

**REAR VIEW**



*Not a Minor, but a Citroen 2CV spotted at Bristol Classic Show sporting a Minor bootlid*

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**DORSET BRANCH**



**DORSET BRANCH NEWSLETTER**

June 2009 Volume 12 Issue 3

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

<http://www.dorsetmmoc.co.uk>

Or <http://homepage.ntlworld.com/brian.wood13/index.html>

### *Dorset Branch of the Morris Minor Owners Club*

*Helping to preserve the post war Morris Minor in the Dorset area and beyond*

#### **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.

Membership currently costs £9 per year, £11.50 for joint membership.

Please ask Branch Secretary if you require a copy of the Dorset Branch Constitution. For more details contact Laurie Blewer on 01202 522673 or John Jenkinson on 01202 576690



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Chairman: John Jenkinson (01202 576690)

Secretary: Laurie Blewer (01202 522673, 07947 525884)

Treasurer: Jacky Wood (01202 573501).

Membership Secretary – Des Waller (01202 573403)

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

Newsletter /Website Editor: Brian Wood (01202 573501)  
([brian@dorsetmmoc.co.uk](mailto:brian@dorsetmmoc.co.uk))

#### Non Committee posts:

Raffle Coordinators: Chris Tilley and Val Palmer

Spares Manager: John Bainbridge (01258 458749)

Regalia Manager: Richard Cyster – (01202 526660)

Catering Executives: -Sue Blewer, Lyn Gerry

***FRONT COVER***  
***Andy Wescott's Traveller pictured at Avon Heath for the recent Aubrey Batt Run with (possibly) John & Sue's 2 door (reflected) and Dave and June's yellow MGB in the background.***



## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Good evening and welcome to the June clubnight. The weekend at Beaulieu was a bit on the wet and windy side but Laurie, Neville and myself had a good time, with plenty of food and drink. Also at Beaulieu the Branch bought some more new Morris Minor models to sell to Branch members for only £2.00 each. It's nice to see a good turnout of club members for the trip to London to see the Trooping The Colour. I hope you all enjoy the weekend in London. Don't forget to put your names on the notice board for the Winton MOT day, the Muscliffe Community Fun Day and the Sidmouth weekend next year so Nev can



get an idea of the number of rooms to book. Bookings are going well for this year's Rally but we would still like some more stalls. Also let the Committee know of any new ideas you may have. One of our Branch Members at Beaulieu asked me about the new Branch badge. The committee are investigating alternative designs and suppliers for approval. I hope some members get some bargains at

the June clubnight Autojumble. That's all for now, John

## Next clubnight

The next clubnight (July) is the Rally Planning evening, where we will discuss and finalise the arrangements for the upcoming annual gathering at Avon Heath.



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

## FOR SALE & WANTED & CLUB NOTICES

### 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 clubnights. 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. Thank you.



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1952, Morris Minor MM, 4 door, Empire Green, 918cc Side valve, s/screen, immaculate leather interior, excellent condition, £2,500 – L. Jones 01443 831907



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### MORRIS MINOR REGALIA - DORSET BRANCH

Our Branch Regalia stock is managed by **Richard Cyster** and is available at clubnights and our outdoor events. (The stock list is also shown on the website [www.dorsetmmoc.co.uk](http://www.dorsetmmoc.co.uk))

## MMOC Dorset Branch Newsletter

June 2009

Volume 12 Issue 8



DORSET BRANCH

- Clubnight activity:
- Autojumble Night

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## Next clubnight – Rally Planning

*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 free download from the Internet usually about 10 days before the clubnight.*

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I am writing to you in the hope that you will let members know about the proposed holiday for next summer. You may remember being at Northampton for a meeting of Branch leaders, when Rosie Hamilton asked me to describe the event, called 5CAPITALS.

Thank you for listening. It encouraged me with the 5CAPITALS. The North Wiltshire Branch is expecting the MMOC Executive to adopt this as an official MMOC event soon.

