

North East Morris Minors Owners's Club

New Year - Issue Q1 (31/01/2008)

Chairman's Bits...

Well here we are in another year again. The rally season seems to come around sooner every year. As you will be aware we have not been able to recruit a rally organiser this year. The amount of organised events the committee can jointly organise will therefore be limited. This month finds me panicking already that there is so much to do and little time to do it before we are once again out every weekend and some evenings displaying our cars.

Fortunately most dates are now set in stone and provisional bookings for various other venues in progress. However that does not retract from the exciting year that is in store for all associated with Morris Minors. The MMOC committee are working hard to make the year memorable as the 60th (Diamond) birthday for our little cars.

Personally I am planning a display of our cars at Beamish on 17th August and hope as many members as possible will be able to join us.

Our Branch rally at Wallington Hall on the 8th June will be a family fun day and full judging will take place. We are planning a camping weekend around the event. Already many North East members are committed to attending the National Rally which is named the Diamond Jubilee Rally and we have a team entering the raft race.

Our membership has decreased in renewals but is already starting to increase again so we are forever hopeful that our little bunch of people will expand.

We do need more help in producing articles for the newsletter and hands on help at rallies for marshalling duties etc so if you want to get more involved then don't be shy and speak to a committee member.

Looking forward to seeing everyone again at the meeting on 7th February.

Sue Cook

Moggies on Antiques Roadshow...



On 2nd August 2007 thirteen Minors and one Morris Oxford were present at East Kirkby Aviation Heritage Centre in Lincolnshire where a programme for the BBC Antiques Roadshow was recorded. You might recognise some of the cars, as a couple belong to our club members. How exciting this must have been! The show was aired on BBC1 on 18th November 2007. Fancy getting to meet Michael Aspel, very impressive eh!

Our Charity giving...

After what seemed like a year without much hope of us ever reaching any significant funding for our chosen charity, we were thrilled and delighted to be able to pull together a tidy sum of £450.00.



Ron Musgrove of GNAAS with Sue Cook our Chairperson and our Treasurer John Bertram

I want to extend a thousand thank you's to a small group of tireless members who pulled out all the stops to achieve this amount of money. Without you (and you know who you are) our very worthy charity would have probably only managed a measly £100 I think.

Despite the cancellation of our Branch Rally in June we still managed to step up to the plate and give generously to The Great North Air Ambulance Services. So very well done and many thanks again and again for all your hard work.

We again voted democratically for the charity for 2008 and the votes came in as follows;

- 13 votes for The Great North Air Ambulance
- 2 votes for Durham Trinity College
- 1 vote for S.I.D.S.
- 1 vote for Butterwick Children's Hospice
- 1 vote for Breast Cancer
- 1 vote for N.S.P.C.C.

So we will be sponsoring The Great North Air Ambulance Service again this year.

Tracey Cramond

For Sale/Wanted...

If you have something you would like us to advertise for sale, e.g. a car, car parts, Morris Minor memorabilia, etc. Please send the details to us and we'll happily insert in our next mag.

Alternatively, maybe you are looking for something that one of our members may have stashed in their garage unused, hidden or forgotten gathering dust. Let us know we'll let our members know and perhaps match up requirements. Done deal!

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Rally Info for 2008

- 16th/17th Feb – Bristol Classic Car Show, Shepton Mallet Somerset, Avon Branch
- 23rd/24th Feb – London Classic Car Show, Alexandra Palace Club Stand, Herts Branch
- 24th Feb – Manchester Branch Rally -0161 4275396
- 23rd March – North Lincs Branch Sandtoft
- 20th April – FBHVC - Drive it Day, York
- 27th April – Brides & Wolds Host Day Hornsey Freeport 01262 470350
- 24th May-31st May – Minors on Tour
- **8th June – North East Branch Rally, Wallington Hall, Northumberland, 01429 881179**
- 10th/11th June – Barnsley Branch Joggle – Entries close 30th April 01226 742910
- **21st/22nd June – Minors are Forever, 60th Anniversary Celebrations Rally, Stanford Hall**
- **29th June – Northern Regional Rally, Cannon Hall Farm, Barnsley 01226 742910**
- **11th July – Trimdon Classic Cars**
- 25th-27th July, Brides & Wolds Branch Rally camping weekend, The Grange Driffield 01262 470350
- 1st-8th August – Bandon Revisited 01235 554630
- 3rd August – Eastern Regional Rally, Lincs Branch, Revesby Country Fair 01522 868437
- 10th August – North East Lancs Branch, Townley Hall, Burnley 01282 415699
- **16th/17th August – North East Host weekend, Beamish 01429**
- **16th-22nd August, North East Branch camping week, Bobby Shaftoe Caravan Park, Beamish 01429 881179**
- 17th August – East Yorkshire Ralley, Sewerby Hall
- 30th/31st August – Isle of Wight Branch Rally
- 7th Sept – Yorvic Branch Rally, Rydale Folk Museum 09104 761387
- 14th Sept – Midland Regional Rally, Holly Bush Garden Centre, Chesylin Hay 01782 533576
- **21st Sept –Roses Run Scarborough – Morecambe 07788975083**
- 28th Sept – Barnsley Branch Host Day Wentworth Castle, Stainborough 01226 742910
- 8th Nov – Lord Mayor's Show, London
- 14th-16th Nov – Classic Car Show, Birmingham
- 30th Nov – AGM Oxford

The rallies in red are rallies that our club will be either hosting or actively participating in that we would like to encourage as many members as possible to attend.

