



# Malvern Hills Branch Newsletter

April 2018



Welcome to the April edition of the branch newsletter.

## Dates for the Diary for 2018

### Sunday 8th April

One of two of branch planning to go to the Malvern Festival of Transport,

### Tuesday 10th April

Branch Meeting at at the Huntsman PH at 8 with a outside speaker. £2 for food.

### Tuesday 8th May

Branch Meeting at at the Huntsman PH at 8pm.

### Sunday 13th May

Branch Rally at Witley Court. Click [here](#) for the Rally Entry form

### Tuesday 12th June

Branch Meeting at at the Huntsman PH at 8pm.

Happy Easter every one, the daffs are out, the lambs hopping around the fields and the birds are busy nesting. Spring has finally sprung. Bob has emailed me a list of rallies that people can go to. Which could be an incentive to get into the garage and ease the Morris out of its winter hibernation. Unless like me you have been using it over the winter months, in which case like me you will be painting and repairing the effects of the damp and salt.

Mary's talk last month got me thinking about family histories and the like. Though rather than my family's history, I was wondering about my Morris's history. I know it came from around the London area and was registered in October 1965, I was told that the first owner was a fireman. Which accounts for the key way in the driver's door pillar which was a kind of anti-theft device. I meet the third owner at the Hampshire branch of the MMOC, Mr Kinchen from Waterlooville. The 4<sup>th</sup> owner was Mrs Coffin (from Portchester) who bought the car in April 1981, gave it a quick spray over, and sold the car to me in March 1982. So GLT819C has had 5 owners, and the only reason it has survived is that I moved to Birmingham to work and when the engine expired

from driving up and down the country every few weeks. I found that there was a garage specialising in Morris Minors in the centre of Birmingham. Who fitted a silver seal engine, the over the next few years replaced first one side of the floor, then the other then the wood. That's the rough history, but parts are still unknown. Who was the second owner? When did the car escape London, did the owner move or retire or was the car sold on. If I had not retrained as a surveyor I would have remained on the south coast. As it is, the morris has travelled near and far with me as I have been pursuing my hobbies of first walking then water sports. It is often seen loaded up with a canoe and a load of wet gear heading towards the Welsh Borders, the Lake District or the South West.



Making the most of the sun to dry out my gear in North Devon

### **Treasurer's Trivia**

Hello everyone,

Those of you who came to our last meeting will know that our plans for a speaker talking on Defford Airfield did not materialize. My apologies to those of you especially who travelled some distance to be with us but I am afraid it was a case of the best laid plans going wrong at the last minute. Everything was going to plan until I received a phone call from Bob on the Tuesday

evening to say the speaker would not be coming. This was quite a blow as we had gone to some effort to sort this including arranging the food. I subsequently rang Chris and the following morning I made an extensive effort to find an alternative speaker. It was to no avail and by lunch time I had given up. Then by chance Mary rang me in the afternoon about the rally trophies and of course I told her about our predicament. She immediately offered to give us a talk on how she traced her family tree and as you can imagine I was very pleased to accept her offer. I was able to borrow my son in law's projector and screen for Mary to use at short notice as well. 18 members were still able to have a very enjoyable evening. Mary explained how she had used a wide range of sources to trace her family tree and gave members an insight how to go about it themselves. Thank you Mary for stepping in at such short notice and giving us an interesting presentation. I received favorable comments from members on having food after the talk and this may well be something we do again; however, it does mean moving our meeting night to a Thursday when food is available. A highlight of the evening was thanks to Maurita who had knitted wonderful Easter bunnies over chocolate eggs and these were given out to members. Thank you Maurita for a most delightful and generous gift. It is always good to see members who cannot get to us very often so it was a real pleasure to see Richard Crane and his fiancée, Nicky, at our meeting. (Sorry I did not get to speak to you much Richard as I was quite busy as you probably saw). I am pleased to report that our speaker on Defford Airfield is now coming to our April meeting which is back on our normal Tuesday evening (10<sup>th</sup>). Do try and come along if you can.

MEMBERSHIP- Thank you to those members who have renewed. If you have not and wish to continue your membership please can I have your subs at the next meeting or by our May meeting at the latest.

RALLY- I have now received the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary rally memento mugs. They are in bone china of excellent quality and should not disappoint rally entrants. Entries now stand at 29 which is not too bad at this stage but I am hoping for some pick up in the coming weeks. Please encourage anyone you know with a Minor to come along. We always enjoy having a large contingent in the open class (at the moment there are 3 Land Rovers alone in this class) as this does add variety and interest. The biggest Minor class at present are the Travelers with 8 entries. Witley Court is an excellent venue to visit and do not forget rally entrants get discounted admission into the Court.

NEXT MEETING Tuesday April 10th - As I touched on earlier this will be the talk originally planned for March. Please meet in the skittle alley for an 8.00pm start.

There is not much more to report this month but as we will soon be into the rally season and 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary I thought I would give you a Morris Minor brain teaser question on the early cars (no prizes!) I will give you the answer next month; the question is based on the car being as originally built.

The question is- If you look under the bonnet of a low light Series MM, and without looking at either the engine or chassis plate, what feature immediately indicates (with 95% certainty) if it was built before or after 1950?

See you all at the April meeting.

Dave

From Bob

Members,

I have been contacted by Paul Eden of Shakespeares Rally Promotions who has invited us and other motoring organisations to attend the following events:

*31<sup>st</sup> March – 2<sup>nd</sup> April: Model & Collectors Show, Stoke Prior Sports & Country Club, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire B60 4AL*

*11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup> August: Tortworth Vintage Rally, Wickwar, Gloucestershire GL12 8LF*

*15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> September: Stoke Prior Steam Rally, Little Intall Fields Farm, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire B60 4LF*

All events are open to all makes and types of Classic and Vintage Vehicles, Tractors & Machinery. Full details and entry forms are available from the website:

**WANTED**

Hello I re-joined the MMOC a few months ago and hope to come along to your meeting on 15th March.

I previously had a Morris Traveller which I had to sell a few years ago and am now hoping to buy another one. Do you know if any members of the Malvern Hills branch or other branches have a traveller for sale now or will do soon? I would need one in good condition and good working order as my technical skills are limited!

Can you advise what is best in terms of brakes - eg discs or standard brakes with a servo?

Many thanks and best wishes Nicole Willett

### **FOR SALE**

A wooden slatted roof rack especially tailored to fit a Morris Minor. I understand it is in good condition. I have not a price at present. It is situated at an address in Ross-on-Wye. For further information ring Phil Willett on 07813855715 or 01594 824702.

Footnote- If it is of any help, I could call in and pick it up for any member as I pass through Ross usually once a month Dave Smith

Happy Motoring

**Use Full contacts**

**Chairman                      Chris Perfect**

**Treasurer                     Dave Smith**

**Secretary                      Bob Prophet**

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