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Dorset Branch

MORRIS MINOR OWNERS CLUB



DORSET BRANCH NEWSLETTER

September 2012

Volume 15

Issue 11

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www.dorsetmmoc.co.uk

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. Please note that the Dorset Branch MMOC will accept no liability in respect of goods or services provided by advertisers. No recommendation is implied.

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.

Committee Members 2011-2012:

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

FRONT COVER

The Mid Summer Saunter at the end of July took in a trip to Breamore House—near Fordingbridge where this picture of member's cars was taken.

*Dorset Branch of the Morris Minor Owners Club
Helping to preserve the post war Morris Minor in the Dorset area
and beyond*

Forthcoming Events (see also www.dorsetmmoc.co.uk)

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

2012

31 Aug—2 Sep—Isle of Wight weekend (IoW Branch Rally)

5th Sept-Clubnight (TBA)

8-9th September—Beaulieu Autojumble

18th September—Skittles Match Bloxworth Club

22nd September—Three in One Run (Dukes at Dorchester)

23 Sept—Breamore Steam Up

29th/30th September—Brockenhurst and Lymington Lions—Forest Fayre

3rd October—AGM + presentation by Russ Harvey on Morris Minor Magazine

7th November—Clubnight (Talk on 'Aviation around Poole Bay 1910 - 1976') by **Kevin Patience**

5th December-Clubnight (Noggin and Natter)

30th December—Mistletoe Meander

2013

20th Jan—Annual Dinner and Dance—Liston Hotel, Boscombe

19/20/21 April—Spring Weekend Holiday, Sidmouth

18th-19th May Beaulieu Spring Autojumble (MORRIS CENTENARY EVENT)

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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

ORIGINAL CLASSIC PLATES FOR YOUR MORRIS MINOR

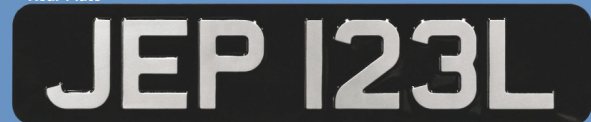
"It's nice to know that someone does a plate that fits the back of a Morris Minor. It's a lovely plate and the service was very prompt. I'm very pleased with the finished result"

John Jenkinson, Chairman
Morris Minor Owners Club, Dorset Branch

Front Plate



Rear Plate



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Dorset Branch Newsletter

September 2012

Volume 15 Issue 11

CLUBNIGHT ACTIVITY:

Dorset Air Ambulance Presentation
or ... Quiz



MORRIS MINOR
OWNERS CLUB

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NEXT CLUBNIGHT ACTIVITY:

Annual General Meeting and Presentation by Russ Harvey of Morris Minor Magazine.

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.



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Editorial

Hello again everyone and welcome to the newsletter. Thanks for the usual contributions this month and in particular, Mike Pattison and the Webbs.

What a busy month it's been. The Mid-Summer Saunter at the end of July was blessed with reasonable weather—hot sunshine punctuated by showers. There was a good turnout and the finale at Dave and Jackie's was excellent. We went to the Lymington Show on 5th August and this was a super show as usual with a good turnout on the Branch Stand. Always an interesting array of vehicles—usually ones you don't see at other rallies. Good car boot sale too! Then the following weekend was the Purbeck show and the first official outing of the convertible with its new engine and fresh MOT the previous week. The week after that, was the MG show at Athelhampton House near Dorchester with another outing for the ragtop. This was probably the hottest day of the year and we enjoyed a good display of MG's at their Garden Party which was very enjoyable. Good to see (newish) members Rob and Carole Powell from Salisbury with their 948 Traveller. That's now doubled the Branch 948 Traveller Count (excluding Marcus' Shooting Brake).

The Convertible (as mentioned above) has now got a new 'ticket' and being the youngest of our collection of three—1962—will be the only one to legally require testing after November 18th according to the new legislation. I have sorted out a few of the little niggles with it to make it a bit more useable pending more major work later on. It now has a new (second hand) front wing on the offside and a repaired bootlid. Various sundry rattles have been sorted out and Laurie showed me how to adjust the driver's seat. Thanks Laurie—I probably would have worked it out myself eventually but I always thought, you needed a bit of 1" x 4" timber under the back bit to raise or lower it. It made quite a difference and I can see where I am going now!

