



REAR VIEW

Thanks to Tina for the photo taken of our car in the snow in early December. (Editor).

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MORRIS MINOR REGALIA - DORSET BRANCH



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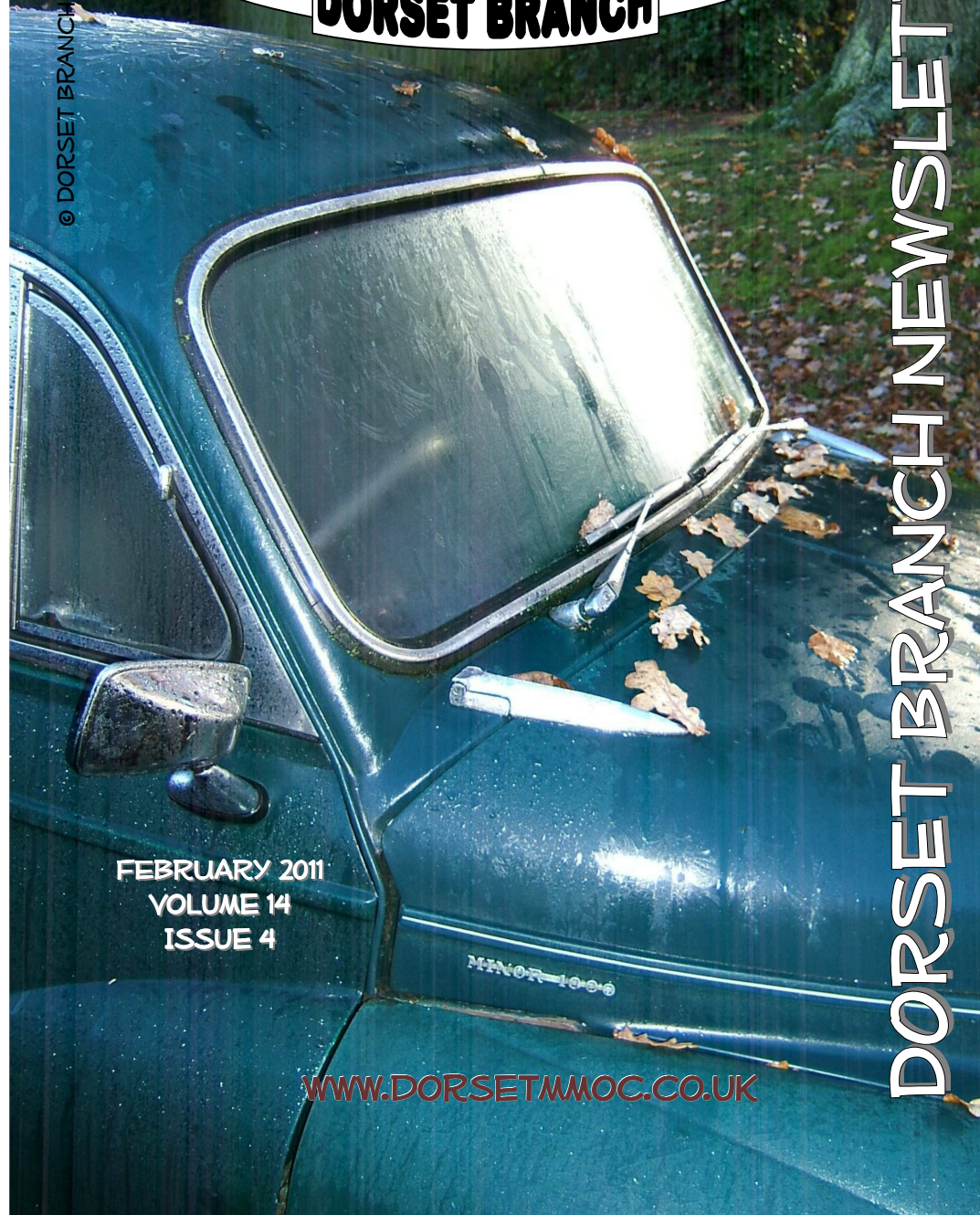
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MORRIS MINOR OWNERS CLUB

DORSET BRANCH

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FEBRUARY 2011
VOLUME 14
ISSUE 4

WWW.DORSETMMOC.CO.UK

DORSET BRANCH NEWSLETTER

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 £10 per year, £12.50 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

Advertising: Cars or spares for sale or wanted £5 per entry (Free to members). Traders advertisements: £30 per year.

