

# Dorset Branch



**THE DMMOC MONTHLY MAGAZINE**



*Sep 2024 Vol.27 issue 10*

[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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Margaret Pateman

**Branch Insurance Consultant**

David Walker

**Gardening Comp Sub-committee**

Sue Cooper  
Martin Harris

**New Post**

**Creative Design Consultant.**

Roger Kellow

***FRONT COVER  
Wolvercroft winners.***

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

**Sep 22 2024**

# Dorset Branch Newsletter

**MORRIS MINOR OWNERS CLUB**



## ***NEXT CLUBNIGHT***

*Is the Oct 2nd*

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

<b><i>REGULARS</i></b>	<b><i>SPECIAL FEATURES</i></b>
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### ***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***

We spent 5 days at Euro Disney at the beginning of the month. Very pleased that we've been but it was a very tiring week with 8 – 10 miles walked every day! I spent a fortune! But it's only money, lol!!

At club night it was the annual gardening competition. Many thanks to Martin and Sue for organising everything and well done to the winners of all the various categories. We had a 2<sup>nd</sup> club night – this time at The Den. The tea rooms were very busy and plenty of purchases were made. Please let me know if you would like another evening there next year.

On Norman's recommendation we went to Spetisbury Manor for their car show and dog show and Poppy even won 3<sup>rd</sup> prize in the waggiest tail competition!

The Branch Rally at Wolvercroft was very successful. Lots of campers and excellent company both evenings followed by copious amounts of food, and drink what's not to like! The Road run through to Rockbourne Roman Villa was enjoyed by everyone and we had a brilliant talk by John Smith. Sunday was a very well attended with up to 100 Minors and other classic cars. Some lovely vehicles on display with a particularly good selection of LCVs. Brian was kept busy with spares sales throughout the weekend as usual. Lewis and I slept in the Portafold for the first time, and it was quite comfortable and 100% better than sleeping in the tent. The winners this year were:

**Best Morris Minor – Tony Parker with his fantastic Pick Up**

**Best Visitor – Colin Hughes with his brilliant 2CV**

**Chairmans Choice – Jason Wells with his very rare A60 Pick Up.**

I had a conversation with Steve, the chairman of the Hampshire Branch, regarding the combining the Dorset and Hampshire Branch Rallies at Wolvercroft next year. I don't think we'd be averse to the idea, we wait to see what the members say at their AGM. This month we also have the BPPC event at Harmans Cross. What better way is there to spend your birthday and wedding anniversary than to ride up and down to Swanage on a steam train and eat fish and chips on the seafront! We have Beaulieu Autojumble this month too so hopefully plenty of bargains will be found on the famous autojumble fields. We will be off to Sidmouth for the weekend after for the Sidmouth Classic Car Show and then we have Simply British at Beaulieu on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup>. If you are planning to go, I suggest we meet at the cricket pitch at Burley as usual for a 9am departure and drive across the Forest in convoy to ensure we are all parked together.

That about all from me for another month  
Happy Minorng, Laurie

# ***Secretary's Report***



I hope that everyone enjoyed the gardening competition, well done to all the winners. Thanks to Martin & Sue for organising it all which is no mean feat! Hopefully it will be back again next year. As there were a few categories that didn't get any entries we are thinking about combining it with a Great Dorset Morris Minor Bake Off. We have done a cake competition before, so I know there are lots of bakers in the club and maybe some new ones too. Feel free to practice and bring along some cakes to the events and shows that we attend.

The annual club rally was a great success again this year. We had a very good turnout for the road run on Saturday along the single-track lanes of Dorset, I think ending the run at an attraction was a very good idea. John who gave the guided tour was very knowledgeable and answered lots of questions, the ice-creams from the shop went down well too. We will try to repeat this format next year and find another local attraction to visit. Next year we might be joined by the Hampshire branch for a combined rally. It was good to see so many familiar faces and cars and some new ones too on Sunday. Having the event at a garden centre with a café makes it a popular event and it's free! We will be making a donation to a charity of Wolvercroft's choice as a thank-you to them.

The new club van earned its keep transporting all the marquees, tables, banners, etc to and from Wolvercroft. Dave Walker has generously donated a roof rack for it, which we might be able to get some signage displayed on. The magnetic badges looked good on it too I thought.

There's still lots of events in the calendar, we will have just returned from the IOW rally. The Bournemouth & Poole Preservation Club's Classic & Steam Vehicle Show at Harmans Cross which includes free train rides! Next up is Henstridge which is a great opportunity to get up close to some old aircraft. A few of us are going to Sidmouth for a weekend and attending the Sidmouth Classic Car Show.

Finally, we have managed to resolve all the problems I've been having with my car over the past few months. Swapping the entire distributor for a known good one fixed the stuttering when putting the power down. So, we swapped the points and distributor cap on mine, the only bits we hadn't tried swapping and hey presto! It managed around 90 miles over the rally weekend, so I think that's it sorted.

