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Nev with 'Mercedes Stig' prior to his session with the Silver Arrows

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Our Branch Regalia stock is managed by **Dave & Jackie Walker** and is available at clubnights and our outdoor events. (The illustrated stock list is shown on the website www.dorsetmmoc.co.uk)

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| Model small cars | £3.75 | Playing cards | £1.00 |
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| Money box vans | £12.50 | Sweat shirts | £14.00 |
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| Greeting cards each | £1.35 | Hoodie fleece | £20.00 |
| 6 pack greeting cards | £7.00 | Waterproofs | £15.00 |
| Key hangers in shape of cars, made in steel | | Polo shirts with logo | £15.00 |
| | £9.00 | Caps with LED in peak | £12.50 |
| Same as above with 2 cars | £15.00 | Beaulieu clock | £5.00 |
| Ice scrapers | £ 0.50p | Key rings/bottle openers | £3.50 |



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MORRIS MINOR OWNERS CLUB Dorset Branch NEWSLETTER

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April 2016
 Volume 19
 Issue 6

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 2014-2015

(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)

Treasurer: Jacky Wood (01202 573501).

Raffle Coordinators: Chris Tilly and Margaret

Pateman

Membership Secretary - Des Waller (01202

573403)

Spares Manager: Brian Wood

(07411 116336)

Events Organiser/H&S Supervisor - Neville

Gerry (01202 747687)

Regalia : Dave & Jackie Walker

Catering Executives: -Sue Blewer, Lyn Gerry

Product Development Mgr: Brian Ford

Welfare/Technical Adviser: Eddie Pateman

FRONT COVER

Courtesy of Toby Bruce (and Facebook) who spent 5 weeks last summer driving around Iceland in his '65 Traveller.

**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)

April 6th—Clubnight Talk on 'History of Bournemouth Gardens'
April 10th—Classic Cars on the Prom restarts.
21st April-Inter Club Quiz, Hamworthy Club 19:30 start
24th April— Swanage Charity Day
24th April—Drive it Day
May 4th—Clugnight—Call my Bluff
May 7-8th Breamore Working Weekend
May 8th—Chairman's Run to Portland House
May 8th—Dorset Blind Assoc.— Lulworth Castle
May 15th—Classic Cars on the Prom—Christchurch Quay 11:00-17:00
May 22nd—Classic Cars on the Prom—Christchurch Castle 11:00-16:00
May 21-22— Beaulieu Spring Autojumble.
29th May—Pecorama Rally
June 1st—Clubnight—Cake Competition
June 5th—Classic Cars on the Prom—Christchurch Quay 11:00-17:00
June 18th St Edwards School Summer Fete and Classic Car Display 12-3pm
19th June—Hampshire (HAMMOC) Rally— Hambledon Vineyard.
June 26th—Classic Cars on the Prom—Christchurch Quay 11:00-17:00
July 6th—Clubnight—Out and About (TBA)
July 3rd-Burton Scout Carnival—Martins Hill Lane, Burton start 1:00
July 3rd—Classic Cars on the Prom—Christchurch Castle 11:00-16:00
July 9th -10th -'CLASSICS IN THE FOREST' (incorporating Annual Branch Rally)
July 17th Sherborne Castle—Classics and Supercars
July 31st—Charles Ware Memorial Rally, Bath. (Details TBA)
3rd August—Clubnight—Gardening Competition
7th August— Lymington Classic Car Show
7th August—Classic Cars on the Prom—Highcliffe Rec 11:00-17:00
13-14 August— Forest Fayre with steam (Brockenhurst)
21st August—Classic Cars on the Prom—Christchurch Quay 11:00-17:00
28th August — Classic Cars on the Prom—Highcliffe Rec 11:00-17:00
3-4th September-IOW 30th Rally (Havenstreet , Isle of Wight)
4th September—Classic Cars on the Prom—**CANCELLED**
7th September—Clubnight— Speaker (TBA)
18th September—Classic Cars on the Prom—Christchurch Quay 11:00-17:00
24th September— Marie Curie 40th MMOC Anniversary JOGLE Charity Run
24th-26th September-Waverley Trip
24-25 September—Holnest Country Fayre
5th October— Clubnight—AGM

7th January (2017)—Dinner and Dance

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

For Sale & Wanted & Club Notices

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

FOR SALE: Second hand Front nearside wing £25, pair of s/h Traveller wings £25 each, £40 pair . David Garside 01202 891288

WANTED: Morris Minor 2 door saloon (pre '60 if poss. Reasonable price/condition. Bernard Kann 01202 849489

FOR SALE: Austin pickup in Almond Green. New canvas tilt. Re-trimmed interior. Rebuilt engine, unleaded head. New gearbox. Stainless steel exhaust. Rebuilt brakes. Excellent chassis .powder coated wheels. Mot Oct 2016 very nice condition throughout. £10,995 Steve Loder.



