

# Dorset Branch



**THE DMMOC MONTHLY MAGAZINE**



*Oct 2024 Vol.27 issue 11*

[www.dorsetmmoc.co.uk](http://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 Club night is an opportunity to meet the other enthusiasts and enjoy a presentation or other activity organised by the Committee.

**Membership currently costs £15 per year—£20 for joint membership.**

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#### **NON COMMITTEE VOLUNTARY POSTS**



**Raffle Coordinators**

Chris Tilley &  
Margaret Pateman

**Branch Insurance Consultant**

David Walker

**Gardening Comp Sub-committee**

Sue Cooper  
Martin Harris

**New Post**

**Creative Design Consultant.**

Roger Kellow

### ***FRONT COVER***

***Get your horror stories ready***

**\*Print Deadline\* to ensure inclusion for any item within Nov Edition please:-**

**Oct 27 2024**



# Dorset Branch Newsletter

**MORRIS MINOR OWNERS CLUB**



***NEXT CLUBNIGHT -Nov 6th***  
*Is Quiz Night*

## ***In This Months Issue...***

<b><i>REGULARS</i></b>	<b><i>SPECIAL FEATURES</i></b>
<i>Chairman's Report P.4</i>	<i>Secretary's Report P.5</i>
<i>Editor's Report, P.6</i>	<i>Brian Wood's Report.P.14-15</i>
<i>Forthcoming Events p.7</i>	<i>Update from Graham p 8-9</i>
<i>Branch Events—DINNER DANCE p/10-11</i>	<i>Spares News and Cars/Parts for sale p.13</i>
<i>Tyneham Village Run p.12</i>	

***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.

## ***Chairman's Report***



Would you believe it that another year has passed since the last AGM. Thanks to you all for supporting the club and the committee throughout the year and I hope you have been happy with what we have organised for you this year.

September has been a very busy month for us. It started with our overseas trip to the Isle of Wight for their annual rally. It was a very long but a very enjoyable day. We left home at 6:50 to make our way to Lymington for the ferry which was very quite with only about 15 cars on board. We made it across the water and onto the rally site by about 9am where we were greeted by a field full of Minors and other classic cars. We had a very good trip around the island on the 1939 vintage bus – The Old Girl. The Dorset Branch made a killing on the raffle before we all headed back to the ferry and back home.

I made my annual pilgrimage to The Beaulieu International Autojumble. Although it was slightly smaller than previous years it does seem that the foreign visitors and stall holders are making a gradual return with lots of Dutch, French and German voices to be heard around the site. I made my usual purchases of lots of items that I probably didn't really need! Two more clocks made their way home with me along with another 10 books which made my rucksack very heavy!

As I write this we are preparing for our run down to Sidmouth for the Sidmouth Classic car Show. We are praying for good weather as the forecast is looking a bit iffy! If it rains the show will be cancelled. I'm sure we'll still have a good weekend whatever happens.

The last event of the month will have been Simply Classics at Beaulieu. I'll report back on both of these events in more detail next time.

With the rally season now coming to an end I should hopefully have time to get back out in the garage to get on with the restoration of the 4 door. Next job is to get her back down on 4 wheels and crack on with the bodywork. I seem to have a selection of doors to choose from but I think I'm short of one wing – but I can't remember which one!

Booking slips are now out for the annual dinner and dance which we are holding at The Miramar next time. Please get your slips into Jacky as soon as you can. Can I also ask that you return your membership renewals to Brian as soon as possible.

That's all from me for this month

Happy Minor-ing Laurie

# ***Secretary's Report***



Many thanks to Phil & Craig for entertaining us with the antiques evening, thank you to everyone that brought along something for them to look at as well. I'm afraid that the October meeting is probably the most boring of the year but nevertheless essential to the running of the club.

We are aware that the new room at the Southern Electric Club is not suitable for our needs, and we have made them aware. We also have some options which we are looking into, thanks to all

those that have made suggestions.

We are looking at some ideas for the Mistletoe Meander road run, as the feedback from last year was that the food was poor at the club.

We have organised a trip out to a regular classic car meetup at the Hall & Woodhouse Brewery Tap & Shop on 20<sup>th</sup> October. The entry is a donation of £2 for charity, if you enjoy the event then I'm sure you can go again next month. I think it's a great idea to attend regular events as a guest club, we are always happy to host other clubs at events that we organise. Laurie has suggested that we should find somewhere for a regular breakfast meetup, if there is enough support for a regular gathering, we will look into it.

I'm writing this report in the Drawing Room of the Royal Glen hotel, Sidmouth. The Sidmouth Classic car show is tomorrow on the cricket ground overlooking the beach. There are still a few events in this year's calendar before the end of the season. Dates for the diary next year are already starting to come in and it's going to be busy.