FRONT COVER

In acknowledgement of the recent cold spell, the front cover this month shows the Treasurer's 4 door Minor with a thick layer of frost on the windscreen. Had some quite pretty patterns too!

Committee Members 2010-11:

President: Graham Jarvis (07856 918136)

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)

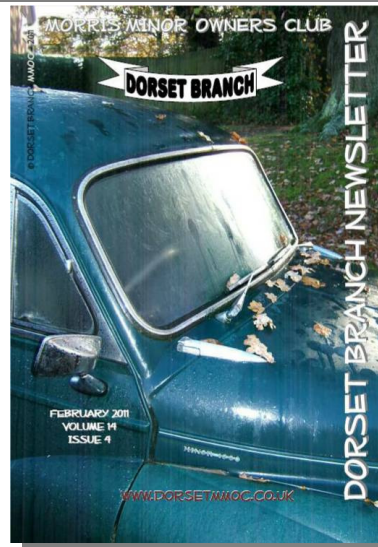
Non Committee posts:

Raffle Coordinators: Chris Tilly and Val Palmer

Spares Manager: John Bainbridge (01258 458749)

Regalia Manager: Richard Cyster – (01202 526660)

Catering Executives: –Sue Blewer, Lyn Gerry



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

29th January – Dinner and Dance (Elstead Hotel, Knyveton Road.)

2nd February – Clubnight – Blind Auction

12-13th February – 2nd Great Western Autojumble

Royal Bath & West Showground, Shepton Mallet, BA4 6QN

2nd March – Clubnight – Talk by Reverend Timbrell

6th March – Vintage Transport Day – B'mth Aviation Museum

6th April – Clubnight – (TBA)

16-17 April – Bristol Classic Car Show, Shepton Mallett, BA4 6QN

15-17 April, Spring Weekend, Glen Hotel, Sidmouth.

17th April – FBHVC Drive it Day

25th April – Spring Vehicle Meet and Autojumble @ Wyke Down, Andover. (springvehiclemeetandautojumble.co.uk)

4th May – Clubnight – Talk on Minor Servicing – Brian & Laurie

8th May – Aubrey Batt Run

14-15th May – Beaulieu Spring Autojumble

22nd May – Visit to Forge Garage (MOT Centre) SEE P.14

1st June – Clubnight – Talk on Visit to China by Phil Traves

18-19 June – BPPC Steam Up – Canford Park Arena

6th July – Clubnight – TBA

9-10 July Dorset Branch Rally – Avon Heath Country Park

17th July – Muscliffe Community Day

17th July – Poole Bay Classics at Breamore

3rd August – TBA

7th August – Mid Summer Saunter

7th September – Clubnight – TBA

**NEXT CLUBNIGHT:
TALK BY REVEREND TIMBRELL**

VISIT TO WINTON MOT CENTRE

Karl Payne (owner of the Forge Garage) has kindly offered to carry out up to 6 MOT's for member's Minors on 22nd May Branch Visit to the Winton MOT centre for a very reasonable £20. If your MOT expires at any time between 22nd May and 22nd June you may be eligible for this opportunity. YOU MUST PRE-BOOK and this can be done on line (see advert below).