1960 saloon in Smoke Grey. Later 1098 engine and gearbox fitted . Servo fitted to brakes. Structurally sound car, older restoration but still in very nice overall condition. Original blue interior in very good condition, no damage to headlining . Mot until May 2016. More photos available on request. £3,000. Steve Loder

Steve Loder 01202 694828 07748 154474 T

FOR SALE: 1954 Split Screen saloon 4 door Light Green. Last MOT was 3 years ago. Stored under cover and engine runs. Current on SORN. Spares included. Original number plate. £1,500 or offers. Trevor Harman 07879 668041 (Totton)

FOR SALE: 1971 2 dr, 1098 Snowberry white, one owner, original black trim, bare metal respray, detailed engine bay, structurally excellent and recently rust protected. Excellent mechanics, all new wheel cylinders. Bills for £25,000 over last 10 years. 9k miles on rebuilt engine, £8,500 (Tim Lang) T



01823 461861

FOR SALE: 1968 Traveller, 1098 Smoke Grey, Disc brakes, alternator and immobiliser. Resprayed with detailed engine bay, new wood, structurally sound & rust proofed, mechanically excellent, full history, new carpet, MOT'd and serviced £12,500. **01823 461861** Tim Lang. T



Dorset Branch Newsletter

April 2016

MORRIS MINOR OWNERS CLUB

Volume 19 Issue 6



CLUBNIGHT ACTIVITY:
History of Bournemouth Gardens

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NEXT CLUBNIGHT—'Call My Bluff 'Quiz

The Dorset Branch Newsletter is published on the first Wednesday of the month and sent by post to paid-up members. It is also available for download from the Internet usually about 10 days before the clubnight.

Editorial

Hello everyone and welcome to the Newsletter. I hope you all survived Storm Katie intact. Roy and I knew it was on the way so he helped me replace our garden fence the week before.

Have you ever been to Mercedes Benz World in Weybridge (nr. Brooklands)? We went a few weeks ago with Nev and Lyn—for the weekend, taking in MB World on Saturday and Brooklands on Sunday. The Mercedes World Building is basically a cross between a dealership and a museum. There are plenty of classic Mercs there as well as a lot of new ones (as one would expect). But the highlight for me was the outdoor



activity which consists of two high speed circuits and a wet skid circle. There are also other areas for 4x4 and under 17 training. I had previously booked a half hour experience (for £85) in an ordinary 'C' class saloon for 4:00 pm. Meanwhile, Nev managed to win a draw which entitled him to a passenger ride in one of the lunchtime high speed display cars. The

display (by the 'Silver Arrows') was pretty spectacular and Nev returned shaken up but exhilarated. When I checked in for my 'experience' I was offered the chance to upgrade to an 'AMG' for another £20. I think this was probably the quickest decision I have ever made in my life. I did, of course scratch my chin and look towards the 'Treasurer' for her approval. But how could I turn that one down? I was a bit late going out as my driver 'James' needed a comfort break, but then I found myself in the latest AMG C63, which actually looks like quite a harmless saloon. Technically, this is a 4 litre 470hp V8 beast complete with 'flappy paddle' gear change, double electric clutch system and an 'automatic-manual' (if that makes sense!) six speed gearbox. After a couple of slow laps on the smaller northern circuit, we ventured on to the long straight for a couple of full-on take offs. The first was pretty spectacular just doing a normal foot-to-the-floor start, the scenery went by like it did on Star Trek when Scotty engaged the Warp Drive. The second was even more spectacular and we utilised the Launch Control program setting which allows you to spool the engine up to full power with the left foot on the brake pedal. When you let it go, the end of the straight comes up almost instantly and you wish it was a few miles further south so you can keep accelerating! (somewhere near the M25 would have been good!). We then had a go on the slalom which you could drive through at a speed



