lawrie Blewer: 26th January.

Congratulations and Happy Birthday to you both.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Hi Brian,
I'd just like to thank you for putting "Eddy" (EDY) on the front cover of the latest newsletter. Unfortunately, due to looking after young children and elderly parents, we haven't been to club night for ages. We've missed this year's Wimborne Market run and will be away for the Mistletoe Meander too, even though these are the two events we always try to get to. So, it was a lovely surprise when I opened up the newsletter. Currently, Eddy is being used daily – he's certainly cheap to run in these credit crunch days! Though it's not a great experience when it's a bit drizzly!! He'll be having some TLC next year as his interior is getting a bit tired but touch wood the only breakdown I've suffered this year is a jammed starter motor... and I can't really call that a breakdown as it was remedied in minutes (once we found the adjustable spanner!)

Please send our regards to John & Laurie and we'll hopefully see them in 2009.

Many thanks, Kay and Tony

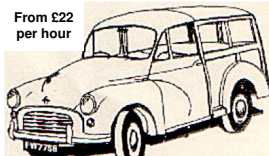
(Thanks for that, and we hope to see you again soon – Ed)

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WHAT'S ON?

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

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

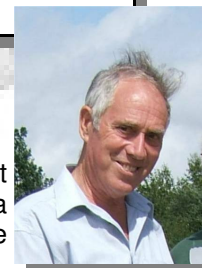
2009

7th January – Clubnight – Hobbies Evening
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)
6th May – Clubnight – Talk by Dave Daniels (TBC)
3rd June – Clubnight – Autojumble
21st June – Visit to Winton MOT Centre
25-28th June – National MMOC Rally
10-12th July Dorset Branch Rally – Avon Heath
5th August – Clubnight – Reverend Timbrell
2nd September – Clubnight – Antiques Evening with Phil Traves
7th October – Clubnight – AGM

BLIND AUCTION – FEBRUARY 2009



This is our usual activity for the February clubnight and involves club members bringing along a wrapped gift. The items should preferably be wrapped so as not to be too obvious what it is. (Please do not bring items which some people might reasonably find offensive). Members then bid for the items as auctioned by Roy Gale (our resident auctioneer) and the money raised will go to our nominated charity for the year. We will be taking a vote on the relevant charity at the February clubnight and this is your opportunity to have a say in who gets the donation.



ARF'S EASTER RUN (NOT DMMOC)



12th April 2009



Contact: Arthur Edmonds:
01929 554890

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Good evening and welcome to the first clubnight of 2009. I hope you all had a good Christmas and New Year. Tonight is Hobbies Night and I'm sure they'll be some very interesting hobbies on display. Don't forget that next month is the Blind Auction for charity. Please can I ask you all to bring along a parcel of some sort. The charity for this year has yet to be decided so please start to put your thinking caps on.

The Dinner and Dance held at The Quality Hotel in Bournemouth was a very enjoyable evening albeit only attended by 45 members and friends. Louise enjoyed her first club event very much and had a lovely time up on the dance floor! The meal was excellent and the entertainment supplied by Chris Conrad superb as always. Thank you to everyone who brought along raffle prizes and well done to everyone who won a trophy this year.

I'm writing this 2 weeks before the Mistletoe Meander but I'm sure that it will have been a successful day. Many thanks to Dave and Jackie, Steve and Carole and Colin and Heather for all the hard work they put in organising this popular event.

With very few events going on at this time of year attention can be turned to car maintenance and preparation for the year ahead. As I write this Brian and I have just finished installing a pair of rear seat belts in the Traveller. This is something I've never really worried about before but now we have a little one to think of, your priorities change. I have got one more rear belt that I plan to install in the back of the Lowlight so that we can take Louise out in it during the summer. I'm also planning to repaint the engine in the Lowlight, as no one seems to like the blue it's painted in now. I managed to buy some grey engine paint at Beaulieu last year, which is a very close match to the correct shade. Another job requiring attention is a clean and repaint underneath the two cars. I am hoping to start the rebuild of an engine for the Austin 12 soon as it has become extremely unreliable and wasn't used at all last year. I have managed to buy another unit, which hasn't been run for about 40 years but seems to be free and in good condition. It will still get a full rebuild however and we won't know what its true condition is until it's stripped down. All I need to do now is build a bench in my new garage to do it on! Looks like a busy few months ahead then!

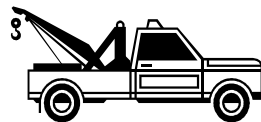
I think that's about all from me for this month – Happy New Year to you all.

