

## Rear View



Now here's a good idea for a plant pot support if you have a spare wheel hub, crankshaft and brake drum lying around. Thanks to Tina for the photo which was supplied by Susan White from Australia.

**New Morris Minor Spares** are available through the club. The current list is posted on the website under the 'New Spares' tab. *We can also order other items for you—usually saving the postage cost.*  
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[www.dorsetmmoc.co.uk](http://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 2013-2014

President: Graham Jarvis (07914 637429)

(01425 476634)  
Newsletter / Website Editor: Brian Wood

Chairman: John Jenkinson (01202 576690)

(01202 573501)  
( brian@dorsetmmoc.co.uk )

Secretary: Laurie Blewer (01202 522673,  
07947 525884)

Non Committee posts:  
Raffle Coordinators: Chris Tilly and Margaret  
Pateman

Treasurer: Jacky Wood (01202 573501).

Membership Secretary – Des Waller (01202  
573403)

Spares Manager: Brian Wood  
(07411 116336)

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

Regalia Manager: Richard Cyster  
(01202 526660)

Product Development Mgr: Brian Ford

Catering Executives: -Sue Blewer, Lyn Gerry

Welfare/Technical Adviser: Eddie Pateman

### FRONT COVER

Brian and Chris Tilly's 'new' 2 door was on show at the Branch Rally. Splendid job, Brian—and apparently it only took about 20 years to finish!

***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](http://www.dorsetmmoc.co.uk))

### 2014

3rd August—Lymington Lions Show, Pennington

6th August—Clubnight—Gardening Competition

8-10th August—Holiday weekend—Littlecote House. *Meeting at Avon Heath-leaving at 10:00*

8-10th August—Purbeck Rally

17th August—Mid Summer Saunter meet Avon Heath then Sammy Millers M/cycle Museum (finishing at Walkers for Strawberry tea) Cost £3/head (not inc museum)

25th August—Brockenhurst Carnival and Fete, Brockenhurst College.

30th August—Hordle Fete (contact [kenhordle@live.co.uk](mailto:kenhordle@live.co.uk))

31st August—IOW Branch Rally

3rd September—Clubnight Skittles v 2CV Club

28th September—Autumn Amble—Holnest Country Fayre.

1st October—Clubnight AGM

5th November—Clubnight—Rev Stewart Timbrell

3rd December—Clubnight 'Noggin and Natter'

28th December—Mistletoe Meander

### 2015

10th January 2015—Dinner Dance—Liston Hotel

10th-12th April—Sidmouth Weekend

16-17th May—MOGGYFEST SOUTH (at Beaulieu Spring Autojumble)

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

### 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 club-nights. 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. Thanks.

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

### AUTUMN AMBLE. HOLNEST COUNTRY FAYRE, SHERBORNE 28 SEPT

We will be attending this show on Sunday 28th September. Laurie has the forms or find one on website.

**MID SUMMER SAUNTER—17TH AUGUST:** We are going to the Sammy Millers Motorcycle Museum and are meeting at Avon Heath for breakfast (if required) leaving at about 10:30 for the Museum. We will then go on to Dave and Jacky Walker's (at St Leonards) for Tea and Strawberries. The cost is £3 per head (not including Museum which is £5.50—usually £7.50 per head) Slips will be with this newsletter or on website

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# Dorset Branch Newsletter



August 2014

MORRIS MINOR OWNERS CLUB

Volume 17 Issue 9

**CLUBNIGHT ACTIVITY:**  
Gardening Competition

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**NEXT CLUBNIGHT Wed August 3rd**  
**Skittles Match V 2CV Club**

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 and welcome to the August newsletter and I hope you are all enjoying the summer weather. The annual branch rally was blessed with decent weather again a few weeks back and a good time was had by all (as far as I know!) It is always good to receive a few written compliments, and feedback (good or bad) is always welcome. Special mention must go to Maureen (with the black '61 Traveller) who drove all the way down from *Grimsby* for the weekend! Now that's what I call a journey. It would be tiring enough in a modern car, let alone a 53 year old one. Not surprisingly, Maureen was the winner of the longest distance travelled to the Rally award (248 miles). Well done and thanks for your comments (page 5). Some photos and the Judging Results are shown on the middle pages (8 & 9).