For Sale & Wanted & Club Notices

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

FOR SALE: 165x14 'INDIA' tyre for Minor Van or Pickup. As new, few miles use only – Bargain at £20 Roy Gale 01202 697044

FOR SALE: Set of five LP917 Genuine Van / Pickup wheels, fitted with 165 X 14 8 ply commercial tyres. 8mm tread. £550



FOR SALE: 13" steering wheel and mounting boss, as new condition £60



One-off Morris Minor interior supplied by Newton Commercial front and rear seats trimmed in dark blue/cream leather currently fitted in a two door saloon but would also fit a convertible great upgrade for any Morris Minor. Front seats slide, tilt and recline. Seat mounting frames included so ready to bolt straight into your Minor door cards and rear side panels are standard minor type ('64 – '71) design in matching dark blue vinyl all in excellent condition £1,195.

Steve Loder 01202 694828 07748 154474 T

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BRANCH REBATE SCHEME

You may be aware that the branch receives a financial rebate according to the numbers of national MMOC members who attend the monthly clubnights. We therefore need to update our records so that we can take advantage of this scheme. Please would you advise Des Waller (or any Committee Member) of your **MMOC membership number** and renewal date and make sure that you sign the attendance sheet at the clubnights. Thanks.



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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.

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which in any other car - either the understeer would get the better of you or you would end up on the roof! It was a close thing whether the high speed track session was more fun or the 'power sliding' on the wet skid circle. I think the instructor was a relative of Jeremy Clarkson since he kept reminding me on the straight bits... "power, power, power..." All I can say is that car is a superb piece of engineering, an absolute joy to drive. It is, of course bristling with technology which basically allows you to drive like a complete nutter and not kill yourself. (Incidentally there was an auxiliary brake pedal on the passenger side of this one). You would be struggling to explore the full capability of it on the public road, so a regular track day visit would be essential if you were lucky enough to own one. It was about 5:00 when I came off the track. I reckon I got more than my money's worth since I think 'James' must have thought I was on the 1 hour AMG experience (which is



£200!) Highly recommended. When can I do it again? Brooklands Austin-Morris day?— yes lots of Austins' and Morris' but a bit of an anti-climax after Saturday! Sorry!
I was sorry to have missed the Restoration Show at the NEC which was the same weekend as Brooklands, but I am grateful to Dave Holton for his interesting report. I thought it was brilliant last year, with the 'restoration' twist being the difference between it and most other shows.

And finally, we are grandparents again with grandchild number 4—Lennon Arthur George Byles, born on 23rd March and weighing in at 7lb 11oz. Cheers for now, Brian.

Latest news from our Branch Member Vic Holyoak in Tasmania..

Hi just to let you know I've got my act together and re starting work on our Morrie. We trailered her into Launceston to a restorer who has never done a Minor but experienced in other cars. We chose him because as he progresses the welding work it will be inspected by the man that will pass it for registration. We have most bits and pieces in hand but missing a clock for left side of dash. Any ideas where we can find one? So here's to a productive time, as he will let me get hands on the car while he does the welding. Ceeyas. ps Happy Easter.
Thanks for the update Vic, we like to keep tabs on your progress. Lets have a few photos next time. I should point out to any readers from the West Country, he doesn't mean Launceston in Cornwall which is over 11,000 miles away from the one in Tasmania!

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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

Secretary's Report

Good evening everyone and welcome to April's clubnight. I hope you all enjoyed last months Feely Bag competition. I am hoping to repeat this at our rally in July but with Morris Minor parts only. Tonight we are having a talk entitled "A Short History of Bournemouth Gardens". We will also be picking our chosen charity for the year and you will find a voting slip with your newsletter tonight. I know it seems a long time until the gardening competition but please start thinking about it and what you are going to grow this year. We have been sent the date for the Interclub Quiz – Thursday 21st April at 7:30 for an 8:00 start at the Hamworthy Club. We have one team of 6 entered so far but if you fancy entering a team please let me know tonight and I will book a table. The cost is £6 per team of 6.

Entries have started coming in at a steady pace for this year's rally – Classics In The Forest. Please make sure you get yours in ASAP. You may have noticed in the last copy of Minor Matters that there are only 3 concours venues this year and our show is one of them. Richard Lee, the chief concours judge is very keen to have entries from "down south". Some of you have very nice vehicles that I know are worthy of concours judging so please can I ask you to consider entering the competition. We are also still on the look out for trade stalls so please, if you know someone who might like to come along, give them an entry form.