Muscliffe Fun Day—Laurie has put in an entry for the club to attend, so anyone who wants to go—should be able to just turn up. It's that time of year again—when you will have to elect a new committee. There will be a nomination form on the noticeboard tonight. You should also receive a membership renewal form with your newsletter—so lets have them back before next clubnight if you can please. It does make it easier for us to deal with them in bulk rather than one at a time until Christmas! Once again, we are offering a discount for early renewal, but due to the increasing cost of postage, we are asking for a voluntary contribution of £3 if you receive all or most of your newsletters by post.

Cheers for now, Brian



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 picture.

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ESM MORRIS MINORS

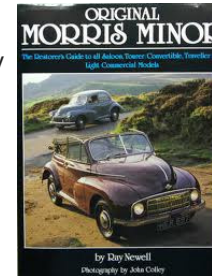
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For Sale

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FOR SALE

1968 Minor 2 Door Saloon

1098cc. Snowberry White with black interior
MOT July 2013.
£2,900 ono 01202 871801

For Sale

Lucas 'Screenjet' electric windscreen washer c. 1960 complete and working. A genuine 'period' accessory £50 ono.

Wanted!! Good 1098 rear axle.

Roger Blakeley 07932700396 or
mr.rb.ok@gmail.com



New Morris Minor Spares are available through the club. The current list is posted on the website under the 'New Spares' tab. We hope to have a new spares table at the clubnight, so let me know if you need anythingBrian. 07411 116336

DORSET BRANCH SPARES NEWS

WIRING ACCESSORIES. If you are handy with the soldering iron on your Moggie, have a look at the wiring bits and bobs we have in stock. We also have some of the increasingly popular chrome door mirrors for fitting by the quarter light.

12v Auxiliary Socket with in-line fuse	£	4.50
Mirror and Arm Convex Lucas style	£	15.00
HT Lead Markers (Heat Shrink)(set)	£	1.00
Bullet Connector Single (x10)	£	2.50
Bullet Connector Double (x5)	£	1.80
Bolt on 6.3mm blades (each)	£	0.25
Heat shrink sleeving 1.6mm (1m)	£	1.20
Heat shrink sleeving 2.4mm (1m)	£	1.50
Lucar Female blade (6.3mm) with insulator (pk10)	£	2.75

THREE IN ONE RUN—2012

This year, we are planning a trip to Dukes Auctioneers in Dorchester on **Saturday 22nd September**.

We are planning to start from Lytchett Matravers Courtyard Centre (BH16 6JE) . We leave at 11:30 and then go to Dukes Auctioneers (DT1 1ST) for 12:30 for lunch (make your own arrangements) and a look round the town. We can have a look at the auction preview and have afternoon tea in Dukes from about 2:30.

The cost will be £3.00 per person.

It should be a fun day. Slips are in this newsletter

Classic Cars on the Prom

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8th April until 23rd
September

(excluding 2nd Sept)

4pm—6.30pm

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Road rear of BIC to vehicles
registered prior to Aug 83

Editor's In Box



Here are the pages from the old AA Handbook that I photocopied many years ago. It talks about the King's car in the first sentence so it must be pre 1952. If anybody has a copy of the AA Handbook the previous section details a list of Licencing Authorities, so you may like to ask the members if anybody has a copy of an old AA Handbook if they could scan that part of the book, we could then see where the licencing authorities were for 'Dorsetshire'. Mike Pattison, Weymouth. *(I have uploaded the pages onto our new 'Technical' Section of the website, thanks Mike—Ed)*

Hi folks, At the Amberley Classic Car show a lady asked if I could pass on her cars details of her car, which was parked beside us at the show, that she now wishes to sell (not willingly as she has been flooded out and needs the money). The car was not affected by the flood and is in Siddlesham (near Bognor Regis) West Sussex.

It is a 1957 4-door 1000 in pale green. Mileage 65021, Has Motor Heritage Certificate

Interior very good to immaculate Mechanically very good Bodywork good but could do with some TLC in places (a good T-cut would do wonders).

