Morris Minor Regalia Catalogue



MORRIS MINOR REGALIA - DORSET BRANCH

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

Model small cars	£ 3.75	Coasters	£ 0.50
Model vans 1/26 scale	£ 3.50	Playing cards	£ 1.00
Money box vans	£12.50	Cloth caps with Dorset logo	£12.50
Club DVD	£ 1.00	Caps with LED in peak	£12.50
Greeting cards each	£ 1.35	Beenie Hats	£ 8.00
6 pack greeting cards	£ 7.00	Sweat shirts	£14.00
Key hangers in shape of cars,		Fleeces	£21.00
made in steel	£ 9.00	Hoodie fleece	£20.00
Same as above with 2 cars	£15.00	Waterproofs	£15.00
Ice scrapers	£ 0.50	Polo shirts with logo	£15.00
Sew-on patches	£ 6.50	Beaulieu clock	£5.00
Tissue Holders	£ 1.99	Key rings/bottle openers	£3.50

Printed by: Adding Value Solutions Limited 2 Friars Workshop, The Friars, Jedburgh, Roxburghshire, TD8 6BN M : 07768 653017 T : 0870 360 7000 F : 0870 360 7001 E : stephen@addingvaluesolutions.co.uk - W : www.addingvaluesolutions.co.uk



008

The MMOC Dorset Branch

was founded in 1980 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) <u>We meet on the first Wednesday of every month (7:30 for 8:00)</u> 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 Club Night 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

Key Contacts									
President		Non-Committee posts							
Committee Members—'16-'17									
Chairman	John Jenkinson 01202 576690	Website editor 01202 573494	Brian Wood brian@dorsetmmoc.co.uk						
Secretary 07947 525884	Laurie Blewer 01202 522673	Newsletter editor 0777 6190807	Natasja Dumay natasja.dumay@gmail.com						
Treasurer	Jacky Wood 01202 573494	Regalia	Dave & Jackie Walker 01202 877972						
Membership Secretary	Brian Ford 07502161535	RaffleChris TillyCoordinatorsMargaret Pateman							
Events organisor/ H&S supervisor	Andy Dibb 01590 674557	Caterers Sue Blewer Lyn Gerry							
Welfare/ technical advisor	Eddie Pateman 07940 518627	FRONT COVER:							
Spares Manager	Brian Wood 07411 116336	Laurie Blewer's baby out in the snow							

Dorset Branch of the Morris Minor Owners Club

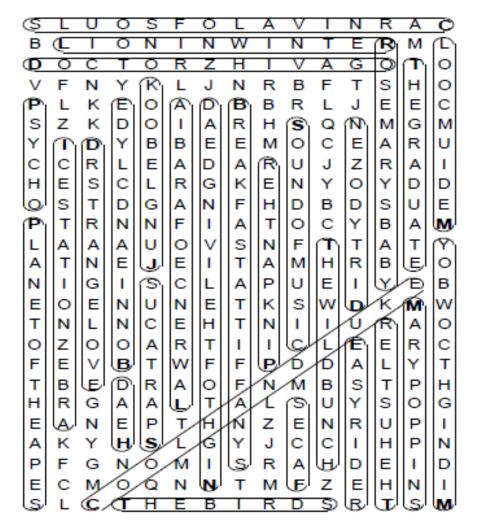
Helping to preserve the post war Morris Minor in the Dorset area and beyond

