



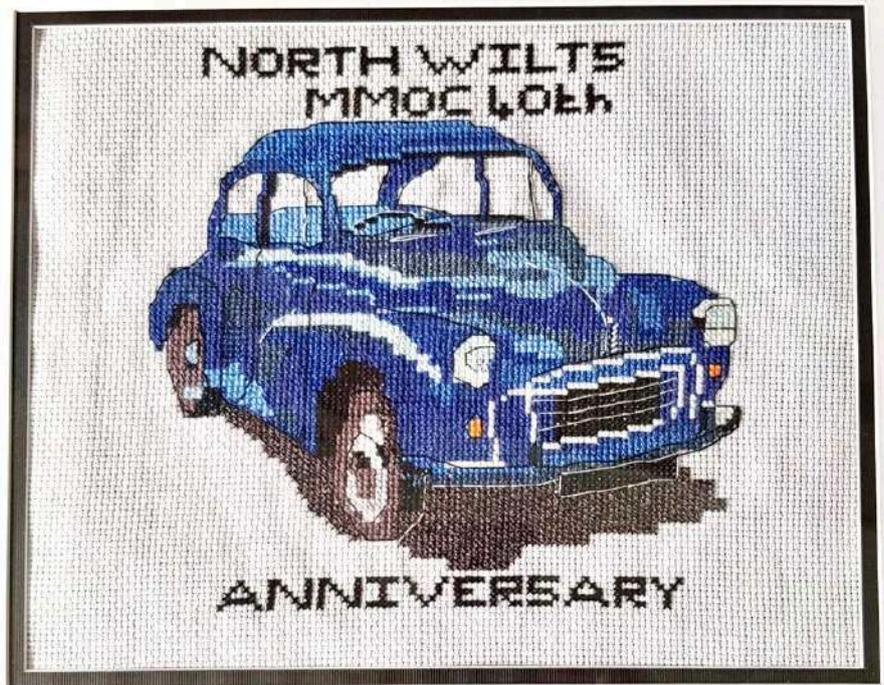
NWMMOC NEWSLETTER

May 2021

Sarah Bracher has already found a way to commemorate our 40th anniversary, with this fine cross-stitch. She says, "I drew out the pattern on 17th March and finished it on the 28th. I've worked on it several hours each day. I'm really pleased how it turned out."

Sarah has very kindly offered to make a

personalised cross-stitch for any Branch member, please contact [Gill](#) if you are interested.



Members' Zoom meeting 27 March: 13 screens, 18 members

Our thanks especially to **Chris Howard, Andy Devey and Diana Jeremiah.**

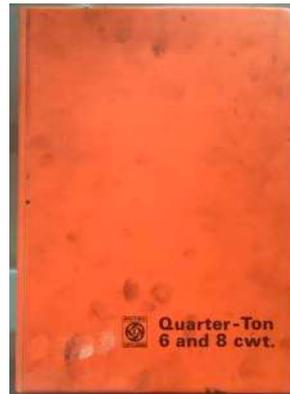
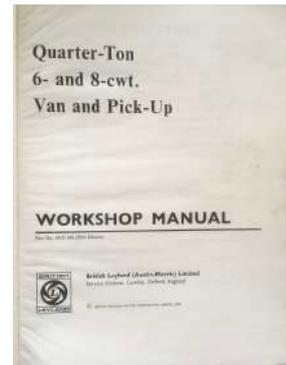
"I enjoyed the Zoom meeting. It is so very good to see everyone again but very weird when we finish and there is no-one!" **Gill Waters**

"Well done for the effort. Keep up the good work and keep safe." **Jeff Hide**

"Enjoyed the meeting tonight. 40 minutes is never enough!" **Peter Baddeley**

"We enjoyed the Zoom meeting, a good way of having a gathering in the present circumstances. The talk about Pendon was particularly interesting and reminded us that it would be good to resurrect the planned Branch visit to Pendon, perhaps later this summer. We enjoyed the contributions by Andy, Diana and yourself. Several short and varied presentations seems a good way to make it entertaining for a range of people and their interests. Hopefully we shall be able to meet in person for Branch events over the next few months although this would be a good format for a meeting over the winter if we end up under restrictions again. Thanks for organising." **Pam & Ash Holmes**

Bill writes: A while ago, in return for a couple of pints of real ale, I was given a 1970 British Leyland van manual, with oily fingerprints on the vinyl cover proving it had been used for the purpose intended. I have now passed this on to **Steve Chater** who writes, "Hi Bill, cracking result after treatment with two products, Krud Kutter and Auto Glym Vinyl Care." So here are the "before" and "after" photos. Between 1968 and 1971 vans were badged either Austin or Morris. The Austin had a "crinkle" grille and its engine was painted black instead of green, but otherwise the vehicles were identical. Neither marque appears on the manual. If BL had decided to re-brand at the time, they could have chosen from the following grille designs and badges: Leyland; Triumph; Land Rover; Rover; MG; Wolseley; Riley; Austin-Healey; Daimler; Jaguar; or, my favourite name for this purpose, Van Den Plas. But for some, maybe even "Austin" was already a step too far!



