

REAR VIEW (ED AND NANCY)

When they discovered they lived in the same city only a few miles apart Ed was ecstatic. He immediately started asking her out when they got home. Within a couple of weeks, Ed had taken Nancy to dance clubs, restaurants, concerts, movies, and museums. Ed became convinced that Nancy was

indeed his soul mate and true love. Every date seemed better than the last.

On the one-month anniversary of their first dinner on the cruise ship, Ed took Nancy to a fine restaurant. While having cocktails and waiting for their salad, Ed said, "I guess you can tell I'm very much in love with you. I'd like a little serious talk before our relationship continues to the next stage. So, before I get a box out of my jacket and ask you a life changing question, it's only fair to warn you, I'm a total golf nut. I play golf, I read about golf, I watch golf on TV. In short, I eat, sleep, and breathe golf. If that's going to be a problem for us, you'd better say so now!" Nancy took a deep breath and responded, "Ed, that certainly won't be a problem. I love you as you are and I love golf too; but, since we're being totally honest with each other, you need to know that for the last five years I've been a hooker."

Ed said, "I bet it's because you're not keeping your wrists straight when you hit the ball."

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MORRIS MINOR OWNERS CLUB

DORSET BRANCH

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DORSET BRANCH NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2011
VOLUME 14
ISSUE 12

WWW.DORSETMMOC.CO.UK

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. (Also available on website.) 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

The front cover this month is one of the shots from the 2011 National MMOC rally by Phil Traves, showing the line up of Millions. 752 BPO (or 1000252) is the one in the foreground Not sure of the owner's name. It's about time we had another in our Branch!

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: Brian Wood (01202 573501)
- Regalia Manager: Richard Cyster - (01202 526660)
- Catering Executives: -Sue Blewer, Lyn Gerry



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

- 5th October – Annual General Meeting
- 3rd December – Robin Hood Panto, starring Neil Mitchener (www.poolechristmaspantomimes.net)
- 2nd November- Clubnight—Quiz
- 7th December- Clubnight—Christmas 'Natter and Noggin'
- 27th December – Mistletoe Meander.

2012

- 4th January—Clubnight (TBA)
- 1st February—Clubnight (TBA)
- 18th February – Dinner and Dance – Elstead Hotel **(NOTE NEW DATE)**
- 7th July – Ferndown Carnival
- 8th July – Dorset Branch Rally – Avon Heath Country Park
- 19th August– Bournemouth & Poole MG club Show at Athelhampton.
- 31 Aug-2 Sep - Isle of Wight weekend (IoW Branch Rally)

**NEXT CLUBNIGHT:
2ND NOVEMBER—QUIZ**

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ANNUAL DINNER AND DANCE (18TH FEB 2012—ELSTEAD HOTEL)

Why not join us for the annual evening 'do' next year? Due to popular request, we have arranged this function after Christmas due to diary clashes and to give us something to look forward to in the dark winter months! The cost this year is a very reasonable £25 for members and their partners and £26.50 for non-members. Wine and entertainment is funded by the Branch as usual. There is an entry slip in the newsletter this month. Please return the slip with your menu choices and cheque as soon as possible to help with the arrangements.

Menu

Florida Platter (served with Orange, Grapefruit and Pineapple)

Home made Trout and Dill Fish Cake (enhanced with a lemon dressing)

Soup of the Day (Tomato and Basil)

Traditional Roasted Turkey Breast (with chestnut seasoning, chipolata and Cranberry Sauce)

Roast Rib of Beef (Served with a caramelised onion and red wine Jus)

Fillet of Salmon (Enrobed with a white wine and dill sauce (or Hollandaise)

Vegetarian Dish of the Day (Spinach and Mascarpone Lasagne—Rich layers of spinach and creamy Italian Cheese)

Vegetables of the Day (Vichy carrots, Brussels sprouts with chestnuts, roast and new potatoes.)

Sweet of the Day (Christmas pudding with Brandy sauce, Profiteroles filled with Baileys Cream and served with hot chocolate sauce, individual Raspberry pavlova, platter of fine cheese served with grapes, celery and biscuits.

