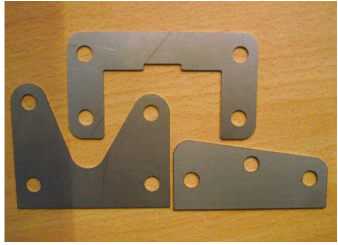


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(If you don't know how many you will need, buy some of each and return the ones you don't need.)

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(as seen in Minor Matters)



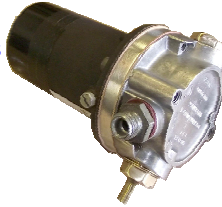
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New Morris Minor Spares

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

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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)

Tax Disc Holders	£ 1.00	Caps	£ 12.00
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Small Cars	£ 1.50	Morris Minor Hangers (lge)	£ 15.00
'Zoodies'	£20.00	Morris Minor Hangers (small)	£ 9.00
Waterproof Jackets	£ 15.00	Grille Badges	£8.50



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MORRIS MINOR OWNERS CLUB

Dorset Branch

NEWSLETTER



May 2014
Volume 17
Issue 6

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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 2013-2014

(01425 476634)

Newsletter / Website Editor: Brian Wood

(01202 573501)

(brian@dorsetmmoc.co.uk)

President: Graham Jarvis (07914 637429)

Chairman: John Jenkinson (01202 576690)

Secretary: Laurie Blewer (01202 522673,

07947 525884)

Non Committee posts:

Raffle Coordinators: Chris Tilly and Margaret

Pateman

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)

Product Development Mgr: Brian Ford

Catering Executives: -Sue Blewer, Lyn Gerry

Welfare/Technical Adviser: Eddie Pateman

FRONT COVER

Andy and Julie Wescott's Traveller photographed as one of the 2014 Sidmouth attendees on 'Drive it Day'

***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)

2014

5th May—Beaulieu Motor Museum—World record attempt –Models
7th May—Clubnight— Phil Traves' Antiques Evening
11th May—Aubrey Batt Run (via Breamore Steam Up)
17-18th May—Beaulieu Spring Autojumble
26 May—Bournemouth Wheels Festival. Club Stand
25th May—CCOTP at Highcliffe Castle
1st June—West Sussex Branch Rally (Weald & Downland Museum)
4th June—Clubnight—'African Queen' Talk by Kevin Patience
15th June—N.Wilts MMOC Rally—Atwell Wilson Motor Museum, Calne
15th June—Hants MMOC Rally, Bursledon Brickworks
2nd July Clubnight—Road Run (Details TBA)
28th June Ferndown Fete King George V Playing field
28-29th June— MMOC National Rally, Kelmarsh Hall
5-6th July Bath Pageant of Motoring.
11-13th July Dorset Branch Rally
20th July Classic Motoring Extravaganza— Breamore House
3rd August—Lymington Lions Show, Pennington
6th August—Clubnight—Gardening Competition
8-10 August—Holiday weekend—Littlecote House.
8-10 August—Purbeck Rally
17 August—Mid Summer Saunter (Wolvercroft Gdn Centre))
25th August—Brockenhurst Carnival and Fete, Brockenhurst College.
30th August— Hordle Fete
31st August—IOW Branch Rally
3rd September—Skittles v 2CV Club
1st October—Clubnight AGM
5th November—Clubnight—Rev Stewart Timbrell
3rd December—Clubnight 'Noggin and Natter'
10th January 2015—Dinner Dance—Liston Hotel

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

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.

HOLIDAY WEEKEND—WARNERS, LITTLECOTE HOUSE, BERKS:

John is arranging a weekend break at a Warners Hotel at Littlecote House for the 8,9,10 August. There will be a fifties theme over the weekend and it is proposed to attend a classic rally in Newbury on the Saturday. Not much time left to book now!

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

AUBREY BATT RUN SUNDAY 11TH MAY:

We are meeting at the Avon Heath Country Park for breakfast (optional) to leave at **10:00** to drive to BREAMORE for the Steam Up meeting. Please return you slip tonight if you want to joint us.

GARDENING COMPETITION:

We are hoping to put on a Flower & Vegetable competition for the August clubnight later in the year. So if you have 'green fingers' have a look at page 13 of the February newsletter, where there are more details.