The lady is looking for £3200 or a good offer.

If any of your members are interested they may call her on 01243 512161.

Best Regards, Gordon Kett, West Sussex Branch

Hello Brian, We have received many thanks from people about the strawberries and fizz event. We have thanks in person, by e-mail and even with "thankyou" cards. Could you put a note in the magazine to say that we were delighted to receive these thanks but we must mention the helpers without whom the event would not have taken place.

So thanks to Laurie and Neville for delivering, collecting and erecting the party tent. To Michelle the scone maker: Theresa, Julie and Mark on food serving duties: Andy i/c the car parking arrangements, and all those who offered to help on the day.

We are glad that you enjoyed it and thankfully the weather was fairly kind to us. Thanks everyone. Dave and Jackie

Secretary's Report

Good evening and welcome to the September clubnight. I hope you all enjoyed last month's Call My Bluff quiz – it did seem to cause some hilarity! We are trying to get hold of the Dorset Air Ambulance to come along tonight but if we have been unsuccessful we will be having a quiz.

It has been a very busy month on the events front during August. Starting with the Bygones Show at Ibsley which was a very enjoyable day as ever despite the heavy showers. I don't know how they manage to put on such a good air show at a small country show. The next day was the Lymington Show which was as good as it always is. We had a very good display of cars on display on the club stand with a good variety of models. The car boot sale was good for a few bargains as usual. Once again a very enjoyable day.

The Purbeck Rally was another very enjoyable day with a very good display of cars over the weekend. Although we didn't have a club stand there were lots of Morris Minor's on display around the field. The following weekend we went along to the MG Club Athelhampton House rally. It was an extremely hot day and very enjoyable. There was a fantastic display of MG's on show from early one's right up to the new ones. Athelhampton House is a lovely place and Louise actually let us have a look round the house. We won a couple of raffle prizes as well so all in all a very nice day. I hope the MG Club invite us back again next year.

The August Bank Holiday weekend was a mixed bag weather wise. We went to the Frogham Fayre as we always do on the Saturday. The day started off fine and there was a good turnout of cars despite the forecast. During the late afternoon though the heavens opened and people were to be seen sheltering under the stalls all around the field. Despite the weather everyone seemed to enjoy themselves as they do every year.

As I write this we have just returned from the Simply Classics at Beaulieu. This was a very well attended show with a fantastic variety of vehicles on display. The star of the day though was undoubtedly the 42 litre Brooklands racing special. This fantastic machine was only built 5 or 6 years ago and is the brainchild of the chap who owns an original Brooklands racer from the 1920's. I'm never going to moan about fuel economy again as the 42 litre beast uses an incredible 1 gallon of fuel every 16 seconds! It actually breaths fire as the revs increase. I'm hoping that more of you will want to come next year and that we put together a good club display.

Tomorrow is the Verwood Rustic and hopefully the weather will hold for what is normally an excellent day.

By the time you read this we will be back from the Isle of Wight and let's hope we all had a good time and that the sun shone for us.

Entries are still coming in for next year's Beaulieu display and we really are getting some interesting vehicles in now.

I think that's enough from me now for this month so until next time

Happy Minorng

Laurie.



Out and About (by Peter and Val Webb)



Hi Brian, Good to see you and Jacky yesterday evening at the clubnight. We really enjoyed the meeting, especially "Call my Bluff" and our thanks to everyone involved.

Attaching a photo of the 3 DMMOC members' cars, purely by chance, which were all together at the Leigh Food Fayre and Classic Vehicle Show on Saturday 21st July 2012. The other 2 owners were Tim from Sturminster Newton and a guy from Bridport. Can't remember the guy's name from Bridport, but the reg. of his MM is

CYC 628J and Tim's reg. is JVX 148C (ex car of Andy's sister, with Tim owning it before that!)

The other photo attached is when we went to a show at the Gillingham and Shaftesbury Showground on 17th June 2012, when our MM came to the aid with "jump leads" to help a Ford Thunderbird V8 4.5 litre, which wouldn't start when leaving!! All the best, Peter and Val Webb.