Coffee and Mince Pies (Other vegetarian options are available - please ask)

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MMOC DORSET BRANCH NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2011

VOLUME 14 ISSUE 12

• CLUBNIGHT ACTIVITY:

• ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

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**NEXT CLUBNIGHT:
2ND NOVEMBER—QUIZ**

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 and welcome to the last issue of Volume 14 and the end of another club year. The AGM is the clubnight activity this month (as usual) and we hope you will be able to attend to make your views known. We could always do with a few new ideas for events, visits and clubnight activities—if you can think of any! The minutes of the last AGM are printed in this newsletter for your information.

September has been a busy month for rallies etc. The Rustic Fayre at Verwood on the Bank Holiday Monday was very well attended and we had a great day there. The Isle of Wight “invasion” went well, and we have some photos of the fun and frolics for you this time. Thanks to Eddie, John and Barry Duxbury for the photos.

John, Laurie, Nev and I spent three days at Beaulieu for our twice annual AutoJumble excursion. Despite gloomy forecasts, the weather was pretty good with only about one shower Sunday morning. The Club spares stock was on

display in our ‘annex’ tent, kindly facilitated by the MMOC. We managed to sell quite a bit of the stuff but don’t worry, we have re-stocked for the clubnight. Overall, this year, the spares has taken nearly £2,400 having taken about half of this total at our Rally in July and Beaulieu.

Des says thanks very much to all of you who have renewed your membership already and we look forward to receiving the rest of the renewals over the next week or two.

I reported last month on the progress on our ‘new’ black 4 door saloon. The engine went back in ... and out again - to fix the clutch cover, which was damaged by me trying to put the engine back in on my own. I managed to ‘spear’ the clutch cover and knocked off one of the centre springs, which of course, meant - no clutch! Anyway, the ‘new’ engine runs like a good ‘un. (Thanks Tony!) Because the engine is so quiet now, I can hear the gearbox and back axle whine. Oh well, I’ll just have to take it to bits all over again!

Cheers for now, Brian.

EDITOR’S INBOX



SGA Motors:

We are very pleased to be able to announce that Steve Brown has secured new premises and Morris Minor Repair Specialist, SGA Motors is up and running again in Fordingbridge. We have not got the new address but you can contact him on **01425 479117** which is the home number and the mobile number which is **07879 991152**.

FOR SALE & WANTED & CLUB NOTICES

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

The Branch Website has a ‘Spares Shop’ which advertises (mostly) spares. Why not browse the bargains or send me an ad or two with a decent picture.

For Sale : LCV (Van or Pick up) Stainless exhaust system. £50 ono. Pair of 8" front brake back plates with cylinders £20. Pair of rear shock absorbers (dampers) £5
Windscreen washer pumps (one manual £4 and one electric £8) Gearbox steady wire (tension cable) £3 Pair of ashtrays £5
Glove Box Lids £10
Tony Ware 01202 471372 (Christchurch)

For Sale. Beautiful Morris Minor 1000 Convertible Maroon 1970, beige hood with red interior, fully recently restored, excellent condition throughout, only 34,000 original miles since new, £8,200 ono 01929 471179 (Bere Regis area).

New Morris Minor Spares are available through the club. You should received a new price list with this newsletter. The list is also on the website. We hope to have a new spares table at the clubnight, so let me know if you need anything Brian.

Special Offers

For Sale, Morris Minor Traveler, 1971 DAL 343J. Unleaded head, alternator and electronic ignition. Rear suspension uprated with modern shock absorbers, rallied regularly to France. £3,800 ono. Mike Pattison 07818 633390 (Weymouth)

This Month’s Special Offers:
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ISLE OF WIGHT TRIP (JOHN JENKINSON)

Thanks to Eddie Pateman, John Jenkinson and Barry for the photos of the Isle of Wight trip.



In early September a large group of us went 'abroad' to the Isle of Wight, for a 4 day, mini- break at the Warner's Norton Grange Hotel. The hotel was located on the Freshwater side of Yarmouth, overlooking the Solent and was very comfortable. There were 47 of us in 25 cars, which were nearly all Morris Minors. Also staying in the hotel at the same time was the Austin A30/A35 Club who had the same idea as us!

The hotel had excellent food and rooms, with varied entertainment in the evenings. On the Saturday we went on Isle of Wight Branch Run out to the Owl and

Monkey Sanctuary which was very good. On the day of the Rally, unfortunately, it rained up to about 1:00 - however, this did not dampen the atmosphere. There was an excellent turn out of Morris's and visitors to their show and we took a bus ride again on the 1930's open top bus.

We went for a ride round the island on the Monday and then made our way home and I am pleased to report that the Convertible behaved itself impeccably.