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<p style="text-align: center;">DISCOUNT FOR CLUB MEMBERS (MUST SHOW CARD)</p> <p>Book your MOT test on-line at: www.forgegaragebournemouth.co.uk</p>	

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MMOC DORSET BRANCH NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2011

VOLUME 14 ISSUE 4



DORSET BRANCH

• CLUBNIGHT ACTIVITY:

• **Blind Charity Auction**

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

EDITORIAL

Hello everyone and welcome to the February 2011 newsletter. Thanks to contributors again this month. We have Dave Walker's article on his experiences with

the student film crew involving a Minor Pick-up, bacon sandwiches and some pigs! All will become clear when you get to page 10.

The Mistletoe Meander seemed to go well on 28th December and the 'take-away' food seemed to go down well with everyone. There are some photos

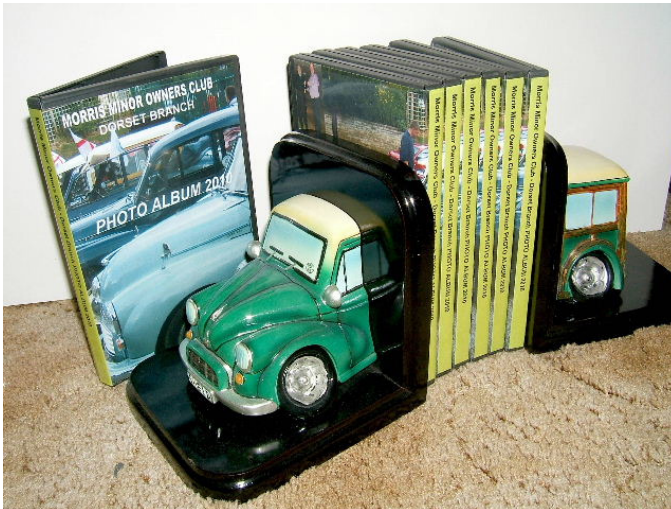
on page 8 and also on the website. (Let me

know how you get on with the new photo presentation 'platform' called Photobucket.) I have also uploaded some photos of the 911 repairs. If you are interested, the link is posted in the Photo section of the website.

We have now got some 2010 Photo Albums on DVD (*shown right*) so if you want something to while away about half an hour when there is nothing on the telly – we have the answer. They are £3

each or £4.50 if you would like one mailed to a UK address.

The 2011 Branch Rally preparations are progressing well and we have been invited to take part in the Ferndown Carnival on Saturday 9th July. If you wish to join us, we are assembling in Ferndown Upper School Car Park, Cherry Grove at 11:30 for a 12:00 noon departure. We understand that the parade will take about an hour and we return to the car park for a display of the cars in the afternoon. Due to insurance reasons, no departures or vehicle movements are permitted until the finish at 4:00 pm. Let's have a good turnout this year: we have had steadily increasing numbers pre-booking for the rally; we had 65 in 2008, 77 in 2009 and 86 last year! Let's try to get it over the 100 mark for 2011.



FOR SALE & WANTED & CLUB NOTICES

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



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WANTED From Russ Harvey (*editor of Minor Monthly*) Don't suppose anyone has a re-drilled Minor flywheel to fit Ital/Marina, to use Minor box? Also a similar modified engine backplate? An MG midget one will do. Ta. E: editor@minormonthly.co.uk 2/11

BOOK CLUB PLUS (BY DEREK SHEARMAN)

'With the full support of the Publishers Association, the Booksellers Association, the Independent Publishers Guild, the Reading Agency with libraries and the BBC **one million books** will be given away by an army of passionate readers to members of the public across the UK and Ireland and you (that is I) could be one of them'

The above is the 'blurb' put out by World Book Night Ltd, a Registered Charity, and I have applied, on behalf of Dorset MMOC to be one of the 20,000 distributors, each one to be given 50 copies of the book they have requested. My request was for Agent ZigZag, the story of Eddie Chapman who was a double/triple Agent in the second World War (more of the reasons for my choice at our February meeting).

To date, they have received 22,000 applications and I have to wait until 27th January to know if my application was successful. Perhaps not, as 'the night' is the 5th March and our club night is on the previous Wednesday.