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

	2018
4 th April	Club Night— Talk on 'Dad's Army' by Steve Roberts
8 th April	Start: Classic Cars on the Prom—Bournemouth Pier
13 ^{th -} 15 th April	Weekend visit to Oxford: Nuffield House & Oxford Bus Museum
15 th April	Classic Cars on the Prom—Christchurch Quay
22 nd April	Drive It Day—Run to Kingston Maurward— Plowmans 9am
29 th April	Swanage Charity Day & Classic Car Display, Victoria Ave car park
2 nd May	Club Night—Antiques Roadshow
7 th May	Popham Airfield Classic Car Show—Popham Airfield
19 th -20 th May	Moggyfest 2018—Beaulieu Spring Autojumble
20 th May	Classic Cars on the Prom—Highcliffe Castle
27 th May	Pecorama Rally, Beer, near Seaton (Devon)
2 nd June	Wimborne St Giles Church Fete, Wimborne St. Giles (just turn up)
6 th June	Club Night—Quiz
9 th June	North Wilts MMOC Rally, REME museum, Lynham
24 th June	Classic Cars on the Prom—Christchurch Quay
4 th July	Club Night—Club Run to Augustus John pub in Fordingbridge
1 st July	Mid-summer Saunter—Shillingstone Railway. Meet at Vines Kitchen
14 th July	Holdenhurst Village Fete, Holdenhurst Village
1 st August	Club Night—Gardening Competition
5 th August	Lymington Classic Car Show, Pennington 9am
10 th -12 th August	Purbeck Rally, Worgret Road, Wareham, BH20 6AB 10am
1 st —2 nd September	MMOC Isle of Wight Branch Rally, Havenstreet Railway Centre (IOW), 9am email: bas.boy.will@googlemail.com
2 nd September	Classic Cars on the Prom—Christchurch Quay
5 th September	Club Night—tbc
30 th September	Classic Cars on the Prom—Christchurch Quay
3 rd October	Club Night—AGM
7 th November	Club Night—Talk by Darren from Timeless Classics Ltd
5 th December	Club Night—tbc

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

Word Seeker: answers







CLUB NIGHT ACTIVITY: Talk on 'Dad's Army'

Inside this issue....

Editorial and Notifications					
Please read: GDPR—urgent action required					
Secretary's Report					
Editor's Inbox	7				
Chairman's Report	8				
Word Seeker: Films of the 1960's	9				
My First Car: Betsy the Morris Minor stranded by high tide					
Eddie's Garden Show—give it a grow!: advance notice	12				
Eccentric British People: Mad Nurse	14				
For Sale and Wanted (and Club Notices)	14 -15				
News from the Spares Department	16—17				
Word Seeker answers	18				
Forthcoming Events	19				
Morris Minor Regalia Catalogue	20				

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 Club Night.



Editorial

Hi All! Hope the Beast from the East is not bullying you into staying indoors and that you're making the most of those few sunny days to get out and about. Despite its constant return (I personally think it should be renamed the Eastern Beast's boomerang) there's a definite sense of spring in the air as nature is waking up, plants start to grow and birds are busy building their nests. Isn't the earth just such a special place!!

Cyril has returned from his final bits of welding in preparation for our big trip to 'Minors on Tour' (MOT) in the South West of France at the end of May. I just would like him to get a full 'once-over' before he goes now to ensure mechanically he's in a good place. Only 2months to go and we'll be setting off from Portsmouth. It's very exciting.

My fundraising on the other hand isn't going so well. As I mentioned in the previous newsletter, as part of this big trip, **I will try to raise funds for Arthritis Research UK**, because more research is needed in causes of fibromyalgia and other arthritic conditions that cause lifelong suffering, forcing people to change their plans in life to suit the condition. My dad is also one of those people (as I suspect many of you are too), whose arthritis in his hip and knee are now stopping him from living his up till now very active and healthy life.

I hope you will support me by providing a donation—however small. All monies raised will go directly to the charity. I am funding the cost for the trip from my own savings.)

Talking about my dad (I know some of you know him): he and my mum have just left after visiting me for 10 days. They told me this may have been the last time they've driven over, as they feel they're becoming too frail and tired and the journey is just too much for them. To be honest, It shocked me and made me really sad. I don't see my parents enough but have realised over the years that they are growing older. However, up till now they've spent at least 6 months of the year touring in their campervan. To think they now start to feel too frail to continue in the same vain is making me realise that I need to spend as much time as possible with them. Because one day when I look up from my busy life, they won't be there anymore! As American entrepreneur and author Jim Rohn said: 'Your family and your love must be cultivated like a garden. Time, effort, and imagination must be summoned constantly to keep any relationship flourishing and growing.' That holds true for all of us.

