

REAR VIEW

Many thanks to Peter Webb for the picture of Nick & Val Palmer enjoying an ice cream in the sunshine at 'Transport of Yesteryear' Rally at Chickerell on 26th June.



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MORRIS MINOR OWNERS CLUB

DORSET BRANCH



AUGUST 2011

VOLUME 14

ISSUE 10

WWW.DORSETMMOC.CO.UK

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 £10 per year, £12.50 for joint membership.

Please ask Branch Secretary if you require a copy of the Dorset Branch Constitution. (Also available on website.) 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.

FRONT COVER

The Branch Rally in July went very well with a strong showing in the Ferndown Carnival on Saturday. Grateful thanks to Glenda and Trevor Chambers for the photographs.

Committee Members 2010-11:

President: Graham Jarvis (07856 918136)

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)

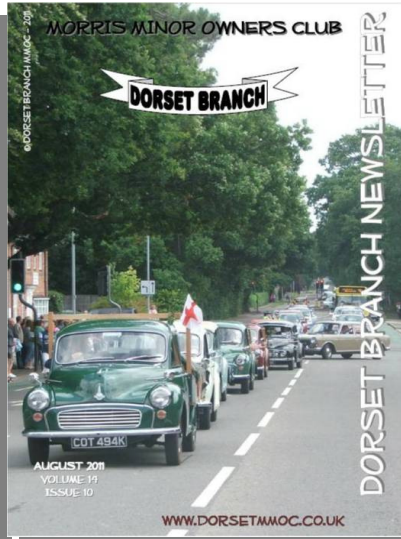
Non Committee posts:

Raffle Coordinators: Chris Tilly and Val Palmer

Spares Manager: Brian Wood (01202 573501)

Regalia Manager: Richard Cyster – (01202 526660)

Catering Executives: -Sue Blewer, Lyn Gerry



WHATS ON?

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

3rd August – Clubnight – Talk on Dad's Army

7th August – Lymington Car Show

12-14 August – Purbeck Rally

29th August – Verwood Rustic Fayre

29th August – Stickland Fun Day

2-5th September – IoW Trip

7th September – Clubnight – Talk by Peter Vince (Abbey Rd Studios)

11th Sept -The Macmillan Centenary Dartmoor Rally and Scatter Quiz www.mcs-rally.com

24th September – Three in One Run– Plowmans/Shillingstone/Oxford Bakery

25th September – Breamore Steam Up

25th September – Ringwood Autojumble near Avon Heath C.P.

5th October – Annual General Meeting

2012

28th Jan Club Dinner and Dance – Elstead Hotel

THREE IN ONE RUN – 2011

Details have now been finalised for the 2011 Three in One Run. This year we will NOT be starting at Wimborne Market, but instead, we will meet up at Plowman's Nursery in Parley Lane, West Parley from 09:00. There will then be a run out to Shillingstone Railway which is on the A357 NW of Blandford. After this, we will go on to Oxford Bakery which is at Alweston (SE of Sherborne).

The cost will be £6.00 per person, please use the slips sent out with the newsletter.

NEXT CLUBNIGHT:

TALK ON ABBEY ROAD STUDIOS BY PETER VINCE

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DORSET BRANCH RALLY 2011

(IN PICTURES)



Photos by Trevor & Glenda Chambers and Editor



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MMOC DORSET BRANCH NEWSLETTER



AUGUST 2011

VOLUME 14 ISSUE 10

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• Talk on Home Guard

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NEXT CLUBNIGHT:
TALK ON ABBEY ROAD BY PETER VINCE

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 download from the Internet usually about 10 days before the clubnight.

EDITORIAL



Hello again everyone, hopefully you enjoyed the branch rally at Avon Heath last month. Jacky and I would like to add our thanks to all those who helped out and made up for our limited attendance over the weekend due to personal circumstances. Although we couldn't take part, I understand the carnival procession was well subscribed by rally attendees and went well apart from the odd bit of overheating (the cars, you understand – not the drivers!) The newly refurbished Jenkinson Convertible suffered a slight hiccup and had to be towed back home. This later turned out to be no more than a stuck valve – so, nothing serious.