The new club spares operation was tested last month—which was a good month to start it since we were not at the usual venue. So, don't forget to contact me in advance if you wish to obtain anything specific and I'll bring it along. There is an up to date price list on the website (<http://www.dorsetmmoc.co.uk/wordpress/admin/pricelist.pdf>). Or go to the NEW SPARES tab and click the 'pricelist' link.

You will, I am sure, be pleased to learn that the pick up roof replacement job went well. We even found a bit of time to throw a bit of black paint on it to make it respectable for the rally!. Speaking of which, Stewart was chuffed to have parked the pick up next to a previous owner, 'John' who had owned the car about 8 years ago and provided some interesting background information on the car's history and the story of the sun-roof installation and removal. Back in the present, the fuel system kept clogging up—apparently with rubber debris and this nearly prevented his attendance at the Rally. After replacing the fuel pump several times and rebuilding the carburettor (having previously replaced fuel tank and both fuel pipes!), the problem would appear to be related to decomposition of the fuel filler tube, would you believe? A new tube has now been fitted and everything seems to be working OK. Time will tell.

Anyway, that's it for now, Brian



## Technical Tip (editor)



I was recently tasked with the job of replacing a steering rack gaiter on a Minor and I don't know about you, but the job always fills me with dread because of the difficulty of getting the inner opening over the end of the rack and then trying to get a clip or cable tie around it and secure.

It occurred to me to do a bit of homework before hand and glue a piece of tubing around 180° of the circumference to contain the cable tie as shown in the photo. (I used heat-shrink as that was all I had)

I used super glue to fix the tubing in three places only (to allow for movement when fitting) and I wasn't sure if it would stand up to the trauma of being fitted. A dollop of washing up liquid helps to get the gaiter over the lip. Once it is in position, you just have to tighten up the cable ties and trim them off. Just run the steering from side to side to make sure the gaiter doesn't come off when stretched and all should be well. It worked! Just going back a stage, did you know that you can get a steering rack gaiter on without taking the track rod end out of the steering arm? Just release the clip holding the small end of the gaiter and loosen the locking nut on the track rod end. (You will need to record or preserve the position of the locking nut/track rod end or else the tracking will need re-setting afterwards.) Then simply rotate the track rod itself in the rack ball joint until the end comes free from the track rod. Simple (!) (thanks Roger!)

Duff gaiters are usually one of the items that only gets spotted by the MOT man—so if you are pre- 1960 and MOTs are a thing of the past, don't forget to check them occasionally, since a split will let the lubricating oil out and allow dirt in! Brian.

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## For Sale & Wanted & Club Notices

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**FOR SALE:** Morris/Austin Minor chassis for sale. It is a late one with the seat belt anchorage points. I bought it about 15 years ago from a chap who had made a beach buggy based on it. It was not successful so it was dismantled and the parts sold. I originally bought it when I had the original Pick-up which never needed it. The current one doesn't either so it's for sale. It's advertised in Classic Car Weekly for £650 but any member can have it for £575. Phone me on 01202 877972 for more details. Also I found two brass what looks like horse brasses. They show 48 – 98 Southern National Rally Dorset. If anyone wants a part of Dorset Branch history give the Club a donation and they are yours. I will bring them to the next Club Night. (Dave Walker)



### Technical Tip (editor)

Driving the convertible home from the Rally, Jacky noticed the brakes felt very hard and there was a smell of burning! When I checked it later, all seemed fine although the hand brake action was poor. I had recently replaced the rear shoes due to leakage from the rear axle and just put that down to the new shoes bedding in. What do you think the problem was?