Talking about gardening, for those of you who wish to take part in this year's gardening competition, and missed last month's piece on it: I've repeated it on page 12 of this issue of the newsletter to get it out to as many people as possible. Gardening is a good all-round form of exercise (both physical and mental). As well as strengthening your bones, muscles and joints, it also improves your balance and ability to do daily activities. It can also decrease lifestyle diseases such as obesity, high blood pressure, type 2 diabetes, osteoporosis, heart disease, stroke, and some cancers.

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



Rebuilt **HS2 carburettors** for 948 and 1098 £105 each plus £25 exchange surcharge. (Others reconditioned to order—please ask Brian)





We also have some **reconditioned fuel pumps** for sale at £55 each (£50 to Branch Members) Postage is about £5. *Standard*

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

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

Our Morris Minor plates are specially designed with radius corners to fit the rear aperture of a Morris Minor. All our embossed aluminium plates are handmade using traditional methods, stoving enamels and decades of experience.

Rear Plate



O114 273 1151 www.jepsonclassicplates.com Jepson Classic Plates. 44 East Bank Road, Sheffield, S2 3QN

JEP 123L

JEP 123

News from the Spares Department

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

Reconditioned 948cc engine

Ready to fit, complete with unleaded head, new pistons, rebored, reground crank etc., new oil pump, water pump, duplex timing chain, spin on oil filter conversion.

Branch Member price: £895 More photos and detailed spec sheet on website





Reconditioned 1098 geabox Built to ESM 'Higher Specification' with new first gear, reverse idler, laygear and replacement front cover with oil seal. C/w refurbished clutch fork and all rubber gaiters and bungs. **Branch Member price £495** More photos and detailed spec sheet on website.



KINSON TYRE SERVICE 01202 573698 / 576653 1469 Wimborne Road Northborne Bournemouth BH10 7BQ **MRF** CLASSICS— MOBILE MECHANIC Servicing & repairs: specialising in classic cars British Leyland trained:45 years in motor trade No obligation guotes & consultations: Dorset MMOC

Contact MARTIN: 07521 643751

e:mrfclassics@talktalk.net

So plenty of motivation to get stuck in and use the longer days to start growing some plants. And if you get the family involved, it can even give you quality time with them, allowing learning of new skills and potentially some fresh air (and dirty finger nails).

Aside from Eddie's famed gardening competition, the list of events is growing, so do check to see if/ when you'd like to come along. Personally, I hope to be there for 'Drive It' day.

If you have any little stories you feel might be good to tell, then do send me an email or come and talk to me at Club Night. I'd love to publish more of our own members' stories that reflect your love for that little car.

See you about and keep them rolling!!



Please read: GDPR—urgent action required

You may have been contacted by a number of organisations that you do business with about the GDPR—the General Data Protection Regulations. It comes into force on 25th May 2018 and replaces the Data Protection Act of 1998. It affects any organisation that collects and stores personal data. It therefore applies to our club and we need to take action in order that we comply with its provisions.

We have reviewed the way we do things, and have made some changes. We will be writing to you shortly to explain what these changes are as well as how we collect data and use it. One of the main changes is that we'll need to gain your specific consent to allow retention of your membership information.

You MUST sign and return the letter (or a copy) by the May 2018 clubnight (2nd **May**), as without your express consent we will be unable to continue to store your membership data and therefore serve you as an individual member. Thank you for your timely response on this. Any questions, please speak to a member of the Committee.





RELIABLE SERVICE PLEASE CONTACT US ON: 07778 385541

Secretary's Report

Good evening everyone and welcome to April newsletter. Many thanks to Andy and his daughter, Lucy, for last months quiz and well done to the winning team. Tonight we Steve Roberts who will be giving us talk entitled Dads Army Fact and Fiction. Next month Phil will be coming along to give us another of his Antiques Roadshow evenings.



Lots of details of local events are now coming in as well as club events. Don't forget to get your slip in for the Drive It Day Run on Sunday 22nd April. Also, please remember the Holdenhurst Village Fete on Saturday 14th July from 11am. I would really like to put on a good show of cars for them so please put your name up on the list if you can come. You will get a free cup of tea!

The consensus of opinion from last month would seem to be that you want to have a club stand at the Poole Bay Classics Motoring Extravaganza at Breamore House on Sunday 15 th July. I have printed off the entry forms which are available for you tonight.