The spares department did good business on the Sunday, shifting over one third of the new stock we had recently bought. I would like to pass on thanks, on behalf of the Committee to John Bainbridge for his establishment and successful stewardship of the Branch Spares for many years. There should be a pull-out price list in this newsletter which is up to date. I will keep the list on the website up to date – so you can see if we have the bits you need. Please try to make use of this service as much as possible – since if we maintain our turnover, we will get better rates and the Branch funds will benefit. The prices charged are in line with ESM's current rates (including VAT) and they apply to existing stock collected in person. I can order things for you, but you may have to pay the postage. Parts can also be mailed out. Please ring me for the cost.

I still need a few more SU pumps for refurbishment please. Thanks to those of you who have donated some more old units recently.

I am grateful for the many contributions to the newsletter this month. We couldn't make it to the National, so well done Phil and Dave for coming up with a report each! Also thanks to Trevor and Glenda Chambers for their photos of the Rally, particularly the Carnival parade.

We have a background article on the clubnight talk by Dale Johnson this month which sets the scene. There is also an article on page 12 about his 1933 Austin Van which is a 'period prop'.

Don't forget to fill in the on-line FBHVC 2011 survey form and make your voice heard.

The survey only takes a few minutes, but may help to assert the classic car movement and let those in power know how important it is to the national economy.

URL is : www.fbhvc.co.uk/survey-2011

The Mid Summer Saunter went well, with a good turnout of cars including three from Terry, who only lives a few yards away. There was a dead Minor on a trailer, on its way to be 'weighed-in', his 1953 Series II saloon and a recently acquired 1973 MG Midget.

The good news is that I finally managed to



FOR SALE & WANTED & CLUB NOTICES

Please let me know if you no longer wish your ad to be included in the newsletter/website. *Editor.*



The Branch Website has a 'Spares Shop' which advertises (mostly) spares. Why not browse the bargains or send me an ad or two with a decent picture.

John Jenkinson has several interior sets, a blue one (shown) and a red one with white piping. Both are in good condition and priced at £100 each. For the more 'adventurous' is the Saab 900 leather/suede set which will fit the Minor with adapter boxes (not included). Pictures and more details on the website or contact John on 01202 576690

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New Spares are available through the club. You should have a price list with this newsletter. The list is also on the website. We hope to have a new spares table at the clubnight, so let me know if you need anything Brian.



New Saloon/
Traveller 6.5 gallon
petrol tank. £95
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Branch Rally 2011



Derek at the Saunter

Photo by Laurie Blewer

1933 AUSTIN VAN AME 534

AME 534 was first registered as an Austin 7 car in Middlesex on 4 April 1933. In Sep 1981 the vehicle was owned by Ernest Randall in Eastbourne. I have photographs showing how from the chassis, engine, and a few original parts, he extended the chassis to construct an excellent replica of a 1933 Austin 7 "Light Box" Van. The rebuilt replica van first passed an MOT on 12 April 1985

With the bodywork painted gloss "Egg Yolk" yellow, gloss black wings and a black roof, it would seem very likely he intended to signwrite and display the vehicle representing a 1930s AA Road Services Patrol Van.

On 12 May 1986 the van was purchased by Richard Hawkes, and sign written LAG Hawkes (Builders) Ltd. Victoria Road Sevenoaks Kent. For the next 23 years the van was little used, but much cherished in a dry garage, and driven 4184 miles. I purchased the van on 15 August 2009, and I drove straight to 'Combined Ops' a Military "Wings and Wheels" Event held by The Invicta Military-Vehicle Preservation Society (IMPS) at Headcorn Airfield, Maidstone.

For over 30 years I have been a very keen military-vehicle enthusiast and have owned and driven twelve Military Vehicles ranging in size from a humble push bike to a former British Army 6x6 DUKW Amphibious Lorry.

Now an enthusiastic Home Guard re-enactor, the van is used not only for my everyday transport, but as a support vehicle for Home Guard, and also when I re-enact at many other events as a WW2 Special Police Constable.

When we pay tribute to the Iconic BBC TV Series "Dad's Army", the van is turned out as "Walmington-on-Sea" Platoon of the West Kent Home Guard, and I take the role of Private James "Weerre Arrr'lllll Doomed" Frazer.

In our other role when we re-enact to show what ACTUALLY happened on The Home Front, I take the role of Lieutenant D H Johnson, commanding 1 Platoon, A Company, of the 23rd (Hastings) Battalion, The Sussex Home Guard, and the van is turned out as "A Company" transport.

