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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 the Membership Secretary of your **MMOC membership number** and renewal date and make sure that you sign the attendance sheet at the clubnights. Thanks.

**MORRIS MINOR OWNERS CLUB**

# Dorset Branch

**THE MMOC MONTHLY MAGAZINE**




July 2023 Vol.26 issue 7  
www.dorsetmmoc.co.uk

## 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) **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.

**Membership currently costs £12 per year—£15 for joint membership.**

### Dorset Branch MMOC Key Contacts

#### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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##### Raffle Coordinators

Chris Tilley & Margaret Pateman

##### Branch Insurance Consultant

David Walker

##### Gardening Comp Sub-committee

Marilyn Kellow

Sue Cooper

Martin Harris

### FRONT COVER

### Moors Valley Country Park Show - 17th

June  
(Sorry to 'hog' the  
front cover two  
months in a row-  
dep.Ed)



**\*Print Deadline\* to ensure inclusion for any item within August Edition please:-  
Sunday 23 July 2023**

## THE 'BRIAN WOOD' REPORT and latest news from the Spares Dept.



We have had a busy month "post Beaulieu" in the spares department. Quite a lot of the stock was sold, mostly on the Saturday as reported last month and it has taken weekly orders to our suppliers. ESM to replenish the stocks. The annual stock take has been finished and we are now back to normal with stock levels. We are not planning to take the full spares stock to Wolvercroft but may have a few 'shiny bits' and any other parts that you may wish to pre-order. Please don't leave it until the last minute.



We heard the sad news on 12 June, whilst we were away in the Caravan at Weymouth, that Branch Member Marcus Christodoulides had had his Traveller stolen from outside his house. Even more sadly, the burnt-out shell was found the next day

nearby in Horton. It had been relieved of the engine, gearbox, bonnet, doors and interior prior to the remainder being destroyed. It is believed that it was burnt out and then moved to Horton as there didn't appear to be any scorch marks or ash debris on the road. If you have any information or have been offered suspicious parts, you can let me know and I'll pass on any information to the owner.

In other (non-Morris Minor) news, our refurbished Juke Box has finally arrived. We paid the deposit for it in November 2021 and it has taken until now for it to be stripped and restored to 'as-new' condition. It is a 1958 AMi 200 model in spearmint green. I have had plenty of time to collect the records and I am now like a small child with a new toy and feel the urge to press the buttons every time I walk past it. Until next time "keep on rocking" Brian.





## NEXT CLUBNIGHT

Graham Melly gives a talk and film show on the early days of the Dorset Branch



## In This Months Issue...

REGULARS	SPECIAL FEATURES
EDITORIAL, p.4	Editor's Inbox & News Desk p.5
CHAIRMAN'S REPORT P. 6	Rear Axle Oil Leakage Feature p.8-9
SECRETARY'S REPORT P.7	Branch Member News p.11
THE 'BRIAN WOOD' REPORT P.15	
VEHICLES FOR SALE - SPARE PARTS FOR SALE & WANTED P.14	
FORTHCOMING EVENTS LISTING P. 12-13	
UPCOMING EVENTS p.10	

### Dorset Branch Members-It's Your Magazine - It's Your Club !

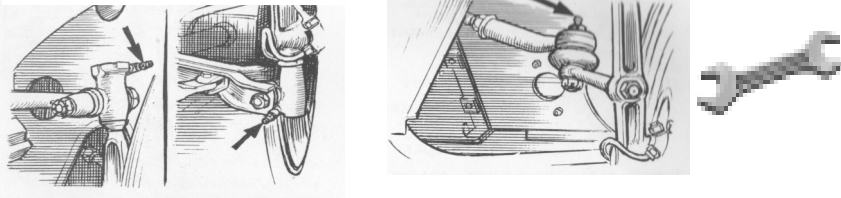
\*\*The Editor encourages and welcomes any written contributions - particularly loaned (or emailed) photos please of topical interest, from the branch members suitable for inclusion.

\*Please submit, if possible, any material or advertising matter, within 10 days prior to the next monthly club night date. (\*Inclusion within the next available published newsletter is subject to space, as it approaches the next respective monthly publishing deadline. The Dorset Branch MMOC will accept no liability in respect of goods or services provided by advertisers : No recommendation is implied : Any views expressed or advice given within the newsletter is offered in good faith and no liability is accepted by the Dorset branch or the MMOC for any consequences arising from following such material.