Ian



## ***Editors Report***

Well what a busy month August has been. So many shows and so little time. We tried to stay local this month and also focus on good causes.

We went to Ellingham show, Netley Marsh as well as the clubs events . Had to change some items on Brian (the club Van) as the trailer attachment fouled the rear doors so they would not open. This is now sorted.

Been having a Friday club with Spud Taylor as he had issues with his starter, Brian Ford assisted to and also his cylinder head, plus wheel bearing needed attention.

Whilst doing the head, Spud decided to cure the oil leak from the valve covers. Well these had been distorted by the fitting of the wrong bolts. Now, the fixed van is running well. Spud now says I'm now a member of the dark side by tinkering with L.C.V.

The trip to Wales next year is fully booked so Bore Da to Martin and Sue, Ian and Tracey, Steve and Karon, Spud and Sue , Brian and Chris ,Brian and Jacky, Brain and Pauline ,Peter and Joy.

Think I might have to change my name to Brian.

We have a run out to Blandford Forum to Hall and Woodhouse Brewery in September. We will be joining the Dorset car club at this event please let us know if you wish to attend.

Henstridge show Wings and Wheels is a show I like to attend as the mixture between Aircraft and cars is always good.

This show has grown year on year and the club now has its own dedicated area.

Hope you all enjoyed Wolvercroft we now start planning Moggyfest 2025. Roger is already planning back drops for the show.

Cheers for now.

Ed



# ***BRIAN WOOD REPORT***



How's your summer been? Ours hasn't been not too bad actually, considering the variable weather. The highlight, being, of course, our weekend gathering at Wolvercroft . We were blessed with decent weather and good attendance both days. The 'Million' was in attendance . The Saturday run out to Rockbourne Roman Palace was very enjoyable and well supported. There were 3 of us in the Million which seemed fine until about half-way, when we started negotiating some rather steep hills. I had just serviced the brakes the previous week and it is usually the case that the braking performance takes a time to 'bed-in' following replacement brake shoes. The rear nearside started binding and got quite hot and we noticed a distinctive smell coming down some of the hills . Further investigative work has revealed a loose bee-hive spring which wedged itself between the hub and a brake shoe!

I expect Ian has concluded the saga on his Traveller not behaving itself. We eventually discovered that it was something very simple which was causing the misfire (which is usually the case).

I have finished assembling the new stock of electronic brake light switches so they are now available at the club member price of £26.00. Most of you will realise that the factory fitted brake light switches are not ideal – in that the new ones don't seem to last very long. This is because they rely on hydraulic pressure to operate the switch and since there needs to be about 4 amps to power the brake lights, electrical arcing occurs inside the switch. Over time, this causes a build-up of carbon on the contacts which increases the resistance and requires ever harder pressure to overcome this resistance. I designed and built a switch some years ago which utilised the physical movement of the brake pedal to activate a microswitch which in turn, activates a relay. This was for my convertible project (upon which I was going to employ servo assisted disc brakes). This requires slightly more complicated brake pipe plumbing in the offside engine bay. So, it occurred to me that the 4-way junction which houses the original brake light switch could be re-purposed for use with distribution of brake pipes to their various destinations. So, no brake light switch! The side benefit was that there was now a more reliable brake light activation. On other, unmodified cars, the kit allows for retention of the original switch, if desired, not least because it is a convenient wiring junction for connecting the wires to the new kit. So, there is a measure of redundancy – such that if either system fails, there is a backup in place. Fitting it is straightforward and instructions are included

We have the Isle of Wight show coming up next weekend , We are planning to take the Million – so not quite so weather dependant.

Cheers for now, and don't forget...Do not take life too seriously. You will never get out of it alive. (Elbert Hubbard)

Brian

# ***Garden Competition***

1 dahlias Theresa Moxley 2 sweet peas Roger Kellow 3 mixed flowers Jackie Walker  
4 potted plant John Jenkinson 5 single rose Roger Kellow  
6 soft fruit (Tie) Tracy Chivers & Ron Tickner 7 runner beans Mike Smith  
8 podded beans (Tie) Roger Kellow & Sue Cooper 10 Tomatoes Mike Smith  
11 cucumber / courgettes Ron Tickner 12 None 13 marrow John Blake  
14 peppers Olivia Akam 15. Carrots/parsnips Chris Tilly

Best in show :- First John Jenkinson with potted plant

Second Mike Smith with runner beans Third Sue Cooper with sweet peas

Best in show judged by Neville Gerry Lawrie Blewer senior Hayley (new member)





# ***Extra Wed trip To The Den***

Had a lovely trip to The Den Antique Emporium based in Bournemouth.