By carefully studying the few black and white photographs of original Home Guard Vehicles, the van is turned out as accurately as possible. It has an original 747 cc engine, 6 volt electrics, and returns 40 miles per gallon, with 45 mpg on longer runs. It will cruise comfortably all day at 40 mph and slightly more downhill with a following wind! Driving my van is a real pleasure, but one does have to be EXTREMELY careful driving in 21st Century traffic!

Dale Johnston

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catch up with the 1953 South African imported Series II owned by Terry, to take some pictures for an article next month (I hope!). I did the write up about 6 months ago but the photos I took then were a bit dark – having been taken inside the garage. The car had one owner until recently and has an amazing history which was documented by the owner. It has been round the clock several times having hit 200,000 in 2002. Anyway, that's all for now, Brian.

EDITOR'S INBOX



Just an email to THANK the Committee and all the volunteers who organised, helped and cleared up after the 2011 Rally! We really enjoy the day.....catching up with everyone and viewing all the cars, visiting the stalls and having a relaxing day. All we have to do is to turn up, but without those who organise the event and give their time freely to ensure everything goes smoothly there would be no rally. So "thank you" to those who make these things happen within the club - sent from the two girls from Lymington (one with an Irish accent) and Monty, our Morris Minor!
See you all soon. Helena & Kate.

Hi Laurie, Just to say how we enjoyed your rally – a big thank you to the team and yourself. Look forward to seeing you all on the Isle of Wight in September.
Cheers, Colin Whiffen.

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SECRETARY'S REPORT

Good evening and welcome to the August clubnight. Tonight we will be having a talk by Dale Johnson on the "Real Dads Army". I hope you all enjoyed last month's evening out at the Wimborne Model Town.

Well, that's the rally over and done with for another year. We've had loads of feedback from visitors to the show who all enjoyed themselves very much. The Saturday afternoon at the Ferndown Carnival was very successful apart from a few casualties mostly to do with the heat. They have asked us back again next year and we have agreed but only if we can go first in the procession. On Sunday the cars started arriving as early as 8:30am and in what seemed to be no time at all in excess of 100 vehicles were squeezed onto the field. The trips out on Norman's Bedford bus were a big hit with all those who went along. The judging at this year's show was extremely difficult again so many thanks to all who agreed to be judges this year. The trophies were awarded to –

Series MM: Me!

Series II: David Grice

1000 Saloon: 1st Tim Furmidge 2nd Colin White

1000 Traveller: 1st Colin Whiffen 2nd Tony Ware

1000 Convertible: Ian Barnes

1000 LCV: Alan Hammerton

Custom: Neil Tomlinson

Modified: Andy Westcott

Post Production Convertible: Eddie Pateman

Working Minor: Theresa Moxley

Visitors: 1st Norman Reynolds 2nd Alan Merriman

Best Dorset Branch Vehicle: Phil Traves

Best Restoration trophies: Mike Sheppard & Marcus and Sparky Ward

Furthest Distance Travelled: Andy Waltham – 173 miles

Avon Heath Café Award: Tony Ware.

We have booked the rally for next year and the date will be Friday 6th, Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th July.

Thank you to those of you who came along to support the Muscliffe Community Fun day. Despite the weather it was a good day with plenty going on all day – especially for the kids.

As I write this we have just returned from the Midsummer Saunter which this year finished at Kimmeridge. We had about 15 cars on the run. The weather forecast was for a hot, sunny day but unfortunately this was wrong! At least it stayed dry though. Nev brought along the cricket bats and wickets and members enjoyed a light hearted game of cricket. I also took along a kite which flew most of day. We all enjoyed our picnic lunches and some members took a walk either down to the beach or up to the tower. All in all a very enjoyable day out.

I think that's enough from me for this month so until next time

Happy Minor

Laurie.



DALE JOHNSON

Early in 2008 I joined "The Real Dad's Army" re-enactment group of Home Guard enthusiasts. We perform in two different roles, firstly we pay tribute to the iconic BBC TV Series "Dad's Army" at venues which include The Shuttleworth Collection, the RAFA Shoreham Airshows each August, and the Goodwood Revival Meetings held annually in mid September.

In our other role we turn out as 1 Platoon, A Company of the 23rd (Hastings) Battalion, The Sussex Home Guard when we show what the Home Guard ACTUALLY did, wearing uniforms with weapons and equipment correct in every detail. Venues in this role include the Bluebell Railway "Southern At War", CHARTWELL the former home of Sir Winston Churchill for National Trust, and Firepower Demonstrations on Outer London Stop Line B atop the North Downs near Dorking also for National Trust. We have also



appeared on "Time Team" and marched with fixed bayonets through the streets of London in the Lord Mayor's Show.