## 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



### Suspension Leg Trunnion Seals

These are now available as a 'car set' with 4 of each type to allow replacement of all the upper and lower trunnion seals on your car. Normal price would be £48 but the cost for the set is only **£39.50**



### Indicator Stalk Repair Kit

We can supply a new indicator stalk end to replace broken ones which house the green repeater light. £6 each



Point smartphone camera at code to go to the fitting instructions



**CLUB MEMBER DISCOUNT** Dorset Club Spares give paid up members the benefit of a 10% discount on Morris Minor Spares (unless not already on offer, or a discount from the club's supplier is not available) Spares parts available from Club Spares Manager **BRIAN WOOD**.

Hello dear readers, and welcome to the July 2023 edition of the newsletter. Your Editor-in-Chief, Roger has been given the month off his normal duties and the 'Deputy Editor' has been brought out of the garage, dusted off and sat in front of the PC. Consequently, the magazine will be shorter this month—so apologies for that.

We hope you all enjoyed the Moggyfest 23 'Souvenir Edition' last month. It certainly was a mammoth effort on Roger's part—especially considering it followed close on the heels of our big event of the year and was a huge success, due, in no small measure to Roger's efforts—so he deserves a rest after that.

Thanks to Phil Traves for his ever-popular antique presentation at last month's clubnight. It is always good to see a few of the old bits and bobs that you have tucked away in those dusty corners. Phil is one of our long-standing Branch members and now owns two Series II's a Traveller and a Convertible.



If you are planning to go to the Isle of Wight Show (3rd September) they have arranged a 15% discount on the ferry. Ask me and I'll send you the link to the discount page.

We attended the Moors Valley Country Park show a few weeks ago and that is where the cover photo of our Convertible was taken. It was a weekend show and we went on the Saturday, which was actually quite well attended. The weather was hot and we had to ensure we had a bit of shade to hide under. There were plenty of miniature steam engines and the steam powered railway was in full use giving rides around the park to the public. In the evening there was a barbecue which was very good but curtailed by a thundery shower. Probably time to withdraw anyway, as it had been a long day.



We are preparing for the National Rally at Chateau Impney (nr. Droitwich) which is the forthcoming weekend (at the time of writing). We are driving up for a few days in the convertible so looking forward to that one—hopefully the weather gods are still smiling by then. I

know Laurie and Ian are planning on going and I think Laurie has arranged a space on 'Branch Avenue' so, if you are planning to go, please come and say hello.

Cheers for now, Brian W.



## Forthcoming Club Events (cont)

19-20-Aug	<b>DORSET BRANCH ANNUAL RALLY</b> at Wolvercroft World of Plants, Alderholt. Camping Fri and Sat - booking req. if camping - form on website.
Aug-26	Wings and Wheels - 9:00 at Henstridge Airfield, Templecombe BA8 OTN
Aug-28	South Coast Classics (at Karting Centre (CCOTP are the organisers)
1-3 Sep	IOW Branch Rally at the Havenstreet Railway Centre. Book ferry through Wightlink using 15% discount code.
2-3 Sep	BEAULIEU INTERNATIONAL AUTOJUMBLE
06-Sep	<b>BRANCH CLUBNIGHT</b> - Annual Gardening Competition
24-Sep	SIMPLY BRITISH CLASSICS - Beaulieu. Booking through Beaulieu but let Laurie know so that we can park together.
04-Oct	<b>BRANCH CLUBNIGHT</b> - Annual General Meeting
01-Nov	<b>BRANCH CLUBNIGHT</b> - Toy Donation Talk from the Variety Club (details TBA)
06-Dec	<b>BRANCH CLUBNIGHT</b> - Noggin and Natter and Baby photo competition
13-Jan	2024 ANNUAL DINNER & DANCE