For the Australian reader (Vic) the answer is printed upside down. It was, of course the handbrake adjustment. I had inadvertently adjusted the rear brake shoes with the hand-brake cable(s) not fully released. Slackening the cables first and re-adjustment of the rear shoes improved matters considerably.

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

## Editor's In-Box



Brian. Just wanted to send a quick e-mail to say thank you very much to you, Jacky, the rest of the committee and all the volunteers who made yesterday's rally yet another fantastic day. All the hard work by all of you was very much appreciated and we had a great time - it was definitely worth coming home two days early from our holiday in France for it! Many thanks once again. Kind regards Julie and Andy Wescott

Hi Laurie.....we do hope that you and all the DMMOC Committee will be putting your feet up for a well earned rest. Please can you pass on our thanks to all concerned with the Rally, we thoroughly enjoyed it as always and we were so pleased to see everyone! Kate Noon and Helena Carr

Dear Brian. I would like to thank you all, you Dorset Lot! For the warm welcome I received. I enjoyed every second. The car ran well apart from my ongoing problem with the electrics—in the garage again on Tuesday. I am sure it is the earth but I know they will not listen to me. Hope to see you all again next year, Maureen Onyehara (Grimsby, NE Lincs)



Best Saloon award went to Steve Brown's Humber Hawk Series VI

Congratulations to Steve on winning 'Best Saloon' at the Bristol Classic at Shepton Mallet

## DORSET BRANCH SPARES NEWS

For the benefit of newer members who may not be aware of it, the Branch operates a Morris Minor New Spares service. All profits go back to the Branch to help keep subscriptions low. We usually have a spares table at the monthly branch clubnights and we have a presence at some shows (particularly the Branch Rally and the Beaulieu Autojumbles). Spares are available most other times using the contact details given below. The spares are mostly sourced from ESM (East Sussex Minors—who support our branch rally also) and the prices charged generally reflect their prices. The advantages are availability of parts and *usually* no postage charges. Some locally reconditioned items are also available, such as fuel pumps, carburettors and radiators. . .

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## Chairman's Report

Good evening and welcome to August clubnight. I hope all the club members enjoy tonight's display of flowers and vegetables. Thanks to Eddie for arranging the competition. If any of the members have any ideas for clubnight please let the Committee know. This years rally went off OK with a good turnout of vehicles. The weather was good and Saturday night went well with good food and drink for all the 66 participants. So a big thanks to Amelia and Marion and all the staff for a good night. The weekend break at Littlecote hotel is all ready to go next weekend. I hope you all enjoy the break. I hope all the members enjoyed the rally at Breamore House recently. I could not go because I went to London with the family for 'Tea at the Ritz' to celebrate our 50th Wedding Anniversary. It was very good and then we went to Fortnum and Masons to look at the food hall and the wines. I bought a few things but they were a little pricey! On the way back to the station we stopped at the pub the 'Victoria and Albert' at Marylebone station for a pint. As it was so hot in London—sitting outside the pub drinking my cold Guinness a small crowd of men came past and one said to (my son) Stuart "Hello Stuart" and another said "Hi John". They were all from the club I used to run in Aylesbury. Last time I saw the lads was over 16 years ago. That was a great finish to the weekend. (They had all just been to Lords for the cricket). Good motoring, John.



Changing jobs to nearer home and getting fed up with sterile motoring I was lured back to the Minor. I purchased a 1968 2 door Almond green saloon from Charlie Wares at Bath as a good base for a running restoration. I used this car for four years doing 24 miles a day across the New Forest at the 40 mph speed limit enjoying every drive. It was also at that time I joined the Dorset Minor club and attended meetings at Maxwell Road. Spending a little time chatting with the late Aubrey Batt and Jack Daniels at meetings and sharing problems with the ever helpful members some of whom are still helping me with my problems.



Andy's father's Minor

The saloon was later sold so I could concentrate on the van project.

So there we have it, many years of the Minor, the way it has shaped my motoring life. In all that time I have enjoyed them; been thankful they have got us safely to our destination and home again.

