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Dorset Branch

MORRIS MINOR OWNERS CLUB



DORSET BRANCH NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2012
 Volume 15
 Issue 10

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www.dorsetmmoc.co.uk

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. Please note that the Dorset Branch MMOC will accept no liability in respect of goods or services provided by advertisers. No recommendation is implied.

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.

Committee Members 2011-2012:

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

FRONT COVER

The Annual Branch Rally escaped the familiar precipitation that has become a feature of this summer and we had a great day and a good turnout of cars.

*Dorset Branch of the Morris Minor Owners Club
Helping to preserve the post war Morris Minor in the Dorset area
and beyond*

Forthcoming Events (see also www.dorsetmmoc.co.uk)

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

2012

29th July—Mid Summer Saunter (Venue—Dave & Jackie Walker's)
1st August— Clubnight (Call My Bluff quiz)
4/5th August—By-Gone-Days, Brooklands Fm, S.Gorley (nr Fordingbridge)
5th August—Dogs Derby—Poole Park (www.dogs-derby.co.uk)
5th August—Lymington Rotary Car Show
10/11/12 August—Purbeck Rally, Worgret Road, Wareham
19th August—Bournemouth & Poole MG Club show at Athelhampton
27th August—Verwood Rustic Fayre
27th August—Brockenhurst Carnival & Fete
31 Aug—2 Sep—Isle of Wight weekend (IoW Branch Rally)
5th Sept-Clubnight (TBA)
8-9th September—Beaulieu Autojumble
18th September—Skittles Match Bloxworth Club
23 Sept—Breamore Steam Up
29th/30th September—Brockenhurst and Lymington Lions—Forest Fayre
3rd October—AGM + presentation by Russ Harvey on Morris Minor Magazine
7th November—Clubnight (Talk on 'Aviation around Poole Bay 1910 - 1976') by **Kevin Patience**
5th December-Clubnight (Noggin and Natter)

2013

20th Jan—Annual Dinner and Dance—Liston Hotel, Boscombe
19/20/21 April—Spring Weekend Holiday, Sidmouth
18th-19th May Beaulieu Spring Autojumble (MORRIS CENTENARY EVENT)



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Dorset Branch Newsletter

August 2012

Volume 15 Issue 10

CLUBNIGHT ACTIVITY:
"Call My Bluff" type quiz



**MORRIS MINOR
OWNERS CLUB**

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NEXT CLUBNIGHT ACTIVITY:
TBA

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.

ORIGINAL CLASSIC PLATES FOR YOUR MORRIS MINOR

Front Plate

JEP 123L

Rear Plate

JEP 123L

"It's nice to know that someone does a plate that fits the back of a Morris Minor. It's a lovely plate and the service was very prompt. I'm very pleased with the finished result"

John Jenkinson, Chairman
Morris Minor Owners Club, Dorset Branch

Our Morris Minor plates are specially designed with radius corners to fit the rear aperture of a Morris Minor. All our embossed aluminium plates are handmade using traditional methods, stoving enamels and decades of experience.

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Editorial

Evening everyone. The Branch Rally seemed to go OK. Thanks to all those who made it and supported the event. We were lucky to have the use of the hardstanding area next to the field—otherwise, things might have been difficult. The rain over the weekend was fairly relentless—right up until early Sunday morning. And we had a bit more rain on the way home. We also had a visit from a group of about 15 or so uninvited traveller's caravans in the car park on Saturday. However, this situation was 'managed' and we were not unduly affected by it.

We went to the National Rally, the weekend before and had a (fairly) dry time there as well. We took the Traveller and it behaved itself all the way there and back. The wipers got a good 'caning' on the way home (Series II owners will know what I mean!) With the Series II, it is probably better to rely on a water repellent cleaner than the wipers. There is a bit of a write up on page 9.

I have now managed to get my convertible going with its rebuilt 1098cc engine. It was put in a couple of weekends ago and runs much better than the old one. I now have to get a few welding repairs done underneath before I can get it down for its MOT which expires at the end of July.

Stewart (my son) sent me another photo of the Minor Grill featured on this page in the June issue. It has now been airbrushed and looks really good.

It seems a lot of shows on TV's feature classic cars at the moment, and the Minor seems quite popular. I was approached by a TV company recently, who were looking for a driver for a Morris Traveller to transport it between shooting locations. They changed their minds, however and hired a company who could provide driver/mechanics as necessary.

Did any of you watch the TV programme called "A303—Highway to the Sun"? This was quite an interesting documentary about all the historic features along this road which runs from Basingstoke to Honiton. What made it even more interesting was that the narrator was driving a Traveller!