If any one would like further information of this project, please visit worldbooknight.org

Derek Shearman



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(Continued from page 11)

back of the truck. Now to get this shot we needed:-

MINOR SHOOT (CONTD.)

In the back of the truck, one sack of US Mail, three piglets, one box of bits and pieces that you would normally find in the back of a truck, the camera man, the director, the sound man plus all of their equipment. In the truck on the passenger side we had the assistant director with a large TV monitor and yours truly driving. Various bits of their equipment were attached to the truck using "camera tape". You may know this as "gaffer" tape. Anyway it sticks like the proverbial! They had obviously got it well sorted because after a couple of takes they were satisfied. The crew were unloaded, grateful not to have been maimed, and the piglets hauled out less happily as they clearly felt quite at home in a Morris 1000 pick-up. Probably due to years of their ancestors having been transported in the same way, the pigs that is, not the crew. Well maybe them as well! After the offer of hot bacon sandwiches and tea they asked if they could ask a favour for the next shoot which was near Sopley. They wanted someone to play the part of a Farm/post worker loading letters into the back of the truck. Again, I couldn't let Dorset Branch down – so agreed. Actually it was nearer Avon than Sopley but the location was bl---y cold and bl---dy muddy. I had to be dressed in a sort of tee shirt, bib and brace type overalls of the type favoured by American farmhands. Add to this a rough jacket and a set of boots. My shoes are size 9 the boots were size 11. I now know how a clown feels trying to move with large boots - the mud didn't help either. The shot involved me loading letters into the sack in the back of the truck with the farm silos in the background. Several shots were tried and finally they set the truck to their satisfaction. A couple of final takes and we were done. I handed back the clothes to "wardrobe" and got into the truck to thaw out. Their course tutor turned up and thanked me for the loan of the truck. He also asked some questions about the way that the crew treated me. I was happy to say that I was indeed surprised that they worked well, were very polite and even asked questions as to whether the truck would take what they wanted to do.

My first attempt at film work was in 1964 with the 1929 Cowley that I still own. Actually it's in the film "The Yellow Rolls Royce", but blink and you will miss the car. I felt that these young persons were committed to the chosen career in life and were certainly nicer to deal with than some of the film crews that I have worked with. If you are asked to do this sort of thing I'm sure that you will enjoy it but a couple of tips:- Take something to eat, drink and read because it will take longer than you or the crew think. When they give you details of the location saying it's easy to find, it usually isn't. Also keep an eye out for possible sites for a loo. Not all locations are so equipped!



And the truck? Well apart from a generous amount of mud, straw and general rubbish in/on it, all it suffered was a broken windscreen washer switch (caused by the TV monitor), and one of the rubber buffers under the tail gate came off. A couple of hours with the tools and a hose soon sorted it. They are sending me a copy of the DVD when it is finished, perhaps we can have a look at it in one of the meetings.

Dave Walker

EDITOR'S INBOX

Hello Brian. Have you ever wondered what happened to the car's you have owned in the past or maybe you're interested to know something about the classic you just bought.



Myself and my family have often thought this about the car's we have previously owned. So we have created the site www.classiccarlink.com, in the hope that somebody has information about the cars we have owned, Maybe you have my car! If enough people join together maybe we can help bring some past and present owners together, sign up today and have a look. Maybe your old car is waiting for you! Regards, Laurie Cross (link is on the Links page of the website.)

From Russ Harvey (editor of Minor Monthly) Don't suppose anyone has a re-drilled Minor flywheel to fit Ital/Marina, to use Minor box? Also a similar modified engine backplate? An MG midget one will do. Ta.