I lecture on The Home Guard at the Tank Museum, Bovington and give illustrated talks to local history and other groups. Images and details of our events are on our web-site. My 1933 Austin 7 Home Guard Van is driven to my talks, and I wear Home Guard uniform. My talks take about an hour, and cover a brief history of the Home Guard, the uniforms, the weapons and equipment, and I finish with 100 images of our Group at various recent events.



This is Dale's 'Slate Grey' 1000 Traveller (RN 85 B) photographed in approximately November 1961 at the Officer's Mess, Sunderland Barracks, Gutersloh. The Traveller was re-registered 452 BUF when returned to civilian life.

NATIONAL MMOC RALLY - KNEBworth 2011

(CONTINUED)



Then as quickly as possible I went in pursuit of the early trade stalls and after about an hour of rummaging around made some good purchases.

By 7 pm the camp site was filling up nicely with Minors of every description, one saloon arrived on the back of an AA recovery truck with a blown head gasket but by mid day Saturday that was fixed and ready for the rally. Could you fix a modern car so easily? Say no more!!! This year's theme for the rally featured the Million Minor with several lovely examples on display.

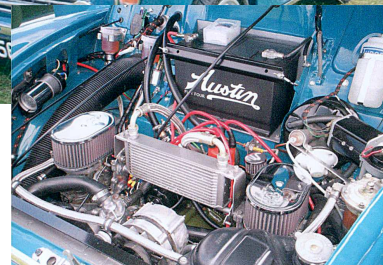
Rupert spent Saturday and Sunday lined up with a lovely selection of LCVs. For me, one of the smartest vans there was the 'Alfa Flat 4' engined van made up from an Alfa Sud. It was as good as many of the concours vehicles.

Sunday is the big day of the rally and Minors were turning up all morning, I wouldn't like to say how many were there in total but it must have been well in excess of 300. What a wonderful sight. There was a good range of trade stands and it's always nice to see people staggering back to their vehicles laden with treasures. Pam saw one chap making his way back to the camp site carrying a gearbox! He said it hadn't seemed too heavy when he started but he was really puffing and blowing by the time he reached his caravan. Also in the trade stands Charles Ware had a beautiful Traveller on display to show you what you could have if you have a spare £24,000. Phew, I'll stick with our Rupert and Molly (the Traveller).

All in all a super weekend, as usual well organised with something to please everyone. Knebworth is a beautiful setting and the weather turned up trumps. What more could you ask for?

Many thanks to the Rally team for all their hard work in making it such a success. And by the time you read this we will have been to yet another well organised and fun rally with Rupert at Avon Heath.

Dave and Pam Holton, Silverstone, UK (DMMOC members 272/273)



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Good evening and welcome to the August clubnight. The first thing I must say is a big thank you to all members and friends

that helped with this year's rally. Also thanks to Marion and Amelia and staff at the café for the meal on Saturday night. The Committee had good feedback on the event and also from the organisers of the Ferndown Carnival. They have asked us to do it again next year – so I have arranged to drive through the town with a Police escort in front of the carnival as we do in the Shaftesbury Carnival. Then we will put on a static display in the park as this year. Last clubnight at the model town in Wimborne went well with another good meal and also a good turnout of members. The summer saunter run to Kimmeridge Bay went well and also a good showing of cars – 20 in all! (including the scrapper brought by Terry). Weather could have been a bit warmer but it was still a good day out. Thanks to Neville and Laurie for organising the run. Anne and I went in the convertible and it seems to be better now, since the Rally weekend. Lucky that the head gasket was OK and it was a 'sticky' valve. Thanks to Eddie who came over on Monday to sort it out. The weekend to the Isle of Wight is getting near and I now have the Ferry tickets – so you will be getting your weekend pack at the clubnight – any problems let me know.

The starting point for the Three in One Run this year will be the Plowman's Nursery and we are going to Shillingstone Railway for a tea stop and then on to the Oxford Bakery for lunch and a look around the bakery. (See page 15 for more details)

I would like to thank John Bainbridge for ordering and managing the Club Spares until now and we hope your eyes are getting better. We have missed you at the club nights recently and hope to see you again there soon. Happy Motoring – John.