Happy Minorng

Laurie.

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EDITORIAL

Good evening everyone and welcome to the first clubnight of the new year where you have brought along some of your hobbies to show to the other members. Hopefully, you all had a good Christmas and New Year holiday and are ready for the year ahead. This month is also the first anniversary of the colour newsletter. Hopefully, I will have finished the 2008 slide show for viewing this evening.

Many thanks to Trevor and Jackie Leaton (Nick and Val's son in law and daughter) for the write up and pictures of the Traveller (649 MOR). Looks like a good effort on the car and it should provide many happy miles of motoring in the future. Thanks also to Nick and Val for providing the 'rural' Morris Minor scene on the front cover.

I finally got around to completing the underside repairs to the four door as I mentioned last month. It needed a new boot floor and this was one of the few repair panels I have not done on a saloon before. (I think I did the Traveller about 12 years ago but that is a completely different job especially when the ash frame is not on the car.) I used the car roll frame which is invaluable for working underneath. Since using it last time (when manual labour was enlisted to 'upend' the car) I used an engine crane to hoist the side upwards. I was rather shocked by the amount of water that suddenly started coming out of the opposite side rear passenger door. For some reason, a considerable quantity must have accumulated in the rear foot-wells. I investigated afterwards, dried the carpets and fitted some new window seals (the new-type lip seals) so hopefully that will have cured it!

When I had the opportunity to have a little poke around the crusty edges, some additional welding jobs made themselves apparent (ahem!). Nothing too serious, you understand, just a case of tidying up – 'stitch in time' and all that. A quick blast with some underbody coating and back down on 'all fours' again. I took advantage of the fact that my son and two of his friends were round that day (utilising the garage facilities!) and we resorted to the old 'manual' method of lifting the car down onto its wheels (gently). Now I just need to refit one of the wings and paint/fit the front nearside wing and then save up for a respray. I have a bit more time on my hands at the moment between job hunting and re-decorating the house! Hopefully, I can make good use of the time to get some of those 'bottom of the list' jobs carried out.

Cheers for now and Happy New Year, Brian.

TREVOR'S TRAVELLER

MY FIRST MOGGIE



My interest and addiction to the Morris Minor started when I cleaned my garage out one sunny day about two years ago. My father-in-law, Nick Palmer, promptly said,

"I will fill that space for you!" and parked his Morris saloon in my garage. He said, "Use it, but I will show you how to drive it first", which he did and that's when my need for my very own Morris started to bloom. Then in July 2007, my friend at work said, "I have a Morris Traveller in my garage, and it's been there for 18 years! Do you want to buy it?" Well, off I went to Nick for advice! He came, he saw, he said "Too much work – not worth it!" I told my friend, "Thank you, but not for me!" But the bug was setting in and my need to be an owner instead of a borrower was too strong, so I made the move and became the proud owner of my first Morris wreck.



The 1964 almond green Traveller (1098 cc) was buried amongst various debris, and included a selection



2008 DINNER AND DANCE



The 2008 Annual Dinner and Dance event was held on 29th November 2008 at the 'Quality Hotel' in Gervis Road, Bournemouth. It was not quite so well attended as it had been in previous years and we understood that many regular attendees had other functions on the same night. Anyway, the general consensus of those who did go was positive overall and we certainly had a good time. The venue seemed to be quite popular and the

food was very good. (I don't think Louise Marguerite was too keen on the roast turkey however!) Laurie stood in for John and made the presentations as listed in last month's newsletter – with only the Club Contribution Trophy outstanding.



BY TREV LEATON



of spare parts. We collected her in August 2007 on the trailer, and got her to Nick's garden where we set about getting her started. We got her running and freed the clutch, then evicted his car from my garage and put my wreck in its place. Then I started to read the manual and, with Nick's advice, I re-

fitted a complete new brake system. I gleaned a newish fuel tank from one of Nick's retired Morrises and replaced the fuel system. There was a fair bit of rust and some holes in the footwells. A bit of welding was needed and my friend Van brought his portable welder and did the job. So with the underneath sound I sealed and painted it with wax oil. Over 7 months had gone and I had a target of getting her ready and MoTd by July 2008 so I could take her down to Devon to my first car rally. Sadly the rally was cancelled and my timescale for the MoT slipped. After putting on new tyres, fine tuning the engine and bleeding the brakes with Nick for the tenth time, I did a bit of tidying up and polishing, and there she was, in September 2008 ready for her first MoT in 19 years. She passed!