Thank you to all those that have already renewed your membership subscription, if you haven't then you might not be reading this and realise that there's something you forgot to do!

Dave Walker has kindly donated a roof rack for the club van, which we hope to get sign-writed. We have fitted a mesh guard and a reversing camera, along with looking into a problem with the brakes.

Entry forms for the Dinner & Dance should be available now, we will be at the Miramar Hotel Bournemouth this year. You might be lucky enough to win a trophy for your car too!

Ian.

# ***Editors Report***



Well I thought September was going to be a wash-out as so many shows were cancelled or shortened due to the weather. Well we did end on a high and managed to visit two new events and had a good runout to Tyneham village with the club.

I know other members went to the Isle of Wight and Sidmouth as well as the Beulieu Autojumble.

The club dinner dance is now confirmed and you can now book accommodation with breakfast included. Our annual dinner dance is an opportunity for us to get together to celebrate all our achievements during the past year. Smart dress is the dress code for this event and there is a great raffle and you might win one of the many trophies for your car.

Some pictures from Berwick St John steam and country show .

Highly recommend this show set in a stunning valley with good value for money events and catering.

Cheers Ed.



# ***Branch Events***

	<u>2024 events</u>
02-Oct	<b>A.G.M</b>
06-Oct	<b>CCOTP Christchurch Quay</b>
20-Oct	<b>Road trip to hall &amp; Woodhouse Blandford</b>
06-Nov	<b>Quiz Night</b>
04-Dec	<b>Club Night</b>
29-Dec	<b>Mistletoe run</b>
	<u>2025 events</u>
11-Jan	<b>Dinner Dance</b>
05-Feb	<b>Club Night</b>
05-Mar	<b>Club Night</b>
02-Apr	<b>Club Night</b>
07-May	<b>Club Night</b>
17 18 May	<b>Moggyfest</b>
19-Jul	<b>Holdenhurst Village Fete</b>
16 17 Aug	<b>Branch Rally</b>
23 24 Aug	<b>Henstridge Wings and Wheels</b>

## ***Non DMMOC Events***



Blue Moon Entertainers Present...

# Old Time Music Hall

Variety Show

Saturday 30th November 2024  
2:30pm (Doors Open at 2pm)  
In aid of Wessex Cancer

at

Broadstone War Memorial Hall,  
Tudor Road, Broadstone. BH18 8AW

Tickets: [bluemoonentertainers.co.uk](http://bluemoonentertainers.co.uk)  
Free Phone: 0333 666 3366  
or Buy on the Door

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Comedy  
Plus  
Dancers

Tickets £10. Seniors and children £8 – Show length approx. 7h  
Venue BROADSTONE WAR MEMORIAL HALL, TUDOR ROAD, BROADSTONE BH18 8AW  
Ticket FREE PHONE 03336663366 or [bluemoonentertainers.co.uk](http://bluemoonentertainers.co.uk)

# ***Update from Graham***



After last months trials and tribulations with my Series 2, things are starting to get moving again to complete the car that Laurie says is being entered in next year's May Moggy Fest.

The headlining that was faulty, Newton Commercials agreed that it had not been made correctly and kindly sent a replacement. Which guess what, it was exactly the same as the original one.

I have since been helping Nigel Seymor with a customer's car that also requires a new headlining and James from Rawhide Trimmers is happy to make. He has my Newtons one as a template and he has agreed to add the faulty missing stitching.

The Autospark replacement wiring loom is now fitted and nearly all the connections to various fittings are done. But I did notice that there are no wires to connect a second Lucas Wind Tone horn. These horns are either side of the radiator and Autospark have agreed to make a short two wire purple and purple/black braided wired loom for me.

I decided to go into my pit under the car and check all the brake connections to make sure that there we no leaks of the silicon brake fluid. Unfortunately the front driver's side tyre had fluid all down the outer side wall.



This turned out to be one of the two brake cylinders leaking.

I did have four original Lockheed made brake cylinders that I bought about 40 years ago and thought they were probably past their sell by date. So last year at the Beaulieu Autojumble I bought a set of four pattern part brake cylinder that I thought was a sensible alternative. However having removed the pattern part cylinders and on checking the internal seals they were not very substantial in doing their job properly.

I then dismantled the Lockheed ones and they were as good as new and the seals are definitely up to the job.



*(Continued on page 9)*



# ***Update continued***

*(Continued from page 8)*

A photo shows the difference. Left pattern and right Lockheed.

Well, it has been raining a lot recently and in my case it has been pouring as they say.

