

Dorset Branch



THE DMMOC MONTHLY MAGAZINE



Feb 2025 Vol.28 issue 3

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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Gardening Comp Sub-committee

Sue Cooper
Martin Harris

New Post

Creative Design Consultant.

Roger Kellow

FRONT COVER
***Let the water recede
and spring driving begin***

***Print Deadline* to ensure inclusion for any item within March Edition please:-
27th Feb 2025**



Dorset Branch Newsletter

MORRIS MINOR OWNERS CLUB



CLUBNIGHT - March 10th

In This Months Issue...

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<i>Pages 4&5 News from the committee</i>	<i>Pages 6&7 Dinner Dance</i>
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<i>Page 18 for sale wanted</i>	<i>Pages 10&11 Bobby the story continues</i>
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	<i>Pages 14&15 Overseas members report</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

Happy New Year everyone. As mentioned in the last news letter we are trying out a new approach to committee news .

You will see in these paragraphs news from individuals and also from the group as a whole.

The new format will hopefully allow other members of the committee a voice to inform you of what they are doing . **Ed.**

Laurie:-

Well two new venues have been tried

The Miramar Hotel for our annual dinner dance and the Bridgehouse Hotel our new club venue.

The Miramar from feed back proved a great success excellent food and accommodation for a very reasonable price.

Thank you to Jacky who behind the scenes puts a lot of effort into making theses event a great success.

The Bridgehouse positive feedback excellent food on offer and very pleasant surroundings plus good parking.

However we are aware due to the table sizes the space seemed cramped.

We have taken steps to improve this.

(The hotel will now provide smaller tables as we did not need the large round ones. **Ed)**

Roger and I have been hard at work designing the layout for the Moggyfest Marquee. As you can imagine this is a complex task requiring a lot of communication between Roger and myself.

Talking of Moggyfest we are pleased to announce that 14 members from the Canary Islands will be visiting us for Moggyfest we are going the extra mile to make them welcome.

Brian Ford :-

I have been communicating with our members so that we can include articles of interest in the newsletter you will see we have got two more from overseas .

(Continued on page 5)

News From Your Committee

(Continued from page 4)

Brian Wood :-

I have been sorting some items out on the van namely the Brake's . Graham Melly also guided me in sorting the headlining out.

From Ed

Brian as you may be aware has become a wizard with the 3d printer and has designed many new items for our cars .

The club van is now the experimental vehicle as well so do come and see what new items are in the pipe line or available now .

A reversing camera can now be operated by engaging reverse on the van. It is proving very successful.

Karon

Our club nights are always enhanced when we have guest speakers that being the case Karon has been tracking down speakers for our meeting's. Of course if you know of anyone who could talk to our group please do not hesitate to give Karon a call.

Jacky and Brian

We have been communicating with Beaulieu staff as you are aware without their co-operation Moggyfest would not be the success it is.

Brian has been sorting the roundel that is logo for the event it is critical that we follow the Beaulieu lead so that we meet their high standard.

Jacky has been finalizing the entry documents for Moggyfest and also corelates all the entry forms returned to her. Dealing with any enquiries etc for this event

Chris Tilley

Chris is always on the look out for new items that might make a nice prize in the various raffles she and Margret organise

Dinner Dance 2025

A fabulous turnout at the Miramar Hotel.
Great food excellent entertainment brilliant location.
Big thank you to all who put so much effort into this event ensuring it was such a success.



Series II
Steve Brown

Saloon
Mike Smith



Convertible
Martin Harris

Prize Winners



Traveller
Peter French



YOU SPANNER
Spud Taylor



L.C.V.
Spud Taylor



Chairman's Cho
Jacky Wood



Graham's an inside man.

I am getting to the end stages of the rebuild of OLJ 147. Latest progress is a bit limited due to again a few more problems. This is something that happens when you have no source or knowledge to go by to work out how to go about things. I don't know why but it seems to click especially last thing at night whilst lying in bed going over in your mind how to overcome these glitches. So the wiring is completed and electrical components are alive.

I have fitted the handbrake cables through the transmission tunnel having gone by photos of where to drill and fix the cable end attachments into the new metal flooring. I did fully restore the handbrake a while back and had the finger trigger chrome plated with the ratchet release rod. The body of the handbrake and internal ratchet I media blasted a few years ago and had them



