

## DORSET BRANCH SPARES NEWS

For the benefit of newer members who may not be aware of it, the Branch operates a Morris Minor Spares service. We usually have a spares table at the monthly branch clubnights and we have a presence at some shows (particularly the Branch Rally and the two Beaulieu Autojumbles). Spares are available most other times using the contact details given below.

The spares are mostly sourced from ESM (East Sussex Minors—who have supported our branch rally also) and the prices charged generally reflect their prices.

Some locally reconditioned items are also available, such as fuel pumps, carburettors and radiators. The advantages are availability of parts and *usually* no postage charges.

If you are planning a large purchase—we can discuss discounts.

**New Morris Minor Spares** are available through the club. The current list is posted on the website under the 'New Spares' tab. *We can also order other items for you—usually saving the postage cost.*  
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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 illustrated stock list is shown on the website [www.dorsetmmoc.co.uk](http://www.dorsetmmoc.co.uk))

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Issue 6

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[www.dorsetmmoc.co.uk](http://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 2012-2013

**President: Graham Jarvis (07914 637429)**

**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)**

**New Member: Brian Ford**

**New Member: Eddie Pateman**

**Newsletter /Website Editor: Brian Wood (01202 573501)**

**( brian@dorsetmmoc.co.uk )**

**Non Committee posts:**

**Raffle Coordinators: Chris Tilly and Val Palmer**

### FRONT COVER

A rather bleak day at Brooklands in March, but none the less, a reasonable collection of Morrisses and Austins turned out for the show.

*(photo: B. Wood)*

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

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

**2013**

3rd April—CLUBNIGHT—Talk on Crystal Palace

14th April TOY Club 'Drive it Day' Run (Carle 01305 771760)

17th April—DHMC Inter Club Quiz—Hamworthy Club 8pm

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

1st May—CLUBNIGHT - Vote for Charity, Beaulieu Planning, Short Quiz (if time)

11-12th May—Breamore Steam Up

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

26th May—Aubrey Batt Run (Mapperton Gardens—nr Bridport) Meet Upton Gdns 10:00

2nd June—TOY Hardy Country Classic Tour (Nick 01305 260038)

5th June - CLUBNIGHT—Phil Traves' Talk on Sri Lanka

15-16th MMOC National Rally—Cornbury Park Oxfordshire

21st Jun—Quay for my Car Poole Quay, 'Best of British'

30th June—North Wilts MMOC Rally—Lacock Village

3rd July—Clubnight—Evening Run (TBA)

12-14th July—DORSET BRANCH RALLY

7th August—CLUBNIGHT—Talk by Reverend Timbrell

10-11th August—Purbeck Rally

16th August—Quay for my Car—Poole Quay—'Best of British'

18th Aug—Mid Summer Saunter (going to: Brockenhurst Forest Fayre with Steam (New Park, Lyndhurst Rd, Brockenhurst)

1st September—Isle of Wight Branch Rally

4th September—Clubnight (TBA)

7-8th September—Beaulieu International Autojumble

15th September—Three in One Run

2nd Oct—Clubnight Annual General Meeting

6th November—Clubnight—Call My Bluff type quiz

8th-10th November—Lord Mayor's Show Trip Weekend

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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.

# ORIGINAL CLASSIC PLATES FOR YOUR MORRIS MINOR

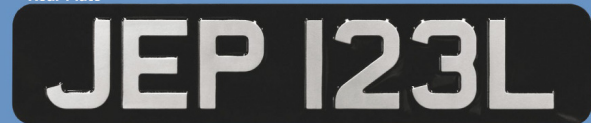
"It's nice to know that someone does a plate that fits the back of a Morris Minor. It's a lovely plate and the service was very prompt. I'm very pleased with the finished result"

John Jenkinson, Chairman  
Morris Minor Owners Club, Dorset Branch

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# Dorset Branch Newsletter



April 2013

Volume 16 Issue 6

**CLUBNIGHT ACTIVITY:**  
Talk on 'Crystal Palace'

MORRIS MINOR OWNERS CLUB


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## NEXT CLUBNIGHT

**Vote for Charity, Beaulieu Planning, Short Quiz (if time)**

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

Greetings all and welcome to the April Newsletter. We have contributions this month: thanks to the 'Daves' - Holton and Walker for their literary efforts. As Dave (H) explains, we took the trip to Brooklands on a freezing cold Sunday in March. Like David, we declined to drive a Minor all that way (over 80 miles each way). Still, it was a good day out and blew a few cob webs away.