Next year we will be celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the Dorset Branch and we are looking for pictures and memories from back then if possible. So, if anyone has any photographs from "way back" please let me know so that we can borrow and copy them.

I have been tinkering with the "8" over the last month and have finally got her starting easily. If you could have seen the state of the points you wouldn't have been surprised that she wouldn't start. A new set plus replacing the plugs with a correct set of Champion L10's have made starting easy. The battery was also knackered so I have purchased a new 6 volt one from Shield Batteries on the Nuffield Industrial Estate. Not only did they give me discount for being a club member but they also delivered it to work for me. You couldn't ask for a better service. The car came with a replacement ignition switch as the original one turned itself off every time you went over a bump. The only thing was that it didn't have a key! A look on Ebay turned up a supplier who could supply pretty much any key number you could want. The switch on the early "8"'s does more than just turn the ignition on though – it's the side and headlamp switch and also a switch for adjusting the dynamo from low to high charge so as you can imagine there's quite a lot of wires coming out of the back! All done though and working fine. There's lots more tinkering still to do though so I will report back with further updates next month.

That's all from me for this month so until next time,
Happy Minor-ing, Laurie.



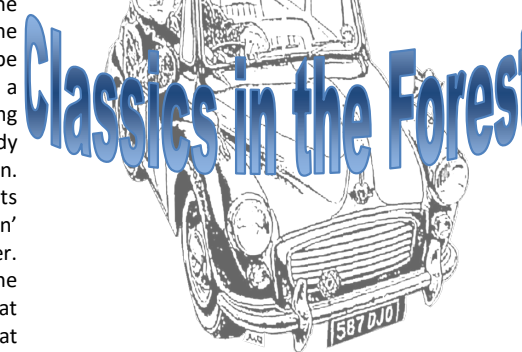
Chairman's Report



Good evening everyone and welcome to the April Clubnight. I hope all the members had a relaxing Easter getting their classic cars ready for the Rally season. There are lots of events filling up the 'Whats On' list in the newsletter. One of these is the 'Inter-Club' Quiznight at the Hamworthy Club at

19:30. Teams of 6 are needed and it's a good night out. The date for you diary is the 21st April. If you are interested, let Jacky or Laurie know. Also the Classic Cars on the Prom starts this Sunday 10th April 4-6:30. The Branch Committee recently went over to Burley to inspect the field to do a site layout plan for the Rally in July. It is looking good so far. The rally slips are starting to come in with some good car clubs, autojumble and boot sellers showing interest. So please let us have your entries for the Rally as soon as possible. I went over to Terry House's workshop at Kimmeridge Bay to look at his Morris Police 'Panda' car which is nearly finished and it is really looking good. Also thanks to Terry Wood for getting hold of an original Police Car radio—telephone for the Panda. Also nice to see Terry (W) walking again after his knee operation. Good news about Viki Wood having a little boy called Lennon—another potential club member for the future. Laurie popped round last week to show off his new purchase—a 1935 Morris 8 2 door saloon. It looks in very good order but to drive it you need small, thin shoes, because the pedals are very close together. No good for me with my wide shoes!. The Waverley trip to London is on 24-25-26th September and the price will be £194 per person to include an extra trip to either Chatham historical dockyard or Leeds Castle in Kent on the way back to Bournemouth and that is on the Monday. There will be a plan of the trip advising times and places provided soon. If there is any doubt please give me a ring. That's all for now, Happy Motor-ing, John.

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Dorset Blind Association

Dear Brian,

I am contacting you from Dorset Blind Association regarding our upcoming Classic Car Run and Show at Lulworth Castle on Sunday 8th May. I previously spoke to Jacky Wood on the telephone a week or so ago and she advised me to contact you with more information in the hope you may be able to put it into your next newsletter.

A good family friend, Olivia Akam, is part of Dorset MIMOC and attended our Classic Car event last year.

Dorset Blind Association supports blind and partially sighted people within the community, enabling them to live full and happy lives. We rely 100% on fundraising as we receive no government support.

On Sunday 8th May we are holding a Classic Car Event at the prestigious Lulworth Castle. The event will begin with a Classic Car Run starting at The Sandford Pub, covering over 30 miles of the Dorset countryside and finishing up at Lulworth Castle. There will then be the opportunity to display your cars in front of the Castle and be part of our showground and family fun day.