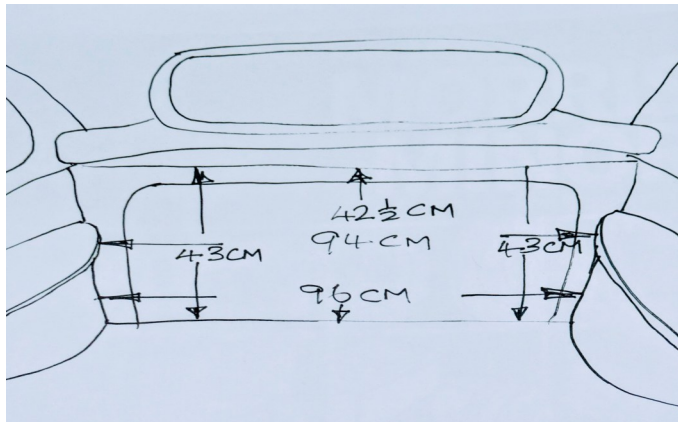
zinc plated. I also had a spare handbrake but realised on comparing both that one is for an MM and not a Series 2. I have shown these for comparison with the disassembled fittings. I have another leak on the front brakes that I identified as coming from the flexible hoses that I should have fitted new 3/8" copper washers.

(Continued on page 9)

Graham's an inside man.

(Continued from page 8)

I have finished the rear seat passenger



side panel and having fitted that with the seat base, I found that the back rest would not go back upright as it is now fouling on the arm rests. I have made a drawing of dimensions that I will give to James the car trimming expert in the new year, so that he can hopefully rectify and reduce the width of the back rest. I will be fitting carpets and front seats soon so a bit more to do before Moggy Fest in May.

Graham



Bobby's story Continues

From Novembers newsletter

The 1990's arrived and NCR was used less and less but with the mileage now at well over 200000 the engine and gearbox were very worn. One day, upon leaving the local shopping centre – The Hampshire Centre – Bob pulled away in 1st gear but unfortunately couldn't find any other gears! Having driven all the way home in 1st gear Bob decided that a replacement engine and gearbox were now called for. Luckily Bob's good friend Ray knew of a recently rebuilt 803cc engine and gearbox which had been removed from an Austin A30. Despite his now advancing years Bob set about removing the old set up and successfully installing the new ones. I had met Bob and Eileen by now having moved into a bungalow just around the corner from them. I gave him the fibreglass exterior sun visor which is still fitted to the car. This is now a very rare one made by Wingard. I also gave him a Tudor washer bottle and manual pump as until this time washers had still not been fitted despite them being an MOT requirement for many years. In 1999 I bought and restored a lowlight Minor which came with a set on incorrect new red carpets. These, too, I gave to Bob as his homemade set had now worn out! Sadly, Bob died in the early



2000's but Eileen had promised him that she wouldn't sell NCR so she sat in the garage until Eileen herself passed away 7 years later and the car passed into the hands of Bobs very good friend Ray. Ray is really a Reliant Scimitar man and an 803cc Series II Minor was not his cup of tea at all so he offered the car to me in 2017 as I had also been friends with Bob and he knew I would look after it.

Ray had already got NCR up and running but she was looking rather sorry for herself by now. Still completely rust free she did require a full respray and full recommissioning. Every one of Bobs homemade "Bob-isms" was refitted to the car. I know these are not to everyone's taste but they are all an important part of NCR's history. Whilst cleaning out under the front wheelarches I found the spare front door key to Bob and Eileen's bungalow attached to a wing nut! It's still there!

(Continued on page 11)

Bobby's story Continues

From Novembers newsletter

(Continued from page 10)



With NCR now sympathetically restored and returned to the road her first outing was to the 2018 Moggyfest and Southern Regional

MMOC Rally at Beaulieu where she became part of the main display marking the Minors 70th anniversary and also won 1st in her class! This would have Bob very proud indeed.



"Bobbie" as I have named NCR is now the grand old age of 70 years old and is taking things very easy but still goes out on bright



and sunny days never getting wet if at all possible. I have now fitted her with even more period accessories including a full set of original BMC seat covers in a very fetching red tartan, original wing mirrors, an original Morris travel rug, original BMC mud flaps and an 8 track stereo to supplement Bob's radio. She is still supporting the Dorset Branch of the MMOC almost 45 years on from its formation and will hopefully continue doing so for many more years to come.



Thanks for reading Laurie.

Mistletoe Run 2025

The Mistletoe run from Hamworthy club to Blandford Brewery and back.

At the end a carvery was available. Great fun great food and a classic route enjoyed by all who attended. The run was open to all makes so glad many non-Morris makes turned up.

Thanks to all those that organised the event here are some of the pictures taken on the day. Ed



Mistletoe Run 2025



News From across the seas

Brian Ford has had some more responses to his request for overseas members to show their cars with pictures.

Below Dick Roesink from the Netherlands is shown standing beside his car with Elizabeth.

On the page opposite is Graham Renouf impressive stable of cars.

We hope to see more of our overseas members visiting our shores to attend events they are always welcome either with their cars or just in person



Graham Renouf flying the flag .



News From across the seas

Thank you for your enquiry about my cars.

