

Dorset Branch

THE DMMOC MONTHLY MAGAZINE



August 2025 Vol.28 issue 9



www.dorsetmmoc.co.uk

The MMOC Dorset Branch

was founded in 1980 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 Second Monday of every month (7:30 for 8:00)** at the **Bridgehouse Hotel Longham BH22 9AN**. 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 Club night is an opportunity to meet the other enthusiasts and enjoy a presentation or other activity organised by the Committee.

Membership currently costs £15 per year—£20 for joint membership.

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New Post

Creative Design Consultant.

Roger Kellow

***Front Cover
Then and Now.
Laurie our chairman's
latest acquisition with a
full local history***

***Print Deadline* to ensure inclusion for any item within August Edition please:-
20th August2025**



Dorset Branch Newsletter

MORRIS MINOR OWNERS CLUB



CLUBNIGHT - 11th August
'Gardening Competition'

In This Months Issue...

<i>REGULARS</i>	<i>SPECIAL FEATURES</i>
<i>Pages 4&5 News from the committee</i>	<i>Pages 6&7 News from Wales trip.</i>
<i>Pages 12 &13 Littledown Miniature Railway</i>	<i>Pages 8&9 Remedial Welding</i>
<i>Pages 11 Netley Marsh report</i>	<i>Pages 10 Trip to Stewarts</i>
<i>Pages 15 Spares</i>	<i>Pages 14 Events for sale</i>

Dorset Branch Members-It's Your Magazine - It's Your Club !

*****The Editor encourages and welcomes any written contributions - particularly loaned (or emailed) photos please of topical interest, from the branch members suitable for inclusion.***

****Please submit , if possible ,any material or advertising matter, within 10 days prior to the next monthly club night date . (*Inclusion within the next available published newsletter is subject to space, as it approaches the next respective monthly publishing deadline.*** The Dorset Branch MMOC will accept no liability in respect of goods or services provided by advertisers : No recommendation is implied : Any views expressed or advice given within the newsletter is offered in good faith and no liability is accepted by the Dorset branch or the MMOC for any consequences arising from following such material.

News From Your Committee

Laurie:-

As many of you would have seen I have now acquired another car. As the weather has been glorious lately it has given us all the opportunity to visit a variety of shows and fetes in the surrounding areas. With the Holdenhurst fete being one of my favourites . I arrived late as I had to work Saturday but the rest of the family were fully ensconced on a very hot day. So good to see so many of our members there with their cars. My new car was taken down by Dad and it was it's first real outing, it did have a fuel leak early on but again Brian Wood sourced the relevant repair items to make it serviceable again. As always the villagers made us very welcome and the food was great at the village hall.

With the annual gardening show being held on club night I hope that the weather has not stopped a bumper crop of veg and flowers being on display. Wolvercroft will soon be upon us and the camping bookings are filling up don't forget to notify Jacky Wood if you are staying. The Saturday run out will begin at 11:00 and we have already explored the route .

I know that it seems like it has just finished but plans are well underway for next year's Beaulieu Moggyfest. Watch this space, as normal volunteers are always welcome to help put on this event.

Brian Ford :-

As you may be aware I have been laid up for some time with a leg problem. Pauline has had to chain me down so that the recovery process can happen. It has been frustrating and we missed the trip to Wales that looked fabulous we were so disappointed. Pauline allowed me time to rub down the hand painted van a laborious job but quite satisfying. Pete F came around and helped prep the Rover for auction we will be sad to see it go what a fabulous car.

Brian Wood :-

The spares are now back to their normal levels and I can see by the orders coming in everyone is fettling their cars ready for the drive outs planned for the summer. Currently the bonnet high lift stays are in short

(Continued on page 5)

News From Your Committee

(Continued from page 4)

supply but I'm expecting new batches soon. *(Now available—Ed)*

I went with Jacky to Wales we went in the convertible and so glad we did as it was so hot. We covered about 800 miles. I took a variety of spares including a half shaft. Did we need them NO!!!!. All we had were a few screwdriver tweaks for all the cars Brilliant. I might need to get some more brake shoes in as we might have a run on them from the other members who went to Wales. Pete and I will hopefully be giving a fuller run down of our adventures in January.