Registration starts at 9:00 and the run begins at 9:30am from the Sandford Pub. Arrive at Lulworth Castle at approximately 11:00am for pictures, with the showground opening to the public at 12:00pm. Entry to the Run, Route Sheet and Showground is only £5.00. Spaces are limited and are selling quickly so it is advisable to book early.

We look forward to welcoming you and your club on the day.

I have attached the Entry Form for you and your members. If you have any further enquiries then please don't hesitate to contact me via email or on 01202 712864.

Best Wishes,

Helena Sinclair
Events Fundraiser, Dorset Blind Association

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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

August Clubnight Gardening Competition

Now is the time for all you budding gardeners to start planning for this year's competition. All the winners receive a rosette and best in show a trophy.

List of Classes:

Flowers

1. Dahlias
One vase of three blooms any variety
2. Sweet Peas
One vase of five stems any variety
3. Fuschia
One potted plant any size
4. Mixed Flowers
One vase of any mixed flowers
5. Potted Plant
One potted plant any type

Vegetable Classes



6. Runner Beans
One set of three beans
7. Potatoes
One plate of five one variety
8. Tomatoes
Plate of five cherry type
9. Tomatoes
Plate of five medium to large
10. Cucumber
One of any type or shape
11. Onions
One plate of five onions or shallots
12. Marrow
largest marrow



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DORSET BRANCH SPARES NEWS

We have the inner wing liners (LEFT) at £24.99 for the front wings kit complete with all fittings and instructions.

We also have the improved 2-stage bonnet stay (right) which allows the bonnet to be raised almost vertically! On special offer £25 each to Branch Members only. (£27.50 normally) (Postage-add £2.50)

BRANCH SPARES DEPARTMENT:

For the benefit of newer members who may not be aware of it, the Branch operates a Morris Minor New Spares service. From the year 2015-16, we are introducing a discount scheme whereby *most* purchases by paid up Branch Members will get **10%** discount applied to the price* (unless already on discounted offer or not available to us with discount). We usually have some spares at the monthly branch clubnights and we have a presence at some shows (particularly the Branch Rally and the Beaulieu Autojumbles). Spares are available most other times from Brian on 07411 116336. The spares are mostly sourced from ESM (East Sussex Minors—who support our branch rally also) and the prices charged generally reflect their prices. The advantages are availability of parts and *usually* no postage charges. Some locally made and re-conditioned items are also available, such as bonnet props, fuel pumps, carburettors and radiators.

(*subject to fair use).

Cake Competition

If you are thinking about entering the Grand DMMOC Baking Competition at the June Club-night, here is the approved 'standard' recipe.

(Kindly provided by Helena Carr)

Coffee Sandwich Cake

Method

Preheat the oven to 180 c/ fan 160 c/gas 4. Grease 2 x 18cm (7") sandwich tins and line the base with greased baking parchment. Dissolve the instant coffee in the hot water. Whisk the caster sugar and margarine until light and fluffy. Add the eggs one at a time, whisking well between each and then add the dissolved coffee.

Gently fold in the sieved flour and baking powder, with a metal spoon, until well combined.

Divide equally between the prepared sandwich tins and level the tops. Cook for about 20 minutes or until well risen and the tops of the cakes spring back when lightly pressed with a finger.

Once cakes are cooked remove from the oven and leave in the tins for about 5 minutes before turning out onto a wire cooling rack. Carefully remove the lining paper and leave to cool completely.

To make the butter icing, dissolve the coffee in the hot water. Cream the butter and icing sugar until light and fluffy and add the dissolved coffee.

When the cakes are cold, sandwich together with half of the butter icing and spread the remainder on the top. Decorate with walnut pieces if desired.

Ingredients:

150g (6oz) caster sugar
150g (6oz) soft margarine
150g (6oz) self raising flour
3 eggs
1.5 tsp baking powder
1 tbsp hot water
1 tbsp instant coffee (more if you like it strong)

For the butter cream filling:

225g (8oz) icing sugar
100g (4oz) softened butter
1.5 tbsp instant coffee
1 tbsp hot water



Car Storage, Dorset

Dear Brian, I am a farmer from Owermoigne, We have planning permission on this building but we are looking at other uses rather than investing that heavily. Classic Car storage would work well.