My Morris traveller 1970 was originally ERT193J which I bought from Bury St Edmunds and now holds the registration 1098 (which is the cc of the engine). My second is a 4 door saloon 1967 which was always registered in Guernsey, now registered 43333. My third is a Morris convertible 1960, its registration is now 9333. I also have a Mini Cooper Sport year 2000. The registration is 12755 (which looks like the cc of the engine).

Best wishes to you and the Dorset club.

Graham Renouf

Guernsey

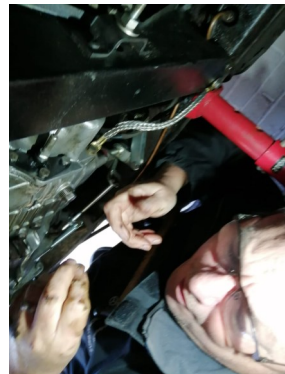


Events



We will be organising a service day. The club van will be used for this. It will be an opportunity to watch a service and to understand what is possible to be undertaken by the amateur mechanic.

It will also be an ideal opportunity to ask the question that you always wanted to ask. Keep the date of Sunday 6th April free and watch this space and we will update you with a time and place.



Moggyfest Entries no later than 31st March.
Sorry no late entries.



Events

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

10-Feb	Club Night Blind Auction
10-Mar	Club Night Call My Bluff
14-Apr	Club Night Sprit of Ecstasy
20th -Apr	Run to Blandford Brewery
12-May	Club Night Would I Lie to you
17-18 May	Moggyfest
1st-June	Run to Compton Abbas Airfield
09-Jun	Club Night Antiques
28th 29th Jun	International M.M.O.C.
14-Jul	Club Night
19-Jul	Holdenhurst Village Fete
11-Aug	Club Night Gardening Event
16-17 Aug	Branch Rally Wolvercroft
08-Sep	Club Night Charity Talk
13-Oct	Club Night A.G.M.

Events organised by other organisations

	<u>2025 events</u>
Dorset car club	Blandford Brewery
	16/02 16/03 20/04 18/05 15/06 20/07 17/08 21/09 19/10 16/11
Compton Abbas	Compton Abbas Airfield car meet
	06/04 04/05 01/06 17/08 07/09
Drive it Day	27th April Atwell-Wilson Motor museum
Dorset car club	Henstridge Wings & Wheels 23rd 24th August
Steam Vintage	Steam Vintage Fest Fordingbridge 22nd 24th August
B.P.P.C.	Classic Steam Norden Swanage 5th 7th September
Show	Bransgore Rotary Sun 13th July Playing fields
Pilford Heath	Heritage show 11th 12th July

John was a long time member of the MMOC Dorset Branch but unfortunately passed away at the beginning of 2023. Over the years his Nidor restored Traveller has won many National and Club best of show and concours competitions. This is a unique

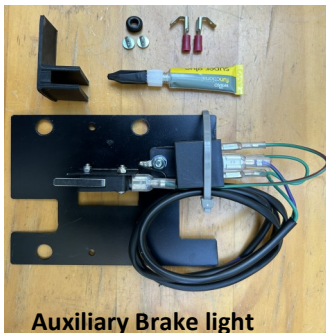


opportunity to own what they feel best Morris Minor 1000 Traveller in the south of England.

The car has been garaged in Weymouth since leaving Nidors workshop and Val, John's wife and his family, feel its best to let the car

move on to a new owner to be cherished just as John did. Gary Parker, John's son is handling the sale £16,500 ONO .Gary's mobile number is 07717 4546627. Gary can also be contacted on his wife's email address louiseparker71@btinternet.com

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



Auxiliary Brake light

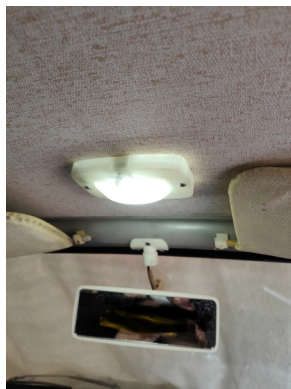


**Auxiliary Brake light kits £26
club member price**

**Reverse Switch—Introductory
price £20 each**



Hi everyone, hopefully you all made it through the Christmas and New Year without missing your newsletter too much. The spares sales have been a bit quiet lately – as is usual at this time of year. There is usually a dramatic pick-up when Spring is on the horizon. You should all now be aware that the entry forms for Moggyfest are available so please try to get yours filled in soon (if not done already). To date, we have 40 entered on the spreadsheet with more coming in every day. I have now 3D printed a small number of interior light units which are available if anyone needs one for their later (Series 5) Minor. The originals have a habit of deteriorating in the sunlight and many have crumbled to dust. Whilst not an exact replica of the original ones, they are pretty close. They also have a brighter LED type lamp which helps. Peter has fitted one to the club van which you can see working – if you make the arrangements with him or look out for it at one of the upcoming shows.



Brian

Reversing camera installed in van. IT IS OPERATED BY REVERSE GEAR AS IN MODERN CARS.





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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**



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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.