Grateful thanks to the contributors to this newsletter for their unstinting efforts—particularly to Dave Walker

(Continued on page 5)



For Sale & Wanted & Club Notices

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

New Morris Minor Spares are available through the club. The current list is posted on the website under the 'New Spares' tab. We hope to have a new spares table at the clubnight, so let me know if you need anythingBrian. 07411 116336

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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 picture.

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FOR SALE

1968 Minor 2 Door Saloon

1098cc. Snowberry White with black interior
MOT July 2013.
£2,900 ono 01202 871801



FOR SALE

1968 Minor Convertible.

1098cc. Almond green, black hood.
MOT July 2013.
£3995 01202 694828 07748 154474 12

FOR SALE

1957 black 4 door saloon, "answers" to the name of Motley (the car that is). It has a full new floor welded in professionally but the welds are not continuous so it will need them "joining up". It was his wife Eve's daily driving car before being taken off the road for the remedial work. It's all there except for the rear wings and boot lid. It has a full interior. He is looking for £350. Phone Tony on 01473 357683. He lives in Gravesend

DORSET BRANCH SPARES NEWS

STEERING LEG KITS C/W TOP & BOTTOM TRUNNIONS AND TOP PIN (NEW OLD STOCK). These are listed (new) at £106.20 each by our supplier—only one pair left now at only **£70** each side.

STAINLESS CONVERTIBLE REAR SIDE WINDOW FRAMES. Do you have trouble with your hood scratching the paint on the side window frames? If so, these new, polished window channels are the answer. One set available at **£145** (pair)

12V AUXILIARY SOCKETS. We now have available some 12V accessory sockets rated at 10A (with in-line fuse). They have a bracket for fitting under the dash (or somewhere else) and will discretely power up your satnav or charge your phone etc. Good value at **£4.50** each

THREE IN ONE RUN—2012

This year, we are planning a trip to Dukes Auctioneers in Dorchester on Saturday 22nd August.

We are planning to start from Lytchett Matravers Courtyard Centre (BH16 6JE) . We leave at 11:30 and then go to Dukes Auctioneers (DT1 1ST) for 12:30 for lunch (make your own arrangements) and a look round the town. We can have a look at the auction preview and have afternoon tea in Dukes from about 2:30.

The cost will be £3.00 per person.

It should be a fun day. Slips are in this newsletter

Classic Cars on the Prom

Bournemouth Seafront
Every SUNDAY from
8th April until 23rd
September

(excluding 2nd Sept)

4pm—6.30pm

Free entrance in Beacon Road rear of BIC to vehicles registered prior to Aug 83



Editor's In Box



for his notes on the Minor Overseas Tour (MOT) and in conjunction with Bruce for the Traveller door 'fix'. Until the next time, Brian.

I think it was Laurie, that mentioned 'Parkstone' and 'Poole Park' last month—and it was this that got our long-distance member in Tasmania thinking back to his youth...

The mention of Parkstone Park brought back happy memories for me, at the age of youth-hood when you don't want to go on holidays with your parents, a school friend and neighbour of mine decided it was 'Our time to go it alone'. So through some detective work from my mum we found a friend of a friend had a boarding house in Poole and could give us accommodation at a price 2 youths could afford. Bookings were made and time allotted for our holiday. Travel was by coach from Birmingham through to Bournemouth and then local bus to Parkstone Road Poole. When we arrived we found that some sort of booking error had occurred and would we mind sleeping round the corner in another house but going back for breakfast? Ever the helpful boys, this was no problem - all part of the adventure. There was a daughter at our sleeping venue the same age as we two boys. Consequently my friend 'tipped his hat' at her. Nothing serious, you understand, but 'tipped' all same. As he was having no luck, I tried my luck and ended up in my first love affair. It was doomed to fail in the long term because of distance between us and her impending move to college in Sunderland. I followed her there on a long weekend adventure but to no avail. I Wonder where she is now and if she ever thinks of that time. The holiday was good, I can even recall the train trip to Corfe Castle and the Greyhound pub, canoeing on the boating lake in Parkstone Park lake. And traveling on double deck buses with open tops. sorry for going on but thanks for the memories cee-yas, Vic Holyoak DMMOC 399



Hi Brian, Great rally as ever and so many cars and people there - brilliant, we enjoyed it immensely! We were in Yorkshire last weekend and went to Haworth (where the Bronte's come from and the parsonage where they lived). But as we were exploring the place we came across a Morris Minor - beyond economical repair do you think? See you soon. Helena Carr & Kate Noon

Secretary's Report

Good evening and welcome to the August clubnight. Well, we've done it again. Everyone pulled together to make this year's Dorset branch rally a success once again despite the weather and the last minute arrival of our gypsy friends. I arrived on the Friday afternoon with our newly acquired trailer tent. The minute that we started to unpack the tent it began to rain. It then rained solidly for 36 hours! Despite the rain we still enjoyed our barbeque on Friday ably cooked by 'head chef' Brian. The Saturday night party in the café went very well and was greatly enjoyed by all those who came along – but it was still raining! We awoke on the Sunday to sunshine ... and no rain. By this time though we were



Prize winners shown on page 11

unable to use the field for fear of churning it all up so, instead, used the hard standing and part of the car park. I know it's not the same as being on a nice field with all the cars in nice straight rows and picnicking on the grass but at least our rally could continue and was not cancelled like a lot of events have been this summer so far. An excellent turnout of vehicles was in attendance and the public seemed to have turned out in force. Thank you to everyone who helped out in any way over the weekend. Before you know it we'll be back and doing it all again.