They have been easy to maintain, economical especially on the wallet, still the reader would already know that.

## 2015 Dinner Dance (Jan 10th)

**7.00 for 7.30 Christmas Crackers and Napkins**  
**Leek and Potato Soup**  
**Prawn Cocktail with brown bread and butter**  
**Melon and Orange Platter with Raspberry Coulis**  
**Game Pate with toast, Chutney and Leaves**  
**Also extra bread to be offered**  
**-0-0-0-**

**Roast Turkey with all the trimmings**  
**Beef Steak and Mushroom Pie**  
**Smoked Haddock Florentine (Spinach, Poached Egg and Cheese Sauce)**  
**Vegetarian Hot Pot**  
**-0-0-0-**

**Christmas Pudding with Custard Sauce**  
**Fresh Fruit Salad**  
**Trio of Miniature Desserts**  
**Lemon Meringue Pie**  
**Cheese, Biscuits, Grapes and Celery**  
**-0-0-0-**

**Coffee and homemade petite fours**

It's a little way off yet, but the Dinner and Dance has been planned for January 10th at the Liston Hotel. The cost will be £26 for Members (£28 – non-members). The room charge if you wish to stay overnight is £25 (£30 for 'Superior'). The menu is shown below. The hotel also do Sunday lunches 12-2:30 (booking advised). Starter £6, mains £12, deserts £6 and a Friday special 12-2.30 (booking advised) 2 courses for £12 and 3 courses for £15.

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## My Life with Morris Minors (by Andy Dibb)



I thought I would share my experiences of my life with Minors. It will probably mirror image a lot of your memories. My first memory of the Minor was when father bought a very nice 1960 clipper blue four door. His previous cars were Singer's, Standard 8, Renault Dauphine and an early Austin Mini. The Minor was the longest he kept a car and the only time it went wrong was the gear box when yours truly was learning to drive. He finally traded it in for a mark one Vauxhall Viva and regretted it straight away.

It was at this time I learnt to drive, with dad in the Minor and one lesson a week

with a driving school using which you probably already guessed was a Minor. Once I had passed my test I decided to sell my beloved Lambretta TV200 scooter to fund my first car purchase. I sold it for £75 and they sell for £7,000 upwards nowadays. I was offered a 1966 Morris Mini Cooper S 1275cc in almond green for £300 and what do they sell for nowadays? It was in excellent condition, well maintained and I fell in love with it, however my friendly insurance man persuaded me my first love was doomed to failure.

One of dad's friends had a Minor that needed the engine fixing and a small amount of welding. For £20 I got a 1958 4 door saloon in matt Clarendon Grey. My friend sold me a 950cc gold seal engine for £8, which friends helped me to fit and £6 for the welding got me a running car with an MOT. The matt paint finish turned out to be where it was parked under a lime tree for many years. After a whole Sunday of elbow grease and a complete tin of T cut the paint work absolutely gleamed like new.

I kept this Minor for two years and sold it for a good profit to fund the purchase of a frog-eye sprite. Finding the sprite was fun to drive but not very practical I then purchased another 2 Minor's, a dove grey 2 door and a duck egg blue 4 door. How much do mark 1 sprites go for these days?

All of this time I had served an apprenticeship as a plumber with HM Chilcott & Sons in Southampton who had a fleet of vans. No guessing what they were, yep Minors, mine was a 1968 birch grey model with sign written sides. It was totally worn out, the engine burnt so much oil I thought it might be a two stroke. We then progressed to new Marina vans, however "progressed" is probably not the right term to use!!!! Eventually my own Minor was changed for a Hillman Avenger, then various Fords and euro boxes.

## Secretary's Report

Good evening everyone and welcome to the August clubnight. I hope everyone enjoyed last month's trip out to Molly's Den. I saw quite a few members walking about with purchases so I hope you all managed to pick up a bargain or two. I hope you all enjoy tonight's gardening competition. There are rosettes to win as well as a trophy for the best in show. If you're not a gardener it may encourage you to have a go yourself. Next month we will be hosting a skittles match against the 2CV Club – we just need to hope that the new skittle alley is ready. If it's not, I do have a contingency plan though!

