

Dorset Branch

Happy
Christmas

THE DMMOC MONTHLY MAGAZINE



Dec 2024 / Jan 2025 - Vol. 28 issue 2

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.

Dorset Branch MMOC Key Contacts

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman

Laurie Blewer
01202 522673
Laurie.Blewer@dorsetmmoc.co.uk

Secretary

Ian Chivers
07779581837
ian.chivers@dorsetmmoc.co.uk

Treasurer

Jacky Wood
01202 573494

Branch Membership Sec.

Brian Ford
07502161535
brian.ford@dorsetmmoc.co.uk

Spares

Brian Wood
07411 116336
brian.wood@dorsetmmoc.co.uk

Editor

Peter French
dmmoceditor24@yahoo.com
07849618482

Karon Brown (Health and Safety)

sandkbrown@hotmail.co.uk

Hon. President John Jenkinson

01202 576690

NON COMMITTEE VOLUNTARY POSTS



Raffle Coordinators

Chris Tilley &
Margaret Pateman

Branch Insurance Consultant

David Walker

Gardening Comp Sub-committee

Sue Cooper
Martin Harris

New Post Creative Design Consultant.

Roger Kellow

***FRONT COVER
Merry Christmas***

***Print Deadline* to ensure inclusion for any item within Feb Edition please:-**

Jan 31st 2025



Dorset Branch Newsletter

MORRIS MINOR OWNERS CLUB



NEXT CLUBNIGHT -Jan 13th
D.M.M.O.C invade France (again)

In This Months Issue...

<i>REGULARS</i>	<i>SPECIAL FEATURES</i>
<i>Chairman's Report p.4</i>	<i>Secretary's Report p.4</i>
<i>Editor's Report, p.7</i>	
<i>Brian Wood report p.5-6</i>	<i>Graham restoration up-date p.8-9</i>
<i>Laurie and Bobby history p/12-13</i>	<i>NEC Classic Car show p.10-11</i>
<i>Events p. 16 & 17</i>	<i>Overseas Members Cars p.12-13</i>
<i>Items for sale p 19</i>	<i>Dinner Dance Details p.14 & 15</i>
<i>Cars and Parts for sale p.18-19</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.

Chairman's Report



Brian, Jacky and I had a very productive meeting at Beaulieu regarding Moggyfest 2025 and the entry forms are now prepared. Roger has been busy beavering away on new backdrops and both of us have been busy sorting out vehicles required for the marquee display. I have been working on the 4 door as and when time allows. Its now back down on its wheels and we have started sorting out the body panels and fettling them to make them fit. We have started on plans for events for 2025 so keep an eye on the events diary. See you all on the Mistletoe Meander. Let us have any final entry slips by clubnight please. Finally I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Laurie

Secretary's Report

Can't put it off any longer, it's time to start getting into the festive spirit. So, Merry Christmas everyone We had a very interesting meeting with the Beaulieu Events Team to discuss Moggyfest 2025, they are keen to be more involved and include us in their marketing and social media promoting the Spring Autojumble. Last year we had the largest number of attendees for years, which didn't go unnoticed by them, and we are very privileged to have their continued support.



17th November was the last Blandford Car Show of the year, it was an event we were invited to attend the previous month but clashed with storm Ashley. This time it was a beautiful day, so we headed out past Kingston Lacy and through the trees which were very picturesque in full autumn colours and falling leaves. Arriving at the Hall & Woodhouse Brewery the car park was very busy, and we were quickly parked up by the entrance. Inside, The Tap was also busy, but we managed to find a table and enjoyed a very nice lunch washed down with a pint of beer.

Laurie & I still need to plan the road run for the Mistletoe Meander, I've contacted the Hamworthy Club to confirm our plans for the day. I know that some of you have already called them to book in for Sunday lunch after the run. Looking forward to seeing all the decorated cars and Christmas jumpers in the car park, don't forget there's a prize for the best car. Ian.



BRIAN WOOD REPORT

Hello again, everyone. Our Minor Million (EOS 444) made it safely to the NEC in Birmingham and back, courtesy of Martin Stoker from Bristol – who had organised a private Morris Minor stand to exhibit 4 ‘significant’ lilac Minor Millions. The ‘Morris Minor Owners’ Community’ is a Facebook page which has been around for about a year now. The stand attracted a lot of



attention and featured in various subsequent publications etc. Ours (1,000,330) is on the left (picture below) and the others were the ‘Millionth’ (1,000,000) the left-hand drive, Millionth and one (1,000,001) owned by Martin and the recently restored example owned by Gevin White (sorry but can’t remember his ‘Million’ number).