We will be having a club stand at The Lymington Show on 5 th August. Entry this year is by online entry form and I know the show is filling up very quickly with individual entries already full. If you are planning to enter, you'll have to do so via the car club entry section and say you are with the Morris Minor Owners Club.

Moggyfest plans are coming along very well. Entries should have been in by the end of March but I'm sure we'll be able to squeeze you in if you get your form in tonight. The display is looking to be very good this year with Roger beavering away feverishly on it! We are still in need of period artefacts from the 40's, 50's, 60's and 70's though, so if you have anything we could borrow please let Roger of me know. What I would really like to find is a 1950's television set - if anybody has one we could borrow.

Unfortunately, with the cold weather over the last month, progress has been very slow on the Series II. The rebuilt carburettor has now been refitted though and she is purring like a sewing machine. The new carpets have arrived from Coverdale Carpets. I found that one of their samples was almost an exact match to an unfaded patch of original carpet I still had in place. I'm still planning to get her along to Beaulieu though so it looks like a busy month ahead in the garage!

That's about all from me for this month, so until next time: Happy Minoring

aurie

For Sale & Wanted & Club Notices

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



For Sale: 1954 Series 2 Morris Minor Saloon. Original 803cc engine. Black with contrasting pearl grey wheels and grille. Very original standard spec car. No heater, one sun visor, no overriders, vynide facings to seats rather than leather. Never been welded, underside is as it left the factory. One of the best we have ever seen. History file shows mileage in 1988 as 7381, now showing at just under 9000 miles. The red interior has a nice

patina, no damage to the seats or headlining. Only the carpet has been replaced. May part exchange for another Minor. One for the collector. If originality is your thing – then look no further. **£5,995.** Please contact Steven Loder on **07748 154474**

For sale: Morris Minor 4 door 1967 "Trafalgar Blue"

2 previous owners only— last owner spent £5k at Bath. A very tidy & solid car. 62,000 miles. newly rebuilt & unleaded head, new clutch, brake overhaul, battery and long mot. Complete service **£3995 ono.** Please call Gary **on 07984996071**

For Sale:

•Large capacity (9 gallon) Saloon / Traveller / Convertible petrol tank **£110** Please contact Steven Loder on **07748 154474**

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 Club Nights. We therefore need to update our records so that we can take advantage of this scheme. Please would you advise the Membership Secretary of your <u>MMOC membership number</u> and renewal date and make sure that you sign the attendance sheet at the Club Nights. Thanks.

BRANCH SPARES DEPARMENT 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 <u>10%</u> 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 Club Nights 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 *usu-ally* no postage charges. Some locally made and reconditioned items are also available, such as bonnet props, fuel pumps, and carburettors. (*subject to fair use).

For Sale & Wanted & Club Notices

Editor's Inbox

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

For Sale: 1964 Morris Minor Traveller with 1098cc engine. Unleaded Head fitted. Mot 10/10/2018. No advisories. Family owned all it's life except for 9 years. 3 recorded keepers. Very good inside and out including the wood. Lots of old mot's and paper work with the car. Very good Bridgestone tyres fitted. Can deliver if required. £6750.00 o.n.o. Phone 07939 264653





For Sale: Series 2 1956 Morris Minor 4 door, split screen. Stored in a dry barn, Runs well, reluctant sale. Number plate WUR 32 worth over £2k. Ring for more details 01494 758828 Bucks (MMOC number 73139)

For Sale: Morris Minor bonnet in pretty reasonable condition in Tiverton (Devon). Email for more details kateg1953@icloud.com

Eccentric British Deople: Mad Nurse

A nurse set himself on fire and ran 100 yards engulfed in a ball of flames.

Keith Malcolm, from Aberdeen, Scotland, was doused in petrol before sprinting 259 feet ablaze to beat the previous fire-run record of 227ft. To claim the record the amateur stuntman wore eight layers of protective clothing, including four layers of fireproof undergar-



ments, a Formula One fireproof jacket and three overalls. He also wore three fire hoods and a helmet and coated himself in special protective "stunt gel" so he would not be harmed by the flames, which are believed to have reached 1,000C.