We are going to try and do it again next year. If anyone is interested, please give me a ring.

John




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EDITOR'S INBOX (CONTINUED)

Following the issue of the renewal invitations, we received this message from one of our overseas members...

Hello Brian, I would certainly like to renew my membership for next year. Although I don't know any of the others personally, I do enjoy reading the monthly newsletters and am starting to feel like one of the Dorset family! Hurricane Irene really caught a lot of us by surprise. We had about 10 inches of rain in a very short period of time and the local rivers and streams could not handle the incredible volume of water being forced down them. We live on a private dirt road with about 10 houses and the road was totally washed out. There is a small bridge on one end that leads to another 3 homes and that bridge was washed away leaving those families stranded. One of the families has a son who was about to return to university and had hired a car to go back to school. Guess where that car ending up? Right, stuck over there with the rental fee accumulating by the day! It has taken about a week to finally get them out, but everyone is ok. Many of the homes below us were damaged and had extensive flooding. We suffered no real damage other than the road and a bit of our front garden is now missing. I do have to consider myself very fortunate. Many others suffered far more including some loss of life and complete destruction of their homes. I remember seeing some news footage of similar flooding in the north of England a few years ago and now know what that is like firsthand. Other than that we have had a wonderful summer and have spent a lot of time motoring around in the Morris or our TR3. Both cars bring out a ton of smiles from people of all ages and quite a few older folks remember when Morris Minors were a common sight on US roads. I did read that you sold your Porsche, but wanted to tell you that I am going with some friends out to Monterey California next month for the 4th Porsche Rennsport Reunion. They expect hundreds of vintage Porsche street and racing cars from all over the world, including many from the factory itself. Sounds like a great trip. I will send you photos upon my return. Due to some much needed home renovation projects, we were not able to put a UK trip together this past spring, but will possibly try again in 2012. Drop me a line anytime if you wish to chat. Cheers, Mike (Mike Smith DMMOC 394, Vermont USA)

And this note from Kay and Tony...

Hi Laurie, I hope you and your family are keeping well. Apologies for not attending any runs or clubnights for this year however, the Moggy is still going strong and being used most days. Its looking a bit tired around the edges, but don't we all at that age?. I just wish my teenage son had bought one instead of the Triumph Spitfire he ended up purchasing. He has the recovery guy on speed-dial and don't talk to me about the rust; Ive not seen so much since owning a Sunbeam Alpine in the 80's.

Give our regards to John and the rest of the team and hopefully we'll see you before 2013! Kay and Tony (DMMOC 219/220)



SECRETARY'S REPORT

Good evening and welcome to the 2011 AGM. I hope you all enjoyed last month's talk by Peter Vince on Abbey Road. It really was very good and some of the photos were very interesting.

September was a very busy month starting with the Isle of Wight weekend. Some 27 vehicles ventured across the water with the majority heading for Warner's at Yarmouth. We were staying at our usual Bed and Breakfast at Shanklin and as usual it was fantastic. The Saturday saw us all taking part in a run to the Owl and Monkey Sanctuary with the Sunday being the rally day. We enjoyed the rally despite the persistent rain. Well done to Roy for winning the Chairman's Choice award. This is the 2nd year running this prize has gone to a Dorset Branch member.

The Beaulieu Autojumble was a brilliant weekend as usual. We shared the National MMOC stand with Bryan Gostling and took along the club spares which sold very well. I managed to pick up some Heritage Motor Centre videos on both Austin and Morris. These are original films from the 1920's and 30's and I think they are just brilliant. I love the way they talk and the complete lack of any health and safety regulations that were used in the factories. I have finally bought a pair of tyres for the back of the Austin which I bought second hand from Vintage Tyre Supplies. They are only 3 years old, have no wear in them at all and were a bargain. My final purchase was an original 1920's wooden till. I'm going to get my friend to re-polish it and then we will use it on the club stall. (*Arkwright is alive and well—Ed!*)

I am writing this at the end of a very busy weekend. The 3 in 1 Run was very successful. We started off at Plowman's before heading off to Shillingstone Station. The chaps up there are doing a fantastic job of restoring the station and it's grounds. The few pounds spent by us in the tea and gift shops will hopefully go some way towards helping further restoration. We then drove on to the Oxford Bakery where we were treated to an excellent lunch and guided tours of the bakery itself. We spent a very enjoyable afternoon in the grounds of the bakery which had fantastic views across the Blackmore Vale. Unfortunately, on the way home a half shaft decided to go bang on the Traveller and we ground to a halt just before we reached Shillingstone. The AA were brilliant and were with me within the hour and I was back home within 2.

