

Dorset Branch

THE DMMOC MONTHLY MAGAZINE



July 2025 Vol.28 issue 8



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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Margaret Pateman

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Gardening Comp Sub-committee

Sue Cooper
Martin Harris

New Post

Creative Design Consultant.

Roger Kellow

***Front Cover
Yes that's right M96.
The Fire Training Centre's own motorway for
practice purposes***

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

31st July 2025



Dorset Branch Newsletter

MORRIS MINOR OWNERS CLUB



**CLUBNIGHT - July 14th
'Noggin and Natter'**

In This Months Issue...

<i>REGULARS</i>	<i>SPECIAL FEATURES</i>
<i>Pages 4&5 News from the committee</i>	<i>Pages 6&7 Vintage Festival</i>
<i>Pages 12 &13 National Rally</i>	<i>Pages 8&9 Friday Boys Club</i>
<i>Pages 14 Events</i>	<i>Pages 10&11 Club Night Antiques</i>
<i>Pages 15 Spares</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. Yes I know, Laurie Senior is building a lean-to in the garden.

We have already started purchasing items from Brian for the re-commissioning to begin. It's a lovely 4 door with a Webasto sliding roof. The car is well know to the club and I will be writing about the re-commissioning process in later issues of the newsletter.

When we organise events we do not always get things right to match everyone's expectations, however we are as a committee good at taking on suggestions to try and improve what we do as a club. What I would say is that we are not paid to do the roles we take on and we do rely on the good will of our many volunteers who give up their time freely so that you as club members can enjoy your cars and the club events.

Please do let us know if you have any ideas or suggestions they are always welcome but we may not adopt them but always take note in the spirit that they are given. Small rant.

We are off to the National hope the weather stays fine as I am camping with Ian in the big tent .

Brian Ford :-

Well I have had a bit of a traumatic time with the van some of the faults were simple errors and others just frustrating,

My Rover car has now been sent for sale by auction at S.W.V.A. Such a lovely car, very sad to see her go. Have had to call on the help of other club members to help me in the last month and as usual members rally around to help when ever needed we are very lucky to have such a friendly club.

Brian Wood :-

Have started the re-stocking process for club spares, I must apologise if items are not instantly available but by placing a bulk order carriage is waived and the savings are passed on to you. Jacky and I took a cruise in June which was lovely apart from the weather in parts.

Now when we are away it is difficult to answer queries regarding spares

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News From Your Committee

(Continued from page 4)

and also again there will be a delay in the ordering process .
We are looking at what is possible so that we can divide our home communications and club's as Jacky says I spend to long on the phone.

From Ed

The club's van has had a rest but we have had to renew the clutch pedal mechanism as it was deteriorating.

Will be going to the National a new venue for us and Laurie and Ian will take the van to promote the branch on the Branch Avenue also to bring back any goodies we can find. We will be off to Wales at the beginning of July 8 cars in total approx. 240 miles each way we are feeling brave, then I hear from the club's friend Terry Blissett he has just come back from driving his Traveller to Croatia clocking up 4,000 miles— puts us to shame. I will see Terry and try and get a article out of him

Karon.

We are towing our trailer tent to the National and then preparing for our Welsh adventure.

Jacky and Brian

With Moggyfest accounts now sorted I can announce that we did break even (more or less!). It confirms that the price increase was needed and we had to pay Beaulieu for the entries for the first time!

As Brian mentioned we had a nice cruise for two weeks and we certainly needed the break.

Brian as normal has been busy sorting out our stable of cars ensuring that they all remain road worthy.

We are being approached on a regular basis if we would like to take items from garages or sheds of members as they no longer need them or that unfortunately they have given up driving.

We will accommodate where ever is possible, however you can as members advertise for free in the clubs news letter.

Vintage Festival

VINTAGE NOSTALGIA FESTIVAL

As we sadly missed Beaulieu this year, we decided to try out this show as it looked like fun.

It's been run since 2011 and is held at Stockton Park Estate near Warminster.

It's a heritage event, to which classic cars are invited to add interest.



We duly dressed Ella up as a “Summer of Love” vehicle and ourselves as hippies. With some trepidation we drove the hour or so there on the Friday of the event. It was gloriously warm and sunny and very relaxed atmosphere with classic cars coming and going at different times of the day. The live music added to the laid-

back feel as visitors looked round the 80 or so classic cars of every type (Ella was the only Moggy there!!)

Around the site there were many interesting traders, all in the vintage theme, as well as plenty of food and



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Vintage Festival



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drink options. We were there for the day but many camp for the duration of the three day event.

Music and dancing are a big attraction and we spoke to people who had come from all across the country for the event. It has to be said that most people enthusiastically dressed up in 1940s..50s and 60s gear and two marquees had live music -

Rat Pack and Elvis style singers to the fore (all really good) and lots of dancing inside the marquees, with lessons if you fancied it.

We even found ourselves jiggling about in our seats! There is, apparently, some concern for the future of the event.

However, should it continue next year, it will certainly be on our list. If you love the vintage vibe this is definitely one for you.

Attending as an exhibitor it was £20 per head – now that's value.

Hope you enjoy this little article Wendy and Martin.

Friday Boys Club

When there is something strange coming from timing chain *who you gonna call?* ..F.B.C. (Friday Boy's Club) . Spud had noises and not from him so it was diagnosed as a timing chain rattle. As Spud has had Audrey his pickup front end off more times than I can remember it was deemed the best method to enable easy access to the timing gear.