You were asked to look up the 5CAPITALS on the Internet, either through the MMOC web site and choosing to look at North Wilts Branch or directly on [www.northwiltsMMOC.co.uk](http://www.northwiltsMMOC.co.uk). You were also asked to make your members aware of the North Wiltshire Branch's plan for the event. I hope the web pages have the information that is needed. After the discussions, it seems more likely that the event will be a week early in the school summer holidays 2010 - but if there are too few children, we could move it away from high season holiday time. North Wilts Branch looks forward to people letting us know where there is interest, so that the plans can be refined to best suit those interested - as time goes by. We are not expecting commitments, just signs of interest at this time. The up-front costs involved are expected to be small. You will see that the holiday might cost around £450 for a couple of adults and the car, including petrol, ferries and overnights (prices as at high season camping rates). Your food and any costs of visiting tourist spots may add to the costs. The North Wiltshire Branch will be present at National Rally 2009: when people show interest there, questions can be answered. It would be good to do this 5CAPITALS tour, enjoying the company of our friends, and hopefully making contacts with Morris Minor Owners around the country. If questions come to mind about it, or there is interest, then of course you can email me directly. I'll be pleased to follow it up and make contact about it.

Susie and I will be setting off for MOT2009 soon, but any new indications of interest and contact details would be very helpful to us. Can I include you as interested in coming?

Yours Julian Marshall

## 2010 SIDMOUTH WEEKEND



Plans are coming together nicely for a return visit to the Royal Glen Hotel in Sidmouth for a weekend next Spring (16-18th April). Nev is trying to establish how many would be interested before making a booking reservation. The cost will be £66 per person per night (two nights) for half board. Jacky will be collecting your savings so that you can spread the cost (again as per last time).

## THIS MONTH'S NEW MEMBERS

We extend a warm welcome to new members: Richard & Norah Lines, Mr Chapman, Mr Cooper, Klaus and Monica Dieter-Peck and Martin & Catherine Handford.

## WHAT'S ON?

<http://www.dorsetmmoc.co.uk>

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

### 2009

- 3rd June – Clubnight – Autojumble
- 5-7th June Trooping the Colour weekend – London
- 7th June – Southern Regional Rally – Milestones, Basingstoke
- 14th June – Visit to Winton MOT Centre
- 21st June – Hampshire Rally
- 25-28th June – National MMOC Rally
- 1st July – Clubnight – Rally Planning
- 10-12th July Dorset Branch Rally – Avon Heath
- 19th July – Show – Muscliffe Community Park
- 5th August – Clubnight – Reverend Timbrell
- 2nd September – Clubnight – Antiques Evening with Phil Traves
- 6th September – IOW Rally
- 27th September – Area 6 Picnic at Watercress Line
- 3rd October – Wimborne/3 in 1 Run (Shaftesbury Carnival Day)
- 7th October – Clubnight – AGM
- 4th November – Clubnight -Call My Bluff type quiz
- 28th November – Dinner and Dance Quality Hotel, Bournemouth
- 2nd December – Clubnight – Natter and Noggin.
- 27th December – Mistletoe Meander



### 2010

- 16-18th April – Sidmouth Weekend – Royal Glen Hotel

### MORRIS MINOR SPARES - DORSET BRANCH

Please order from:-**John Bainbridge**, 334 Bournemouth Road, Charlton Marshall Blandford, Dorset DT11 9NJ Tel (01258) 458749. Or see at Club Meetings. (The stock list is shown on the website [www.dorsetmmoc.co.uk](http://www.dorsetmmoc.co.uk))

# SECRETARY'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

stand - Nev took Albert and John took the Merc. I managed to sneak the Traveller onto their stand as well despite it not being booked in - as they say its not what you know but who you know! The three of us stayed in tents all weekend – we must be mad! Never mind after one or two drinks (!!!) you can sleep through anything the weather can throw at you. We had a very successful weekend promoting the club managing to give out lots of rally entry forms and membership packs as well as selling a fair bit of regalia. I managed to pick up one or two bits I needed (plus several I probably didn't!) over the weekend but failed to find very much for the Austin's engine rebuild.