I noticed that the oil gauge tubing from the engine block that goes through the bulk head to the dash instruments was pushed downwards by one of the hoses of the Smiths heater under the dash. So I decided to unscrew the lower hose and reroute the oil gauge piping. But the brass tube broke off.

Having then removed the heater the other brass connection tube had a very visible fracture. I decided to cut off the damaged tubing and bought a section of new pipe that I cut and soldered back on.

On little thing that I had intended on making was the thin steel cable that secures the rocker cover oil filler cap to the side of the rocker cover filler neck.

I managed to find some stainless steel bowden cable of the approximate thickness. I then cut a small section of mild steel sheet then in

a vice folded that around the cable and soldered that end and attached a fine 1mm wide piece to the other end. This will go into the small hole in the top of the oil cap.

I hope to have better news next time such as carpets fitted, seats in and dash and glove box done. Fingers crossed once more.

Thanks, Graham



# ***Branch Event News***

Bookings Now being Taken for our annual dinner dance and  
prize giving.

**11th January 2025**



## **HOTEL MIRAMAR**

East Overcliff Drive, Bournemouth, BH1 3AL

We can offer you a standard double/twin room at £70.00 per room per night to include B&B only. full supplements apply for upgraded rooms.

To book please call reservations '*quoting your surname and event date as reference*' and the team will pick up the rate, guests will be required to pay a non-refundable deposit of £50.00 per room per night on booking, the final balance is then required 3 days prior to the event.

**RESERVATIONS 01202 556581**

# DORSET BRANCH MMOC ANNUAL DINNER DANCE

11th January 2025

at Hotel MIRAMAR, BOURNEMOUTH

7pm Saturday January 11th



The Menu for the evening has now been finalised and is listed below . Forms will be issued with the newsletter (October) and will also be available on line at: <http://www.dorsetmmoc.co.uk/wordpress/admin/dindanceticket25.pdf>

**Please return your slips by DECEMBER CLUBNIGHT.**

The cost will be **£39.00 pp** for the three course meal including tea and coffee and one free drink voucher per person, plus entertainment.

## **Starters:**

Honeydew Melon (With a ball of Mango Sorbet and Mango Coulis)(V,VE,GF)

Miramar King Prawns Cocktail (with a lemon wedge) (GF)

Potato and Leek Soup (served with herb crouton) (GF option, VE)

## **Main Course:**

Seared Chicken Breast (GF) (potatoes and seasonal vegetables, pesto cream sauce)

Sea Bream Fillet (GF) (served with potatoes, seasonal vegetables and tarragon sauce)

Mushroom Stroganoff (GF,VE Option) (Saffron rice and seasonal vegetables)

## **Desserts:**

Mango Cheesecake (served with Chantily cream)

Lemon Posset (served with Chantilly cream, Fresh Raspberries, Raspberry Coulis and shortbread biscuit crumb)

Apple and Sultana Crumble (with Chef's homemade creamy custard)

**BOOKING FORMS IN THIS NEWSLETTER**

# ***Tynham Village August Bank Holiday Run***

A good turnout and wonderful weather first time here lovely place great beach and scenery to die for.



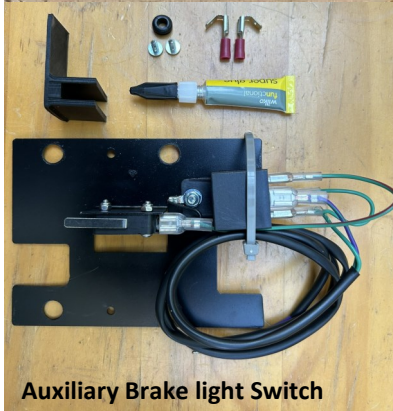
**Steve and Karon Brown** bring second hand books to clubnight every month for exchange, so if you have some books you have read and wish to exchange, please bring them along.

## ***CARS/PARTS FOR SALE AND SPARES NEWS***

Rear pattern wings—pair £100 each. Dynamator (new) £80.. Paul, Old Autos, 07890096907



**1969 Minor Traveller.** Extensive history file including invoices for new wood and unleaded engine 100% reliable. All panels removed rust cut out and repainted in 2 pack. Servo brakes electronic ignition £6500. Rick Dolman (Spetisbury) 01258 451756



**Auxiliary Brake light Switch**

The auxiliary brake light switches I mentioned last month are now in stock. This is our answer to the brakes lights on some Minors which only work in the event of a 10/10 emergency stop. Normal price is £28.75 but DMMOC member price is **£26**. I know its not the most exciting thing but please don't all rush at once!