The following day saw 12 cars meeting up at Avon Heath Café for breakfast before driving up to Breamore House for the final steam up of 2011. As usual there was a good show of miniature steam engines, stationary engines, military vehicles and vintage and classic cars and we had an excellent day out.

We are now looking ahead to the winter and are planning clubnights and runs out. If you have any ideas for speakers or venues please let us know.

That's about it from me for this month, so until next time
Happy Minoring, Laurie.

THE HISTORY OF SU (PART 1)

Origins: The SU Carburettor Company was the brainchild of the late George Herbert Skinner. He was born at Ealing in April 1872, the son of William Banks Skinner, a director of the well-known Lilley and Skinner footwear distributors. Despite following his father into the footwear business, Herbert's real passion lay with the motor-car.

Herbert was educated at Castlebar School in Ealing and although as far as is known he had no technical training, by 1900 he had submitted three provisional patents covering his ideas.

In 1903 he is reported to have travelled to France to learn how to drive a car. The following year he and his younger brother, Thomas Carlisle Skinner decided to put some of his ideas into practice and improve the carburation on a Star motor car they owned at the time. The vehicle's massive old carburettor was fitted with a glass top through which they could watch the flow of fuel from the jet.

It was clear that the suction (depression) on the jet varied in accordance with the demands made by the engine, and it seemed to them that a big improvement would be made if the jet could be located in the air channel of a size varied to suit different engine speeds – so ensuring a constant depression and air velocity.

A crude mechanism was evolved to bring this about, but it was then found that it lacked overall performance because if a jet orifice was chosen that was suitable for full throttle running, then this would result in an over-rich mixture for slow running and vice versa. The answer to this problem was a tapered needle; this varied the size of the jet orifice according to engine demands.

A full patent was applied for by Herbert in February 1905 and granted in January 1906. Herbert's application describes his occupation as "Boot and Shoe Manufacturer".

The First Carburettors: If Herbert was the inventive genius, his brother, Carl was the practical 'engineer'. Carl was born at Ealing in June 1882 and was educated at the Leys School in Cambridge. Again it is not known where or even if he received any technical training. Carl also joined the family business but by 1906 he had teamed up with RP Walles to manufacture and fit carburettors. There was also a third brother by the name of John, of whose involvement little is known other than that he appears to have been a director of the company by about 1913.

It is not clear when the first experimental carbs were produced, but they were almost certainly made at George Walles and Co's works at 258 Euston Road. When George Walles sold the works and the premises in 1906, Carl became a partner with George's son and they took temporary premises in Euston Buildings while the new works at 386-388 Euston Road were being built.

For some years carburettors were fitted and tuned to individual cars. The new works had an 8ft x 16ft, 30cwt capacity lift which served all four floors as well as the roof and basement. Surprisingly, the top floor was used to fit and tune while the carburettors themselves were manufactured in the works below from the working drawings prepared by the Chief Draughtsman, Mr J.O. Gardener to Herbert's sketches.

Herbert's main responsibility appears to have been one of design and improvement, which he pursued with vigour and also protection by way of patents of his ideas; a full patent covering the "constant depression" idea was granted in England in 1906 and additional patents were taken out in Belgium, France, Germany, Italy and the USA.

Herbert's inventive genius was not confined to the SU; he took out patents in 1907 and 1908 on a hydraulic variable speed gear and a detachable strap for ladies' court shoes and slippers and later for a paraffin carburettor, an aero carburettor and a supplementary fuel supply valve for cold starting.

There is some evidence to suggest that the carburettor was originally branded "The Union Carburettor", being the abbreviation of "Skinners Union".

The SU Company Ltd: In 1910 the company moved to premises at 154 Price of Wales Road, Kentish Town, North London, an old horse stable, the structure of which had to be converted to allow production to take place and a limited company was registered in the name of "The SU Company Ltd" on 2nd August 1910: reg no. 111416.

The earliest financial information appears in the Company's ledger dated April 30th 1911. It is not specific as to who the directors were at this time, but an entry in the accounts of 28th January 1913 shows director's fees of £25 each W.B. Skinner, G.H. Skinner and J.H. Skinner. By this time the accounts also show that Wolseley and Rover were regular customers of SU. (to be continued..)