Us boys arrived Brian W. with the trusty Duplex kit and tools. Brian F and I plus Spud would be the cheer leaders and assistance.



First, however, tea break.



When removing the lower pulley some people use the method of big spanner rested on block of wood and press the starter breaking the pulley free. This is a dangerous procedure and not recommended so we did this.



Once the cover has been removed the old chain and all the ancillaries can be removed. It's best to line up the dots before you take off the old pulleys. You have to be careful not to lose the woodruff keys. If you get these out of alignment engine will not run properly.

With the new kit you have to countersink the back plate for the new screws provided as they would foul the chain and the noise you were

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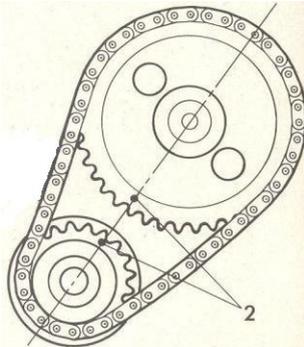
Our maintenance adventures

(Continued from page 8)



trying to stop, would increase. Back plate cleaned and countersunk ready for the new gear and chain.

So the build up can begin. The gear set can be fitted together



as shown (right). Using a ruler you can finesse the chain until both points line up.

Offer the gears up and tap gently home. New gaskets and oil seals which came with the kit are fitted and then it was time to put it back together. New case screw sets are available, but we decided to re-use the old ones which were still serviceable after a clean up.

More tea and we put the world to rights and away we go. A morning's



work. Spud says Audrey runs a lot quieter now and seems to pull better. **Thanks, the F.B.C,**

Club Night Antiques



As has become the custom we had Phil from Sherborne Antiques Market visit us for another knowledgeable look at items brought in by club members and Phil himself.



Phil and Craig are

Morris car owners and we have on occasion been invited as a group to their shop in the High St.

I have visited also when we are out that way and it is always intriguing what the shop has to offer. It's well worth a visit.

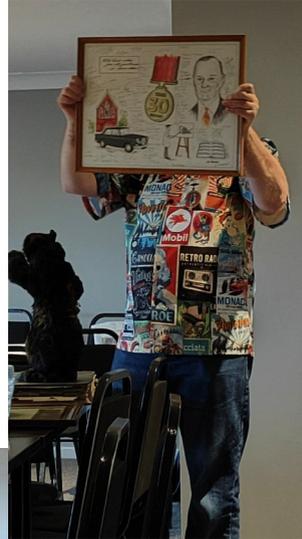
As mentioned by Phil not all items are huge value but most have a historical significance and also social history.

Martin Harris had gifted a commercial A.A. badge to Spud Taylor

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Club Night Antiques

(Continued from page 10)



and between Spud and Phil , Phil was going to overinflate the price. The look on Martin's face was a picture £800 !!!! Laurie as always had found various items from his favourite shop he calls it the S**t shop but we would call it items found at the recycling centre and to good to go to the tip. Thanks once again to Phil for his knowledge and hope to see you again soon.

National Rally Moreton-in-Marsh

You may have seen stories in the social media sites regarding the National rally. For us approx. 8 cars from Dorset attended we had a good time (but we always do) . The Fire Service site was huge. To have the chance to drive on their training motorway a unique experience. Whilst a secure site it was easy to get in and out of. There was no restrictions on car movements during the event so if you were camping you could drive to the shower block. We were in a hotel in Chipping Norton which was only 13 mins away but accommodation options were there on-site. Yes not much going on in the arena , yes the run out organised was slow because of the traffic and yes there was no museum to look around like last year. Food stalls were limited evening entertainment was fun I'm told. Unfortunately as we are well aware you can not please all the people all of the time. Ed



National Rally



Events

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

	<u>2025 events</u>
14-Jul	Club Night-'Noggin and Natter'
20-Jul	Back to the Fuschia Run Stewart's
23rd July	BBQ Littledown Model Railway
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.

WOODSIDE PARK - LYMINGTON
Sun 3rd Aug 11am - 4pm
Free entry & parking

All pre September 2001 vehicles are welcome and there is no entrance fee.
 Entrance for classics is from Rookes Lane, Lyminster, SO41 8FP
 Please use a drip tray

CAR SHOW - SKATE JAM
 FERRET RACING - FAIRGROUND
 DOG SHOW - Karen's Pet Market
 CHILDRENS SPORTS RACES
 FOOD & DRINK - LIVE MUSIC STAGE
 COME AND TRY A NEW SPORT
 EMERGENCY SERVICES - RNLI - COASTGUARD
 CRAFT & CHARITY STALLS - Lyminster Community Centre

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www.lymingtonandpennington-tc.gov.uk/picnic

Our very own Ashley Miller is organising this event. We have booked a spot so come along and bring a picnic. We will meet at the Cat & Fiddle pub if you wish to go in convoy. Meet at 10 away by 10:30. Oh, don't forget drip tray they won't let you in without one.

Spares Dept

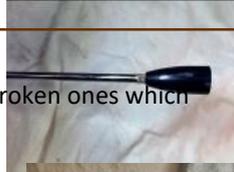


Most of you will be aware that the Branch has had it's own Morris Minor Spares Department for quite a while now. It continues to do well and returns a reasonable surplus to club funds every year. So it would appear to be a relevant and useful part of the Dorset Branch activities. Please try to support 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!



ANNUAL GARDENING COMPETITION

A quick reminder from Martin and Sue . The club night gardening produce show is fast approaching . So polish your cucumbers shine your plums and prepare yourselves to impress.

More info can be obtained from Martin and Sue



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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.