



# Malvern Hills Branch Newsletter

## September 2019



Welcome to the September branch newsletter.

### Dates for the Diary for 2019

#### Sunday 8th September

Classic Car Show at the Gloucestershire/Warwickshire railway- meet up at the Eckington Bridge picnic site just after 9.00am before driving over.

#### Thursday 12th September

A talk on the Shelsley Walsh hill climb 8pm start.

#### Thursday 10th October

Branch AGM 8pm start at the Huntsman PH Green Street near Kempsey.

#### Thursday 14th November

8pm start at the Huntsman PH Green Street near Kempsey.

After a busy summer we start moving into autumn and a chance to reflect back on the past few months. I think that the highlights will be our branch rally at Hanbury Hall, Chris's trip to the railway at Kyre and for me the recent car rally at Winchcombe. Though it did highlight that perhaps the fuel pump on the Morris can suffer from excess heat in very hot weather or when stuck in slow traffic. From information on a Morris Minor Message board the cure ranges from repositioning the petrol pump, fitting a heat shield to wrapping a damp towel around the petrol pump. The damp towel looks to be the simplest though not sure how safe it will be as it's above the exhaust pipe. It was nice to drive through Winchcombe and the minors were well received. The organiser has emailed me some photos which I have put onto our website. Lynn and myself also went to the bus day at the Severn Valley Railway, which we both enjoyed.



## Treasurer's trivia

Hello everyone,

With our rally now behind us and my major work on the MM complete I am enjoying the quietest period, Minor wise that is, for some time. I did take the MM out for a run yesterday and I am so pleased with how the car is running; in fact I think the Morris is better now than in all the years I have owned the car. Life is still busy though. The garage block at my cottage in which I keep the 948 has needed improvement ever since we have lived here and my son is now carrying out major improvement work including a new roof (the MM I keep in a separate garage). This will make it a superb dry and secure garage for me; only the best for a Morris Minor! Returning to the Minors themselves, members have been out and about attending various events. I myself have attended 2 outings with branch members in August; one to the Kyre Valley Railway and a visit to the Winchcombe show.

Our visit to the Kyre Valley Railway was an excellent afternoon out despite the somewhat windy conditions. Unfortunately, the unsettled conditions may have contributed to quite a low turnout of members. This was a great shame as in fact I enjoyed it much more than last year as it was much less crowded and virtually no queuing. Members met up at the Conquest theatre car park at 1.45. We were also joined by a couple from Hereford, Stewart and Angie, in their 1966 red convertible. Incidentally, Stewart and Angie are hoping to come to our talk in September. We set off at 2.00pm with Sandra and myself at the rear. Unfortunately, owing to roadworks on the outskirts of Bromyard, we lost the others and ended up driving up the wrong access road! Having arrived at the bottom of a farmyard we realized our mistake and turned round. We were soon back on course though with Dave and Lyn kindly waiting for us at the bottom of the correct entrance. It was not long before we were riding the trains. All the locomotives were in very good heart and we were soon swapping from one train to another to enjoy the various routes. The refreshments were delicious and it was most pleasant sat out amongst the trees. A raffle was held and there was a plant stall from which Sandra purchased some plants. A lovely afternoon out and thank you to Chris for again organizing the visit for our branch. The picture shows members cars at the railway.



Following an invitation from the organizers the club attended the Winchcombe Show for the first time. A group of seven cars met at the Eckington picnic site about 10.00am before heading to Winchcombe led by myself. Luckily, Roger Payne was with us and Rodger had warned me about a possible road closure near Winchcombe. The road was still indicated as closed when we crossed the railway bridge by the station but based on what I could see of other cars I took a punt and drove on through (if we had to turn round I knew where to take us). Thankfully, we were ok and able to drive past the roadworks. As I used to work around Winchcombe I knew where to take us to at the Abbeyfields Centre where entrants for the procession assembled. Mr Mark Howes, the organizer, was there and thanked us for coming. We were soon joined by a couple of lorries, some Triumph cars, 4 vintage tractors and branch members John and Sue from Harvington. The procession left just before 11.30 and we proceeded through Winchcombe and up to the show site at the school. There were sizeable numbers of people either side of the road to see us. We were allocated space next to the large tent housing the crafts, flowers and vegetables. Unfortunately, we were very close to the show speakers and one commentator in particular came over quite loud which was somewhat uncomfortable to be close to. It was quite hot but members were able to take advantage of the shade provided by the large tent. The Morris attracted a lot of interest and I enjoyed talking to quite a few people. One gentleman in particular was very interesting; he had completed his apprenticeship in Cheltenham during the 1950s at the same garage my Series MM was supplied from new. He certainly knew his subject on Minors having worked extensively on all models. He ranked the 948 engine very highly; he could remember stripping one down once that had done over 100,000 miles and there was virtually no detectible wear. There were quite a few stalls to visit and I very much enjoyed perusing the vegetables. I think members enjoyed their day and it was a pleasure to see members who we do not see very often such as John Goldrick coming in his Minor with his family. Just before leaving at 3.00pm Mark Howes came to me in the Minor and thanked me personally for coming and everyone else which was much appreciated. I'm not sure if we will go again but it was something different to visit that we had not been to before.