AGM MINUTES (CONTD)

Treasurer: Jacky Wood -- prop. Sue Ware, sec. Thelma Ware
 Membership Secretary: Des -- prop. Thelma Ware, sec. Sue Ware
 Events/H & S -- Neville Gerry -- prop. Sue Ware, sec. Thelma Ware
 Newsletter/Website Editor: Brian Wood -- prop. Thelma Ware, sec. Sue Ware
 All elections carried on a show of hands.

Any Other Business:

Dave Walker asked if the members would consider donating surplus neck ties in aid of rescuing Spanish Greyhounds and re-homing them in France.

Andy and Julie Wescott mentioned that the MMOC MOT (Overseas Trip) was looking for a large Dorset contingent and asked members to consider coming along if they could.

A question was raised about the updated Branch Spares list, and John Bainbridge replied that members should telephone him (number in newsletter) if they needed something. The list that used to appear in the newsletter has been withdrawn since it was difficult to keep it up to date.

No other business was raised and the meeting was closed at 21:00

Signed
 Laurie Blewer – MMOC Dorset Branch Secretary

GREAT DORSET STEAM FAIR

Thanks to Laurie Blewer for sending in some photos of the Great Dorset Steam Fair in September. Looks like there were the usual



good display of commercials, with the 'derelict' pick up and the rather nice looking Coop van in blue and white.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Good evening and welcome to October Clubnight. It's here again—another AGM and a year older. It has been a good

year for the club and some good runs and rallies. We have had some interesting speakers and also 2 club mini-break holidays, one in Devon and one in the Isle of Wight. The club took over to the IoW a total of 25 cars (mostly Morris Minors!) - see page 12. I have been asked to arrange another trip in 2012 at Bembridge Warners so I am talking to them to get a good rate for you. It was nice to see John Blake at the 3 in 1 run on Saturday—good to see him up an about once more. The MG owners club has invited us to join with them at their show, the Bournemouth & Poole MG Club event at Athelhampton House on 19th August 2012. The cost is £10 per car including entry to the house for all occupants.

The Branch is still looking for a garage to keep the club van and stock etc, so if you hear of anywhere suitable, please let one of the committee know.

We are looking for some new ideas for clubnights—so please let us know if you have any suggestions which might be suitable.

I would like to thank all the businesses who have taken advertisements in the Branch newsletter. It really helps towards the cost of the newsletter each month.

We are currently looking for a volunteer to take up a new position on the Committee as a Welfare officer. If you think you would like to help please give one of us a ring and we can explain the responsibilities. Anyway, that's all for now, John Jenkinson.

Norman J. Kimber

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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. Thanks

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2010 AGM MINUTES

MORRIS MINOR OWNERS CLUB

DORSET BRANCH

2010 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

6th October 2010 20:30

Apologies: Dave and June Reeves, Peter & Valerie Webb, Tony and Sue Ware & Roger and Thelma Ware.

Minutes of Last Meeting. These had been printed in the current newsletter and were accepted as accurate (prop. Eddie Pateman sec. John Bainbridge.)

President's Opening Remarks

The President opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to the 2010 AGM and then handed over to the committee members for their reports.

Secretary's Report

The Secretary gave a brief summary of the past year's events and said that it had been a packed calendar of events which began with the Dinner and Dance at the Quality Hotel. Other events were the Mistletoe Meander, the Devon weekend, the Aubrey Batt run to the 'Breamore Steam-Up'. We attended the Beaulieu Autojumble weekend with the club stand with the National MMOC and there was lots of interest in the Branch. The Dorset Rally was another successful event with over 120 vehicles in attendance. Other shows attended were the Lymington Rotary, Poole Bay Classics Show at Breamore. The Mid Summer Saunter was a new event for this year which went well and will hopefully be better attended next year. Many members attended the Frogham Fayre and Verwood Rustic Fayres over the August Bank Holiday weekend. A good contingent of members travelled over to IoW this year for their rally which made a good weekend. We helped out on the National MMOC stand at the Beaulieu Autojumble (Autumn) in September and much of our Regalia was sold to various parts of the world. The 3 in 1 run to SEB museum was very good as was the most recent run to Shaftesbury Carnival. Many members have attended other shows that I have not mentioned and if you know of any in the forthcoming season, please let us know so that we can publicise it. Looking ahead to 2011, the Devon Weekend is already almost fully booked. The dinner dance will now be in January at a new venue. The Mistletoe Meander will start and finish this year from the SEB club. It has been suggested that we attend the Ferndown Carnival for a Saturday pm activity at the July Branch Rally weekend. Congratulations to the members who have completed restorations this year and to those who have won prizes. Hopefully, this will encourage the completion of other restorations. To all the new members this year, hopefully, they have had an enjoyable time with us so far and will continue to do so for many years to come. (2011 marks the 25th Anniversary of Laurie joining the club). He finished by looking forward to another good year for the Branch to come.