This month is looking to be fairly busy with the HAMMOC rally at Fort Nelson, the Southern Regional Rally at Milestones and, of course, the National Rally at Haynes Motor Museum. **We are planning to drive up to the National in convoy and if you would like to join us meet at the Roadside Café at Wimborne Services (it was The Little Chef) at 8am.**

Please remember to put your names up on the noticeboard if you are planning to come to the MOT open day at Carl's garage and the Muscliff Community Day. We already have quite a few down for the planned weekend away to Sidmouth for 2010 so, once again, if you are interested please get your name down.

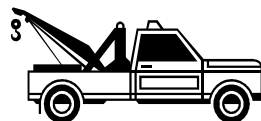
Entries are coming in thick and fast now for this years Dorset Branch Rally so please let me have yours ASAP if you haven't done so already.

Only a couple of things to report on the fleet for this month. The Traveller is running fine (touch wood!) at the moment but the Lowligh has decided to play up twice this month. Firstly, on the way to the Beaulieu 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations a small plug decided to drop out of the engine resulting in oil spraying all over the manifold and filling the car with oily smoke. A hunt around in the boot managed to find an old pair of pants being used as a rag and with those and a stick from the side of the road the hole was fixed. This repair is still in place at the moment. How many modern cars could you repair with a stick and a pair of pants!!! Secondly, we were almost home from the Breamore steam up when the petrol pump decided to pack up. Unfortunately, the usual trick of bashing it did no good, so we decided to tow the old girl home and repair her there. The old pump had got so hot it burnt out – but I can't complain as it has been on there for 10 years now. Another pump soon got things up and running again. Some progress has been made on Victoria's engine this month but I am still waiting for the Austin clubs spares department to reopen. I have been assured that this will be very soon so hopefully we can start to get the job done.

I think that's about all from me now for this month, so until next time,  
Happy Minorering,  
Laurie.

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**G3ZJY**

## EDITORIAL

Hello again everyone. Sorry we missed the clubnight last month and the talk by David Daniels which we gather was very good. We had a break over the Bank Holiday weekend and the following week which we spent in the caravan near Bridport. We also had a



Dave Daniels at May Clubnight – photo by Laurie Blewer

week away from the kitchen restoration which is going quite well, if slowly. I had some time off over Easter and we got stuck in with the stripping out and preparation. This involved removing the floor, levelling up and replacing with Seven Sheets of Ply. (Wasn't that a song by Queen?). We got a 'man' in to do the tiling and the plastering of the ceiling and another 'man' (men, actually) to fit the worktops, but we have persevered with the rest ourselves– hence the long time taken. It will be nice when it is finished and the completion date has not been agreed in advance!

While we were on holiday in Bridport, we went along to the Bristol Classic at the Bath and West Showground at Shepton Mallet. The show was postponed from February due to the weather. There are some photos on

pages 6 & 7.

We went along to Beaulieu on the Sunday only and had a mooch around the stalls. We gave ourselves a 'day off' kitchen manoeuvres. I ran out of room in the newsletter, so there are a few photos on the website. Brian.

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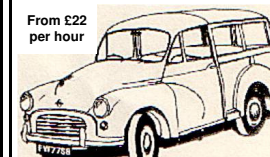
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## BRISTOL CLASSIC CAR SHOW

On the 3rd May, we went off to the re-convened Bristol Classic Car Show at Shepton Mallet (Bristol & West Showground). This was originally scheduled as a winter show in February, but you will remember the cold snap we had then which led to the cancellation of the show. We thought it was quite a good show, and saw a few familiar faces there. The consensus was that there was very little 'autojumble' - quite an imbalance between the old stuff and the new stuff. Also, there were car displays mixed in with the trade stands, which is unusual. There seemed to be a good crowd there and hopefully, the show benefited from the extra day



(Bank Holiday Monday). The Avon Branch of the MMOC had provided the Morris Minor Owners Club representation with a good display (as always). Their stand depicted a scrapyards scene (above) with a car for sale with a 12 hour ~~month~~ guarantee (right). We said hello to the 3 Counties Club who had put on a 'Bonnie & Clyde' theme. Being a bit dim, it took me a couple of guesses to get the correct theme, but I managed it when Bruce pointed out the bullet holes and the money.

Some of the other displays were good, particularly the Landcrab (ship) and the Triumph Spitfire club. There were quite a few anniversary celebrations too, including the Mini and the Damler SP250 (Dart)(50) the Ford Capri (40) and the Morgan (100).