Hi Brian. Here are some good pictures of the greyhounds that have the coats that my friend Wendy made, using some of the ties that were kindly donated by club members. We are going over at the end of March to deliver the rest of the ties and if anyone has any old blan-



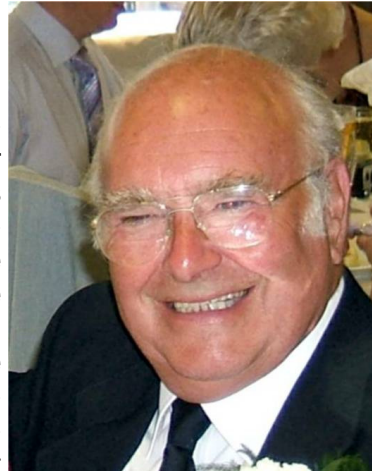
kets that Wendy can cut up for the jackets, we would be most grateful for them as well. Many thanks to the MMOC of Dorset for their help with the ties. Jackie Walker.

14th January – News from Down Under. G'day We've been overshadowed a bit by Queensland (there's major floods there) but we have had the wettest few days that even we can recall. Just as an indication we have an above ground wading /swimming pool 15 feet diameter by 3 feet high ,with a water capacity of around 12,500 litres of water. We drained 2/3 of it to clean it and re stocked it with fresh water from plastic tank that needed to be refreshed. *In 2 days that tank was over flowing and running away down the garden!* To those that have visited Tasmania, St Helens & Binalong bay (that's the East coast) were cut off for 3 days . Today Railton, Sheffield and Deloraine copped it. Beechford was safe and sound apart from being locked in for a few days. It's now stopped raining and forecast is for better weather over the weekend . So there you're in the picture now. As for cricket ... GO THE POMS. Ceeyas. – Vic & Angela Holyoak DMMOC no.399. Thanks for the update, Vic, hope you have dried out by now! - Keep that Minor on high ground! (Ed). PS, I gather you guys are 'exporting' Tasmanian Devils to the mainland now?



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Good evening everyone and welcome to February Clubnight. I would like to thank Norman for his quiz on the Highway Code for January's clubnight. February's clubnight is the Blind Auction, so (if you are reading on-line) let's have plenty of wrapped items for the Auction for the club's chosen charity which we will choose soon. In spite of the cold weather, Brian and Eddie came over to work on Ann's Morris Minor Convertible. The bodywork is looking good and engine and gearbox nearly finished (see the report on page 9).



I phoned Doug about the Ferndown Carnival on Saturday 9th July (Branch Rally Weekend) so that the Committee has arranged to incorporate the carnival on the Saturday and the dinner at the café in the evening for club members and visitors. Details to follow.

I have just started to investigate a visit to the Goodwood revival 16-18th September and also the cost of a classic bus or coach for the day.

The committee is working hard on the Rally this year to think of new things to do. Any more ideas would still be very welcome. I have started to clean out the 'pig-house' and the following items have come to light; wings (front and rear), front panels, one nearside door (2 door), boot lids, bonnets and two traveller rear doors. All are for sale, if interested please give me a ring (576690).

The Volkswagen Campervan was disturbed from its winter slumber last weekend to go down to Sandbanks where we had a walk from the Rockery along the seafront to the Jazz Café near the Sandbanks Hotel where we saw a live performance. Very good too. (The van behaved itself as well!)

Happy motoring, John.

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MINOR SHOOT (CONTD.)

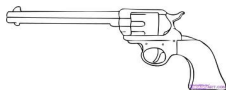


(Continued from page 10)
wasn't a soul in sight. I was just about to phone when a white rental van appeared - yes I was in the right place and the crew were all set up in the nearby bushes ready for the sunrise and of course the truck. Those of you that know our scruffy truck will know that one of it's best features is it's tilt. This they wanted removed. It hadn't been off since I did the last Film Shoot, with the truck a couple of years ago and the rope securing it was of the "hairy string" variety and virtually frozen, firstly with the cold but also because it had

