



### Rear View

Whilst browsing the Christmas goodies in 'The Range' shop recently, I stumbled upon Dave Walker's saloon (normally referred to as 'Satan' by virtue of its' 666 number). It was on the front cover of this 2013 calendar and also featured on the month of March.

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# Dorset Branch

## NEWSLETTER

MORRIS MINOR OWNERS CLUB



December 2012  
 Volume 16  
 Issue 2

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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 (07856 918136)

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

(brian@dorsetmmoc.co.uk)

*Chairman:* John Jenkinson (01202 576690)

Non Committee posts:

*Secretary:* Laurie Blewer (01202 522673,  
07947 525884)

*Raffle Coordinators:* Chris Tilly and Val  
Palmer

*Treasurer:* Jacky Wood (01202 573501).

*Spares Manager:* Brian Wood (07411  
116336)

*Membership Secretary –* Des Waller (01202  
573403)

*Regalia Manager:* Richard Cyster – (01202  
526660)

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

*Catering Executives:* -Sue Blewer, Lyn Gerry

*New Member:* Brian Ford

*New Member:* Eddie Pateman

### FRONT COVER

Hope you like the seasonal view of my Traveller, taken a couple of years ago (actually 2nd Dec 2010) 'Brrr!'. Rest assured that it was safely tucked up in its garage before and after the photo 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](http://www.dorsetmmoc.co.uk))

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

**2012**

5th December—CLUBNIGHT(Noggin and Natter)  
30th December—Mistletoe Meander 10:30 at the Southern Electric Club

**2013**

2nd January—CLUBNIGHT—Quiz  
6th February —CLUBNIGHT—Blind Auction  
19th Jan—Annual Dinner and Dance—Liston Hotel, Boscombe  
6th March—CLUBNIGHT— Morris Memorabilia Evening (Bring your period Morris 'stuff')  
3rd April—CLUBNIGHT—Talk on Crystal Palace  
14th April TOY Club 'Drive it Day' Run (Carle 01305 771760)  
19/20/21 April—Spring Weekend Holiday, Sidmouth  
1st May—CLUBNIGHT - Mystery Object Quiz  
18th-19th May Beaulieu Spring Autojumble (MORRIS CENTENARY EVENT)  
2nd June—TOY Hardy Country Classic Tour (Nick 01305 260038)  
5th June - CLUBNIGHT—Phil Traves' Antiques Evening  
30th June—TOY Annual Show/Fun Day Chickerell—Free (Carle 01305771760 or Nick 01305 260038)  
12-14th July—DORSET BRANCH RALLY  
7th August—CLUBNIGHT—Talk by Reverend Timbrell  
6th November—Call My Bluff type quiz  
22nd December—TOY Xmas Vehicle Meet, Sun Inn, Lower Burton 12:00 (Nick 01305 260038)

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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



December 2012

Volume 16 Issue 2

**CLUBNIGHT ACTIVITY:**

'Noggin and Natter'

**MORRIS MINOR OWNERS CLUB**

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**NEXT CLUBNIGHT ACTIVITY:**

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.

[www.morriswoodwork.co.uk](http://www.morriswoodwork.co.uk)  
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(Proprietor, Steve Foreman)  
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\*At Woodies we specialise in the Morris Traveller but we can fabricate timber frames for all classic cars. We have completed many Morris Travellers over 30 years, as well as many other wood framed vehicles.\*

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## Editorial

Hello and welcome to the last newsletter of 2012 and may I be the first to wish you all a Happy Christmas and Prosperous new year. Ray Newell has written a new book called Morris Minor Traveller The Complete Companion in honour of the 60th Anniversary of the old wooden moggie. There are some shots of our Branch cars in the book; Ron Tickner's 948, and Phil Traves' and my Series II. Ray is sending us a few copies for sale at a (hopefully) favourable price at the clubnight in December. (Worth buying just to see our cars alone!) Did anyone watch the Channel 5 series on TV called Classic Car Rescue recently? I'd be interested to know what you thought of it. Personally, I thought that it was a comedy show. It gave the impression that the producer had never been near a real car restoration and the presenters were a couple of 'geezer' with only an apparently scant knowledge of what they were doing. The workshop staff clearly had some talent and seemed to do a fair job with what they were given. But very little can have been done properly in the time allowed. However, the costings quoted for the 'restorations' gave a very misleading impression of the true costs and particularly the time required. No account appeared to have been taken of labour costs. The valuer must have lost his white stick—particularly for the badly painted E Type which was at least 50% over valued. Almost every week, they seemed to buy something and then try to make it into a more desirable model—which was a bit questionable to say the least. The Porsche 911 episode made my toes curl. They bought a thrashed early model and then tried to make it look newer by bolting an eighties 'whale tail' on the back. I wouldn't let them fix up my lawnmower! Let me finish with a quote from the web based 'PistonHeads' site: *Cockney*



Restoration of a Pick Up at NEC show in November by Practical Classics team



*Blake: "Well we finished the car in 8 hours at a total cost of £800. Now some top geeza from Bonhams is comin' ovah to value it."*

<<END OF RANT>>.