I had reason to speak to ESM about brake cylinders recently, as I replaced some sold stock of ‘genuine’ front brake cylinders and was charged about £5 more for the cylinders for left than the right.

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

The reason for this turned out to be that they are *no longer being made*. Their stock had to be sourced from other suppliers and therefore additional overheads and profit factored in. The manufacture of the 'legacy' genuine parts has been passed through about 4 different manufacturers (possibly more) to my knowledge. Originally tooled and made by Lockheed then subsequently made by 'AP Caparo', '920 Engineering' and most recently 'Shiftec', it now appears that production volumes are not sufficient to ensure continued manufacture. This seems a bit drastic as I am aware that some parts are manufactured in 'batches'. This sometimes accounts for temporary unavailability. An example of this is Payen head gaskets. Pattern wheel cylinders are still being made and ESM are working with the supplier of those to produce replica genuine ones (ie with the internal seal fitted inside the cylinder as opposed to being fitted on the piston.) They are also going to deal with the well-known issue of the physical clash between the brake cylinder and the shoes on the earlier 7" front brake setup, which has foxed many a professional mechanic who has struggled in vain to refit the brake drum which appears to have shrunk after being removed! Of perhaps more concern, is the future supply of 'genuine' master cylinders – which of course fall under the same constraints as outlined in relation to the wheel cylinders. Apparently, there is adequate stock at present, but looking to the future, the availability is likely to worsen. Hopefully an alternative can be found, since logic would suggest that there is still an adequate marketplace in which to sell them. The price of these has just about doubled since 2016 and this is usually an indicator of impending change. On a related note, there is currently an attempt to transfer the Trademark ('Morris' and associated logos etc) licence to a new start-up EV manufacturer. This could have important ramifications for us as it would cause confusion as to the origin of parts which are currently produced as 'genuine'. The MMOC would then not be permitted to use any of the current Morris trademarks without permission (and licence fee). Of course, the MMOC are contributing to a legal challenge to this, and we have been asked to produce a written statement in support of this defence. This is currently being prepared and I'll report further on progress in the new year. Brian



Editor's Report

Hi and welcome to the last newsletter of 2024.

What a fantastic year we have had with record club members and our events have gone from strength to strength. We do have some exciting events planned for the New Year and we are hoping to organise more drive-outs, weather permitting. Talking of weather, so many cancellations of shows this year let's hope when the season starts the weather will play ball.

As you are aware we are changing the club venue and club date to the second Monday of each month, it took nearly a year of head scratching and trips to different venues before we found what we hope is a suitable place for the foreseeable future.

The committee carry out quite a lot of jobs that are often hidden from the general club affairs. One such example was when I popped around to see Jacky Wood, when I arrived there was a queue waiting to see Brian it was like Arkwright's shop. Brian was taking orders and issuing parts and advice as normal. Sometimes, Jacky said Brian is taking orders well into the evening. This is not a complaint however. I do harass the committee to produce reports for the newsletter as most of us attend the same events it is always difficult to think of different items to be included in their reports.

We have now decided that individual reports will not now be included in the newsletter. However we will have news from the committee where we can include items associated with club affairs.

Articles of interest will still be produced by committee members like Bobby's story and trips to the N.E.C.

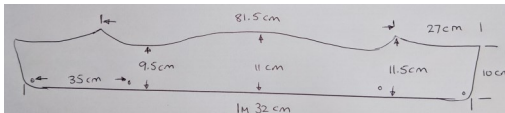
I would like to wish you all a happy and prosperous new year.

Peter

Graham's an inside man.



Well it has been an interesting time recently on the Morris. A few ups and downs which tend to be expected as we are not professionals but hobbyists. Last month I described fitting the headlining but I had left the area around the rear window as I needed to make the finishing panel that fits below the window rubber and sits across the shelf behind the rear seat. I had some luck with Martin Feltham a year or so ago, who had the same panel but was loose in his split screen car. So Martin kindly let me take lots of measurements and I sketched the shape for a later date.