By the time you read this the Midsummer Saunter will have been and gone. Hopefully the sun shone for this event and you all enjoyed the route and nobody got lost. Many thanks to Dave and Jackie for being our hosts for this event.

August is a busy month on the events front. This weekend sees the Bygone Days Show at Ibsley and the Lymington Show. This is followed the next weekend by The Purbeck Rally and then on Sunday 19th we are the invit-

ed to be the feature club at the MG Show at Athelhampton House. This should be an excellent day out at a very reasonable price. Then we have Bank Holiday weekend with the Frogham Country Fayre on the Saturday, Sixpenny Handley Village Open Day on the Sunday or Simply Classics at Beaulieu and then, of course, Verwood Rustic Fayre on the Monday. Phew! – what a busy month that's going to be! Looking ahead to September we have the Isle of Wight weekend.

We already have events planned for next year including the Annual Dinner and Dance in January and Nev has just booked the Devon weekend at the Royal Glen Hotel again for April.

The Traveller seems to be running well on its replacement gearbox and newly rebuilt engine. I haven't had much opportunity to use it lately though with the continuous rain and it really does need to be used.

That's all from me for this month – see you out and about at the shows, Happy Minorling, Laurie.

Traveller Rear Door Fix (by Dave and Bruce)

Those of you that have a Traveller will know that the rear doors can slam shut and clout you on the elbow. My Traveller did just that and Bruce and I had a look to see if anything could be done. The spring looked good so the arm was removed for inspection (picture above).

If you look at it carefully you can see the vertical face at the hook end with a radius in the "top" corner of that hook. What actually happens is that this radius is caused by wear and there should be a right angle and sharp corner there. We overcame this by filing the radius out of the hook. So with the arm located in the bracket fitted to the side rail the doors stays open when needed. You now need to lift the bar slightly to allow the door to close but at least it doesn't smack your elbow.

If anyone wants to have a chat about it please feel free to contact Bruce or myself. The other advantage is that the "fix" doesn't cost anything!



Regards, Bruce and Dave

Dorset Branch Rally Prize Giving

(Trophies provided by ESM Morris Minors)

Dorset Concours—Mike Sheppard PAF 521

Series MM—Laurie Blewer ORB 596

Series II - Richard Lidster ORU 266

1000 Saloon—1st Mick Brewster BFX159B, 2nd Andrew Ross CKT 293C

1000 Traveller—Barry Allen SDL 694J 2nd David Grice OVP 277G

1000 Convertible—Roger Ware TRD 826

1000 LCV—Tony Ware EAB 204J

Custom—Carlo Pegoraro WSL 882

Modified—Andy Wescott UWV 548J

Post Production Convertible—Joe Bish-

op VRX 928H

Visitors 1st—N Burdock (Panhard)

2nd—Dave and June Reeves (MGB)

Best Dorset Vehicle—Eddie Pateman

Best Restoration—1st Mick Brewster

2nd Martin Chowne

Furthest Distance Travelled—Dave and

Pam Holton (Silverstone 137miles)

Avon Heath Café Award—Alison Morrissey XRX 638J

(Aubrey Batt Memorial Run—Mick Brewster.)

MMOC MOT Trip (by Dave & Jackie Walker)

As you know we went to the this year's M.O.T. where, as always, there is a Branch Evening. This normally takes the form of an evening meal.

I am pleased to tell you that the honour of Dorset Branch was upheld and here is the photographic evidence. As we were a bit short of actual members, Jackie and I were the only representatives there so we took it upon ourselves to co-opt some extras.

So, clockwise from the left front allow me to introduce these Minor Owners, if you don't recognise them:-

Eric Vandenoostende - Dentist (B) , Dave Walker (GB), Jackie Walker (GB), Ursula Behrend - Owner of Tour Bus Company and driving school (D), Martien van ben Berghe - Dentist (B), Monique den Haese - Retired teacher (B), Albert Puers - Owner of Industrial Boiler company (B) and Axel Behrend - Owner of Tour Bus company etc.(D). Between our guests they own two convertibles, one two door and a Traveller, plus many varied other interesting vehicles.