Thanks to Roger Kellow for forwarding the Pam Ayres poem (WARNING: This poem may contain a sad ending!).

Thanks to Dave Holton, (our Midlands Correspondent) for his write up about the NEC show this year.

## For Sale & Wanted & Club Notices

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

**John Merritt** *Welding Service*  
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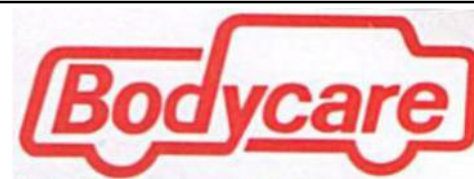
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The Branch Website has a '**Spares Shop**' which advertises (mostly) spares. Why not browse the bargains or send me an ad or two with a picture.

**Wanted!!** Good 1098 rear axle.  
Roger Blakeley 07932700396 or  
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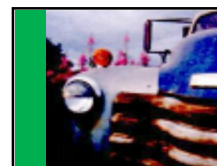
UNIT 5, BROOK PARK, 27 BROOK ROAD,  
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## DMMOC Dinner & Dance (by Neville Gerry)

Don't forget the Dinner and Dance which has been organised for Saturday January 19th 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) AND **forms on the website.**

## Footman James Classic Car Show (by Dave Holton)

BIRMINGHAM : 16-18 NOV 2012. I have just returned from my annual pilgrimage to the Classic Car Show. It was bigger and better than ever this year (at least no problems with rain or mud as with other events this season! I arrived nice and early and queued to get in for the 9am start and within 5 minutes of being in one of the halls I feasted my eyes on something REALLY INTERESTING - to me anyway. There was the Austin Loadstar lorry that was used as the ultimate get away vehicle to carry the cash stolen from the iconic Great Train Robbery which took place on August 8th 1963. (All this not far from where I live). The Austin was fitted with a secret compartment between the chassis rails to carry 3 tons of mail bags containing around 3 million pounds - a sum equivalent to 45-50 million today. It was bought by the robbers from a war department sale and still in khaki was escorted by 2 Land Rovers, also in khaki, from the robbery site to the hide out where the cash was counted. The robbers believed that an army convoy would be unlikely to be stopped by the police. The bulk of the money was never recovered and guess what a Morris Minor van was used to transfer some of the dosh after the count up. The Austin lorry was confiscated by Scotland Yard and eventually sold. I wonder if the Morris Minor van is still around - what a tale it could tell. This year's show spanned 11 halls with an estimated 1500 cars and let's not forget the 350 motorcycles on display ranging from the rare and exciting to the pre war and retro classics, family saloons to super cars and many, many more. And so many trade stands to enjoy. Both M.M.O.C and the Minor L.C.V. register had vehicles on display attracting lots of attention. And a really big plus this year was the chance to watch the attempt to partially restore a Minor pickup over the 3 days by the Practical Classics Magazine crew. This was on the Wheeler Dealer Live stage. By 11 o'clock on the Saturday morning they had fitted the back body to the chassis. Prior to the show the truck had been painted and the brakes all fixed. John Simpson then spent the rest of Saturday rebuilding the engine with most of the parts supplied by East Sussex Minors. He hoped to have it installed and running by Saturday evening. Once it's completed it will be Practical Classics Magazine's work hack. Due to the sheer volume of people at the show it was virtually impossible to take photos but I did manage one. I guess that shows just how popular our hobby is.

Whilst visiting the M.M.O.C. display I did manage to get my paws on the new Traveller book by Ray Newell. Pam has ordered me a copy so that will keep me occupied over Christmas. I also managed to pick up a few bits and bobs from the autojumble.

One has to say that the annual pilgrimage to this show is a must - there's nothing like it and it's not to be missed. Having said that, it is not for the faint hearted as the size of the show and the Saturday crowds are a bit daunting. I think next year I may try and attend on the Friday, it's a bit more expensive but perhaps the crowds may just be a little smaller.

