



Malvern Hills Branch Newsletter

December 2019



Welcome to the December / January edition of the Malvern Hills branch newsletter.

Dates for the Diary for 2019/20

Saturday 7th December

Christmas meal at 1pm in The Old Barnhouse restaurant at the Malvern View Country Park, Stanford Bishop.

Saturday 11th January 2020

Lunch time meeting / social at Croome Court cafe about 12ish

Saturday 8th February

Meeting at Rowberries Chaddesley Corbett about 12ish

Thursday 12th March

Back to our evening meeting at the Huntsman at 8ish.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to everyone. Only another 4 weeks till the days get longer and we can think about spring and summer drives out. The first being our Saturday visit to Croome Court in January, then the visit to Rowberrys Garden Centre at Chaddesley Corbett in Feb. So hopefully I will have sorted out a few problems with the morris. I have fitted a new steering rack to the morris after I bent the old one when I hit a big pot hole while fully laden with canoes and people, I also dented the wheels though hopefully I can hammer the dents out. I have booked the car in to repair the A pillar which has dropped a bit making it hard to close the driver's door. Lastly I think I know where the sheared off bolt went to, into the bottom of the bell housing where it has bounced around a bit and possibly damaged the oil seal ☹.

Dave.



Treasurer's trivia

Hello everyone,

With the amount of rain we have experienced lately my Minors are not seeing the light of day much. I had hoped to bring the 948 to our last branch meeting but although the day had started dry and frosty by late morning the rain had set in. Bob had contacted me the day before about bringing his lovely Series 2 'Eric'; I advised that, judging by the forecast, he would be best to leave Eric at home which he understandably did.

Although relatively small in number (10) our branch meeting at the Wheelhouse in Upton went very well. I had initially met up with Bob, along with Jeff and Julie, at the Huntsman at midday before heading down the A38 to Upton. Jeff had bravely brought his Minor which looked as splendid as ever. I had reserved 10 seats for us which worked out perfectly. It was a pleasure to see branch member, John Goldrick, come along who we do not see that often. As you will recall I mentioned in the last newsletter that I had lunch at the Wheelhouse recently with Sandra and we had very much enjoyed our visit. Therefore, it was no surprise to see members ordering some lunch of various sorts. I think I speak for everyone when I say the food was excellent with Mary commenting to me how much she had enjoyed her meal. Afterwards, I handed out the new Polo shirts to members who had ordered them; these are excellent and will be just the job to wear driving our Minors next year. Despite the inclement weather, going to the Wheelhouse made a real change for our November branch meeting and one we could consider again for the future.

This November has been a special birthday for my 948 as the Morris was 60 years old having been built in November 1959 and supplied new from the Colmore depot in Worcester. I am as thrilled today with the car as when I bought it in 2004. Although very different to the MM I am a very content Morris Minor owner when driving it. It still sticks in my mind the first proper trip out I did only a few weeks after buying the car when we had our rally at Brockhampton. I had not driven up any real hills since buying it and the way it flew up them going to Bromyard just left me and Sandra flabbergasted. I can remember getting out of the car at Brockhampton in disbelief! If you have ever driven a Series MM you will appreciate why I felt like that. Just like my MM, my 948 has given me enormous pleasure over the years visiting places I would never have gone without it. One final point on the 948 and something perhaps to bear in mind when purchasing a Minor, is that in March 1959 the doors were altered to open wider and this is something I notice the benefit of when getting in and out of the 948 compared to the MM. I have no hesitation in saying my 948 is one of the best things I have ever bought!



CHRISTMAS MEAL, Saturday December 7th at 1.00pm- At the time of writing we have 28 members coming to our Christmas lunch. Full details of how to get there will be found elsewhere in this newsletter. A few points to keep in mind. You may arrive at any time; I would suggest any time after midday but in plenty of time for 1.00pm. I will collect what you owe for your meals; the total cost after subsidy for a 3 course meal will be 16.00 pounds and for a 2 course 13.00 pounds. Therefore, after deposit it will be either 6.00 or 3.00 pounds you owe me. If you have a coffee and mints this will be an additional 1.00 pound; please advise me if you have had one and pay me with your meal. Don't worry if you forget what you have ordered as I will provide you with a card with your name on and menu request.