(Glad to see the Minor showing a clean pair of battery terminals to the V8! CYC is owned by Branch Member David Buck—Ed)



Also there could be Bournemouth cars that were registered later than Smokey. Bournemouth Borough Council had its own allocation of registration letters EL, JT and RU but they are not carrying a County Registration and those letters were allocated to the Borough when Bournemouth was part of Hampshire, so in my book don't count. I am not sure what was happening in Poole back in 1970, was Poole part of Dorset or still part of Hampshire? I wonder when Poole registered cars started to carry a Dorset registration rather than a Southampton issued Hampshire registration?

So can anybody argue that I would be wrong in claiming Smokey was the last Registered car sold in Weymouth or even Dorset.



Footnote : My information on registration letters is gleaned from an old AA Year book from the early 1950's. I don't have the book in my possession so I don't have the full list of all the Issuing Authorities only photocopies of the part of the year book that was referred to as the "Motor-Car Index Marks".

Regards Mike Pattison, Weymouth

Book Club Plus (by Derek Shearman)

Hello everyone - sorry there was no contribution from me last month; a few problems not worth mentioning..... I think we all had a brilliant time at the Annual Rally; a welcome sunny break in the rainy weather was the icing on the cake. Incidentally, did anyone else receive amazingly high offers for their Morris Minor from the Irish contingent camped in the car park? The uninvited bids for my pick-up started at £5,000 and rose by £5,000 per bid - each time accompanied by comments such as 'what do you mean it is not for sale; everything has a price / everything is for sale/ I have the cash in my caravan / I will write you a cheque now.....' I remained steadfast with the constant reply 'the vehicle is not for sale'. The final bid was £50,000 and I have to wonder what would have been the outcome if at any time I had wavered. No need to mention I drove home with one eye on the rear-view mirror.

The range of our books, available for Club members to borrow, continues to expand and recent additions include the biography 'Geoff Duke - in pursuit of perfection'. For younger members who have never heard of this man, he was a motor cycling legend in the days when your father (or maybe you grandfather) was roaring round the countryside on a motorbike. Borrow the book for your father to read...? Might gain you some brownie points when you want to borrow the family garage and some of Dads tools!

Derek Shearman

Chairman's Report

Good evening and welcome to September Clubnight. We all had a good day out at Athelhampton House with the MG Club a couple of weekends ago. I had a slight problem with my petrol pump on the Morris but Brian sorted it out for me on Monday. Things are looking good for the Three in One run on September 22nd at Dorchester Auction Rooms. Also we have a stall at the September Autojumble to promote the 2013 Centenary Event. Richard and I have ordered some new club regalia—Polo Shirts, Rain caps, hooded fleeces all in assorted colours with the Branch logo embroidered on. Tonight there will be a list on the noticeboard for nominations for the new club committee at the AGM which will be the next clubnight. By the time you get September's Branch Newsletter we will have been to our Isle of Wight Holiday weekend—so I hope you all enjoyed the break.

The Branch is still looking for all types of Morris' such as lorries, fire engines, ambulances, old cars etc for the 2013 Centenary— so let the Committee know if you see anything at the rallies this Autumn. So far Laurie has about 170 vehicle applications already.

A big thank you to all those of you who have supported the Branch Newsletter by advertising. The time for renewal is fast approaching and we will be glad to receive your renewals for next year.

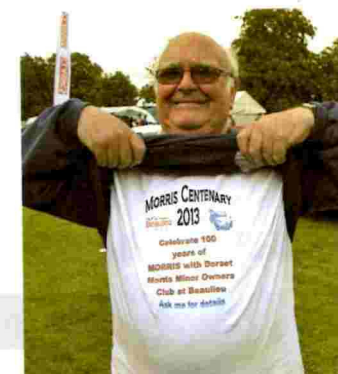
Good Motoring, John.