Mr Malcolm, who now lives in Widley, near Portsmouth, Hants, England, set the new record at the Alton and North East Hampshire Agricultural Show. He had a team of experts from Hampshire Fire and Rescue on hand for the event which was aimed at raising money for Cancer Research.

Afterwards Mr Malcolm told Will and Guy, 'It was absolutely awesome. I managed it in 17 seconds and was running flat-out. I really did not want to hang around. There wasn't much left of the jacket at the end. To be honest, the heat I felt was what you would expect if you were wearing all those clothes and a helmet in hot weather and trying to run. We strongly advise readers **not** to try this at home.

Lymington Summer Spectacular August 5th

Just a quick reminder that this event is now fully booked for private entries - so if you are planning to attend, you will have to join the club stand which still has space. You can enter on line (£7 instead of £10 by post) and the link to the website is: http://www.lymingtonrotary.org.uk/SS 2018 HOME.html

In the recent inclement weather I started the Cowley and tried it in the snow. It waddled through with no problems. It just ran a little cooler. Having owned the car since 1964 I have used it in snow before but the new old pattern tyres work really well. Dave Walker





FPCS

FAIR PRICE CLEARANCE SERVICES

COMMERCIAL/HOUSEHOLD WASTE COLLECTIONS HOUSE/GARAGE CLEARANCE. VEHICLE RECOVERY CONTACT: KARL: 07711 770172 or STEWART:07950 114960 Or email:infofpcs@aol.com



ales: Simon Davis, Shaftesbury Road, nstridge, Templecombe, Somerset,

> SAMPLE PRICES: Rebuilt/ Exchange clutches for Mino



Specialised Pregnancy Massage available.

Introductory rates for validated **DMMOC** members upon presentation of this advert (1 per customer). Phone Rachel on 07854 849866 for more details and to discuss your treatment.

Chairman's Report



Good evening and welcome to April Club Night. I am sorry that I missed the March Club Night, - I wasn't feeling too well! I think it was the first Club Night I have missed in 18 years. I hope you all enjoyed the quiz that Andy and his daughter put together. Thanks to you both.

I was pleased to hear that members have chosen this year's charity the local Prostate Cancer Charity. Also the committee have arranged for

the Prostate Cancer Charity to have a stall at the Moggyfest weekend at Beaulieu. I hope they do well.

April 8th is the start of this year's classic cars on the Prom behind the Bournemouth International Centre. If you have never been, it is a nice way to finish the weekend off.

On May 2nd Club Night it will be the Antique Roadshow so dig out all those antiques from under the bed and bring them along to Club Night to be shown and valued by branch member Phil Traves (antiques expert).

As some of the members know, I have been collecting radios, record players and eight track players for years and have found it very difficult to find someone to repair them. At last I have found someone – his name is Phil and he lives in Bournemouth. He has been in the radio and TV repair business all his life. So if any of you have an old radio or record player for sale or repair let me know. I will be taking some of my radios and record players to Beaulieu for the display.

Don't forget to send in your slips for the Drive it day on 22nd April starting at Plowmans Garden Centre at 09:00.

That's all for now, your chairman John Jenkinson. Happy motoring,

John Jenkinson.







Old Autos

Old, Interesting and Classic Cars in any condition **BOUGHT AND SOLD** Paul 07890 096907, Ken 07814 385781 old_auto@yahoo.co.uk Open Friday and Saturday or by appointment Southfields Farm, Church Ln, W.Parley, BH22 8TR

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



(Proprietor, Steve Foreman) Unit 25, Eastmead Industria Estate, Lavant, Chichester, West Sussex, PO18 0DB, UK Phone/ Fax: +44 01243 788660

"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



Specialist body repairs and paintwork: Free estimates. All insurance repairs undertaken. Collection and delivery service.

ACCIDENT REPAIR CENTRE. Low Bake Oven Body Jig MIKE DREWETT **COLIN HUGHES**

UNIT 5, BROOK PARK, 27 BROOK ROAD, WIMBORNE, DORSET, BH21 2BH. Telephone (01202) 887727 www.bodycare-arc.co.uk



Eddie's Garden Show: give it a grow!