I am always a sucker for a nice '1.5' (right) and that certainly was a good 'un. Also to catch my eye was a Citroen 2CV adapted for use on the railway. The

## SECRETARY'S REPORT

Good evening and welcome to the June clubnight - tonight's activity is an Autojumble evening so I hope you all manage to pick up a bargain or two and make a few pounds along the way. Last month's talk by Dave Daniels was very interesting. I was not aware that Dave himself had had such an illustrious career at Austin. The pictures of the period showing what he got up to were very good along with, of course, the talk and pictures about his father, the late, great Jack Daniels.

The first May bank holiday weekend saw us making the trip down to the Bristol Classic Car Show. Another excellent show but I really do think that 2 days would have been enough for it. Numbers in the Autojumble area were slightly down but I think this was due to a lot of the exhibitors having prior bookings after the show was moved from February following the bad weather. The following day - Bank Holiday Monday - saw us at Beaulieu for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations of the National Motor Museum. The museum staff had brought out a selection of vehicles from the original collection, all of which could be seen at various intervals throughout the day driving around the museum grounds. In order to qualify to take your car on the day it had to have been made in 1959 or earlier so we took the Lowlight and Nev and Lyn took Albert. Lord Montague was there and he was driven around by his son in the 1903 De Dion Bou-



Laurie's MM at the Beaulieu event in early May. (Check out the 'U-Tube' link to see Nev in 'Albert') (Photo - Laurie Blewer.)

ton - one of my favourite veteran cars. At the end of the day all the vehicles present took part in a cavalcade around the grounds and were presented with a memento of the day by Lord Montague himself. If you would like to see some footage of the day and an interview with Nev log onto YouTube and type in Beaulieu 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and there is a six and a half minute film on there. We also took a run out to Breamore House in the Lowlight for the first steam up of the year - a small

event run a couple of times a year which we always enjoy.

May also saw the Beaulieu Spring Autojumble and Motormart. We pitched up the club stall on the Friday, dodging the rain as is usual for Beaulieu! The rain was torrential at times over the weekend - I blame the Ford Anglia's, it didn't happen when we put on our display last year! We also displayed some of our cars on the Classics Monthly

## 2009 BRANCH RALLY

### Morris Minor Owners Club Dorset Branch Rally Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2009 Avon Heath Country Park

few miles away from the historic towns of Ringwood, Wimborne and Christchurch and just 10 miles from Bournemouth with its famous sandy beaches.

Camping will be available on site from 4:30pm on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July with the pre-rally party being held on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> July. The main rally day will be on Sunday 12th July and will feature judging of all your favourite classes. There will be a separate section for vehicles, which have won at concours level. We will have trade stands, raffle, cake stalls and a 'Working Minors' Class and a Post Production Convertible class.

Entry forms for Minors and other 'visitors' classic cars are available from the branch or on the website [www.dorsetmmoc.co.uk](http://www.dorsetmmoc.co.uk)

A map showing the directions to the Country Park will be sent with your Rally entry number.

You are invited to join in with our annual celebrations at this year's Branch Rally for the weekend or just Sunday for the Rally.

The Rally will be held as usual on the green near the visitor's centre at the Avon Heath Country Park.

There are some interesting countryside walks and the facilities provided on site include toilets and a café where snacks and drinks can be bought.

Avon Heath Country Park is situated just a

## 2009 MUSCLIFFE COMMUNITY FUNDAY

We have been invited to display our cars at the 2nd Muscliffe Community Funday on Sunday 19th July from 11am to 4pm at Muscliffe Community Centre in Bournemouth. Muscliffe Community Centre. Shillingstone Drive, Bournemouth, BH9 3LR

## BRISTOL CLASSIC (CONTINUED)



only adaption, as far as I could see was the lack of tyres! Speaking of 2CV's we spotted one parked outside in the Classics parking area that was sporting a Morris Minor bootlid (see back page.) Not sure where the bumper came from though.