Newton Commercials who make headlining's allow for this and provide just enough mate-

rial to cover some millboard cut to those dimensions that I sketched. That part is now finished and I decided to fit the internal sun visors of which I had 5 to choose the better ones from. One I bought on eBay a while back had an original colour of a sort of cream that I colour



matched at B&Q. You get a small sample pot for about £4.00. I had no idea what car this sun visor had come from and I could not see any BMC cars on line with such a colour. I painted two and on the corners of each there are some brass clips, these I prised away and polished with a Dremel buffing disc and painted with Humbrol gloss clear enamel to keep the shine. I have since colour matched another pair in the dull brown original Morris Minor colour and I can decide which ones I prefer.

I borrowed a bit of VHT black wrinkle paint from Brian and painted the zinc drivers mirror fixing post that screws into the centre vertical windscreen panel and then attached a new mirror with the clamping bracket.

I had wired all the electrical circuits as per the circuit diagram in the owners manual and all the lights worked, as well as the trafficators, horns, and washer bottle jets. But the heater, wiper motor and brake lights are still deciding not to come on. The circuit tester will reveal the problems.



I managed to trim down one of the rear side panels with the arm rest that fit in the recessed bodywork by the rear seat of a two door Morris. Unfortunately these were made by Bobby Fettes who left the country some time ago to live in France. The side panel cards were the wrong overall shape being too large to fit properly and with some cutting of the hardboard and trial fitting I managed to reglue and staple the red leather cover which is looking good now with the rear seat in place. However the seat back rest is too high and you should be able to see the lower rubber section of the rear window. So it's off to see James at



Rawhide car trimmers in Ferndown for him to cut down the seat foam.

I do still need to make the passenger side rear side panel as I messed that one up cutting off too much of the lower area. The trouble is that smooth double sided oil tempered hardboard which is water proof and used by Newtons and others for their car door panels is not advertised anywhere on line to buy. Newtons will only sell you the complete covered panels and not the panel card. But John Skinner car trimmers have offered to sell me a small section.

I fortunately took measurements of the driver's side panel that I drew onto a sheet of millboard for future reference and then I can finish off the last panel.

Next time I will have started up the engine, and finished off the dash instruments and gloves box.

Visit to the NEC Classic Car Show 9th November

As I mentioned in my regular report, a group of branch members attended this year's Autumn classic car show at the Birmingham NEC. Three Brians, Ian and Stewart (my son) left at about 6:00 am for the trip in Stewart's 7-seater. We arrived in good time at about 9:30 and arranged to collect our tickets for the day. We bumped into Nick Odell who had made his own way there and we met a few other people we knew. Martin Stoker, the founder of the Morris Minor Owners Community Facebook page and chairman of the Bristol Branch had come up with the idea of hiring a stand for the show and exhibiting four Minor Millions. The overall theme of the show was 'Motoring Milestones' so, of course, the Minor Million fitted into this category nicely. As readers may know, it was produced in 1960 in a limited quantity to commemorate the production of the one Millionth Morris Minor. So, the Saturday before the show, Martin drove his flat bed pick up down from Bristol to borrow our Million for the display. He then had to get his Million (1,000,001) from Bristol to the NEC and also the Millionth car there, from Lincolnshire. The fourth car was driven there by its owner (Gevin White). Martin had also got some appropriate backdrops made and some carpeting and the overall effect was very good. There seemed to be a lot of interest in the stand and I think it did a lot to promote the whole 'Million' thing which doesn't seem to be widely known about in general classic car circles.

For those that don't know, the Branch bought and restored this car in the early nineties and after being sold off to one of our branch members. For our Million, it was a return visit to the NEC as it had been displayed there before on the MMOC stand. it was displayed at this very show in 1993 (as shown in the photo).



