



NWMMOC NEWSLETTER

October 2024

Malmesbury Carnival September 2024

Photos & Words: Bill Reed

You will recall the report in our July Newsletter about Bill providing much needed replacement seats for the Ratcliffe Foundry Morris pick-up!



On Saturday, 31st August that pick-up became a carnival float, taking “Mrs Tiggy-Winkle on Tour! And raising monies for important community charities.



Bill said,
“This is me trying to get a photo of Mike Ratcliffe sitting on my old Traveller seat. The seat was barely visible but it did contribute indirectly to a great Carnival Procession entry!”

Visit to Hercules Propellers 5th September

Words: Gill Waters. Photos: Sarah Bracher

North Wilts MMOC member, Clive Frost, organised for us to visit Hercules Propellers in Stroud. Well! What an interesting place, beautiful wooden propellers made for Spitfire aeroplanes and others. Our guide showed us around the premises and we saw the intricacies of producing a crafted propeller. Interestingly, some of the Spitfires that are in circulation have German made propellers and the owner of these aircraft really would like British made ones!!!

Every tool has a place!!!

Andrew would like his garage like this!



Posing behind a propeller costing £180K.



Blades from Farnborough air tunnel being refurbished.

Wood finishing area.



Propellor blades everywhere.



A “one-off” table and even the drawer handles!

After our visit to Hercules Propellers we drove around the corner and had a meal in the Stroud Brewery, a very different venue, with great food.



With many thanks to Clive for organising this very successful visit.

Oakridge Show 7th September

Words: Members who attended. Photos: Ash Holmes

Nine cars from our Branch gathered at the Oakridge Show under a grey sky with only a few glimpses of blue sky and sunshine however the rain held off!



Kath said,

“We thoroughly enjoyed it, there was enough to do and take part in, the people were friendly and welcoming. It just pays to go off the beaten track and you will find more events like this one . Would go to that event again. “



We were made very welcome and would love to go again in 2025.

Treasure Hunt 8th September.

Words: Clive Frost Photos: Charlie Frost

On September 8th the club took part in a treasure hunt, which involved a drive from Studley Grange garden centre, to the Freke Arms. 14 members took part, with 4 Morrises completing the journey and others in their modern cars. The journey meandered through villages just outside Swindon, with a brief excursion into Oxfordshire. There was bit of standing water about following a heavy downpour during the night, but the weather remained dry with some sunshine. It was a pleasant drive that took just over an hour to complete and it was interesting to see how many uses there are for the old phone boxes now, from defibrillators to jigsaw swaps. There was even 1 with a telephone in it. Congratulations to Pam and Ash for their top score of 29 points.

Everyone enjoyed the event and it was a great way to have a drive around the countryside on a sunny Sunday morning, taking in things along the way that would normally be missed. And a roast lunch at the end is something not to be missed.

Ready for the off - about to set off from Studley Grange on the treasure hunt.



Treasure Hunt trophy ready for presentation.



All arrived safe and sound at the Free Arms for a well earned Sunday lunch.

Thanks Sarah, Gill and Becca for organising and providing clear navigation points and some great questions to answer along the way

Classics in Crete

Words & Photos: Bill Reed

I have never seen a Minor or even a Mini in Crete but here's what you can rent in Rethymnon if you can face the challenges of traffic and parking. 59 euros per day for the 2CV. We didn't!



Abingdon Air Show

Words & Photos John Dunn

Three Morris Minors representing North Wilts Branch, Harry & Kath, John & Sue, Bruce and Freddie.



Thanks to Swindon Classic Car Club who organised the day.



Bristol Branch Rally at East Somerset Railway, Cranmore.

Words & Photos: Mark Osland

We took Wallace Minor to East Somerset Railway at Cranmore on Sunday, 15th September. This was to join the Bristol Branch of MMOC for their annual meet up.

What a great day.....we arrived at 10 and parked up in a dedicated area on a grass slope, joining not only Bristol members but others from surrounding areas as well. A great turnout of all models with some regulars and also some newcomers coming along.

If you're thinking of coming next year, make sure you do.....this is a very well organised gathering with parts for sale, club regalia and a raffle, all raising money for a very worthy local charity.

All of this against the backdrop of the steam train running trips along the line....this is our third time at this event and are always made to feel very welcome, we'll certainly try to go again next year.



North Wilts Branch Events, MMOC Area 4 Events and other events.

Please refer to the North Wilts Branch website.

<http://www.northwiltsmmoc.co.uk/styled-18/index.html>

Thanks & final notes

From: Pam Holmes

Finally, I would like to thank those people who have taken the time to contribute to this Branch Newsletter:

Sarah Bracher
John Dunn
Charlie Frost
Clive Frost
Ash Holmes
Mark Osland
Bill Reed
Kath Ridley
Gill Waters

It is the contribution of members that makes the Branch Newsletter interesting and relevant! Lovely photos with recommendations for events to attend next year are in this Branch Newsletter!

Over the next few months there will no doubt be fewer car shows and rallies for members to attend and report on, so please take the opportunity in the next Branch Newsletters to send me photos of your Morris with information about the car and your ownership. I will include in the Newsletter and then pass to Ash for including on the Branch website!

I look forward to meeting up with everyone at the social event including AGM on Sunday, 13th October 12 noon in Castle Eaton Village Hall. Please let Gill know that you plan to attend, so we ensure there is plenty of Soup and Spuds!