From Ed.

The club's van had a big run out to Wales driven by Ian and Tracy . We were able to off load some of the larger items into it. He seemed to go well and had only a minor problem with tick-over which is now cured.

We still need more articles for the club newsletter. Your interests and activities with your cars is always of interest to other club members go on give it a go. Ed

Karon.

As the oldest car to go on the Welsh trip we were slightly apprehensive as to how the convertible would cope.

Well what a pleasant surprise up hills and down valleys she kept up well with no hiccups . So glad we had a convertible the weather as mentioned was very hot. Even Steve's infamous hat of the day was a trial.

Lucky for us we had a hot tub at the accommodation

Jacky and Brian

With the exploits in Wales now completed we are both now focussed on Wolvercroft and the clubs rally. If you wish to camp please let me know as soon as possible. The garden centre has been contacted and Laurie is ensuring the essential facilities will be available. Peter and Brian will be collecting more unwanted spares and will be off to Barton on Sea to collect them. We will have some spares at Wolvercroft and we will be having some second hand parts for sale as well. We are now just praying to the weather gods for it to stay fine.

D.M.M.O.C.

Invades North Wales

As you will be aware we have been planning our trip to Wales for some time. Unfortunately Brian and Pauline Ford were unable to make it due to unforeseen circumstances. Dave Edbrooke stepped up and took their place at very short notice he brought his lovely pickup . Ian Chiver's Traveller was also sidelined due to metal fatigue so the club van was commandeered so that Tracey and Ian could come along with a Morris. In January we will be holding a presentation showing the full extent of our exploits but here is a small taster for you. Biggest surprise was that we had the hottest week that the locals have seen ever, to drive around this stunning country. Pictured below our accommodation looking out over Dolgellau and Cader Idris



The picture below was taken by Steve on the bridge by my old Hotel



e 7)

D.M.M.O.C. Invades North Wales

(Continued from page 6)



By the beautiful lake at the Tyn y Cornel Hotel .



We were given the privilege to park on the Tallyllyn railway station famed for being where the Rev Audrey drew inspiration for the Thomas the Tank books.
More to follow in Jan. Ed

Sometimes Remedial action is required

As Morris owners we know how reliable the cars are. However, they do suffer from the tin worm and when found remedial action is required swiftly to stop the spread.

My Traveller TRX I found needed some new metal on the chassis leg .

Now who you goner call? yes Terry. Terry House is the renowned welder and guru on all things Morris and also has a vast number of cars and some unique versions also , remember the shooting brake that he displayed on our stand at Beaulieu.

Now Terry can be hard to get hold of, busy people usually are, but after a visit to assess the required remedy for my car a date was set but first I had to strip down the front end of the Traveller.



Next when Terry arrived we had to sort out the priorities . So cake and Tea. Joy had made him his special cake to meet his dietary requirements .

Suitably fuelled, the fun could begin. To make life as easy as possible we needed the car as high in the air as is safe. Four axle stands and plenty of wood the car was secure enough that our slender frames could get under the car and also allow the cutting and welding to be done in a safe manner. Oh by the way it was very hot on the day we started.



Sometimes Remedial action is required

(Continued from page 8)

The passenger side was the only area that needed work and before you say it the chunk of wood is only keeping the brakes out of the way.

Now it would take me two days of looking at and further numerous measurements to align old and new metal yet alone welding without distorting the car. No Terry uses string and chalk and he has the experience to mould the car back into shape.



So between us, I mean Terry and me providing sustenance we chatted and put the world to right and before long the Traveller was back as she should be. Highly recommend Terry for a colourful day and his expertise is second to none.