Those in green may be of interest to our club members, those in blue are for information/interest too.

Social corner....

Hi Folks

We would love to have you join us at our social meetings. These are held on the first Thursday of each month at Burnmoor Cricket Club, Village Ground, Chester Road, Burnmoor, Co Durham, DH4 6EX



Social Events for 2008

- ❖ 7th February – Quiz night – Tracey Cramond
- ❖ 6th March – Picture Quiz/Pie & Pea Supper – Kath Bertram
- ❖ 3rd April – Easter Egg Collection – Easter bonnet/boiled egg competition – Kath Bertram
- ❖ 1st May – Bingo Night – Kath Bertram/Joe Berriman
- ❖ 5th June – Drive your car Night – Dave Cook
- ❖ 3rd July – Pub Quiz Night – Tracey Cramond
- ❖ 7th August – Just-a-Natter Night
- ❖ 4th September – Music Quiz/Pie & Pea Supper – Kath Bertram
- ❖ 2nd October – AGM
- ❖ 6th November – Halloween Quiz – Kath Bertram
- ❖ 4th December – Xmas get together

We have a whole heap of fun together and every month we do something different, so come along and see for yourself.

Your Social Secretary: **Kath Bertram**

Interesting!

100 YEARS ON THE ROADS VIDEO

This 55-minute video traces the development of road transport from 1896 to the present day.

Production is by Bygone Films with the association of Practical Classics and the Heritage Motor Centre at Gaydon. The video opens with shots of the Heritage Motor Centre at Gaydon, and some introductory footage from Practical Classics journalist Nick Larkin (don't give up your day job, Nick!).

Excellent old archive cine film is used throughout along with still photos linked with commentary and music. It's an interesting, nostalgic and amusing look back on 100 years of transport in Britain. I half expected Laurel and Hardy to pop up in an old Model T!

Early films show the development of the horseless carriage and through the wars. Some truly delightful footage of driving tests and old road safety films are narrated by Mr Chalmundley-Walker himself (or was that Harry Enfield?). Scenes of the early days of the motorways must have been shot from an E-type, judging by the speed at which you overtake other cars ON A wonderfully uncrowded M1!

The video is priced at £15.49 including post and packaging and is available from: Bygone Direct Ltd, 8 Chiltern Close, Henley on Thames, Oxfordshire. RG9 1RH. Tel and Fax: 01491 574415.

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Classic Motor Show 2007...

For the first year since becoming a branch of the MMOC our members managed to arrange a trip down to Birmingham in November last year for the Classic Motor Show.



We were very grateful to Arthur Henderson who offered to hire and drive a minibus to get us all safely there and back. He executed his role magnificently and even managed to drop us at the door whilst procuring a wheelchair for his son Andrew.

I can only say that I really enjoyed the event. I was disappointed that I had not seen our previous winning entries especially in 2006 but I thought the display in 2007 was well worthy of praise. The theme was around 'Travel with a Minor' and showed a variety of models that have been used on MMOC events including The Lord Mayors Show, The Barnsley Joggle, The Roses Run and those that had also been used for touring abroad.

Dave and I had a perusal of other club stands which were also quite impressive but even the Rolls Royce stand which I believe pipped us at the post to win the best stand award didn't have hospitality and friendly banter like ours.

If the prize could have been awarded for hospitality and regalia displays we would have won by a mile. I hasten to add that the kettle was in danger of getting lost among the bag and baggage that was accrued behind the curtain housing a small area like a broom cupboard where Christine had a constant flow of cups of coffee and later produced some champagne to toast the launch of Ray Newel's latest publication 'Sixty Years of the Minor'.

We were very weary travellers (pardon the pun) when we returned home but it was certainly worth the effort.



Our New Year Get-together...

What a beautiful little place The Old Mill is. Such an unexpectedly quaint sight as you turn the corner and see the whitewashed stone building



Once inside it gets even better, with lovely lush décor and a truly warm and inviting atmosphere, well done Mrs Chairperson on the choice of venue.

It was very heartening to see such a wonderful turn out of members from the club too.

So all in all a very successful and entertaining evening. With fabulous food, truly magnificent portions too and superb company. All key to a good time.