Advance notice by Eddie Pateman

Well it's that time of the year again where your planning ought to start for our annual Gardening Competition, which this year takes place on **1st August '18**—at our monthly Club Night. Please see below the categories you will be able to enter in:



Flowers	1. Dahlias	1 vase of 3 blooms					
	2. Sweet peas	1 vase of 5 stems					
	3. Fuchsia	1 potted plant—any size					
	4. Mixed flowers	1 vase—any type					
	5. Potted plant	1 potted plant—any type					
Vegetables	6. Runner Beans	1 set of 3 beans					
	7. Potatoes	1 plate of 5—1 variety					
	8. Tomatoes—cherry	1 plate of 5 cherry type					
	9. Tomatoes—general	1 plate of 5 medium to large					
	10. Cucumber	1 cucumber—any type/ shape					
	11. Onions	1 plate of 5 onions or shallots					
	12. Marrow	Largest in show					
Children's Clas-	13. Flower Arrangement	Any type					
ses	14. Vegetable	Any type					

It is a superb opportunity for you to enter your produce and share it with the judges and the rest of our Club Members —all stand a chance of winning. If you do enter, focus on what's already worked well for you and don't stress! You should have plenty of time to come up with something amazing.

And remember: Gardening is something anyone can get involved in. We would love for as many people as possible to take part. Not only is it great for community spirit and getting to know your neighbours and fellow Club Members, but it can be really fun too. The competition is a great opportunity for you to share skills, grow edible produce or flowers and make a difference.



Faces

For further information, please come and talk to me.

Word Seeker: Films of the 1960s

			-							_		-			
S	L	U	0	s	F	0	L	А	V	Т	Ν	R	А	С	How many of
в	L	Т	0	Ν	Т	Ν	W	Т	Ν	Т	Е	R	М	L	How many of these block-
D	0	С	т	0	R	Ζ	н	Т	V	Α	G	0	т	0	buster films
V	F	Ν	Y	к	L	J	Ν	R	в	F	т	s	н	0	from the
Р	L	к	Е	0	Α	D	В	в	R	L	J	Е	Е	С	1960's have you seen?
s	Ζ	к	D	0	Т	А	R	н	s	Q	Ν	М	G	м	Words go in
Υ	Т	D	Υ	в	В	Е	Е	М	0	С	Е	А	R	U	all direc-
С	С	R	L	Е	Α	D	Α	R	U	J	Ζ	R	Α	1	tions right,
н	Е	s	С	L	R	G	к	Е	Ν	Υ	0	Υ	D	D	left, up, down and
0	s	т	D	G	А	Ν	F	н	D	в	D	s	U	Е	diagonal. Can
Р	т	R	Ν	Ν	F	Т	Α	т	0	С	Υ	в	Α	м	you find
L	Α	Α	А	U	0	V	s	Ν	F	т	т	А	т	Y	them all?
Α	т	Ν	Е	J	Е	1	т	Α	М	н	R	в	Е	0	
Ν	Т	G	1	s	С	L	Α	Ρ	U	Е	Т	Y	Е	в	
Е	0	Е	Ν	U	Ν	Е	т	к	s	w	D	к	М	w	
т	Ν	L	Ν	С	Е	н	т	Ν	Т	Т	U	R	Α	0	
0	Ζ	0	0	Α	R	т	Т	Т	С	L	Е	Е	R	С	
F	Е	V	в	т	W	F	F	Ρ	D	D	А	L	Υ	т	
т	в	Е	D	R	Α	0	F	Ν	М	в	s	т	Р	н	
н	R	G	А	А	L	Т	Α	L	s	U	Υ	s	0	G	
Е	А	Ν	Е	Ρ	Т	н	Ν	Ζ	Е	Ν	R	U	Ρ	1	
Α	κ	Υ	н	s	L	G	Υ	J	С	С	1	н	Ρ	Ν	
Р	F	G	Ν	0	М	Т	s	R	Α	Н	D	Е	Т	D	
Е	С	М	0	Q	Ν	Ν	т	М	F	Ζ	Е	н	Ν	1	
S	L	С	Т	Н	Е	В	Т	R	D	s	R	Т	s	М	
Bonnie and Clyde				Head					Pink Panther						
Breakfast at Tiffany's				Ice Station Zebra				Planet of the Apes				i			
Carnival of Souls				Jungle Book				Psycho							
Cool Hand Luke				Lawrence of Arabia				Rosemary's Baby Sound of Music							
Dirty Dozen Doctor Zhivago				Lion in Winter Mary Poppins				Spartacus							
Dr. S		-				Medium Cool				The Birds					
	-		-			Midnight Cowboy					The Graduate				
Easy Rider										The Userfler					