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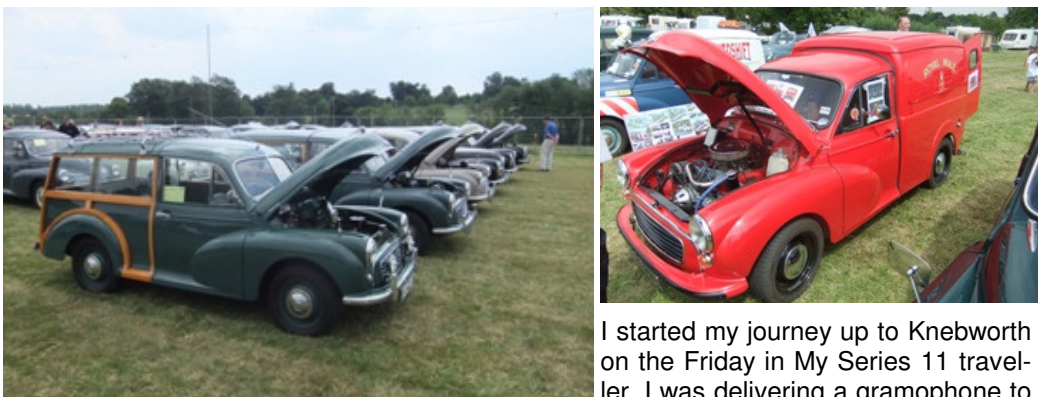
BRANCH REBATE SCHEME

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.

MUSCLIFFE FAMILY FUN DAY 2011



NATIONAL MMOC RALLY - KNEBWORTH 2011



I started my journey up to Knebworth on the Friday in My Series 11 traveller, I was delivering a gramophone to

Clapham on the way and the trip from Portland via the A31 and A3 was great. An overnight stay in Penge and then a trip across central London on the Saturday morning (no congestion charge), over Vauxhall Bridge and up Park Lane to Edgware. Directions on the back of an envelope, an old A to Z and no sat nav! Vintage travelling at it's best! I arrived at Knebworth at 11.30, the last time I was there was in 1988 for the 40th anniversary. This year's rally had a 1940's theme with dance lessons in the main marquee, I was taught to do a traditional 1940's jive! It was also a chance to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Minor Million with the most millions I have seen together! There was a good selection of second hand and new spares for sale on the Saturday, very pleased with my SeriesII wheel brace for £3!

The cars were parked in rows in random; it looked good to see all the variants shuffled together, such a range of colours and types!

I set up my little tent in the afternoon, I realised it was opposite Dave and Jackie Walker! The evening do was a 1940's dance, a lot of period fancy dress; I was dressed as an Air Raid Warden, with full 1940's suit, gasmask and heavy white ARP helmet. It was a great do and I managed a jive with the wonderful Rosie Hamilton!

The next morning Tea and a bacon roll, made on my little camping gas stove on the floor. Then a quick dead fly removal on the Traveller and chamois. Sunday's site was all



set out in rows of different types. I was pleased to see 5 more split screen Travellers, three cheesegraters and two later grilles like mine.

There was quite a large group of younger MMOC members who camped together and had a stand on branch avenue. Later in the afternoon the younger members did a few laps of the ring with commentary, it is great that 17-30 year olds still love the Morris Minor!

I was very pleased to win second SeriesII Traveller, Ray Newell did say that my car was written off last summer and how good it was to be back on the road.

It was a great weekend, I met lots of new people and the journey home was good, waving at many Minors on the way home! Phillip Traves (DMMOC 123)

This is just a quick report, as I only have 3 days between getting home from Knebworth and setting off for Dorset on Thursday to escape the hordes of British Formula 1 Grand Prix fans that descend on our village. It is absolute chaos throughout the village, they start arriving on the Monday with fans camping in every available field for miles around, and then there are the traffic jams that build up on the Friday, Saturday and Sunday. And that's despite the closure of the A43 for all except race traffic for the 3 days.

Pam set off for Knebworth on Friday 1st in the morning with the 3 dogs and the caravan and I drove Rupert, our 1971 Austin Minor van. The journey of 68 miles took just under 2 hours without a hitch. On arrival we were made welcome by Rosie and the rally team and wasted no time in setting up camp and having a quick bite to eat. Already there was quite a selection of Minors on site including a good contingent from The Netherlands, they are just as enthusiastic about their Minors as we are.

(Continued on page 10)