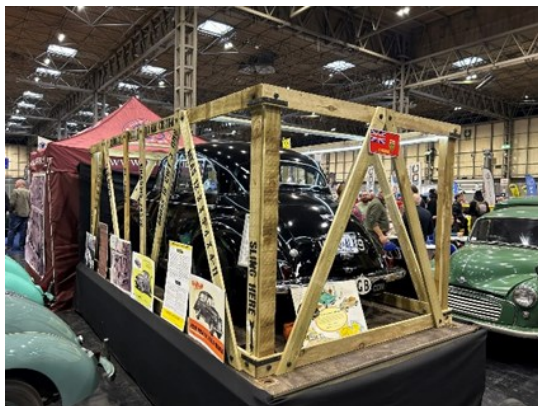
At least three people asked me about the strange colour of the cars whilst we were standing there. Some of the more 'anorak' inclined onlookers were trying to puzzle out the differences – one of which was the provision of driver's door locks. When the cars were manufactured, they only fitted key operated external locks to the right-

hand door. So, you might well think 'how do you get in the car if it is left hand

(Continued on page 11)

(Continued from page 10)

drive?’ The one owned by Martin is left hand drive but still only has the single lock on the right hand door. This means that the buyer of the exported British car has to open the right-hand door and climb across the car to get in the driver’s seat. Our Million (EOS) confuses the issue by having locks on both sides. This was because when the Branch restored the Million back in the nineties, we had to replace the passenger door with one from a later car. I also recently replaced all four locks with a set of matched barrels, so now, unusually for a Minor – one key fits everything!



The rest of the show was good as usual with lots to see and loads of people to talk to. I spent a bit of time on the MMOC stand which had exported cars as its theme. There was an impressive mock up of the crates used to export the CKD (Completely Knocked Down) cars to their export destinations. Their stand was very well presented too.

Its amazing how quickly the time flies past and by about 3:00pm we were ready to hit the road again. Another great show, perhaps I am slightly biased but it was well worth the visit.



Overseas Members

Brian Ford is contacting our overseas members of D.M.M.O.C.

As you are all aware we are an all inclusive club and welcome members from anywhere and with any car not always Morris.

Brian Wood has been contacted by long time member from North Carolina U.S.A. Thomas Seher .

Hi Brian,

I understand that you are trying to include the overseas members associated with the Dorset branch.

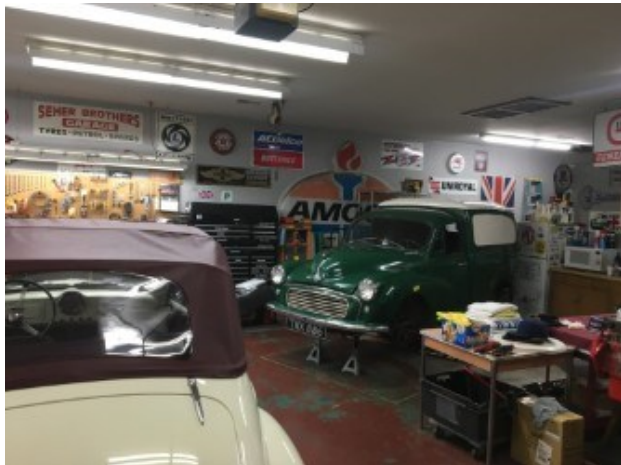


Have been a member for several years and have visited England on many occasions , usually attending events. Thought you might like to have some pictures of my cars , I have 5 but am looking to downsize. Last year I had one of each model but currently missing a

four door.

So I have a Van , Pickup, Convertible, Traveller and a two door.

The pictures are mainly to make my friend Brian Wood jealous as he said he loves my shop.
Thomas Seher



(Continued on page 13)

Overseas Members



What a fantastic display of cars (I wonder what the weather is like in North Carolina? Ed)

Thank you Thomas and both Brians can't wait to see more overseas contributions. Ed

Branch Event News

Bookings Now being Taken for our annual dinner dance and prize giving. **(Bookings close on 4th December)**

11th January 2025



HOTEL

MIRAMAR

East Overcliff Drive, Bournemouth, BH1 3AL

We can offer you a standard double/twin room at £70.00 per room per night to include B&B only. full supplements apply for upgraded rooms.

To book please call reservations '***quoting your surname and event date as reference***' and the team will pick up the rate, guests will be required to pay a non-refundable deposit of £50.00 per room per night on booking, the final balance is then required 3 days prior to the event.

RESERVATIONS 01202 556581

DORSET BRANCH MMOC ANNUAL DINNER DANCE

11th January 2025

at Hotel MIRAMAR, BOURNEMOUTH

7pm Saturday January 11th



The Menu for the evening has now been finalised and is listed below . Forms will be issued with the newsletter (October) and will also be available on line at:
<http://www.dorsetmmoc.co.uk/wordpress/admin/dindanceticket25.pdf>

Please return your slips by DECEMBER CLUBNIGHT.