Dorset Branch Newsletter

May 2014

MORRIS MINOR OWNERS CLUB

Volume 17 Issue 6



CLUBNIGHT ACTIVITY:
Phil Traves' Antiques Evening

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NEXT CLUBNIGHT **Wed June 4th** Talk by Kevin Patience "The African Queen"

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

As I put the finishing touches to this Newsletter, we have just arrived home from another enjoyable Sidmouth excursion and dried out! Hopefully everyone else had a good weekend too. (See p. 9)

No sooner was the ink dry on last month's newsletter and carrying the news of the sale of my 2 door when, there I was buying another! I am now back up to 4 Minors again, with a white '57 Convertible added to the collection. This one is a two previous owner car which was restored then stored for a considerable period by the owner who passed away about 18 months ago. As you know, storing a Minor (or any car for that matter) doesn't do it any favours, so there was quite a bit of recommissioning to do—mainly involving the brakes. We got it started with some fresh petrol and a charged battery. The brakes were partially seized and it didn't want to move from its resting place in the garage where it had sat since 2008. The drive home was a bit hairy to say the least! Laurie was bringing up the rear and we caused about a half mile tail back along Alder Road when the petrol pump failed at Herbert Avenue traffic lights. Laurie took most of the 'flak' for that from irritated motorists. (Sorry mate!). The seized brakes made pushing it an interesting experience. We eventually made it back home safely, but with a boiled radiator. Anyway, I have now replaced the brake pipes and cylinders and changed to Silicon fluid—so the brakes work well now. I have also replaced battery, hoses, water pump, fan belt, distributor and carburettor and treated it to a full service. It also has a new windscreen rubber since the old one was perished. Thanks to Mark from 'Topmark' for his fine job on the replacement. The plan is to use it when the weather is good this summer pending the completion of the green convertible. Work on that is progressing with most of the chassis repairs now completed. I am hoping to get it off the roller shortly so the upper body can be sorted ready for spraying. (Optimism is a wonderful thing!)



I was contacted by the researchers for the BBC TV programme, "The One Show" a few weeks ago regarding some production questions about Morris Minors. They are running an occasional series about re-uniting famous people with their old cars. On Easter Monday, they 'did' Anne Widemore and her dad's (don't think it was the actual one) black Austin A35. There was a brief comedy moment when Anne asked Christine Walkden (presenter, who was driving the car) during the rainy trip "Can you actually see where you're going?" A Morris Minor based piece is being planned for Thursday 22nd May which, I understand, features a 1965 Trafalgar blue 2 door. The identity of the celebrity is, however, still unknown.



Picture from BBC tv i-player

Hope to see some of you at Beaulieu.

Brian.



For Sale & Wanted & Club Notices



FOR SALE: 1939 Morris EIGHT Series E, Two seat tourer in very good condition. Original Reg, MOT (only such model known to Morris Register) Heritage certificate. Recent re-upholstered interior and hood. £12,995 ono. Nev Gerry 01202 747687

FOR SALE: Set of 5 cross ply (Kelly Springfield) 5.20 x 14 restored Minor 1000 wheels and tyres. Not new (obviously!) but excellent condition, hardly used (not perished). Spare has not been used. £120 the set, Brian 07411 116336



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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."

For Sale & Wanted & Club Notices

Please mention where you saw the ad when you respond, thanks

FOR SALE: Pair of genuine original 10" Mini wheels and tyres. Excellent condition, ideal for trailer. Bargain at £20, the pair. Roy Gale 01202 697044

FOR SALE: Must downsize fleet! 1967 4 door saloon in Almond Green. Just fitted all new front brake cylinders and shoes. New rear springs and stainless exhaust fitted 2013. Out and out genuine daily runabout. MOT to August 2014. Bargain at £1,750. Roy Gale, 01202 697044. (Broadstone)



FOR DISPOSAL: Late Traveller. Needs full upper body rebuild but floor etc is reasonably sound. **FREE TO A GOOD HOME.** (Buyer Collects!) Contact Gordon Chinniah 01305 260844 (Dorchester)

FOR SALE: Up for sale is my Morris 1000 registered on 18th January 1958. It is MOT exempt and has the added bonus of Historical Vehicle Tax (£00.00). Two door model with the usual rust bubbles on the bottom of the doors. The rear wings have been replaced at some point and only ever matched in with a spray can. The headlining could be replaced if you are nit picking! A recent overhaul on the braking system including new front drums, new cylinders, shoes, remove brake master cylinder and flush system through. This little car is never going to win any shows but with its 948cc "A" series engine it will get you from A to B with ease. I will even throw in the wooden clothes pegs for the choke control!!! A good first time cheap classic car or for full restoration £1,750 O.N.O. (more photos on website) Ashley Miller 07885 792711