The Spares Department is still doing very well, with transactions almost every day now. I am available most times for callers or if you are not that local and want me to order something for clubnight then let me know. Also, if you are a bit further afield and if you are coming to Beaulieu next month, I can get your parts for then if you like.

Looks like this year is shaping up to be an active one, it looks like we will get at least 200 entries for Beaulieu! It seems like the desire to get the Minors 'dusted off' and ready for the season is affecting many of you (judging by the demand for spares at the moment). Anyway, here's hoping the weather improves and spring arrives soon, Brian.

## Dilbert's Salary Theorem

The Engineers among us will appreciate this one. Ian Chivers highlighted this one on Face Book (what ever that is!) It proves conclusively that the less you know—the more money you can make. This theorem can now be proved mathematically:

Given:

- Power = Work / Time and,
- Knowledge is Power

Substituting knowledge for power, we obtain: Knowledge = Work/ Time

- If time = money, then: Knowledge = Work/ Money
- Solving this equation for money, we obtain:
- Money = Work/ Knowledge
- Therefore, as knowledge approaches zero, money approaches infinity, regardless of the amount of work done.

- **Conclusion: the less you know, the more money you make.**



which we had endured struck home when I came across the salt gritters in the centre lanes of both carriageways. There was no chance of getting past them and on the southbound carriageway there was a queue of about 2 miles behind them. The consequences of getting too close to them doesn't bear thinking about. It was at this stage I realised I had made the right decision to leave the Minors at home safely tucked up in the garage.

On a completely different note I have just read a very interesting article in one of my classic car magazines :-

Subject : *AROMAS YOU WILL NEVER FORGET* . It is a scientific fact that out of your 5 senses smell is the one that evokes the most memories. You can forget a face (recommended considering some of the people I know) ; what something tastes like ; a sound and the feel of an object. But *you will never forget a smell*.

This has been laboratory proven. The favourites are freshly cut grass, apple logs burning and creosote. They are marvellously relaxing and generally remind you of good times. I like all of these and also the whiff of WD40 and also GUNK - remember it ? That takes me back a bit - brush Gunk all over the engine and then wash it off with the hose then start the engine and stand back and savour the aroma as the engine warmed up and burnt off the excess.

The combination of wood and leather provides a memorable treat for your nose. Put it this way if you can sit in an old Jag and not feel some emotion you have no soul.

And now we come to my all time favourite sniff - cellulose - the addiction, for it is approaching that level, goes way back to when I was a mere lad. As soon as I was old enough to drive and get my hands on an old jalopy I began experimenting with minor body repairs and aerosols. I just loved the whiff from the paint.

Alas times sure have moved on, but I have enjoyed my winter's bodywork adventures with Rupert my van. Knowing he is safely protected from the dreaded rust, I just hope I can get him out and use him soon.

Well that's my two pennyworth, thanks again Brian and Jacky for making Brooklands a great day and to Brian for bringing the spares. See you all at Beaulieu.

Dave Holton : Silverstone Correspondent : D.M.M.O.C 272

P.S. Pam doesn't go to Brooklands as they don't allow dogs in , so she stays at home dog minding.

## Brooklands Austin/Morris Day –10th March 2013



As ever I was very much looking forward to the annual Austin/Morris day at Brooklands. Rupert, my van, hasn't been out at all this winter. He has been my main project body wise and I have undertaken a paint job on him. Molly, our traveller, went out to a Classic Car event on New Year's Day when we had a lovely day with wall to wall sunshine. But really I don't like to get them involved with salty roads and the numerous potholes that have erupted in our part of the world.

Anyway plans were running to schedule the week before Brooklands when the weather took a turn for the worst - heavy rain - then rain and fog - and then the forecast for Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March announced bitterly cold winds with snow for Northamptonshire (more salty roads) but dry south of London so the decision was made that modern transport was to be the order for the day.

As I made my way south towards Surrey, just past Oxford the conditions improved vastly and I started to think I should be in a Morris ! Alas on arrival it was clear to see the number of cars on display would be down compared to other years.