NEWS STORY

Help! Morris for major 2013 event

The hardworking team at the Dorset branch of the Morris Minor Owners Club are planning a major event at the 2013 Beaulieu Spring Autojumble (18-19 May) in celebration of the Morris Centenary. They are trying to round up examples of as many different types of Morris as possible. If you have or know of a Morris vehicle that might be of interest, they'd love to hear from you.

www.dorsetmmoc.co.uk



Re-printed from Classics Monthly September 2012

DMMOC Dinner & Dance (by Neville Gerry)

Don't forget the Dinner and Dance which has been organised for Saturday January 20th 2013 at a new venue. It will be held at the **Liston Hotel**, Wollstonecraft Road, Boscombe Spa, BH5 1JQ. The cost will be £25 for members and £27 for non-members. The wine is paid for by the Branch and entry slips were issued last month (See Jacky if you need one). Rooms are £20 pppn (01202 394588) Menu is as follows: **AND forms on the website.**

Watercress and Stilton Soup
Homemade Chicken Liver Parfait with Chutney and mixed leaves
Melon and Orange Platter with Raspberry Sorbet and Coulis
Twice Baked Cheese Souffle with an Herb Cream

-0-0-0-

Roast Turkey with all the trimmings
Fresh Salmon with an Herb Butter Sauce
Steak and Mushroom Pie with Shortcrust Pastry
Vegetarian Hot Pot

-0-0-0-0-

Christmas Pudding with Rum Sauce
Trio of Miniature desserts (Apple crumble with vanilla ice cream, Lemon Posset with shortbread biscuit and Chocolate Parfait)

Fresh Fruit Salad

Cheese and Biscuits with grapes and celery

-0-0-0-

Coffee and homemade petites fours
Christmas Crackers, Red Water Glasses, Cloth Napkins
Selection of our homemade bread

Spring Weekend in Sidmouth (by Neville Gerry)

The annual Spring Weekend Extravaganza has now been organised. Slips were in the newsletter last month and the prices are as follows.

For Dinner, Bed and Breakfast.

Superior Room £80.00 per night per person, Standard Room £73.00 per night per person, Selected Rom £68.00 per night per person. **(Forms can be downloaded from website)**



Smokey (by Mike Pattison)



Hi Brian, I took these photos of my Morris Minor at Breamore House during yesterday's Mid-Summer Saunter. Please use them if they are of any use.

I have been researching Smokey's background, so far I have uncovered the following:

I am the fourth owner having acquired her in February this year through an advert in the Dorset Advertiser.

NJT 487J was supplied on the 29th August 1970 by the Main BMC Distributor, Western Motors of Bournemouth to E Channon & Sons Ltd, of Dorchester Road, Weymouth. A pre-delivery Service check was carried out by Channons and she was sold with 92 miles on the clock on 1st September 1970 to Mr Abbott of Windermere Crescent, Weymouth.

Mr Abbott appears to have had the car regularly serviced by E Channon & Sons Ltd who around about 1977 moved their servicing operations from Weymouth up to 6 High East Street, Dorchester. The last recorded servicing in the original BMC "Passport to Servicing" booklet was in October 1985, Smokey by this time had covered 33417 miles. Sadly Channon's no longer exist, 6 High Street East is now a wine distributors.

From the Tax discs and MOT Certificates that are in my possession it would appear Smokey's keeper remained Mr Abbott until 1999 when her mileage was recorded at 41749 miles.

Smokey was then acquired by a Mr Smith of Dorchester who was the keeper until 2008 by which time she had covered 82,400 miles.

The car was purchase by Mr E Stanley of Wyke Regis, Weymouth who kept her until I purchased Smokey in February 2012 with 87000 miles recorded.

The car know resides back in Weymouth with me in Southill, no more than 600 yards from where she spent the first 29 nine years of her driving career.

I believe Smokey could be the last Morris Minor sold in Weymouth, or even possibly registered in the County of Dorset. The J registration was introduced on 1st August 1970, so most of the Morris Minor's sold in Weymouth and the county ending in J would probably have been registered on the 1st August, Smokey was registered a month later on 1st September.

JT were the Dorset registration letters presumably issued by Dorchester County Hall. So unless there are any Morris Minors with a first letter alphabetically greater than N or a NJT number greater than 487 then it follows that Smokey was the last. Can anybody argue that I am incorrect in my assumption? There were other registration letters available to Dorset County Hall they were FX, PR and TK, I don't know if they were in use in 1970. Were any Morris Minors registered in Dorset the following year with a registration ending in K?