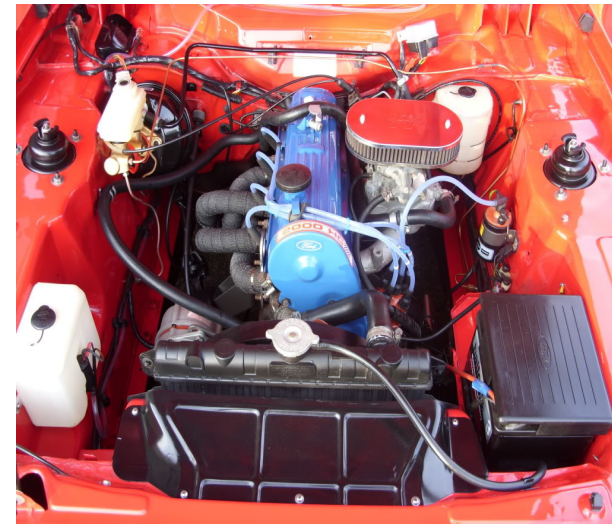


Please let me know if you no longer wish your ad to be included in the newsletter/website. *Editor.*

Editor's In-Box



Hello Brian, As some of you know we have a 1981 Cortina Mk5 Estate. It has a 2 litre Pinto O.H.C. engine on which the oil is topped up from a plastic filler on the top similar to a Minor. When the cap falls off on a Minor it either rattles (metal one on a piece of wire) or sits alongside the rocker cover silently (plastic one) waiting for you to open the bonnet to see where the drips of oil are coming from. Fords have a great idea. When the cap falls off, as there is nothing to restrain it, it falls onto the exhaust manifold. There, as an alarm signal it burns giving the driver a sporting chance of knowing that something is amiss fairly early on. Due to the construction of said item it produces a black acrid smoke and due to the design of the bonnet and front panel it emerges from the radiator grille. All that it required is a visit to your local Ford Dealer for a replacement, after a wait for the engine to cool down to remove the cremated remains of course. Do you reckon that this could be one of the accountants plans behind Ford making a profit at that time and Morris.....(you can fill in the rest!) Regards, Dave Walker



Not Dave's Cortina! (but perhaps that's why the owner of this one lagged the manifold?)

Tonight I spoke to Brian Wood re potential advice on the purchase of a Morris Minor Traveller.

I would seriously appreciate it if you would be able to let me know if a Morris Minor Traveller came up for sale in your local club that is in decent condition (doesn't need to be top end but also not a vehicle requiring a lot of restoration). It would need to be as reliable as could be expected of a car that age. Whilst I am based in Buckinghamshire, I would be more than happy to drive down to Dorset to come and view any suitable candidate. I am not in a hurry to buy - it's more important to get the right car than getting one quickly. I would sincerely appreciate anything you might be able to do to help.

Many thanks for your time on this - I look forward to your reply.

Kind Regards, Ms Natasja Dumay

(PLEASE FORWARD ANY REPLIES TO EDITOR—THANKS)

Chairman's Report

Good evening and welcome to May Clubnight. It was sad to hear that Ray Driver passed away in March—our thoughts go out to Helen and the family. I hope you all brought along your antiques this evening so that Phil can give you a good assessment and hopefully you will be happy with the outcome. By the time you read this month's magazine, some of the members will have been on holiday to Sidmouth, so I hope you all had a good time. Thanks to Nev for organising this event. The club is still looking for props for the Beaulieu display at the May Autojumble—so keep looking and let the Committee know. Charlie and myself went down to the Classic Cars on the Prom on Sunday 13th April—the first of the year. It was so popular that we had to park in the service road by the BIC because the Prom was full. But we still had an enjoyable afternoon. I would like to thank Eddie and Margaret for the Get Well card for Ann as she broke her arm doing some work in the garden of our bungalow. Don't forget to put in your Aubrey Batt run forms, so we know the numbers for tea and cakes at Jackie and Dave's after the run back on Breamore Steam up Day. At Easter, Ann and myself went up to see our son in Buckinghamshire for a short break and whilst I was there I visited a friend of mine who has about 8 Fiat 500's and he asked me if I knew of anyone that re-silvered headlights. If you know of anyone, please let me know and I'll pass it on. That's all for now, John



The new online catalogue from Charles Ware's Morris Minor Centre Ltd
www.morrisminorspareparts.co.uk

