



Minor Message series 2 no. 17

Gill's Post Office Van DYC 393J



My Morris Minor Post Office Van was made in 1971.

David, my late husband, found it on the internet I think and as he was a bit of a petrol head we went off to have a look at it.

Now David had a history of changing his modern day car every two years, he loved all the modern technology and if he was still here now I am sure he would be after an electric car. In all our years of marriage every two years I fought to keep the current car trying to get him to see that we didn't need another one, but he usually triumphed in the end, so much so that in later years I just went along with it.

Anyway back to the van, I didn't want to look at it really, another car, did we need it? I believe it was a chap called Maurice Rapley that was selling it, he had restored it from a vehicle that was used on a farm (somewhere I have pictures of the back of the van with straw etc in it). He wanted to sell DYC 393J to fund his next post office van restoration that had rubber wings, a rare beast. Well at first I sat in

the car while David spoke to Maurice and looked around the van. I could see that he was very keen so thought I would have a closer look. I fell in love!

It was gorgeous, it didn't take long for us to decide and David and my son-in-law went down again for another look and to pay the money. Can't quite remember how much we paid sadly but I think it was about £2000.

I think at that time I already had my 2 door Morris in Trafalgar Blue which was my every day car, my 'Moggy' very rarely let me down, anyway I was already a member of North Wilts MMOC. So we attended more meetings and became really involved, I volunteered to be Secretary and later on David became Chairman.

David had previously been involved with the Jaguar Owners' Club (he had owned a couple of those) but back then it was a very niche club and he found the members of the North Wilts MMOC so much more friendly.

Currently I don't drive the van, silly really but I find the reduced visibility an issue, but it is maintained and driven by Andrew my son-in-law and my daughter's family, and I attend quite a few of the branch events. That is when there is no pandemic, but eventually we will get back to normal and I will be able to get to know again all the wonderful, like minded members, who have become my good friends.

At my husband's funeral our friends from Morris Minor club brought their cars and followed the funeral procession, it was a grand sight, how wonderful was that.

I am still Secretary, I have lost count of how many years, and maybe one day I will ask someone else to do it.

Gill Waters
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