been tied for some time! Fortunately the toolkit and a younger, more nimble pair of fingers removed it. Basically I had to drive across the sunrise on a deserted road. The sunrise co-operated but the traffic didn't. A couple of "takes" and the film side was finished. Now they wanted the sound side sorted including takes inside the truck. I've worked on some films in my time and sound engineers can be well, lets say difficult. This one was superb and quite the best sound man that I had ever worked with. So it was all over or so I thought but no, could I come tomorrow to another location, again at 7 a.m. Then we would move to another location. Well Dorset Branch couldn't let them down could they? It was actually quite difficult to get the exact details of the location for the next day's shoot but by the early evening I learned that it was out near Blandford. This time I did, at least, have the post code but my years of trying to find obscure buildings to survey when I was still working warned me that it might not be so easy. Again I arrived in pitch darkness at a farm road with no one in sight. I knew that it was on a farm and after what seemed about a mile of farm track I smelled and could hear pigs. This seemed hopeful but there was not a soul in sight. Just as I was answering the call of nature (well with the cold and being of a certain age you know) I heard a car arriving. Yes, I was in the right place but this was a farm worker and the film crew weren't here yet. They arrived in about 10 minutes just as the dawn was breaking into a spectacular sunrise. Now, the story is about a letter and they needed to film the truck going along with mail and bits and bobs in the back of it. Seemed OK but then they decided that having a couple of pigs in the back would add a certain realism to the shot. Enquiries were made and yes a couple of pigs could be supplied. The Farmer pointed to one that was nearby which had been watching us with interest. Although we were assured that it could be handled there was, however a problem, it was about the size of the lounge in a starter home! I've no idea how much it weighed but it would have been a decent test for the rear springs on a 6 cwt Minor truck. The farmer was only joking and found three piglets for us to use. By the way do you know how to pick up a piglet? Apparently you lift it by one of the rear legs. None of them seemed to complain and settled down happily in the straw in the

(Continued on page 12)

MINOR SHOOT



No, it's not cruel and nothing to do with gun sport. Dave Walker kindly stepped up to the plate to fulfil a requirement in a student

film project which needed a Minor Pick up. David takes up the story...

We had been staying with Andy and Julie at their house in Brittany. After a leisurely crossing from St Malo, and a decent meal, we dropped them off at their house in Barton on Sea and arrived home at about 9 p.m.

The answering machine indicated some messages, one of which was J.J. our leader asking me to phone him about the film shoot with our pick-up that we had discussed some weeks ago.

I duly phoned and John asked me to contact the film co-ordinator to sort out times/venue etc. Now the truck hadn't been started for a couple of months, so I hoped it would start and



had some fuel in it. After a bit of a struggle contact was made with the film co-ordinator at about 10:20 p.m. who told me that they needed the truck at 7 a.m. the next morning out in the Forest near Stoney Cross for a scene involving the sunrise. Setting the alarm for 5:30 I thought that if the truck started and if it had fuel in it I should make it in time.

Keith's "Mobile Tune" must have done the trick as it started easily but was almost out of fuel. I didn't know if the station on the A31 was open at that time so I raided Jackie's spare cans of fuel for the tractor. Throwing some tools and my usual spares kit in the back I set out. I arrived just in time in the freezing cold at where I thought they wanted me but there

(Continued on page 11)

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Good evening and welcome to February club-night. How did you get on with the 2nd part of the theory test paper last month? I was actually surprised at how many I got right compared with part 1 when we did it! I hope you've all brought along plenty of parcels as well as plenty of money for tonight's blind auction. Roy is our auctioneer as usual. This year's charity has not been chosen yet so please put your thinking caps on and we will choose one at a future clubnight. There has been a slight change of plan with the clubnight schedule. Instead of coming along in August Reverend Timbrell will be giving us another of his very entertaining talks next month – March.

I hope everyone enjoyed the Dinner and Dance last weekend at the Elstead Hotel. Well done to all of this year's prize-winners which were: Series MM – Mike Sheppard, Series II – Dave Walker, 1000 Saloon – Manina Trickett, 1000 Convertible – Steve Ford, 1000 Traveller – Tina and Des Waller, LCV – Tony Ware and Best in Club – Roy Gale.