Please see picture of renovated Cow stalls. The 3 sided quad has 22 spaces 8 and a half foot wide by 17 feet deep and 6 foot 9 inches high. It can be made very secure with one gate lockable entrance and we could put individual doors on each Bay. If there is interest please give me a guide on what people would be willing to pay and if as a club you could fill it. I need to find out what rates would be payable to the council and other outlays. Then I can make an

decision on whether this is viable. Kind Regards, Ralph Messenger, Manor Farm, Galton, Dorchester, Dorset, DT2 8BZ ralph@messenger.freeserve.co.uk



Another look at Toby Bruce's Icelandic trip photo showing the crashed American Navy DC3 Dakota which ended up there in 1973.

Restoration Show (by Dave Holton)

THE PRACTICAL CLASSICS RESTORATION AND CLASSIC CAR SHOW. 5/6 MARCH 2016. N.E.C. BIRMINGHAM (LOVELY JUBBLEY)

Is it just me or just pure coincidence that it's all or nothing with functions and gatherings ? Just like waiting for a bus then two come along at the same time . And when the chance comes to use one of our Minors (weather conditions allowing) in early March then dates clash . Such as the Brooklands Austin/Morris day ,which I never miss , and the NEC Practical Classics Restoration show which both turned up on the same weekend this year ! And to add to the problem the local councils were out throwing salt about as if it's going out of fashion

This winter I have managed to put some 200 miles on each of my Minors because in our area our roads haven't needed much salt .

I made the decision to attend the NEC show in a modern vehicle on the Saturday and then see what weather conditions prevailed for the Brooklands Sunday.

The Restoration show is in its third year now and was the best yet. This year the star of the P C Live Stage Restoration was the Reliant Regal Supervan III. This particular van has spent 19 years in a shed since it was used in the famed Fools and Horses episode "Heroes and Villains " with Del Boy and Rodney as Batman and Robin. A fact verified by the owners, the family of the creator of the series , the late John Sullivan . It has been kept by one of the programme 's producers since 1997 and hasn't been seen in public since that year. By the end of the show it was hoped that the restoration would be complete and John's brother Jim would drive it off the stage .

The guys from Practical Classics had help from the Reliant Three Wheeler club whose slogan is " Reliant Building Unstable Cars for Unstable People Since 1935 " One fact I didn't know about the Reliant is that they all had a reverse gear but this was blanked off by a bolt in the gear box , this was to get over the driving licence issues in the 1960's . Another fact was when Clarkson rolled one and



took the p... it was fitted with a 10 inch wheel on the offside against a 12 inch one on the near side.

The restoration team was aiming to make the Reliant a mechanically sound vehicle by the end of the 2 days but it didn't have to look smart as it still kept its original patina . The team managed to fettle the engine

into life and run it for a minute at 4.30 on the Saturday afternoon and then it suddenly stopped . Under investigation it was discovered it had feasted on its distributor drive . After begging and borrowing parts and not much sleep the engine was up and running again by mid morning on Sunday . Later on Sunday Ant Anstead , "For The Love of Cars " presenter took it for its first journey in 19 years around the show's Live Stage ! *Cushty*.

The guys from The Wheeler Dealers show , Mike Brewer and Ed China were in attendance giving useful tips and information . And there was also lots of tinkering and fettling being carried out by numerous car clubs. There was also a very large auto jumble and some really interesting 25 barn finds including a split screen VW bus that looked as if it needed a magician to get it into shape.

For those with big purses Silverstone Auctions achieved some really high prices , one being £47,250 for a 1948 Series One Land Rover (chassis 149).

With so much to see the day went by in a flash , I didn't leave the halls until 5.30 (a long day as I was there at 9.00 when the doors opened). With 20,000 visitors attending over the weekend, 700 cars on display and 120 classic motoring clubs (including MMOC) , specialist restorers and industry experts on hand this was a fantastic show . I have the dates for next year's show in my diary - 25/26 March 2017 . Let's just hope it doesn't clash with Brooklands .

Eventually arrived home at 7.15 very tired but very happy with the full intention of taking Rupert (the green Austin badged van) to the Brooklands Austin/Morris day the following morning . However with an overnight temperature of minus 5c and the roads covered in salt I decided against going . I'm very sorry to have missed it .

Looking forward to catching up with you at Beaulieu in May.

Happy Minorng.

Dave Holton

Silverstone

Dorset MMOC member 272