Based on their well known printed catalogue, the diagrams are larger, clearer and up to date. The content of the catalogue reflects the parts currently available and is even more comprehensive than the printed version. As well as the spare parts for the original Minor specifications there is a section dedicated to the 'Series III' upgrade kits to keep your Morris fit for modern driving conditions. There is an easy to use search function and a catalogue site map to help you find your way around the site. This comprehensive website in conjunction with friendly and knowledgeable staff at the end of the phone will enable you to find the parts you need for the continuing care of your Morris Minor

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Book Club Plus (by Derek Shearman)

Hello everyone. Spring is sprung, the grass is ris - I wonder where the Autojumble is? Beaulieu, of course! Friday & Saturday 16th & 17th May. John has kindly offered me a space in one of the MMOC marquees, that I may offer for sale the various Haynes Workshop Manuals that I mentioned in last month's magazine. I will also have with me another 50+ books, all classic motoring related but not Morris Minor related. All (if any!) profits will be donated to the Charity we are supporting this year. If you have any books you would also like to donate for sale - no magazines please - please contact me on 07593 623721 or speak to me at this evenings Club night.

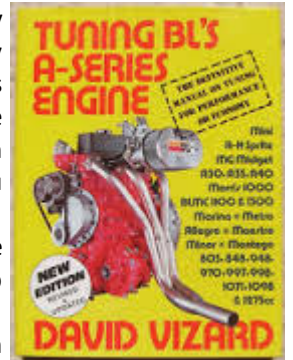
Following a couple of requests, I have acquired a hard back copy of David Vizard's book, Tuning BL's 'A' Series Engine. This copy was published in 1985. To me, this book with a total of 436 pages has made fascinating and informative reading and is much more than just an illustrated workshop manual. I will not bore you with further details but invite you to have a look and borrow it if you wish.

Two other books which may be of interest (one donated and one on loan) have also come into my possession since our last Club night:


The Book of the Morris Eight and the Morris Minor, published in 1954 as a pocket book edition by Pitmans Motorist's Library.

Morris Minor, Series MM Super Profile. First published in 1984 and collated by Ray Newall with many excellent photographs.

Again, available for you to borrow. Derek Shearman



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



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Clever Thinking

With Christmas now passed I would like to share a personal experience with my friends about drinking and driving. As you may know some of us have been known to have brushes with the authorities from time to time on the way home after a 'social session' with friends. Well, two days ago I was out for an evening with friends and had more than several beers followed by a couple of bottles of some rather nice red wine. Although feeling jolly, I still had the sense to know that I may be slightly over the limit. That was when I did something that I've never done before— I took a taxi.

Sure enough, on the way home, there was a police roadblock but since it was a taxi, they waved it past and I arrived home safely without incident.

This was a real surprise, as I had never driven a taxi before, don't know where I got it and now that its in my garage, I don't know what to do with it. So if you want to borrow it give me a call.

Bournemouth Wheels Festival

We have made a provisional booking for up to 20 cars at the Bournemouth Wheels



Festival on **MONDAY 26th May**. If you would like to reserve a place, you will need to send an email to James Hodgson as detailed below. If you don't have email and would still like to go, please let me have the details and I will send them off for you. (Editor)

"Thank you very much for your club application which I am delighted to say has been accepted. Could you please ask your members to email me at: james@rel-event.com with the following information; Name, Name of club, Vehicle description:

Registration number, Day/s which you will be attending (That will be 'Monday'), Mobile telephone number to contact the driver on the day (This will be kept for my use only in case of emergency and not published or used in any other way), E-mail address to send the E pass and arrival instructions to.

I will then send them an E-pass for printing at home with arrival instructions and route nearer the time. In the meantime I will update you with the number of bookings I have received for your club. Many thanks, James Hodgson."

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Secretary's Report

Good evening everyone and welcome to May clubnight. I hope that you all enjoyed last month's quiz on everything British. Tonight we have the pleasure of another of Phil's antique roadshows. Hopefully some interesting items will appear tonight.

As I write this we have just returned from the annual Devon weekend to Sidmouth. Despite some truly atrocious weather a good time was had by all and well done to everyone who braved the rain in their Moggies (or other classic car). We arrived for lunch time on the Friday and headed straight to The Anchor Inn in the high street for lunch where fresh crab was on the menu – delicious! After lunch a look around the shops was the order of the day and then back to the Royal Glen Hotel for swimming and then another fantastic dinner – as usual. After breakfast on Saturday we decided to go off to Seaton and have a ride on the Seaton Tramway. Luckily the closed trams were in use as the rain was still coming down! Back to Sidmouth for lunch at the Anchor again and then I decided to take another look around the antiques centre as I had spotted something I fancied the day before. I bought a lovely French Hornby O gauge station which I will use one day when I finally get round to setting up the railway! Back to the hotel for another swim and then down to dinner. After dinner the kids had a pyjama party and played with the wooden train set while the adults took part in the quiz expertly organised and compered by Dave and Jacky – many thanks for that. The bonus ball competition was won by Tracy this year with the number 12 being drawn in the National Lottery. Thanks also to everyone who donated a prize for the raffle. Before we knew it the weekend was over and we wended our way slowly home on the Sunday. We decided to stop off in Lyme Regis on the way home and saw a small but nice display of classic cars on the prom organised by the Yeovil Car Club for Drive It Day. Thanks to everyone who did their bit over the weekend and roll on next year for another visit. The date for next year will be the weekend of 11th April 2015.