## Forthcoming Club Events

01-02 Jul	National MMOC Annual Rally, Chateau Impney, Droitwich WR9 0BN
01-Jul	Burton Scout Carnival, Burton Recreation ground. Whilst there is no need to book for this event, cars should arrive before 11:00 as the roads are closed for the Carnival (See Brian Till for more details)
02-Jul	HAMMOC (Hampshire Branch) Rally at Twyford Water Works. Booking forms on DMMOC Events page
05-Jul	DORSET MMOC Clubnight - <b>NOT AT THE ELECTRIC CLUB</b> . Meet at 'The Den' Francis Avenue BH11 8NX
15-Jul	Holdenhurst Village Fete - PLEASE ADVISE LAURIE IF YOU CAN ATTEND
21-Jul	Special <b>FRIDAY</b> Road Run to NOTHE FORT at Weymouth DT4 8UF Meeting up with the MMOC MOT-UK group. Meet at Upton House 9:00
30-Jul	Laurie's Summer Charity Garden Party
02-Aug	<b>BRANCH CLUBNIGHT</b> -Talk by Graham Melly on the Early days of the Dorset Branch
06-Aug	Lymington Classic Car Show. Book direct with Rotary Club Lymington.
13-Aug	MG Owners Club (1020) Athelhampton House. Contact MG club for booking forms (£10 per head entry fee)



## Editors In Box & News Desk





### **SUMMER GARDEN PARTY AT LAURIE'S**

*Laurie and family will be holding their annual Charity Garden party on **Sunday 30th July** (5 Headswell Crescent, Bournemouth BH10 6LF) Enjoy the garden and Motoring Memorabilia Collection. Light Refreshments and a performance by Significance Signing Choir. **PROCEEDS TO GO TO JULIA'S HOUSE CHARITY***

### **DORSET BRANCH MMOC ANNUAL DINNER DANCE 2024**

#### **at The DUDSBURY GOLF CLUB RESTAURANT**

**7pm Saturday January 13th**  
**(KEEP THE DATE FREE—pricing & menu will be published soon)**






## Chairman's Report



Hello everyone and welcome to the July newsletter. Firstly, let me apologise for the newsletter this month – Roger is not able to put the magazine together at the moment so a very short newsletter it is.

Many thanks to Phil and Craig for last month's Antiques Roadshow evening – it's amazing what we all have tucked away at home! I'm sure that one year when we do this we will find that undiscovered priceless masterpiece. We are organising a run out to them at The Sherborne Antiques Market again on 8th October. Hopefully you've all remembered that we are at The Den Antiques Emporium this month for clubnight! If not you'll find it very quiet at The SEB Club tonight!

Thanks to the members who brought along their cars to The Victoria School Car Show. Although it was only a small show they managed to raise in excess of £2,000 on the day. We went along to The Frogham Country Fair on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June. They now only have a very small number of vintage and classic cars come along compared to days of old but there was a very good selection of vehicles. The Fair itself though was really excellent with a large variety of stalls and activities going on throughout the afternoon – Neville was very taken by the hot dog stall and even took left over sausages home for tea!

As I write this there is a very busy weekend coming up – the National Rally at Chateau Impney, The Burton Scout Carnival and The Broadstone Family Funday. Ian and I are going up to the National in his Traveller for the weekend so if you're going I will see you there and whatever event you attended I hope you enjoyed it.

Don't forget the Holdenhurst Fete on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> July. I would really appreciate a good turnout of cars for this lovely traditional village fete and if you could arrive before 12:00 it would be much appreciated. Have you got your booking slip in yet for the visit to Nothe Fort in Weymouth on FRIDAY 21<sup>st</sup> July. We are meeting up with The MOT UK entrants for this event. If you've never been to Nothe Fort I can thoroughly recommend it. We will be meeting at Upton Country Park for 9am for the run across to Weymouth. Don't forget that we are having a club stand at The Lymington Show on 6<sup>th</sup> August. We have booked a space for about 30 vehicles but you will need to enter via the Rotary Club website.

We would love to see you at our garden party on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> July from 12:00. All proceeds from the day will be donated to Julias House. The address is 5 Headswell Crescent, Bourne-mouth, BH10 6LF.