Plans are already underway for events this year including the Aubrey Batt Memorial Run and the Midsummer Saunter amongst others. Don't forget that all the dates are on the events diary so please keep them free and come along and join in all the fun.

We have been given the go ahead to take part in this year's Ferndown Carnival on the Saturday of the Dorset Branch Rally. This will be followed by a static display in Ferndown. We are waiting for the organisers to tell us the theme for this year's carnival and we hope to be able to join in with that.

We decided to go along to the new Mudeford Meet in January. This is held on the 2nd Sunday of the month from 2pm at Mudeford Quay which in January happened to be a very nice day indeed. There were about 44 cars down there and we went along in Victoria who was definitely the oldest car there. You do still have to pay for parking but it does give you an excuse to give the cars a run and it was a lovely day for a walk along the seafront and Louise had a great time in the playground. There was an enormous amount of interest in the cars as well so if you've got nothing planned it makes for a nice afternoon out.

That's about all from me for this month, so until next time,
Happy Minor-ing, Laurie.



MISTLETOE MEANDER



We had a good turnout for the Mistletoe Meander on 28th December at the Clubnight venue. There was a short run out to the Ringwood area which gave the opportunity for a winter 'blast'. The sun even came out for a while... before it started raining. The 'take-away' lunch seemed to go down well and thanks to all who came for supporting this event. (See the photos on the website – which is now linked to a new display site – hope you like it!)



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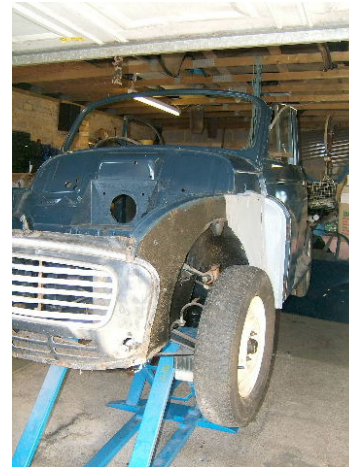
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BRANCH REBATE SCHEME

You may be aware that the branch receives a financial rebate according to the numbers of national MMOC members who attend the monthly 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.

CONVERTIBLE PROJECT PT. 2 (BY JOHN JENKINSON)



Ann's convertible is progressing nicely. The engine is all put back together now, thanks to the Honorary Engine Workshop Manager – Eddie Pateman. As I said last month, the engine was good enough to not need any boring or grinding, so we simply fitted new rings, main bearings and big ends. The bores were honed so that the new rings would 'bed' in a little better. This engine had clearly had a fairly easy life. We took the opportunity to renew the oil pump, water pump, rocker shaft and fit an unleaded head. We have also carried out some other

'minor' upgrades with duplex timing chain, alternator, electronic ignition and spin-on oil filter. These should have the effect of modernising the engine and making the future servicing a lot easier. Brian tells me we'll look at those in a bit more detail next month. Meanwhile, in the bodywork department, the underside has been finished and we have now mounted the car on an Autec hydraulic vehicle lifter. This will make the remaining work a lot easier and avoid the need to wear out our knees prematurely! The current bodywork activity is concerned with properly aligning the doors, wings and rear bodywork, which is of considerable importance prior to painting. The door hinge captive plates have been re-set on both sides and the doors aligned using the hinges. The rear quarter panels needed a bit of lead loading and vertical adjustment to get a good fit and the wings were a challenge to get correctly aligned. This was a bit time consuming (Brian's excuse for working slowly!) The wallet has been out (several times now!)



and we have now purchased most of the mechanical bits we need. Unfortunately, we keep finding other things to spend money on. I am sure I have dipped into the stock of parts in the past and now have to replace items I thought I had already bought! Never mind, at least we are keeping the parts suppliers in business. Until next month, JJ.