Very soon I met up with Brian and Jacky who had kindly brought some spares for me. We had a very good day looking at B.M.C.'s finest tinwear. As I said earlier the numbers were down but there was still a good turn out with several really exceptional examples including a really mint Mini Metro and lots of Minis. One being a 1959 model which if you believe the press would be worth a lot of dough. There were Minors of all descriptions and one really nice Marina, also a very tidy 1800.

On the Saturday Brooklands Historics had an auction of Classics and Sports Cars, quite a few of which were still there making for interesting viewing for us - Sports cars, Rolls Royce, Jags, a VW Campervan and some American tinwear. Whether these had been sold or not we didn't find out.

We had a very good tour of the new London Bus Museum and also this year we found out how the Concorde got to Brooklands ! Answer - on the back of 10 low loaders !

A lovely day out and then time to head for home. On the M40 the true reality of the bitter cold day



## Editor's In Box



As you may know we have a 1954 convertible. When it was put away last year it was not running well and seem to drop down to a couple of cylinders. This only happened when I was putting the car away so I put it down to it having a sulk. As it is needed for the Film I dragged it out last weekend. It started first pull and I left it ticking over for about 15 minutes. When I tried to take it up the road it cut out after dropping down progressively to three, then two, then one cylinder. It would not restart. Jackie towed it back to the garage. Over the 40 years that we have been together she has become very proficient at this. I put the car away, leaving the battery on charge. Next day it started fine and I left it ticking over for about 15 minutes. It did stall, I managed to re-start it but with some difficulty and it wasn't happy. The car has a 948cc engine re-built less than 10k miles ago, compressions are good. It has a lumination ignition that has covered over 70k miles. It has a "blue" Beru coil which is about 2 years old. Distributor cap, plugs, rotor and leads are all about two years old and looked in good condition. It was last refueled in August of last year. The carb. was reconditioned about 5k miles ago and the dashpot had oil in it. So what was the problem?

I started with the rotor which was unmarked as to manufacturer. I replaced it with a red rotor supplied by the 'Distributor Doctor'. Result: perfect, a ten mile run didn't cause any problems. I would not have thought that this type of fault could be down to the rotor and only changed it because 1) it was of unknown origin, 2) was easy to change and 3) I had to start somewhere. Careful inspection of the rotor does not give any clues apart from a slight "burning" of the brass contact, certainly not something that I would have thought would cause a problem. Hope that this helps someone.

Regards, Dave Walker (DMMOC 46)

***Editor's Note: Rotors do have a habit of 'dying quietly' for no apparent reason. I think it is due to tiny cracks which allow the HT to 'escape' down inside the distributor. I have consulted the Branch Spares Manager on this one, he tells me that the club stocks 3 different rotors, (1) the black 'Lucas' rotors @ £2 each, (2) the red Accuspark ones at £4 each and (3) Distributor Doctor ones at £7.20 a pop. The black ones seem to be 'persona non-grata' at present! (2) & (3) seem to be most popular. Some members have reported trouble with the rivet falling out of the black ones so these are recommended for keeping as a spare only in the glove box in case of emergency. (We have plenty—surprise surprise!)***

## Secretary's Report

Good evening and welcome to the April clubnight. Many thanks to everyone who brought along items of Morris memorabilia last month. There were some very interesting items on display which we hope to use as part of our display at Beaulieu next month.

Talking of Beaulieu, plans are now more or less finalised for the weekend. The closing date for receipt of your entry has now passed but if any of you would like to enter and haven't as yet we have decided to accept last minute entries **tonight only**. After tonight it will be too late as we will then have to start collating all the vehicles into year order and numbering them all. We will be having our final meeting with the events team at Beaulieu this month before the actual Centenary event to finalise all the details. All we have to do now is pray for dry weather and hope that everything goes according to plan.

This month, of course, is the Devon weekend. I hope many of you who are coming will be coming down in your Minor or another classic vehicle. Don't forget that Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April is Drive It Day and as that coincides with the Devon Weekend it is an excellent opportunity to show off the Minors.

We have now decided on the dates for the Aubrey Batt Memorial Run, the Midsummer Saunter and the 3 In 1 Run. Have a look at the events diary for the dates and make sure you make a note of them on your calendars.