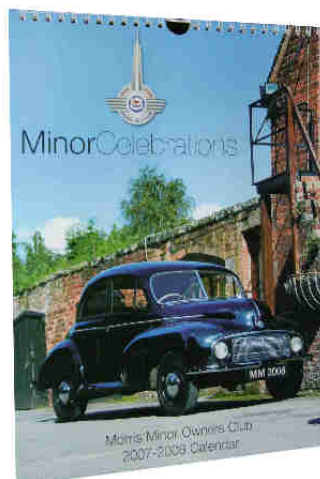
Next year will have to really be something special to out-do this year's venue, or maybe we'll return the The Old Mill, those of you who missed out this year should really try to join us next time around.



Joe looked spiffy!

For your information:

This is the new calendar available for £8.50 from the MMOC web site. Post & packing included in the price for U.K and additional charges for postage for overseas buyers. You can contact the MMOC at the following address/phone number too.



MMOC,
P.O. Box 1098,
Derby,
DE23 8ZX
U.K.
Tel: 01332 29167

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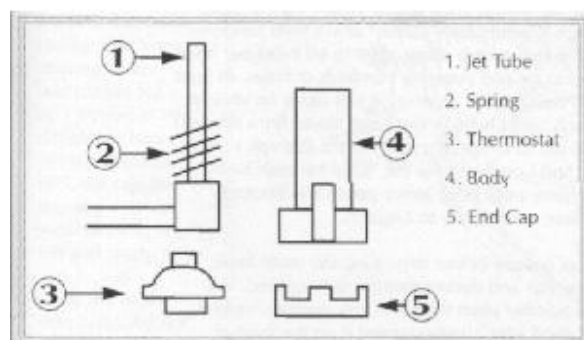
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Handy hints....

The Waxstat conversion

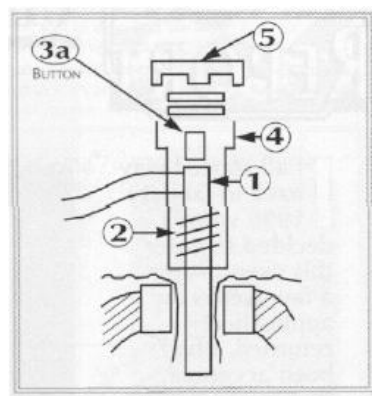
Firstly, remove the jet assembly by unscrewing the main feed pipe and releasing the spring clip. The base of the jet assembly is held by three tabs, unfold these CAREFULLY with a screwdriver (being careful not to insert the screwdriver into your hand or any other part of your anatomy!). The assembly will then consist of five parts.

On the upward end of the thermostat there is a small steel button. Pull this out of the thermostat, dispose of the thermostat, but keep the button.



Re-assembly - Using a vice with a cloth in the jaws to avoid damage, place the jet and spring into the body and compress down as far as possible, gently nip the jet in the vice jaws. Take the button and place it vertically in the recess on the end of the jet. Get two one pence pieces and set them into the recess in the body where the thermostat once sat. Place the end cap back onto the body and re-crimp the tabs with pliers. Make sure these tabs are properly bent before releasing the grip of the vice.

After refitting the jets and carbs, you will more than likely need to adjust the mixture due to the jet being positioned at a slightly different height.



a. it's cheap!

b. it's easy

c. the mixture does not weaken off in hot weather

d. it looks original, only a close inspection gives it away.

Your Committee for 2008

Position	Portfolio Holder	Contact Details
Honorary Life President	Joe Berriman	Tel: 01740 652633
Chairperson	Sue Cook	Tel: 01429 881179
Secretary	Tracey Cramond	Tel: 01325 260739
Treasurer	John Bertram	Tel: 0191 3875288
Events & Rallies	Andrew Luke	Tel: 01429 882785
Rally Organiser Asst	Grant Cramond	Mob: 07812 045881
Magazine Editor	Tracey Cramond	Tel: 01325 260739
Regalia	Helen Halliday	Tel: 0191 4420074
Member Secretary	Brian Butler	Tel: 01429 820067
Social Secretary	Kath Bertram	Tel: 0191 3875288
Web site	Arthur Henderson	Tel: 0191 3841664

The North East Branch Committee would like to point out that any advice, articles or views expressed in this magazine are entirely those of the contributors and we cannot be held responsible for the information printed herein

Handy hints....

Interested? - Set of exchange Riley 1.5 front brake shoes (relined) for £19.95+VAT from Earpart (01773 719504)

Tyre pressure? - In the late minor handbook it recommends for radial 145 x 14 = 24 for the fronts, and 26 for the back, this has been tested and it seems the best all round solution for correct tyre pressure on our Moggies.

Please send us your articles/items of information you'd like to share – tracey.cramond@hotmail.co.uk or 12 Turnpike Close, Darlington, DL1 3SH.

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6th March 2008– Pie & Pea Supper get together

Please don't forget to send Kath Bertram your booking for the Pie & Pea March meeting. The cost of the supper is £3.50

Name: _____

Yes please book me in for the March Pie & Pea Supper at social meeting on 6 th March 2008	
No. of Adults	
No. of Children	

Return this slip to Kath Bertram a.s.a.p. with payment, many thanks!

51 Malvern Ave,

Chester-le-St,

DH2 3BJ