As the front end was off it was an ideal time to replace the timing chain, renew all the hoses and replaced the front bushes.

We also decided to remove the front anti roll bar as I'm not into racing and we both didn't see the point. I now have a anti-roll bar for sale.

Pete Ed



Back to the Fuchsia a trip to Stewarts Nursery

We all met up at Basket and Blooms Parley for Breakfast or just for the run to Stewarts Garden centre Broomhill.



The Lauries turned up for breakfast and to show the newly restored four door .

At Stewart's we gathered for a tour of the greenhouses and to hear from Martin Stewart all about the history of the garden centre. We then had cream tea . Thanks to John Jenkinson and all the staff at Stewarts .



Netley Marsh

Joy and I went to Netley Marsh Steam fair on the Saturday the 26th July. The show runs for three days and what a lot is going on .

As Dorset Steam has now stopped this seems to be the place where they are all going . Lots of cars, bikes, steam, lorries and steam in action along with arena shows and craft tents etc.

Some images from our visit.



Littledown Miniature Railway And B.B.Q.

Well it was meant to rain and thunder storm but the weather gods were kind to us.

We descended once again to admire the trains at Littledown Miniature

Railway club.

David Martin organised the event and all the owner drivers gave us a great time riding the trains as many times as we liked. Dave B.B.Q. king also was head chef fed the members who had booked.

Steve and Karon Brown also hosted the liquid refreshment side and generously brought along a vast array of adult and soft drinks for us .

Brilliant evening big thanks to Dave, Diane and the Littledown Miniature railway club for hosting us once again.



Littledown Minature Railway And B.B.Q.



Events

D.M.M.O.C. Organised Events.

	<u>2025 events</u>
11-Aug	Club Night Gardening Event
16-17 Aug	Branch Rally Wolvercroft
23-24 Aug	Henstridge Wings and wheels
08-Sep	Club Night Charity Talk
13-Oct	Club Night A.G.M.

**Don't forget Wovercroft runout will start at
11:00 Saturday 16th August**



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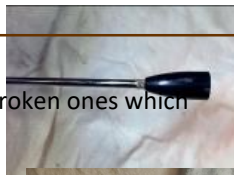


*Most of you will be aware that the Branch has had it's own Morris Minor Spares Department for quite a while now. It continues to do well and returns a reasonable surplus to club funds every year. So it would appear to be a relevant and useful part of the Dorset Branch activities. Please try to support it when you can. I can usually bring your orders along to the Branch Meetings (or other activities - if I am going to them!). We also have at least one annual 'outing' for the spares tent, usually at Beaulieu and our Branch Rally where you can buy your bits. Don't forget also that most parts can be bought from us with a 10% discount. We can also get larger items delivered directly to you ,but sometimes postage charges apply. **Brian***

Cars or Spares for sale or Wanted ,entries are Free to club members or £5 per entry for non-members . Traders display adverts in newsletter from £30 per year subject to size.

Indicator Stalk Repair Kit

We can supply a new indicator stalk end to replace broken ones which house the green repeater light. £6 each



Reverse Light Switch Update

I had a chat with ESM at the National Rally and they are investigating the possible manufacture of the switch bodies (possibly in India!) I am still hopeful that we can come up with something as it takes me a whole afternoon to make just one!



3D Printed/LED interior lights

Just a couple of these left now, only £22.50 to club members. (Late type only)





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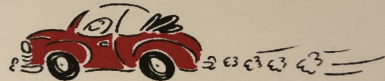


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BRANCH REBATE SCHEME

You may be aware that the branch receives a financial rebate according to the numbers of national MMOC members who attend the monthly club nights. We therefore need to update our records so that we can take advantage of this scheme. Please would you advise the Membership Secretary of your **MMOC membership number** and renewal date and make sure that you sign the attendance sheet at the club nights. Thanks.