NWMMOC NEWSLETTER

November 2026

Photo from the Archive



You will recall that our speaker at the AGM in October this year was Jim, a volunteer from the Wiltshire and Bath Air Ambulance, who gave us a very informative talk and slide show about the work of the Wiltshire and Bath Air Ambulance charity.

Here from the Branch archive, supplied by Bill Reed, is a photo of a Branch visit to the new Air Ambulance Station at Semmington, near Trowbridge in September 2023. The visit was arranged by Ashley Alexander and Steve Rogers.

Questionnaire

Words: Pam Holmes

Thank you for the completed questionnaires, they have provided useful information to help with planning events for 2027.

I will share information from the results in December when the programme for 2027 will be circulated as a calendar.

If you have not completed a questionnaire and would like to do so then let me know and I will send or email you one.

Awarded with thanks

Words: Pam Holmes from the AGM

Our Branch now has three trophies to be presented to members of the Branch annually, at the AGM.

These are:

The Nigel Gratton Cup
The Golden Spanner
The Steve Rogers Trophy.

The Steve Rogers Trophy has been created on behalf of the Branch by Steve Chater and I would like to thank him for a great piece of craftsmanship.

I do hope everyone has the chance to admire this new award.

It is in the shape of a Traveller and made of ash - like the wood of a Traveller. There are plaques that will be engraved for the recipient….for years to come.

As a committee we felt it appropriate to recognise and celebrate the contribution that Steve Rogers with his Travellers, quietly made to the Branch.

Steve was a regular on the Minors on Tour UK trips and for many years an active member our Branch who contributed to the planning and organisation of events.

This new, “Steve Rogers Memorial Trophy” is to be awarded annually to a Branch member, who is not a committee member but who, like Steve, has contributed to the organisation of events for our Club.

This years recipient was key to arranging the gathering last December in memory of Steve Rogers and has actively contributed to our programme of events. Most recently he initiated the croquet afternoon which many of us enjoyed.

The recipient, determined by your committee, is Ashley Alexander who sent apologies for the AGM, as he is on holiday somewhere warm!

We will arrange for this to be presented to him at a future Branch event.

The Nigel Gratton Cup was donated in memory of this previous long-standing member.
The Cup is to be awarded to a member who has made a significant contribution to the operation of the Branch.

The committee members and myself discussed potential recipients for this award but the significant number and variety of contributions by this individual made the decision unanimous.

His contributions include:

- seeking out places for Branch events
- leading groups to various Rallies over the summer.
- Organising the Branch Minors on Tour to Derbyshire.
- Making significant contributions to the Branch Newsletter every month.
- Also over several years now he has delved into the history of the Branch and brought that to life in many ways, such as through “Photos from the Archive’ and the story of the last Morris Minor built in Swindon.

The recipient is Bill Reed, shown in the photo receiving the Nigel Gratton Cup from Steve Chater.



The Golden Spanner Award was presented to the Branch by Bill Reed, and was made by his brother Jon. It is to recognise a member who has supported others in keeping their Morris Minors running safely.

It was first presented in 2017 and has been presented annually except for during the Covid years when our on-road activities were limited.

You will recall that Branch members were requested during the summer, to submit nominations for this award: an opportunity to recognise those individuals who had provided you with technical advice and support for your Morris Minor.

Three people were nominated for this Award because of the advice and support they had given to other Branch members:

- helping with a breakdown.
- advising about maintenance and updates to the classic cars,
- providing support and guidance about condition and valuation.
- supporting owners with significant re-building work.

The person with the most nominations is Ash Holmes, shown in the photograph receiving the trophy from Steve Chater.



Our Annual General Meeting took place on Sunday, 18th October.

The meeting was attended by 27 members, who after the meeting enjoyed a buffet lunch before welcoming Jim, a speaker from the Wiltshire & Bath Air Ambulance Charity.

At the AGM the committee stood down and were subsequently re-elected.

Your committee members for 2026-27 are:-

Pam Holmes:	Chair
Steve Chater:	Vice-Chair
Clive Frost:	Treasurer
Anna Gale:	Secretary
Ash Holmes:	Member
Peter Watts:	Member
Martin Howard:	Member

Presentation about the work of the Wiltshire & Bath Air Ambulance.

We shall be continuing to support the work of this charity in various ways throughout the next 12 months.



Sunday, November 22nd: Treasure Hunt

We shall be starting with the option of refreshments in the cafe at the Studley Grange Garden Centre and then doing a Drive with Treasure Hunt lasting about 60-90 minutes and ending at SUSTAIN for lunch.

URGENT If you wish to take part in what will undoubtedly be a superb event organised by Sarah and Andrew then you need to let Sarah know quickly. **sarahjaynebracher@gmail.com**
You should have received a "menu" from which to make lunch choices, if not then Sarah can forward one to you.



🎄 Sunday, December 13th Castle Eaton 🎄

🎄🎄 Village Hall: A Christmas Picnic! 🎄🎄



Starting the afternoon with Christmas music and mulled wine (or other drinks) provided by Ashley. 🔔

Please bring your own picnic for lunch: we will provide tea, coffee, cordials and water.

A Quiz and Feely Bags will challenge you…….prizes to win!!🎁

There will be Kath's much anticipated Christmas Cake to finish off the afternoon with a cuppa!

We shall be doing a collection of food for the Swindon Night Shelter. Please be generous in donating non-perishable foodstuffs.🎁

North Wilts Branch programme for 2027 will be available!



A New Year and a new programme

Lots of members responded that they would like a Sunday pub meal in January and so ……

Sunday, 17th January 1.00pm

The Village Inn, Liddington.

Menu:

Starters. £6 each
Garlic & Herb Mushrooms, with leaves & toasted bread. (VGA, GFA)

Homemade Leek & Potato soup, bread & butter. (VGA, GFA)
Prawn Cocktail.

Traditional Roasts, £20
Sliced meats, roast potatoes, yorkshire pudding, stuffing, gravy & mixed vegetables.
Meat Choices: Roast Beef, Gammon, Chicken, Mixed Game (Pheasant / Venison).

If you would like a mixed roast please choose an additional meat slice for your plate. £1.50 per slice.

Veggie / Vegan option or a Meat Free Roast, all the trimmings, just no meat. (V, Vg)

Desserts £6 each,
Fruit crumble, with custard. (VGA, GFA)
Warm Chocolate Brownie, with vanilla ice cream.
Bread & Butter Pudding, with custard.
New York style Vanilla Cheesecake. with ice cream.

Please let Gill Waters know your menu choices if you wish to join this Branch Sunday lunch on Sunday, 17th January. A deposit of £10 per person is payable as soon as possible but before 20th December. Payment of £10 for the deposit, direct to the Branch Bank account or cash/cheque payable to the North Wiltshire MMOC.

The next Branch Newsletter will be uploaded on December 1st!

The contents will include a report and photos from the Treasure Hunt.

Please would you contribute by sending me photos of your classic car? Either tucked up in its winter shelter or out and about during November!

There might just be a Christmas prize for the best/most amusing/ most interesting……

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

Sarah Bracher
Steve Chater
Clive Frost
Bill Reed
Gill Waters
and to
Ash Holmes for uploading it on to the Branch website!

Please get your name on this list for the New Year……the more the merrier!