Last month saw Bobbie have a catastrophic brake failure whilst out on a family picnic which I didn't inform them of until we got there. A call to the AA saw the car being picked up by GRS and delivered safely back home. Upon investigation we couldn't find anything wrong but all the brake fluid was gone! With the fluid refilled and the system bled the car was used again with no problems apart from some weeping of fluid down the near side rear wheel which turned out to be a split copper washer so this has been replaced and hopefully the problem

*(Continued on page 7)*

## UPCOMING (Cont.)

**Laurie Says...** Booking slips need to be in tonight (5th July) for the visit to Nothe Fort in Weymouth on FRIDAY 21<sup>st</sup> July. We are meeting up with The MOT UK entrants for this event. If you've never been to Nothe Fort I can thoroughly recommend it. We will be meeting at Upton Country Park for 9am for the run across to Weymouth



## Branch Member News



**Enid Smith** (left) has now had her left knee replaced (to match the other one) and is recovering well and thanks everyone for their good wishes. Mike says she is in training for the Annual Burley 500m hurdle race and should be able to clear the fences with ease.

### Karon Brown

(right) recently had a high blood pressure scare and spent one night waiting in Southampton hospital A & E. She is now recovering back home and awaiting further tests. (Apparently, she didn't have the moustache when she went

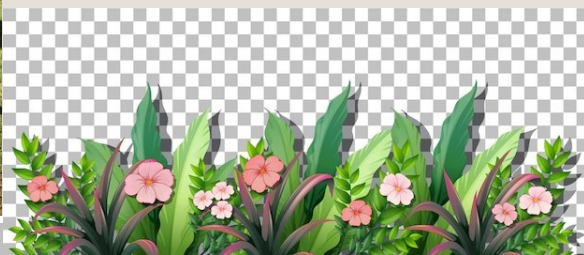


in). (Photographs reproduced with permission!)

## UPCOMING



The Branch Annual Rally at Wolvercroft World of Plants at Alderholt will be held on the weekend of August 19-20 (Main show is on the Sunday) There will be a scenic run on the Saturday afternoon. If you would like to attend you don't need to book, however, we would like a booking form from you if you intend to camp overnight. The forms are now available on the Branch Website under the Events listing.



We have arranged a club run to Sherborne on Sunday October 8th to visit the Sherborne Antiques Centre run by Phil and Craig. We plan to arrive at Sherborne at 11:00 and will arrange a meeting place for those who want to go in 'convoy' - to be confirmed nearer to the time. Refreshments will be laid on (sausage and bacon baps) and tea and coffee will be available. There is no charge, but we would like to know how many are coming. Please fill in the entry form which is currently on the website Events page and return to Jacky by 4th October clubnight.



## Secretary's Report



I hope that Laurie has reminded the Southern Electric club that we aren't there this month, otherwise the bar staff will have a mountain of sandwiches to get through. I've never been to Molly's Den before so looking forward to having a peruse around and enjoying the café.

Laurie and I are off to the National Rally at Chateau Impney this weekend, we're taking my Traveller and camping. This will be the longest trip my car has done in a very long while. It's running ok at the moment, so I've resisted the temptation to tinker with anything. I'll be taking a Morris Minor first aid kit with me just in case.

I've taken the advantage of the dry weather to give the woodwork a coat of Danish Oil, having not done it

for a couple of years patches were starting to look a bit dry. It's certainly easier to maintain than varnish and doesn't look that different.

I hope that everyone who made it to the Frogham Fayre had a good day out, the photos I've seen looked like they had a very good selection of cars on display.

I must try to get a ticket to next year's show, as this is an event I've never attended before.

The events calendar is looking very busy over the next couple of months. Please check the events calendar page and get your entries in.

I'm hoping to make it to the Northe Fort on Friday 21 st July, it should make an excellent photo opportunity with all the cars parked up inside the grounds.

Hopefully there should be some entry forms available for the Dorset Branch rally at Wolvercroft now Ed? *(Yes there is now Deputy Ed)*

It was very sad to read about a Dorset member's Traveller that was stolen off their driveway in the Fordingbridge area, the car was subsequently found robbed of parts and burnt out. Our thoughts go out to the owner, we're so sorry for your loss. I'm always concerned about security, perhaps it would be a good subject for a future article in the newsletter. If anyone has any ideas or would like to contribute or even write the article, please let us know. Ian.

*(Continued from page 6)*

solved. If not I'll let you know next month!

We're back at The SEB Club in August where Graham will be putting on a film show of old Dorset Branch events taken back in the 80's which should be very interesting. We will also be discussing the final details for The Dorset Branch Rally at Wolvercroft.