Well that's my Morris Minor adventures over for 2012. Let's hope for some sunshine and dry conditions for 2013. My next outing will be the Austin Morris day at Brooklands on March 10th 2013. Happy Minor to you all. Dave Holton, Silverstone Correspondent for the MMOC Dorset Branch (Membership no 272)

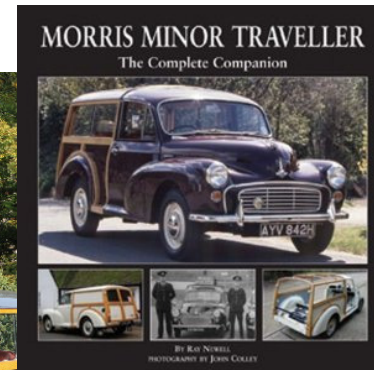
## Editor's In Box



We will be on the look out for some assistance with the marshalling and behind the scenes work at the 2013 Beaulieu Centenary Event. If you are planning to attend and would like to help out, please let Laurie know. We will need a decent number of volunteers and then we can organise the work load so that no-one has to spend too long holding a clipboard. There will be quite a lot of work involved in getting everyone parked in the correct spot. Also we would like to have someone 'on-duty' at all times in the marquee to keep an eye on the exhibits. The duties will be sorted out in due course, but we would appreciate some indication from you as to numbers available. Thanks.

Also 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.

Those of you who are coming to the Annual Dinner and Dance event in January are requested to dig deep and bring a raffle prize or two. Thanks very much.



We are hoping to have a few copies of Ray Newell's new book at our clubnight. (Ron's Traveller (left) is featured!!!)

## Secretary's Report

Good evening and welcome to the December Christmas noggin and natter. I won't be there this evening as I only had my hernia operation yesterday and I'll be under "house arrest"!!! I hope you all enjoyed last month's talk about Poole Bay by Kevin – it was very interesting and very informative.

As you will see in the events diary the March meeting will be a Morris memorabilia evening. If you have interesting "period" items we'd love to see them. As you know I have loads of stuff to bring but we'd love to see yours as well. We may want to borrow anything you bring along to display at the Beaulieu event in May.

Don't forget to get your booking slips in for the dinner and dance as soon as you can. If you were lucky enough to have won a trophy at last year's dinner please can you return them to me as soon as possible so that I have time to get the engraving done.

There are still places available for the Devon weekend so if you haven't been before and think that you might like to come talk to one of us and ask us for details.

Please get your booking slips in for the Mistletoe Meander ASAP to give us time to work out numbers for catering etc.

We went along to Beaulieu on remembrance Sunday for a photoshoot for the Morris Centenary. Eight cars covering most of the production run were gathered together. The 1925 Bullnose Cowley that I managed to get to come along was a completely unrestored vehicle. It was delightfully scruffy with a fantastic patina about it. The people coming along for the Smart car rally were really pleased to see us that day as, of course, the Morris's were far more interesting!

Well, that's about all from me for this month so Merry Christmas to you all and

Happy Minoring

Laurie.



### 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.*  
**Brian. 07411 116336**

### DORSET BRANCH SPARES NEWS

**This month's new line is  
re-conditioned  
carburettors...**

We can now offer reconditioned carburettors on an exchange basis. If your Minor runs badly and you have sorted out all the electrical components, the carburettor



may be past its best performance. They tend to wear away quietly hiding under the air filter. We now have a stock of reconditioned, HS2's with or without the breather. These are usually between £120 and £140 with a hefty surcharge on the old unit plus p & p. They are available from us for a mere **£95** each (exchange). They have been stripped and carefully bead blasted with glass media. They all have a new float needle and seat and throttle spindle. Plus, they have re-plated levers and are fitted with new choke and accelerator pinch bolts and supplied with new gaskets. New jets are fitted and needles to suit 1098 and late 948.(If you need an early model, please speak to Brian).



Don't forget the exclusive-to-Dorset MMOC Alternator /ignition coil bracket. If you have dispensed with your dynamo and fitted an alternator, this bracket is a straight replacement for the rear bracket which bolts to the engine block. It has a neat, built-in bracket to mount the coil upon. These are now exclusively available to Branch members at only **£12.00** each.