Night of the Living Dead

The Hustler

My First Car: Betsy the Morris Minor stranded by high tide

Originally published by Eastern Daily Press on 12/03/18 Author: Victor Bennett

As a young man, with a four-year-old boy, I was excited to go to the local garage, and car dealer, to choose my first car.

As this was 'uncharted waters' for a 26-year-old, I took along my father – ex regimental sergeant major Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (REME), 8th Army Desert Rat and now special constable – for support.

The dealer skipped around the row of shiny cars, opening doors and boots. I was in heaven as I was shown big meaty cars with white-wall tyres and engines that sounded very angry and loud.

My dad allowed me time to play, what he would call 'silly beggars', with the salesman before the long arm of the law was held up and we both stopped talking. He gestured with his head and the salesman walked over to him with the best look of innocence his face could produce. My dad had bought up 12 kids and I knew, from experience, when he was ready to talk the wisest thing was to listen.

He shook the man's hand, and covered the handshake with his left hand, as he made eye contact. The demeanour of the salesman changed as he replied with a low voice "How can I help you brother". "My name is Constable Bennett, this is my son, Vic. He needs a car for around £1,000 financed, over three years, and, as he has a young family, it needs to be economical and safe to carry my grandson in. Can you do that Graham or shall we go to the guy just down the Hertford road?"

"This way Mr Bennett, I think I have just the car for him."

As we turned the corner a car was being polished by a large man in blue overalls. I knew this was for me, it almost looked like it was smiling at me. The Morris Minor 1000, made in Cowley, Oxfordshire, boasted a 948cc engine and, as the banner across the windscreen stated, had a 'fitted radio'. The 1963 model had been modernised the year before. The split windscreen was now a single screen. The dated 'pop-out' sema-phore trafficators had been replaced by the latest flashing indicators.

Soon pen was put to paper and handshakes all round – a single hand for me, a double one from my dad – and we were off to Enfield Lock to drop dad off, and show mum.



Then it was full speed, 75mph, to Enfield Highway to show off to my neighbours and take my wife and little boy out for a drive. The milometer showed one mile when I bought it – when I asked about this, the dealer told me it had a new engine fitted. It is worth noting when I traded it in, three years later, it still had one mile on the clock.

We called her Betsy. She was small and tough. That summer we took her on her first holiday to the coast.

At Weymouth they had an elephant walking on the beach and sideways persistent rain. On the board it said ferry to the Channel Islands.

The problem was finding a place within walking distance to park. Touring the side streets I found a railway bridge with a box van parked beneath. Opposite the van was a gap for two cars – my lucky day. Soon we were bobbing across the sea for a week of sun.

When we returned the van had gone and Betsy was parked all alone. The van had been hiding a sign that said 'Motorists are warned not to park beneath the bridge as high tide reaches this mark'.

Looking at the stranded Betsy, she had a green line right round the bodywork just below the door handles. Water flooded out as I opened my door. With the help of an early-morning trawlerman, and a pile of old potato sacks to sit on, we towed it up and down the jetty until it spluttered into life. Unable, and certainly unwilling, to turn the engine off, the trawlerman untied the rope as Betsy crept coughing and spluttering down the road toward London.

The first 10 miles were at walking pace. If you tried to go fast, Betsy would start coughing and misfiring. After the engine block had dried out, we could pick up to 15 or 20mph. Holding our nerve, and our bladders, we slowly got back to Enfield.

After a complete clean up of the carburetor jets and new gaskets all round, Betsy was back, with just an, ever so slight, smell of salty fish.