The cost will be **£39.00 pp** for the three course meal including tea and coffee and one free drink voucher per person, plus entertainment.

Starters:

Honeydew Melon (With a ball of Mango Sorbet and Mango Coulis)(V,VE,GF)

Miramar King Prawns Cocktail (with a lemon wedge) (GF)

Potato and Leek Soup (served with herb crouton) (GF option, VE)

Main Course:

Seared Chicken Breast (GF) (potatoes and seasonal vegetables, pesto cream sauce)

Sea Bream Fillet (GF) (served with potatoes, seasonal vegetables and tarra-gon sauce)

Mushroom Stroganoff (GF,VE Option) (Saffron rice and seasonal vegetables)

Desserts:

Mango Cheesecake (served with Chantily cream)

Lemon Posset (served with Chantilly cream, Fresh Raspberries, Raspberry Coulis and shortbread biscuit crumb)

Apple and Sultana Crumble (with Chef's homemade creamy custard)

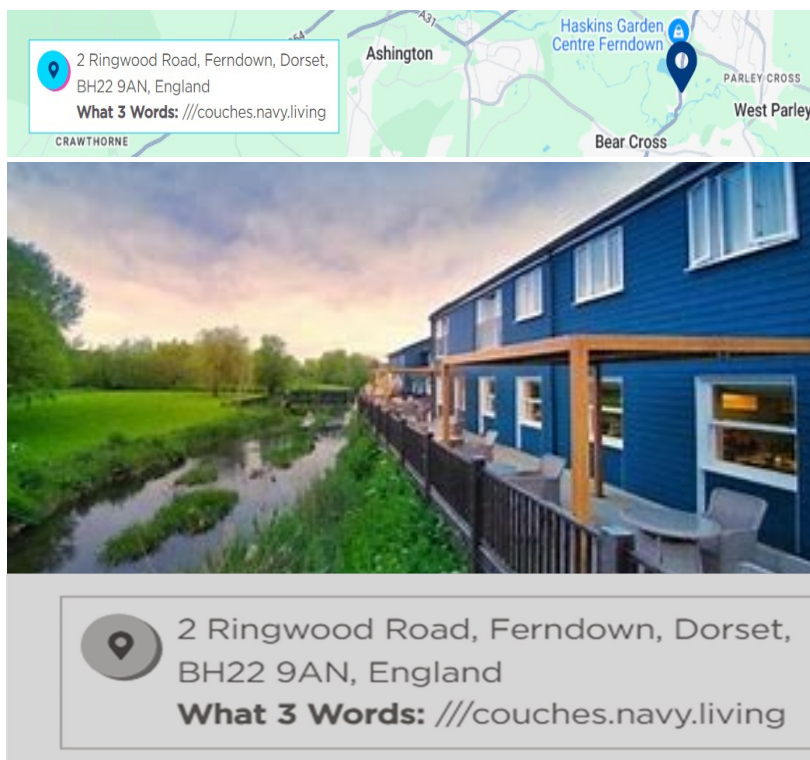
BOOKING FORMS IN THIS NEWSLETTER

Events

Please note this important announcement:-

At the last club night (November) Laurie put to the club that there had been quite a lot of negative feedback about the current venue for club nights. The club has outgrown the space allocated to it by the Electric Club. A wide search has taken place for a more suitable venue and our President pointed us in the direction of the Bridge House Hotel. So after quite some debate as to the merits of several suggestions this is the chosen venue. On a show of hands it was a majority that agreed that we should move. **One change is the day that our meetings will take place. Meetings will be on the**

Second Monday of each Month starting in January.