It was thought that a temporary membership fee of one Eurocent should be paid and this was readily agreed! Six Eurocents are, therefore, available to the Hon Treasurer.

I am pleased to report that the evening went well without bloodshed but with dignity and it was unanimously agreed that this arrangement should continue in future years.

How about coming to check them out at the next M.O.T and swell the ranks of the Dorset Branch Evening?



Chairman's Report

Good evening and welcome to August clubnight. I hope all of the members enjoyed the July clubnight at the Bloxworth Social Club with fish and chips and a game of skittles. So I would like to thank Mandy and all the Bloxworth Club members for such a good night out. The Rally this year was a bit different to other years when the Rally was held on hardstanding and we had the gypsy travellers in the car park. I would really like to thank all of the members that helped on the day and the Committee for working the change of plan on the day. Also thanks to all the members who brought along home baked cakes, prizes for the raffle, bric-a-brac stall and auction items. In all, I thought that the day was a great success. The Café ladies also did a great job on the meals Saturday night. Thanks again to everyone.

Tonight is the last clubnight before the Isle of Wight Holiday—so I hope you all enjoy the weekend and the weather continues to be sunny as it is now. PS Don't forget to bring your Seventies gear.

I hope you have all booked for the Lymington Rally—it is one of the best rallies with plenty to do and see.

Neville has booked the annual dinner and dance for 20th January 2013 at a good price and also with a nice menu (see page 8). The Centenary Rally at Beaulieu for next year is still looking good with an assortment of vehicles applying for places. See you soon, Good Motoring, John.



We have been invited to this event as a 'guest' car club by the MG Club. We would like to put on a decent show for them, so please let us know if you can attend.

If people don't know Athelhampton House - it is between Tolpuddle and Puddletown - clearly marked off the Bere Regis to Dorchester road - it is an Elizabethan country manor house - admission gives entry to the house & gardens

Garden Party & Picnic at Athelhampton House on Sunday 19th August 2012

Bournemouth & Poole MGOC

www.1020mg.org.uk

Start 10am

Entry - £12 per car - no booking required

Includes access to House and Gardens

email:graham@1020mg.org.uk



DMMOC Dinner & Dance (by Neville Gerry)

The Dinner and Dance has been organised for Saturday January 20th 2013 at a new venue. It will be held at the **Liston Hotel**, Wollstonecraft Road, Boscombe Spa, BH5 1JQ. The cost will be £25 for members and £27 for non-members. The wine is paid for by the Branch and entry slips are included with this newsletter. The menu is as follows:

Watercress and Stilton Soup
Homemade Chicken Liver Parfait with Chutney and mixed leaves
Melon and Orange Platter with Raspberry Sorbet and Coulis
Twice Baked Cheese Souffle with an Herb Cream

-0-0-0-

Roast Turkey with all the trimmings
Fresh Salmon with an Herb Butter Sauce
Steak and Mushroom Pie with Shortcrust Pastry
Vegetarian Hot Pot

-0-0-0-0-

Christmas Pudding with Rum Sauce
Trio of Miniature desserts (Apple crumble with vanilla ice cream, Lemon Posset with shortbread biscuit and Chocolate Parfait)
Fresh Fruit Salad
Cheese and Biscuits with grapes and celery

-0-0-0-

Coffee and homemade petites fours
Christmas Crackers, Red Water Glasses, Cloth Napkins
Selection of our homemade bread

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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

MMOC National Rally

The trip to the National in 2012 had been planned a long time in advance. Jacky and I plus Sue and Roy Gale had booked hotel rooms in Market Harborough back in April. We had decided to make a 4 day weekend of it, taking a day to get there and a day to get home again. We went in our Series II Traveller and Roy and Sue in their late Van. We went over to Kelmarsh on Saturday and set up our Branch Stand and met up with a few more Dorset members who had made other arrangements. We were surprised to find that the ground was so firm after all that rain, and I think we only had a short shower over the whole weekend. (Pretty lucky considering all the cancelled events this year!) Dave and Jacky Walker and Dave and



Pam Holton were there and had camped in their caravans and we met Phil Traves who had a great time at the Saturday night 'Seventies' party. Sunday was not bad, at all, weather-wise, if a little windy. (Had to securely lash the gazebo!) The turnout of cars appeared to be pretty good - estimated at about 700? The Dorset Branch managed to gather a couple of awards, with Phil winning the Series II Traveller first prize and Roy getting a second for the van. I managed to buy a ticket for the unleaded cylinder head raffle and was only **one away** from the winner (355 - I had 356-360). Damn and Blast! Apart from that, we had a great weekend and gave the old split screen wipers a good blast on the way home Monday - with rain all the way! Looking forward to the next one already!



Looking forward to the next one already!