You will remember that the wicker basket accompanying our hamper was kindly made by **Ruth Parsons**, who has now moved away. I thought she would like to know the relay has resumed, and she wrote back: "Hi Bill, Thanks for sending this on. I'm glad to hear the hamper rally is continuing with the basket! We are settling into retirement in Ross on Wye really well. I drove here in Daisy through a blizzard and floods. She only just made it! I have since driven her to Charles Ware in Bristol for an overhaul. No more conking out and she'll be good for another good few years! Sending

my best wishes to you and all the other club members."

Ruth Parsons, [Woodland Learning Ltd.](#)

Website

The latest hamper news is on our website [here](#). Have look also at Ash and Pam's story of their convertible "Easy" [here](#). Please add your car to our Branch Cars section!

Branch History

Bill writes:

I have had a number of conversations with Freda Tinson in Swindon. She and her husband Brian (currently recovering from a fall) were very active in our Branch in the 80's and 90's and Freda has kindly photocopied some of the photos and documents they have kept. One of them is the very first Branch Newsletter, "North Wilts Natters". It features "Gretel", a Minor belonging to branch member Rachel Larkin. I hope to produce a book on the history of the Branch later this year, so PLEASE, if you have any photos or documents of past Branch activities, NOW IS THE TIME to look them out - I will return anything lent to me.

NORTH WILTS NATTERS



The Newsletter of the North Wilts
Branch of the Morris Minor Owners Club.
Volume 1
Number 1
February 1995

Roger and Liz Briance write from Indiana, USA:

"Enjoying an ice cream sat by Morse Reservoir on 18 April."

(This reservoir is 20 miles north of Indianapolis and has 35 miles of shoreline.)



Technical and spares

We have recently responded to requests from two MMOC members who are not branch members. One of them, in Chippenham, wished to dispose of a set of **wheels**, which **Ash Holmes** has acquired. The other, in Swindon, wanted recommendations for an engineering firm to undertake an **engine rebore**. After getting a second reference he has chosen one of the two firms recommended by **Steve Chater**. The **Tinsons** have donated a **Window Felt Set** to our Club Spares.

NEXT BRANCH EVENTS

We will conclude the Hamper Relay on 8 May.

23 May: Drive Out: Details to follow.

27 June: MMOC National Rally, Kelmarsh (tbc)

3 July: Branch Rally at Wallop Wheels and Wings

w/c 12 July: North Wilts Minors On Tour: Peak District

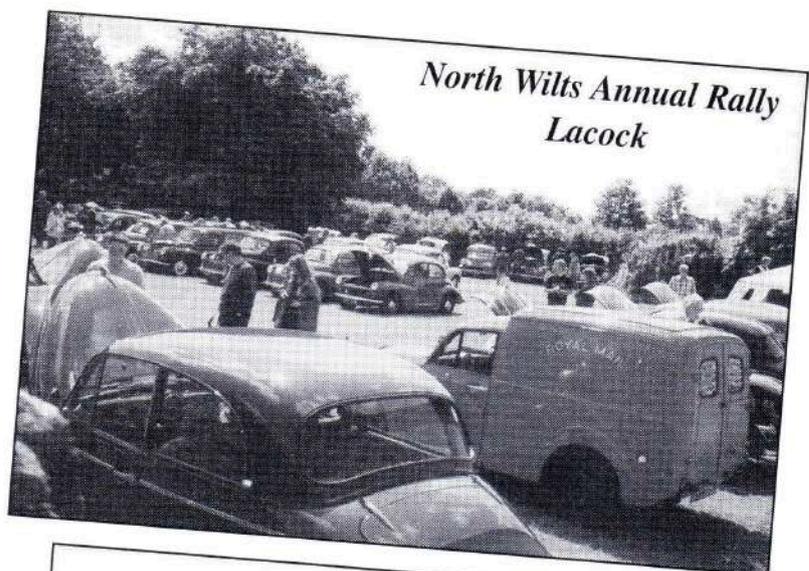
possible visits include Crich Tramway Village, Ecclesbourne Valley Railway, and The Great British Car Journey. 5 cars currently signed up - contact Bill if you would like to join this trip.

8 August: 40th

Anniversary

Celebration Event

including a run to Lacock, where we will park in The Pound. Lacock is one of our favourite destinations - this photo ("Minor Matters") is from 2003, when Alison Briance's convertible won Best in Show.



September: Pendon Landscape Museum (tbc)

12 September: MMOC Avon Branch Rally at East Somerset Railway