



NWMMOC NEWSLETTER

February 2026

Photos from the Archive

Bill Reed

Bill has offered to provide a “photo from the archive” for each Branch Newsletter this year, the plan is to match the month but from different years!



This is one from our New Year lunch on 21 January 2017 at Winterbourne Bassett (the pub is now called The Winterbourne). The Ridgeway in the background.

Left to right: Brenda Rouse, Susie & Julian Marshall, Steve Rogers, Peter & Liz Watts, Diana Jeremiah, Richard Bradley, Mary Kane, Harry and Kathleen Ridley.

Sunday lunch at the Freke Arms, Sunday, 18th January 2026.

Words: Pam Holmes

Gill Waters and Steve Chater made all the arrangements for our wonderful Sunday lunch at the Freke Arms in January. The Sunday roasts were delicious and everyone I spoke with was very complimentary about the food and the event as a whole!

Many thanks to Gill and Steve for a very positive start for our Branch to 2026!

A date for your diary: Branch Event 22nd February.

On Sunday, 22nd February in Castle Eaton Village Hall starting at 12.15pm will shall be holding a Games afternoon.

You are welcome to bring a picnic lunch but PLEASE bring a favourite board/table game if you wish! Last year it caused a lot of hilarity and everyone had a great time! Don't worry if you can't bring a game, there will be plenty to choose from! Or you are welcome to watch and chat with friends.

Afternoon refreshments: tea, coffee, soft drinks and cake will be served mid-afternoon! There will be a short presentation about our 2025 Branch activities and the Branch Committee would like to share and discuss with everyone your ideas for the 2026 programme. Your participation is important!

Proposed visit to Swindon Science & Innovation Park

Dedicated tours for organised adult groups of the Hawking Building give visitors the chance to discover game-changing objects from history.

Bookings are open for group tours. The cost is £25 per person and the tour takes almost 3 hours. We are considering organising a Branch visit.

Would you be interested in taking part? This is just to assess interest before further progress is made in making a group booking. If you are interested in more information with an interest in taking part then please email Clive Frost, cjfrost66@btinternet.com

Wheelnuts at St. Roses School, Stroud

Sunday, 3rd May 2026.

Many of you will have taken part in the Wheelnuts Rally in the attractive grounds of St. Roses School in Stroud. It has always been popular with Branch members. The event includes a large number of classic cars, as well a range of food, plant and craft stalls, all raising funds for the school.



North Wilts members gathering at Wheelnuts in St. Roses School grounds.

Supporting this fund raising feels worthwhile as the school explains that they provide,

“ a nurturing and inclusive environment where every student, regardless of their individual challenges, is empowered to reach their full potential. We are committed to offering a personalised, holistic education that supports academic, social, emotional and physical development.we create an environment for children with special educational needs to thrive, build confidence and develop the skills necessary for their future lives.”



North Wiltshire MMOC cars at Wheenuts in a previous year.

In previous years members have gathered at a garden centre near Swindon and then travelled to the St. Roses School as a group; there is a plan to make a similar arrangement this year.

If you would like to attend this year, then please let Pam Holmes know as soon as possible. We have booked places for 10 of our cars but more places should be available if we request them promptly. Entry for our cars is free but please support the stalls!

Final note of thanks for your contributions to this newsletter to:

Clive Frost
Bill Reed
Ash Holmes

And last but not least please would everyone consider how they could contribute to the continued success of our Branch this year!

It would be particularly helpful if a member could offer to organise a “Drive” for April. Plenty of support and guidance can be provided if you would like it!

Could you provide a photo or two and a short report about where you have been with your Morris Minor, or what work you have done on it over the winter? It would be good to have a longer Branch Newsletter with a broader range of contributions for next month!

Your ideas for programme events would be welcomed. If you cannot make the Branch gathering in February then please send me an email or talk to any of the committee members about ideas for our programme.

Pam