A good turn out of club members cars despite the weather not looking favourable also more members turned up in their daily drivers . Some



interesting purchases were made and we all enjoyed the warm welcome and the lovely café on the premises.

The original car diagnostic machine.



## ***Brian the support van on active duty.***



Set up day was very wet. Laurie , Brian Jacky and myself did struggle a bit as it was so wet and we did not have the 'Marquee Wrangler' Brian Ford with us. Brian the club van did a sterling job in carrying all the items we needed and towing the trailer. Pete



## ***WELL What Have the Romans done for us?***

Well, quite a lot actually . After a very interesting run of approx. twenty five miles we had travelled the four miles to Rockbourne Roman Villa.

To say it was hot would be a bit of an understatement . The talk was given by John Smith and was very interesting and unscripted what a wealth of knowledge John has got. Whilst most stayed the course some had to find shade and ice creams . Highly recommended visit another place I did not know existed. Well done Laurie and Ian for organising and well done John for even putting on a Roman centurion outfit in the heat.



# ***Wolvercroft D.M.M.O.C. branch rally***



Some pictures from Wolvercroft. The team at the garden centre did us proud. Nice to see a wide variety of Morris cars plus some other makes that are always made welcome. We had nearly ninety cars in attendance on Sunday



## ***Winners at show***



Brian Wood doing a sterling job on both days .  
Supplying both spares and sage advice to all who needed it.





## ***Branch Event News***

04-Sep	<b>Club Night</b>
6th 8th Sep	BPPC Harmans Cross
08-Sep	CCOTP Christchurch Quay
14th 15th	Beaulieu Auto Jumble
21-Sep	Sidmouth Weekend
22-Sep	CCOTP Christchurch Quay
28t 29th	Burley Steam
02-Oct	<b>Club Night</b>
06-Oct	CCOTP Christchurch Quay
20-Oct	<b>Road trip to hall &amp; Woodhouse Blandford</b>
06-Nov	<b>Club Night</b>
04-Dec	<b>Club Night</b>
11-Jan	<b>Dinner Dance</b>

## ***New Branch Members***

David Wingrove from Poole

Martin Symes from Haxton

Sheila Symes from Haxton

Patrick Ridley-Martin from Everton

Alistair Bowes from Lyme Regis

Quinton Stone from Totton

Elaine Stone from Totton

Alan Palmer from Bournemouth

Jean Palmer from Bournemouth   Matthew Rawlings from Bournemouth

Hayley Rawlings from Bournemouth

# ***Celebrating 30 years***

## ***of the National Coast watch Institution - (NCI)***

### **Flag relay from Stone Point NCI to Calshot Tower QAVS NCI.**

The National Coast watch Institution (NCI) is celebrating its 30 years of providing a visual lookout and listening ear around the coast of England and Wales. With more than 60 watch stations staffed by over 2,700 highly trained volunteers as part of the UK Search and Rescue system, the NCI keeps watch around the coast helping in the rescue of people who find themselves in trouble. To celebrate this year's 30-year achievement they decided to transfer a special version of their National Flag on a relay from watch station to watch station. It started at Fleetwood Lancashire on 3rd June 2024 in an anti-clockwise direction and finally ending at Filey in North Yorkshire in September 2024. Helena Carr, a Dorset Morris Minor Club member and a volunteer Coast watch Watchkeeper based at Calshot Tower QAVS (Calshot Spit) and Stone Point (Lepe Country Park), asked if we would like to take our cars in convoy from Stone Point Station to Calshot Tower QAVS carrying the National NCI flag. So, on Saturday 20th July 2024 we drove across the New Forest from Lymington to Stone Point NCI to be met by the Watchkeepers in their smart uniforms and welcomed to look at their station. We then followed Helena in "Monty" (a black 2 door 1959 Saloon) in our "Ethel", (a New Forest green Traveller) plus the flag to Calshot Tower. We arrived at Calshot to more Watchkeepers plus lots of cameras and a drone taking footage from above. We were invited to climb to the top of the tower which my good lady, Denise, quickly declined to do. Calshot Tower is impressive, the lookout viewing platform/Ops Room is approximately 100 feet above sea level and has a 360° view over Southampton Water and the Solent with a horizon distance of 11 nautical miles to the SE. In other directions the view extends to the shore line while the ESSO Oil Jetties partially obstruct the view of Southampton Water. I did the "climb" (8 flights of ladders!) and was rewarded with a wonderful view of the whole coast and was shown around the Ops Room. I watched the flag being raised on the tower top and then asked to sign the visitors book before returning to Terra Ferma. Our thanks to Helena for asking us to take part and for the friendly Calshot Tower and Stone Point NCI Watchkeepers who made us so welcome.



Written by Andy Dibb –

Dorset Morris Minor Owners Club Member.



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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.