Members at Eckington picnic site before departing for Winchcombe

**Events coming up-** As I mentioned last month Clive and myself are attending the classic car day at Toddington on September 8<sup>th</sup>. This is an excellent day out and as I have said before you can plan the day to suit yourself once you have arrived. It may be still possible to book; contact the Gloucestershire/Warwickshire railway. If you wish to join Clive and myself we meet up at the Eckington picnic site just after 9.00 and leave about 9.15.

The Malvern classic car show is on October 13<sup>th</sup>. Clive and myself have decided to go and if the weather is fine (fingers crossed!) I hope to take the MM for a change. If there was interest from more branch members to come I would be happy to book a club stand for us but I would need to know very soon so that I can go on and book it. So if you are interested please let me know asap.

**Polo shirts** - I have had more interest and intend placing an order in the next few weeks. If you have not contacted me and are interested in one please can you contact me by the next meeting.

**CAR SEAT-** Some of you may recall I have tried in the past to sell a wide band design upper part of a back seat for a 2 door that I have in blue. Well, I still have it! It is in excellent condition and if any branch member is interested I would be happy to now let them have it for free. Contact me if you are interested.

**Next meeting-** Our next branch meeting is on September the 12<sup>th</sup> and will be the talk on Shelsley Walsh hill climb by Mr. Max Hunt. Meet in the skittle alley at 8.00pm. This should be a very interesting evening with proceeds going to the maintenance of the mill. Please come along and support us if you can.

It will not be long now until the AGM in October and you will no doubt read the official notification elsewhere in the newsletter. I will write more about this in the next newsletter but in the meantime do give thought to how you have enjoyed the past year and your thoughts and ideas for the year ahead.

That's it for now; see you at the next meeting.

Dave

## Other Info

Lou has sent me a message to say that she has acquired a large Pyrex lid after the barbecue Mary Swift also found a glass Pyrex type casserole lid in her cool bag on arrival home after the barbecue in June. It must belong to someone in the branch so would the owner please get in touch with Mary on 01299 832476.

## Events

There is a new classic car meet being arranged by John Vine of Kidderminster. It will take place on the first and third Wednesdays of each month at The Royal Forrester, Callow Hill near Kidderminster DY14 9XW. Times are from around 11.30 to 2.30 (approximately). Jonathan and I went to the last one but it was not too well attended however it is early days yet. The Royal Forrester is conveniently situated on the A456 quite close to the Wyre Forest and has a good reputation for food. There is a nice grassy area for the cars to park on so hopefully it might become a popular regular event.

### **Help Wanted.**

Terry Pritchard has contacted me, wanting advice on a 1963 4 door that he is restoring. He would like to see a similar morris so he can compare it with his own, which his family have owned since nearly new. If any one has a 4 door, please contact me and I will pass the details on to Terry.

### **Car or Parts for Sale**

A little while ago, Mr Horner contacted me about a morris traveller for sale. He has recently got back to me saying if anyone needs any parts from the car can they contact him.

Good morning,

I am in the process of clearing a relative's property and have come across an old Morris Minor. We are based in Malvern and we need to get this car moved and I would prefer that it was put to use.

While being stored outside it has been under a car port and most dry.

Would any of your members be interested in this? I am pretty sure it is not a runner and it will be a struggle interesting to move.

See attached photo to give an idea of the condition it is in.

Thanks

Jeremy Homer



I have been also been asked to forward info on any good travellers that come up for sale to a man who learnt to drive in his father's many years ago.

### **Free bits**

Lastly, while doing some repairs to my morris the other week, one of the people living further down the road, stopped for a chat. They were clearing out their garage and were about to take some axel stands, oil can, wheel brace and a bottle jack to the tip. Could I make use of them? Yes, so if you want one of these let me know and I will bring them to the next meeting.

**Branch AGM**  
**Will be on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October.**

Happy Motoring.

## **Bobs Dates for your Diary 2019**

*Note that all Branch events (in bold) take place at The Huntsman except where otherwise indicated. The committee is trying to arrange Speakers on Branch evenings: these will be notified as and when they become firm.*

- **Mon 26 Aug Winchcombe Country Show** <http://winchcombeshow.org.uk/>
- Sat 31 Aug: Peopleton Village Fête (£2 entry fee at gate)
- **September 8<sup>th</sup>- Classic Car Show at the Gloucestershire/Warwickshire railway-meet up at the Eckington Bridge picnic site just after 9.00am before driving over**
- **Thurs 12 Sep: Shelsley Walsh hill climb talk at the Huntsman PH at 8pm**
- Sat/Sun 14/15<sup>th</sup> Sep: Stoke Prior Steam Rally, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire B60 4LF. Website: [www.shakespearesrally.com](http://www.shakespearesrally.com)
- Sat/Sun 14/15 Sep: Stoke Prior Steam Rally
- Sun 22 Sep: Fun in the Park, Tudor Grange Park, Solihull (tbc)
- 28-29<sup>th</sup> Sept Cotswold Airport Revival <http://www.cotswoldairportrevival.com>.
- **Thurs 10 Oct: AGM**
- Sun 13 Oct: Malvern Festival of Transport. A very large classic car and vehicle show. Booking required. Website: <http://www.classicshows.org/event/malvern-festival-of-transport-sunday-13-october-2019/>
- **Thurs 14 Nov: Noggin 'n Natter**
- **Sat 7 Dec: Christmas Meal (tbc)**

## **Useful contacts**

**Chairman**

**Lester Stenson**

**Treasurer**

**Dave Smith**

**Secretary**

**Bob Prophet**

**Branch Contact**

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