I am now the proud owner of a very beautiful Morris Minor Traveller. Next job is to tart up the interior, tidy the paintwork and re-varnish the wood. My thanks to Nick for all his help and advice - and for parking his Morris in my garage in the first place.

Trev Leaton



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RETIREMENT

And they ask why I like retirement...??????

Question: How many days in a week?

Answer: 6 Saturdays, 1 Sunday

Question: When is a retiree's bedtime?

Answer: Three hours after he falls asleep on the couch.

Question: How many retirees to change a light bulb?

Answer: Only one, but it might take all day.

Question: What's the biggest gripe of retirees?

Answer: There is not enough time to get everything done.

Question: Why don't retirees mind being called Seniors?

Answer: The term comes with a 10% discount.

Question: Among retirees what is considered formal attire?

Answer: Tied shoes.

Question: Why do retirees count pennies?

Answer: They are the only ones who have the time.

Question: What is the common term for someone who enjoys work and refuses to retire?

Answer: NUTS!

Question: Why are retirees so slow to clean out the basement, attic or garage?

Answer: They know that as soon as they do, one of their adult kids will want to store stuff there.

Question: What do retirees call a long lunch?

Answer: Normal.

Question: What is the best way to describe retirement?

Answers: The never ending Coffee Break.

Question: What's the biggest advantage of going back to school as a retiree?

Answer: If you cut classes, no one calls your parents.

Question: Why does a retiree often say he doesn't miss work, but misses the people he used to work with?

Answer: He is too polite to tell the whole truth.

Share this one with all the retirees that you know.

I'm sure they can relate to some of them!

AND, If you have not yet retired, look what you have to look forward too..

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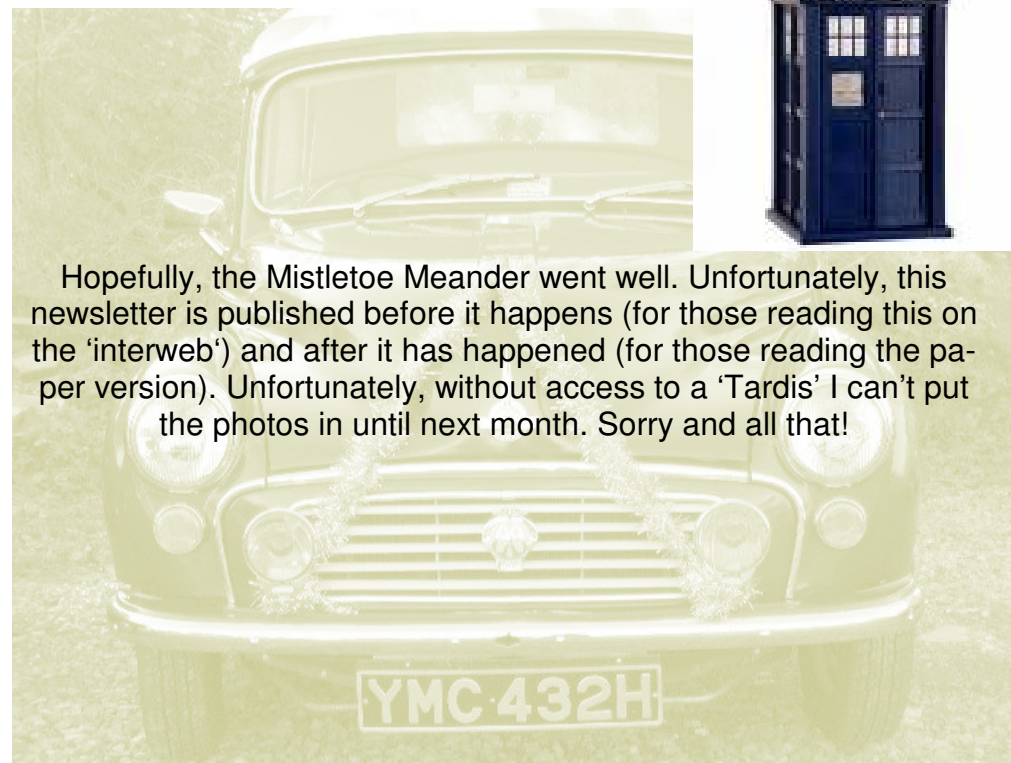
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MISTLETOE MEANDER



Hopefully, the Mistletoe Meander went well. Unfortunately, this newsletter is published before it happens (for those reading this on the 'interweb') and after it has happened (for those reading the paper version). Unfortunately, without access to a 'Tardis' I can't put the photos in until next month. Sorry and all that!

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