Anti-freeze- I know Dave has reminded you about this but as we are getting into winter do check yours if you have not already done so. It does vary through the different models how much anti-freeze you need for the same level of protection so check what you need.(for instance a 948 needs ¼ pint more than a 1098 for the same level of protection).

BOB HANCOCK- Branch member and an absolute stalwart of our branch, Bob is recovering at home following a hip operation. We have sent him a card from the branch and wish him well for a speedy recovery.

This will be the last newsletter of the year and I have a rest from writing until the February newsletter (no January edition). I think we have had a good year in the branch with a particularly excellent rally. We already have 2 talks planned for the New Year, one on the Air Ambulance and one on the Austin works at Longbridge. Dates to be confirmed. Bob is also working on a day out for the branch which should be very good. So there are already events to look forward to.

January branch meeting- This will be on Saturday January 11th and is our annual visit to Croome Court. Meet up at midday. The park opens at 10.00am and the house at 11.00am if you wish to go earlier.

That's it for this month. I will look forward to seeing many of you at our Christmas lunch but for those I do not see have a very happy Christmas and New Year.

Dave

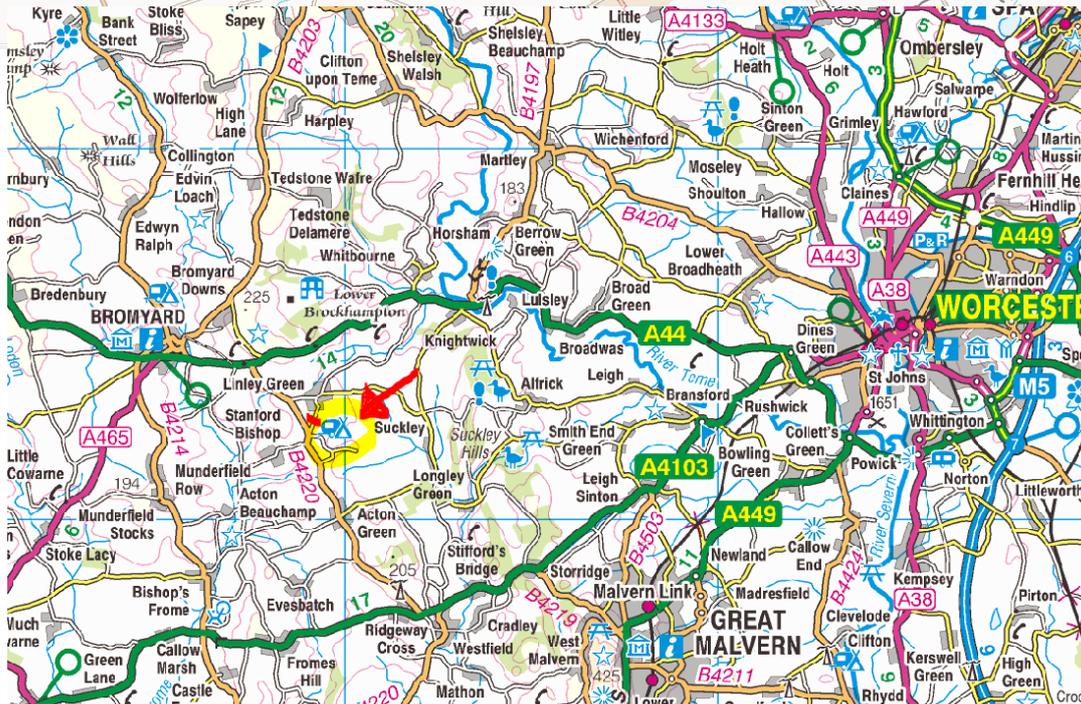


Malvern Hill Branch Christmas Meal



The location of The Old Barnhouse, Malvern View Country Park, Stanford Bishop, WR6 5UB

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A gas powered van, towing a diesel generator, charging an electric car.

The future is stupid...



Thanks Steve for this



Then again battery power has been around for a while now, so you would have thought that they would have sorted things out by now.



Happy Motoring from the Malvern Hills Branch of the MMOC

Useful contacts

Chairman

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