With everything else that is going on this year it would be very easy to forget the branch rally in July. We mustn't as this is a very important part of our year. Des will be issuing the rally entry forms with your newsletter this month so could I please ask that you return them to me as soon as you can. If anybody knows of anyone who would like a stall at the rally please take a trade stand entry form and pass it on to them. Trade stands are only £10 each and it is always good to have a variety of stalls.

If you are going to the National Rally please can I ask that you let me know? I want to know numbers in order that Phil knows how many cars we will to decorate for our theme of "Nuffield Exports" on the branch stand.

I have received an initial supply of the Centenary grill badges and very nice they are too. They are available from me for £11 so please see me at clubnight if you would like to purchase one.

Hopefully we will soon be seeing the end of this very long winter and be able to get out and about in the Minors.

That's all from me for time, if you're coming to Devon see you there.  
Happy Minoring, Laurie.



## Beaulieu News

Grill badges are now available from Laurie for £11 each (they look like the logo—left).



On the subject of Beaulieu next Spring, you may know that we are planning a display of Morris cars, Morris motoring memorabilia and collectable items in the main marquee. If you have anything interesting, that you would be prepared to loan for the weekend, we would be pleased to talk to you. Also, don't forget that the official invites are now being issued and you will only get one if you have expressed an interest by filling in one of the application slips. **Entries will close on March 31st 2013.**



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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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## For Sale & Wanted & Club Notices

Hi Brian, you may remember I was a member for a short time a couple of years ago. I had at the time a 1967 Traveller which I had intended to restore. Since then I have been occupied with the restoration of a MG midget (1970) which is only just coming to an end. I have decided that the traveller is too far gone for me to bring back to life so I am going to dispose of it. If any member is interested in any parts perhaps they could get in with me by e-mail to [laurence@5pines.co.uk](mailto:laurence@5pines.co.uk)

There is a worthwhile 1098 engine and gearbox. I drove the car back from near Warwick without any problems though there are no guarantees!! Many other parts are available but not in particularly good condition. Most parts I would be glad to get rid of but I would like some remuneration for the engine and gearbox.  
Hoping things are well with the club,  
Regards, Laurence Pine (Ringwood)

## Aubrey Batt Run

*This year we are having a road run to MAPPERTON GARDENS which is near Bridport. We will be meeting at UPTON PARK at 10:00 for briefing and a 10:30 departure. There is an entry slip with this newsletter—please get your slips back to Jacky with £3.00 per car. Thank you.*

Just to give you an update. I received a phone call today saying that they wanted to do more filming today. I was there from 13:00 to about 17:30. The weather was dreadful at first but eased later on in the day. They need me (well 'Packie' really) one more time for the road shots. The paid actors were only contracted until 17:00 today so they ran out of time (and usable light). I will give them some date suggestions and will let you know when all is signed off.

No complaints, so the honour of Dorset Branch remains intact (so far).  
Regards, Dave Walker



## Chairman's Report

Good evening and welcome to April's clubnight. It was sad to see the club van at the side of the road with the wheel in the road. But the good news is that it is back on the road again. If any of the members would like to go to the Lord Mayor's show this year, please let me know as I have only 5 rooms left now (see below). Laurie is still receiving Beaulieu Rally entries for the Centenary Event at Beaulieu. The Branch Rally this year is looking good with a Saturday night dinner, stalls and raffle prizes coming in. Please get your entry forms to Laurie—more news next month. I hope all of the member that are going on the weekend break to Sidmouth have an enjoyable time and I hope the weather turns warmer. The committee are pleased with the turnout of members at clubnight—especially as the weather had been so cold. Thanks for your continuing support. We are still looking for a Transit sized van for the Beaulieu weekend—so if you can help please let one of us know. Also the Branch is still looking for a show to attend on the August Bank holiday weekend. For July's clubnight I have arranged a run to 'Molly's Den'. More details on this event next month. Does anyone have any contacts in the media who would be prepared to take some film of the Beaulieu event since it is a one-off. Finally, I would like to thank Brian for supplying parts for everyone who is preparing their cars for the forthcoming rally season. That's all for now, Good Motoring, John.