Well, the Dorset Rally is over with for another year. We were blessed with fantastic weather once again this year which led to 103 vehicles attending. The judging this year was particularly difficult especially in one or two classes but I hope the results turned out to everyone's satisfaction. The final results are printed elsewhere in the newsletter. For those of you who went on one of Norman's mystery bus tours you'll be pleased to hear that he collected £133.40 in donations which he is giving to Cherry Tree Nurseries this year.

The week after our rally a good contingent of us went out to Breamore House for the Poole Bay Classics Motoring Extravaganza. As usual this was a very good show and an enjoyable day out. A very good cross section of vehicles were on show and it was just nice to have a relaxing, lazy day out following all the work involved in our rally the week before.

August will be a busy month as usual. We have the Bygones Show at Ibsley, the Lymington Show, the Purbeck Rally, the Frogham Country Fayre and the Brockenhurst Carnival amongst many others I'm sure I don't know about.

Please get your entry slips in ASAP for the Midsummer Saunter this month which this year will visit Sammy Millers Motorcycle Museum before we "Saunter" off to Dave and Jackie's for afternoon tea of strawberries etc. We have renamed the run now called the Autumn Amble (formerly '3 in 1 Run'). We hope to be finishing at The Holnest Country Fayre near Sherborne.

Planning is still at a very early stage for next year's Moggie Fest South to be held at the Beaulieu Spring Autojumble. Initial flyers have been produced to enable people to register their interest in the event. These were given out at the Dorset Rally but if by any slim chance you weren't there we have some for you to complete.

That's all from me for this month so until next time, Happy Minor-ing, Laurie.





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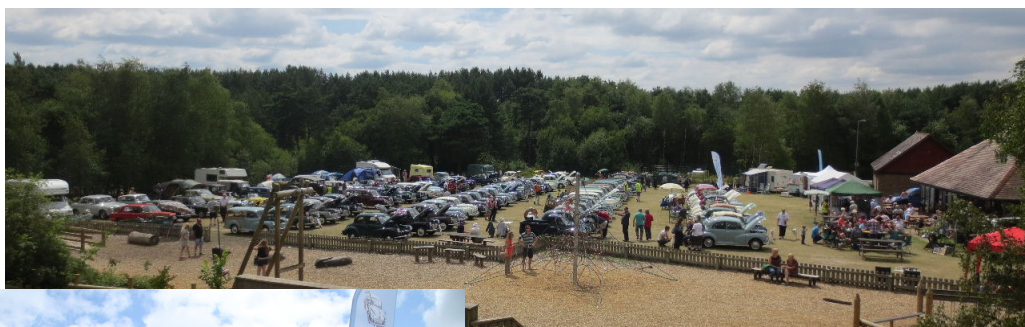
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## Dorset Branch Rally—Avon Heath -2014



### JUDGING RESULTS

Dorset Concours: David Grice  
 Series MM: Mike Sheppard  
 Series II: Colin Mockett  
 Saloon: Chris Tilly (2nd) John Ayres  
 Traveller: John Parker (2nd) Colin Whiffen  
 Convertible: Bob Rees  
 LCV: David Holton  
 Custom: Peter Coates  
 Modified: Richard Graves  
 PP Convertible: Eddie Pateman  
 Working Minor: Theresa Moxley  
 Visitor: Bruce Eggleton (Austin 10)  
 Visitor 2nd: Alan Shephard (A35 Countryman)  
 Best Dorset: Roger Kellow  
 Best Resto: Brian Tilly (2nd) Ron Spencer  
 Furthest Dist: Maureen Onyehara (248m)



Laurie takes a moment to inspect the saloons (above). Maureen Onyehara's Traveller (right) and John Parker receiving the Best Traveller trophy from Chairman John Jenkinson (below).