Treasurers Report

The major expense for this year has been the purchase of another van to transport the club regalia and equipment. This is to temporarily replace our Minor Van. As you may know, the Austin Van which we bought in 2006 is now in need of too much work for us to do as a club. We have therefore decided to dispose of it, so at the moment, the list of major assets shows both vans. The outlay for the Vauxhall van was £763.75, which was below book price. The insurance was £425.86 for the first year, however, we are hoping for a significant no-claim discount next year. Other significant purchases for this year have been as follows: A feather flag with poles and base, for use at shows, etc: £235.00, Lining machine for marking the rally field. We found it difficult to find a suitable machine for hire. The cost of £86.46 was set against the Rally account. Petrol Generator (second hand): £10.00 Pop-up Gazebo: £65.00

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Grille badges: £409.61. Our chosen charity for this year has been Julia's House. Two donations have been made amounting to £246.00. This was made up of £130.00 raised at our blind auction in April and £116.00 raised at the auction held at the Branch Rally by Roy Gale and Phil Traves. Due to the accounts being closed, the Rally sponsorship income of £145.25 has not been shown since it was not received in time. When it is received, it will be shown as a credit in next year's account. The Branch Rally showed a surplus of £277.93 and again, this would not have been achievable without the raffle, cakes and bric-a-brac which together raised £443.13 in total ensuring the financial success of the Rally. Accounts were made available and questions invited.

Chairman's Report

The Chairman thanked the President for his comments and said that he was looking forward to the 2011 season and would welcome some new ideas from the membership. The proposed Carnival attendance on the Rally weekend was discussed and it was suggested that we adopt a 'theme' – possibly related to Teddy Bears. He mentioned his recent visit to the Goodwood Revival and suggested a club visit – possibly in a classic bus. Whilst the entry is £50, this was considered good value in view of the extent of the display. He also spoke about the recent Kempton Juke Box Madness event which was also good and suggested another possible weekend visit incorporating a visit to Mercedes World at Brooklands also. He reminded members about the old Club Van viewing session which was to be held the following Saturday at 10:00. He also said that we have had feedback from the MMOC about our Branch now being one of the largest.

Editor's Report

He began by thanking everyone who has contributed to the newsletter with letters, articles etc. It really does make the job a whole lot easier and hopefully, the newsletter is a bit more interesting as a result. We have had a few ownership and restoration stories and these are probably the most popular. It doesn't necessarily have to be about a Morris Minor, since most of us have other classic interests and ownership of a Minor is not compulsory! Write ups from shows are also gratefully received. Also technical articles about jobs you have done on your car. He has been asked to provide some technical articles for 'Minor Monthly' and would be happy to participate in any member's 'technical activity' that may be appropriate. A reminder was given to renew newsletter advert subscriptions. This income subsidises the newsletter meaning that very little cost falls on the subscription income. A request was made for any local businesses that might like to take an advert, to put them in touch with John or me. We currently circulate about 120 newsletters per month, most of which are fairly local.

The website seems has achieved over 16,000 hits since it started in 2004. The current 'hit rate' is about 500 per month. We get regular queries for Minor enthusiasts all over the country and have had several from abroad We are making a few changes to the website from 1st November. Members will need to 'log-on' with a user name and password to access the member's area. The main reason for this is to restrict access to the newsletter to members only in future. User name and password will be printed on the back of new membership cards and an email will be issued with the details so that paid up members can access the next newsletter at the appropriate time.

Committee Elections

Graham Jarvis (President) thanked the Committee for all their efforts over the past year.

The new Committee Nominations were as follows:

Chairman: John Jenkinson – prop. Sue Ware, sec. Thelma Ware
Secretary: Laurie Blewer – – prop. Thelma Ware, sec. Sue Ware