2 Ringwood Road, Ferndown, Dorset,
BH22 9AN, England

What 3 Words: ///couches.navy.living

Events

29-Dec	Mistletoe run
	<u>2025 events</u>
13th Jan	<u>Club Night a view from France</u>
11-Jan	Dinner Dance
10-Feb	Club Night Blind Auction
16-Feb	Hall& Woodhouse Blandford
10-Mar	Club Night
16-Mar	Hall& Woodhouse Blandford
14-Apr	Club Night Talk
20-Apr	Hall& Woodhouse Blandford
12-May	Club Night Call my bluff
17 18 May	Moggyfest
09-Jun	Clubnight
15-Jun	Hall & Woodhouse Blandford
14-Jul	Clubnight
19-Jul	Holdenhurst Village Fete
11-Aug	Club nightGardening Event
16 17 Aug	Branch Rally
23 24 Aug	Henstridge Wings and Wheels
5/7 Sep	Classic Steam Norden Swanage
08-Sep	Club Night
21-Sep	Hall& Woodhouse Blandford
13-Oct	Club Night

The raffle coordinators Chris and Margaret would love to receive items for the raffles. Must be new and in good order.

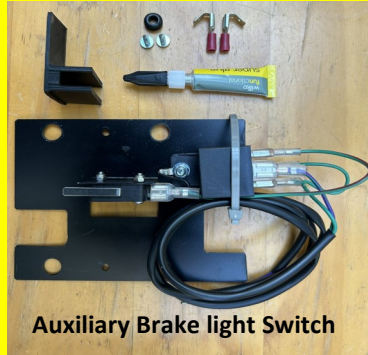
This is no ordinary Traveller because it has a Marina 1275cc Engine plus Marina rear axle and a 5 speed gearbox, also it is on Marina 13inch wheels. It has just had new spark plugs and points fitted, also both new front callipers plus new brake pads and pipes, new rear wheel cylinders and brake shoes, new front tyres fitted, new rear seat covers, plus new carpets, the wood is all good. This car will keep up with motorway traffic. **£9,250.00 OVNO. Phone Nigel Houghton 07939 264653** (Location Nr. Southampton)



1959 Minor Van.(OHJ 547) 948cc owned for 5 years. VGC in beige with maroon interior, working heater and very solid underneath.

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.

The auxiliary brake light switches mentioned recently are now in stock. This is our answer to the brakes lights on some Minors which only work in the event of a 10/10 emergency stop. Normal price is £28.75 but DMMOC member price is **£26**. I know its not the most exciting thing but please don't all rush at once! (There are more details on the instruction sheet which is currently on the website at http://www.dorsetmmoc.co.uk/wordpress/tech_articles/brakeswitchinstructions.pdf)



Auxiliary Brake light Switch

Looking to sell my Portafold folding caravan. Tows well behind the Morris. Good original condition with original awning and seat cushions. Sink unit and gas hob fitted, phone Laurie for more information

Asking £1,500 ONO 01202 522673, 07947 525884 (Collection only from Bournemouth)





Precision Clutch Components

Sales: Simon Davis, Shaftesbury Road,
Henstridge, Templecombe, Somerset,
BA8 0PP

Prices on application

Tel: 01963 362484 Fax: 01963 364146
E: precisionclutch@aol.com
www.precisionclutch.co.uk



Call any member of the team on 01202 894080
to get exclusive MMOC discount across a range of
vehicle parts and accessories!

We also offer cycle parts and accessories!

DAN THE HANDYMAN

Any DIY jobs need doing? Around the
house? Things need fixing? Painting or
tiling. Patios, small garden walls. 25 yrs
experience. Can turn my hand to most
things, **Dan 07464424007**



ESM MORRIS MINORS



ESM - Partners with & distributors for
Morris Minor Centre (Bath) Ltd
Est 1982

www.morrisminors.com

Old Factory Buildings, Battenhurst Road, Stonegate, Wadhurst
E.Sussex, TN5 7DU. Parts: 01580 200203



KINSON TYRE SERVICE

01202 573698 / 576653

1469 Wimborne Road Northborne Bournemouth BH10 7BQ



Old Autos

Old, Interesting and Classic Cars in any condi-
tion

BOUGHT AND SOLD

Paul 07890 096907, Ken 07814 385781
old_auto@yahoo.co.uk

Open Friday and Saturday or by appointment
Unit 1 & Compound C Parley Wood Business

FPCS

FAIR PRICE CLEARANCE SERVICES

COMMERCIAL/HOUSEHOLD WASTE COLLECTIONS

HOUSE/GARAGE CLEARANCE, **VEHICLE RECOVERY**
CONTACT: STEWART: 07950 114960

Or email: infofpcs@aol.com

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.