Well done to our intrepid quiz team who came a very creditable joint 2nd in the Inter Club Quiz. Don't forget the Aubrey Batt Memorial Run on the 11th May where we will be finishing up at The Breamore Steam Up again. If you are planning to take part in our display at the Bournemouth Wheels Festival on 26th May you will need to email your details to the organisers in order to receive your passes etc. The date for this year's Midsummer Saunter has been set for 17th August. Plans for our display at this year's Beaulieu Spring Autojumble are almost complete and it looks like it's going to be an extremely professional looking scene. I'm sure there will be plenty of photos in next month's newsletter.

By the time you read this I will have said a final goodbye to the Lowlight. It has finally been sold and has wended its way to Ireland for a new life in a large private collection of classic cars of all sorts. I'll be sorry to see her go but the time had come to part with her.

That's all from me for this month – Happy Minorng – Laurie.



Norman J. Kimber

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Practical Classics Restoration Show

“Challenging Barn Finds go on Show at the Practical Classics Restoration Show”

Thousands of classic vehicle fans packed into Birmingham’s NEC on the 12th and 13th April not knowing what to expect from this new 2 day event.

Unrestored gems from across the country, together with dozens of barn finds in one of the biggest displays of previously forgotten classics ever assembled at the same time. Club restoration specialists and experts from Practical Classics Magazine joined forces to offer up thousands of tips, tricks, advice and above all, inspiration to anyone about to embark on a new project.



Danny Hopkins, editor of PC, said that the event was “part classic car show, part tutorial, part theatre and part celeb-fest”.

The celebs included Wheeler-Dealers’ Ed China and Mike Brewer, Quentin Willson, Fuzz Townsend and Chris Barrie—all classic car nuts.

For me, the highlight of the whole show was seeing how the clubs had come along and joined in with the spirit of the event—they had not come just to show their cars off, they were actually on the stands working on them! One club,

always to be relied upon at any of these sort of events is the Rover P6 club. At their display area, the guys were just loving to tinker and play with their spanners.

An auction at the show focussed predominantly on unrestored classics—this proving to be a big hit with 85% of the cars finding new owners. Among those under the hammer was a 1981 Daimler Sovereign used in the hit TV series “Minder” (Arfur’s wheels). It fetched £13,500.

It is particularly good to have a show focussing on project classics and unrestored cars rather than just the shiny vehicles which are the end result.

The PC team bid to restore Vicki Butler-Henderson’s 1979 Ford Fiesta Mk1 in 48 hours was a success, albeit obviously with all the major work done prior to the show with just the assembly work done over the show weekend.

Well done to the Wolseley Owners Club who won the Club Challenge—changing a valve on an ‘A’ series cylinder head in just 1 minute, 9 seconds! Speedy or what?

All in all a very refreshing weekend and if its repeated next year, it will be on my list of shows to visit. Must sign off and prepare for Drive it Day (Sunday 27th April). Happy Minorng,

Dave Holton (Silverstone Correspondent) (DMMOC member 272)



Sidmouth Weekend

Well, that seemed to go quite well again. Thanks to Nev and Lyn for their organisation of the event again this year, also to Dave and Jackie for the quiz. We were sorry to hear that Helena Carr and Kate Noon couldn’t make it this year due to illness and we all wish Helena a speedy recovery. After a run of a couple of good previous year’s weather, this year wasn’t quite up to the expected standard with heavy showers. Perhaps not the best of circumstances in which to put the new converti-



ble through its paces! It stood up fairly well resisting the ingress of moisture until, on the way home we passed a car going the opposite way which had just negotiated a large puddle and launched about



20 gallons of water about waist high just as we crossed—most of which came in through the quarter light, the rest between the hood and windscreen .

Despite the weather, the convertibles outnumbered the other types!

I understand the date for next year has been reserved. *Editor*