## Lord Mayor's Show 2013



We are arranging a trip to London this Autumn to see the Lord Mayor's Show. Entry slips are available from John. If you would like to come along, please let us know as soon as possible as places are strictly limited. The date for your diary is **8-10th November 2013**.

## National Rally 15-16 June 2013 (by Phil Traves)

The Dorset Branch is having a display on Branch Avenue this year. We are planning to decorate each car as "Export models". The Morris Minor was exported to many countries around the world, mainly in the Empire. In 1950 it was easier to buy a Morris Minor in Australia than here, as the slogan said "Export or die!"



### MORRIS MINOR EXPORT LIST

	% exported	
AUSTRALIA		
SOUTH AFRICA		
IRELAND		
NEW ZEALAND		
HOLLAND		
INDIA		
USA		
CANADA		
SWEDEN		
DENMARK		
CYPRUS		
GERMANY		
SCOTLAND		
WALES		
JERSEY		Brian Wood
CEYLON/SRI LANKA		Phil Traves

I am planning to dress up MBO145 as a car from Ceylon, I have lots of garlands and a tea chest to put on the roof.

We will do our best to give each car a "Period" look, but really this is a bit of fun, so I am asking all the members to think about any items they have which represent these different countries.

Dave Walker has offered to lend some number plates from different countries and some "Magic" removable stuff to easily attach and remove them. We need a kangaroo, any flags, Americana, any props you have.

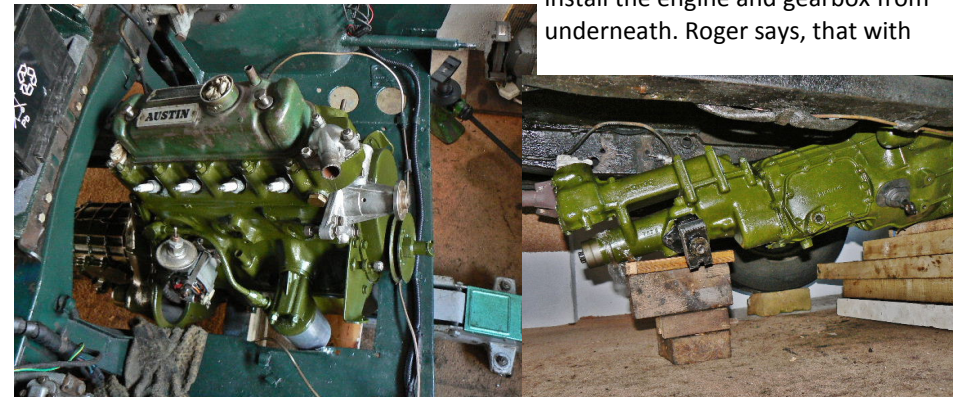
If you are planning to attend the national, and would like to join in, please get in touch, you can choose a country from the above list and we can go from there! Looking forward to hearing from you!



## What's the Difference between a Minor & a Beetle?

OK, so there are quite a lot of differences between them, but they have a lot in common. (1) about the same size, (2) about as fast as each other (3) arguably they rust at about the same rate. One of the bigger technical differences, however, is the method of extracting the engine and gearbox. The VW engine and gearbox has to be fitted from underneath (and at the back!)—whereas, the Minor engine and box is, as everyone knows, is fitted from above—being dropped into the capacious engine bay with the benefit of an engine crane. Or is it?.....

If your name is Roger Blakeley and you like a challenge, then it is entirely possible to install the engine and gearbox from underneath. Roger says, that with



the marvellous benefit of hindsight, he would have left off the cylinder head to get a reasonable clearance under the front crossmember when dragging the assembly into position under the car (supported on large axle stands, of course). Also the absence of the front pulley and the heater tap would have helped when raising it into position. You'll be OK next time then! (*Editor*)

I am pleased to invite you to take part in the annual INTER CLUB QUIZ on WEDNESDAY 17th APRIL at the HAMWORTHY CLUB, Magna Road, Canford Magna starting at 8pm. One or two teams of 6 people from each club would be ideal and hopefully we can look forward to an enjoyable evening. It would be most helpful if you could confirm your attendance and how many teams you would like to enter at your earliest convenience via my email. (brianwhiteside@uwclub.net) Kind regards Brian Whiteside Hon. Sec. DHMC