## 'Goodbye Worn Out Morris 1000'

(by PAM AYRES— said to be inspired from a Morris Minor being her own first car)

'Goodbye worn out Morris 1000'  
(A Poem by PAM AYRES)



*Oh love you got no poke left  
I didn't want to say  
It seems we are outmoded  
Much too slow and in the way*

*You know how much I love you  
I'd repair you in a flash  
But I haven't got the knowledge  
And haven't got the cash*

*There is rust around your headlamps  
I could push through if I tried  
My pot of paint wont cure it  
'Cause its from the other side*

*All along your sides and middle  
Your turning rusty brown  
Though you took me ninety thousand miles  
And never let me down*

*Not the snapping of a fan belt  
Nor the blowing of a tyre  
Nor the rattling of a tappet  
And nor did you misfire*

*All your wheels stayed on the corners  
And your wipers on the screen  
Though I didn't do much for you  
And never kept you clean*

*All your seats are un-upholstered  
And foam rubber specks the floor  
You were hit by something else once  
And I cannot shut the door*

*But its not those things that grieves me  
Or the money that I spent  
For you were my, First driven  
Ninety thousand miles we went*

*I could buy a bright and new car  
And go tearing round the town  
A BGT! A Morgan!  
(With the hood battened down)*

*But as I leave you in the scrapyard  
Bangers piled up to the sky  
Why do your rusty headlamps  
Look like sad, reproachful eyes ?*

(I am sure that other members would agree a good reason we belong to the MM (Dorset)OC so that we could never imagine the thought of being in this sad scenario ourselves !!)

Roger Kellow

## Chairman's Report

Good evening and welcome to December club-night. Next year we are going to have a Morris regalia and memorabilia clubnight evening, so if you have any items 'Morris' we would like to see them. Things such as badges, records, beer-mats, in fact anything with 'Morris' on. This will be on the March clubnight which is the 6th March. The names are coming in fast for the dinner and dance on 19 January 2013 at the Liston Hotel which is a family run business. Don't forget you can stay for the night at the special price of £20 per person for bed and breakfast. Also please get your slips in for the Mistletoe Meander run which is on 30th December and starts from the Southern Electric Club from 10:30am.

I am looking at some holiday ideas for next year—2013 so when I find a good one I will let you all know. The Lord Mayor's Show is still a possibility.

At the next clubnight, there will be a notice on the club notice board seeking help from Branch members for assistance at the Beaulieu Centenary Event next year (18-19th May). If you are attending the event with your Morris—you will, of course be getting free entry for the weekend event. We will be looking for volunteers to help with the marshalling, security and other duties.

Neville, Laurie, Dave and myself went to Beaulieu for a photo-shoot on Sunday 11th November. We were lucky with the weather (see centre page). Also, we managed to get a good selection of Morris's. I would like to thank all the owners who attended for their support.

Richard has bought some Christmas Gifts for members to look at and also we still need some raffle prizes for the Dinner and Dance raffle. That's all for now, have a good Christmas and New Year.

John and Ann.



## Morris Centenary—Beaulieu 2013



I am sure it won't have escaped your attention, but next year is the Centenary of the first year of production of Morris Cars. To celebrate this milestone, the MMOC is coordinating various events throughout the year at different locations. The national rally is to be an 'international' event on 15-16th June at Cornbury Park home of Lord and Lady Rotherwick, which is situated just outside Oxford. Provision will be made for all Morris related Clubs to be represented and for the largest assembly of Morris vehicles in decades to be prominently displayed, with support from many Morris specialists and other traders. It will be the ideal opportunity to buy and sell any Morris / Nuffield / BMC vehicle spares, automobilia and motoring memorabilia.

*However*, the 'biggy' as far as our branch is concerned is the Beaulieu Spring Autojumble on 18-19th May.

The 2013 Beaulieu event will run along the same lines as the Morris Minor 60th anniversary event did back in 2008 but with a LOT

more vehicles. We are hoping to have at least 200 vehicles in attendance covering the entire spectrum of Morris vehicles. As before the vehicles will be parked up in year order with a plaque in front of each one with its details on. There will be a display of 4 cars in the marquee along with a display of pictures etc. on the history of Morris. Each vehicle will also be listed in the main autojumble programme along with an article on the history of Morris. Anyone interested in participating is requested to complete a form to register their interest in the event in order that an official invite can be sent to them from Lord Montague. Each vehicle displayed will receive a free commemorative gift along with 2 free passes for the weekend. There will also be camping available on site. Forms are available from [www.dorsetmmoc.co.uk](http://www.dorsetmmoc.co.uk) (but you knew that already!)