



NWMMOC NEWSLETTER

February 2023

Brian Tinson

We are sad to report the passing of **Brian Tinson** on 20 January, following a period of ill health.

Brian and his wife **Freda** were founder-members of Moonraker Minors in 1980, and later on Brian was Branch Secretary for about 18 years. When membership declined in the 1990's, he and Freda kept the branch going (sometimes with only the two of them at meetings) and brought in new members with a leafleting campaign. Without their efforts at that time, the North Wilts Branch would not have been able to celebrate 40 years of continuous existence in 2021. They were very helpful in providing information on branch history for our 40th anniversary album.



The photograph shows Brian, wearing a Moonraker Minors T-shirt, with their car "Flossie", a grey 1957 4-door saloon, which came to them from Freda's side of the family.

On behalf of the branch, Gill has sent condolences to Freda.



Young member **Nicolas Reed** came across this Renault 4CV on a recent visit to Paris. He says "*It was very good on the outside, but inside it was very rusty.*" These 747cc rear-engined cars were designed during WW2 while the Renault plant in Billancourt was occupied by the Germans. When the RAF bombed the factory in 1942, prototypes were moved to Louis Renault's estate at Herqueville, west of Paris. 4CVs were then produced between 1946 and 1961. They were also built at the Renault site in Acton, London. The three-bar "moustache" indicates a post-1953 model - earlier cars had six bars. Look how you open the door from the inside!



Our New Year meal at **The Crown, Broad Hinton**, brought in 30 branch members for an excellent convivial carvery lunch. We were pleased to welcome new member **Paul Kimmens** who is currently fixing the brakes on his Minor saloon.

There were five Minors in the car park; the photograph shows **Steve** and **Shirley** arriving.

Thanks to **Gill** and **Alex** for organising. The carvery formula - with other menu choices for those who wished - proved very good and the pub staff were helpful and efficient.



2023 Branch Rally at Swindon & Cricklade Railway

We can now confirm that our 2023 Rally will be held at Blunston Station, Swindon & Cricklade Railway, on Sunday 11 June. We previously held Branch Rallies there in 1985 and 2015.

1985



2015



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

* indicates main North Wilts Branch events. Facebook group members welcome!
(A small fee is payable for certain events if you are not a full branch member.)

*Sunday 26 February, 1:30 pm at Castle Eaton Village Hall:

"Elmer the Flying Monk of Malmesbury, and the Re-enactments of his Flight."

Audio-visual presentation by Bill Reed. To help plan for numbers please tell Gill if you are coming: gillian.waters43@gmail.com

*March: Run out (date and details later)

*Sat 1 April: Windrush Valley Spring Run. Contact 43martinhoward@gmail.com

*April / May, date tba: Wheel Nuts, St Rose's School, Stroud

*Sunday 11 June: Annual Branch Rally, Swindon & Cricklade Railway, Blunsdon

*Saturday 24 June: Summer Festival on the Parks, Swindon.

Contact mike9welsh@yahoo.co.uk

*Sunday 30 July: Run and visit to the Oxford Bus Museum & Morris Motors Museum, Long Hanborough OX29 6LA. Contact 43martinhoward@gmail.com

*Saturday 5 August 2023: Gloucester Vintage and Country Extravaganza at South Cerney Airfield. Contact [Bill](#) to reserve a space on the club stand - we have 9 places allocated. Other information at: www.glosvintageextravaganza.co.uk

Other events you may wish to take part in:

Drive it Day, Sunday 23 April. <https://www.driveitday.co.uk>

British Leyland Day, Gaydon, Sunday 9 July www.britishmotormuseum.co.uk

Market Lavington Vintage Meet, 15 & 16 July www.ml.vintagemeeet.com

Stroud Classic Car Show, Sunday 23 July: The playing field, Bisley Old Road, Stroud, Glos GL5 1NL From 10:00 am - just turn up, entry is free.

Pershore Plum Festival, August Bank Holiday www.pershoreplumfestival.org.uk

White Horse Show, Uffington, August 27 & 28 www.whitehorseshow.co.uk

If you would like to arrange an outing of any sort, or just an informal breakfast or coffee meet, please give Gill a call on 01793 813309.

Website - Branch Cars

Thank you to those of you who have sent your vehicle information to [Ash](#) for the Branch Cars page. And thank you Ash for updating the page.

We now have 11 cars - there's still room for more! The Branch Cars page is [here](#).