(There are more details on the instruction sheet which is currently on the website at [http://www.dorsetmmoc.co.uk/wordpress/tech\\_articles/brakeswitchinstructions.pdf](http://www.dorsetmmoc.co.uk/wordpress/tech_articles/brakeswitchinstructions.pdf))



***Cars or Spares for sale or Wanted ,entries are Free to club members or £5 per entry for non-members . Traders display adverts in newsletter from £30 per year subject to size.***

# ***BRIAN WOOD REPORT***



Hi everyone.

We have just returned home from the Sidmouth weekend. We attended the Sidmouth Classic Car show on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> and it truly was a cracking show. The weather was obligingly hot and sunny all day and there were about 350 vehicles of all shapes and sizes – always an interesting show. We came back home on Sunday morning due to the weather – which by now had reverted to rain again! We also had a lot of things to do at home. We gave the convertible a run for this trip and on the way home, the temperature gauge kept creeping up to above 'N' where it usually sits happily. I noticed that when we stopped, I couldn't hear the electric fan (which was a new Revotec kit when the car was rebuilt). We got home OK and I got under the bonnet and discovered that the fan worked perfectly when provided with 12v, so I let the engine warm up again, burnt my wrist on the exhaust and found that the relay seemed to be spluttering in and out with little cooling effect. I have ordered a new relay switch kit and hopefully that will cure it. The only other thing it could be is the thermostat switch which is hidden in the bottom hose. Hopefully I won't have to dismantle that as well.

Earlier in the month was the Isle of Wight Rally at Havenstreet, which again was very good and well supported by us 'mainlanders'. We went over to that one in the Million and met up on Sat-



urday with Gevin and Elizabeth White who live in Sussex and own million number 320. We had afternoon tea at the Garlic Farm and dozens of people wanted to take photos of the two weirdly painted Morris Minors in the car park. Gevin took the prize for 'Best in Show' (at the rally, not the car park!).

I have been doing a bit of work on the 4 door this month, albeit not so much on the shell. The ancillaries are being attended to as and when time permits. The engine has already been prepared with not much work being required. Just needed to replace the timing chain (with duplex kit) and give a good clean up and service. It ran just fine before the work commenced so I'm going against the advice I usually dispense to others, and re-fitting it more or less as

*(Continued on page 15)*

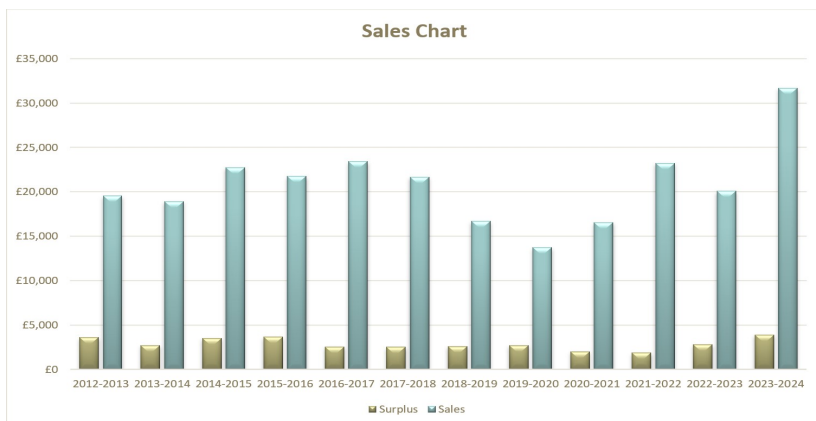
(Continued from page 14)

it is. The gearbox didn't appear to have any problems, but I thought it could do with a 'refresh'. In the event I found all but one of the synchro hub springs had broken, which is often one of the causes of skipping out of gear. I fitted new bearings and seals etc and it should now be good as



new. I had purchased some kettle descaler a while ago to use on the radiator and heater. The radiator was (I believe) the original one as it has a little brass 'Morris Radiator Department' plaque fitted. The rad was still in good condition only needing a soldering repair to the outlet drain. So I did the repair, flushed out the scale and repainted it so it's also as good new now (I hope!) The heater matrix was similarly flushed out but not very much scale seemed to come out, but the water looked pretty clean now – so it should be ok.

Jacky and I have totted up the finances for this last year and the spares has had its best year ever with sales of over £31k for the year. The surplus returned to club funds was about 12% which is slightly less than the running average of 14%. I wasn't surprised by the increase in turnover as it has been very busy throughout the year. Graham Melly's ongoing project I believe is largely responsible for this year's performance (and updated on page 8-9). I think sales will plummet when he finishes it!. However, as previously mentioned, the margins are getting ever tighter. But as ever, it is the member's support which keeps it going so thanks for that and keep it up. Cheers for now, Brian.





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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 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 **MMOC membership number** and renewal date and make sure that you sign the attendance sheet at the club nights. Thanks.