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## DOOR REPAIRS (BY THE EDITOR)

Anyone tried to repair their door bottoms with the standard repair kit? It is not that difficult, provided you take your time and make sure you check it for a good fit at each stage. I have done a few now and I think it is best to adopt two simple expedients. If you leave the door shell on the car while you are at least tacking on the repair you will be able to make sure you haven't introduced any distortion.



Fig.1

Also, I always clamp a piece of stout angle or square section to the bottom edge to prevent (or at least discourage) it from turning 'banana' shaped (see Fig.3). The photo (fig.2) shows the cut made about 12mm (1/2") lower than the height of the new panel which can then be 'joggled' with a step under the upper part of the remaining door skin. The remainder of the old skin



Fig.2



Fig.4

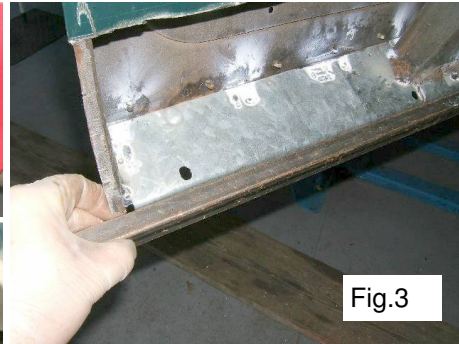


Fig.3

bottom has to be carefully removed bit by bit. The dustpan and brush (fig.1) was very useful for the rust and 'compost' that came out of the door. The

inner section of the door bottom can be purchased as repair panel, but if you are a bit 'tight' (like me) you can make your own quite easily with a flat piece of steel with one fold to get the bottom edge. Don't forget to replicate the drain holes, though. This plate can be easily welded to the inside edge of the door and also to the reinforcing panel at the front. The panel I used

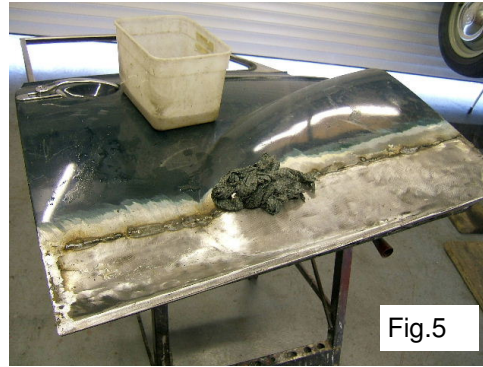


Fig.5

was galvanised (and you should grind off the galvanising where you are welding to avoid toxic fumes). Fig.4 shows the completed first stage with a bit of sealant painted on around the edges.

When you fit the new outer panel, the most important bit is the alignment of the curved bit in the middle. The ends can be adjusted to suit, but if you don't line up the curved 'swage' top

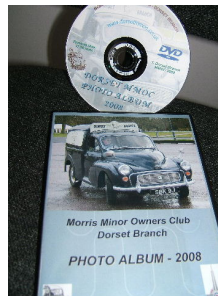
and bottom, the finished article is never going to look right. I think the 'trick' is to not do too much welding at once, and do a little at a time to avoid heat build up. The square tube in fig. 3 will help avoid distortion, but you should still not let the temperature get too high. Fig.5 shows the completed welding and a damp cloth and a supply of water will help to keep the panel cool. Distortion of the door skin is probably more of a worry than the bottom edge since there is a greater unsupported area to look out for. Fig.6 shows the (almost) completed repair with just the final filling and spraying to finish.

Also recommended is the fitting of 'lip' type door window seals. My theory is that these stop a lot of the debris etc entering the door which collects in the area just repaired and causes rusting. They also make a better job of clearing water when it is raining!



Fig.6

## 2008 PHOTO ALBUM ON DVD



The 'official' record of the Dorset Branch events is now available on a DVD which plays as a 37 minute 'movie' extravaganza set to music. There are 14 sections covering most of the activities and events of the 60th year of our favourite car from the Plowmans Lunch in January to the Mistletoe Meander in December. There are one or two actual 'movie' scenes but most are still photographs with many provided by Branch members who are credited at the end of the DVD.

It is amazing value at only £3.00 'while stocks last' (as they say). If you would like one sent by post, please contact Brian Wood by email or phone. Please add £1.50 to the cost for P&P.