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



**By Dorset Branch Spares Manager - BRIAN**

### Axle Oil Leakage

A recurring problem with Morris Minors is leaking oil seals in the rear hubs. This inevitably leads to oil getting on to the brake shoes and reinforces the widely held prejudice that Morris Minor brakes are just rubbish. There is another, probably more widespread problem which gives a similarly detrimental effect on the braking efficiency and that relates to corroded brake cylinders which leak brake fluid on to the linings. However, you can usually tell the difference since brake fluid is generally odourless and rear axle oil (EP90) does have a distinctive, rather unpleasant smell.

Returning to the original leakage suspect, it is often the case that long life and high mileage will gradually cause wear to the running surface on the axle caused by the oil seal. Yes, I know it seems a bit unlikely that a rubber seal will wear down a hardened steel surface – but it does happen! There is also the problem of the clumsy mechanic who has damaged the surface (see photos) which will add to the inefficiency of the oil seal.

“What’s the answer, Brian” I hear you say. Well, SKF – a well known bearing and other parts supplier makes a repair sleeve which is very thin and will just fit over the axle bearing surfaces giving a new slightly larger diameter running surface. (Congratulations to whoever worked out which part number to specify for the Minor!)

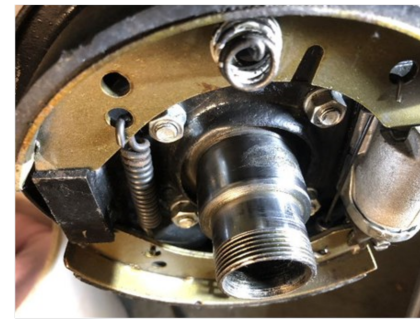
My convertible project has been fitted with a very good condition axle casing that I picked up at our Dorset Branch show at Burley some years ago. It reputedly came from a South African car and had virtually no rust. However, the offside hub mounting had been attacked by ‘Mr Clumsy’ and the surface was quite badly damaged just where the oil seal runs. An ideal opportunity to try one of these repair sleeves was thus conceived.

The sleeve comes as a plain ring with an application collar at one end. The collar can be removed when fitted as there is a groove around the circumference which is weakened in readiness. There is also a specially sized ‘cup’ which is intended to be used to slide the sleeve into position. However, due to the threaded projection which holds the large nut, this is of no use in this process – so it can go in the bin.

Now there is a problem at this point which I only realised after I had fitted the sleeve and discovered it was in the wrong place – thereby wasting the part as it cannot be removed without wrecking it. As the supplied ‘cup’ was of no use to install the sleeve, I put the hub back on as it is ideally sized to push the rim along the axle into position. When I had pushed the sleeve right back as far as it would go – it dawned that the new oil seal running surface was not in the correct position as it had been pushed right back beyond the reach of the seal which is quite close to the outer shoulder on the axle. The only answer was to fit a second sleeve(!) and trim it to fit the bearing shoulder. I made the expensive mistake so you don’t have to.

I had decided to treat both sides – as I believe that it is better to keep things even – and so this gave the opportunity to try and get it right the second time. I ‘snipped’ the fitting collar prior to fitting so that it could be easily removed afterwards. You just have to be careful to just push the sleeve far enough along the axle so that it is flush with the shoulder – and no further.

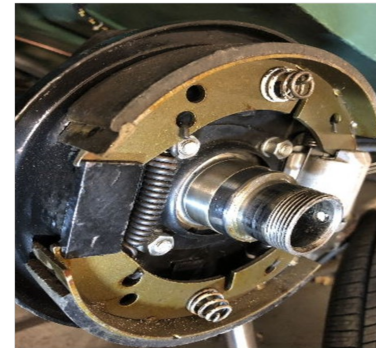
I have contacted ESM about this as I felt that a little advice on the website would have helped.



Damaged axle bearing surface to be covered



SKF Sleeve Kit



Here sleeve incorrectly fitted too far back  
Also note slight damage still exposed.



Sleeve on other side being fitted using an old locking  
Washer to gently ease it over the axle.



Sleeve fitted in the correct position  
with the ‘snipped’ collar ready for removal.



Collar being torn off with side cutters showing  
Showing finished article—ready for reassembly .