



NWMMOC NEWSLETTER

March 2026

Photos from the Archive

Bill Reed



In February 2019 we met up at Crofton Pumping Station in preparation for our annual rally that year. This was followed by lunch at the Waterfront on Pewsey Wharf.

Left to right: Ash, Pam, Emma, Alex, Steve Chater, Shirley, Crofton staff member, Steve Rogers, Susie, Julian, Juliet, Peter, Marilyn, Andrew, Gill.

Annual Rally 2026 on 1st August at the Gloucs. Country & Vintage Extravaganza.

Registration forms for the rally are now available on the Branch website and should be completed and signed, then returned to Martin Howard.

It would be helpful for Martin to receive your applications as soon as possible but no later than 14th May.

Games afternoon and developing the Branch programme of events for 2026.



A games afternoon is becoming a regular event on our programme, the photos tell all!!

A short slide show, reminded us of many of the events we had been to during 2025 and during the afternoon there was tea and cakes with time to talk about ideas for the Branch programme this year.



There was already information about many events between spring and autumn that we could take our Moggies to! There was then lots of chat about ideas for the 2026 programme and opportunities for everyone to offer to contribute.

Members contributing to the North Wilts programme of events for 2026.

Photo: Bill Reed.



On 6 February Steve, Alex and Bill met up at the Sustain Farm Shop, Wootton Bassett, to discuss their plans and how they could contribute to the North Wiltshire Branch programme of events for 2026.

The Branch Committee would welcome other members offering to lead or organise events for the Branch: please send your ideas, plans or proposals to Pam Holmes.

Programme of events needing your attention!

Visit to Coombe Mill in Steam on Mothers Day. Sunday, 15th March

Combe Mill will be in steam on Sunday, 15th March and we are invited to visit and display our cars. It is a very interesting historical venue, so one not to miss!

Martin Howard has made arrangements for this visit and will meet with those taking part at Hillier's Garden Centre in Lechlade at 10.00am in the coffee shop. There will be time for some refreshment before the 10.40am departure. Martin will lead the way to the event and is looking forward to seeing you.

We have free entry which includes a cup of tea for Branch members.

If you wish to take part in this visit please let Martin know by email as soon as possible but by Friday, 13th March at the latest. 43martinhoward@gmail.com

Look forward to seeing you at Hillier's on the 15th March.

Breakfast meet-up at SUSTAIN near Royal Wootton Bassett, Sunday, 29th March.

North Wiltshire MMOC Branch: Breakfast Meet at SUSTAIN Farm Shop and Cafe near Royal Wootton Bassett on Sunday, 29th March at 10am.

We are trying something a little different for our Branch, a Breakfast meet; time to sit and chat, talk about maintenance of our cars, plans for the summer and anything else!

Bring your "moggie" and we will display them together in front of the cafe.

Seating has been reserved for us in the marquee to the rear of the cafe, or there is outside seating for those who prefer.

SUSTAIN cafe sells a good range of hot drinks and there is an interesting breakfast menu that will be available but we do need to order food in advance.

If you wish to take part in this event then would you please send Pam Holmes (pamlynnholmes@icloud.com) an email as soon as possible in order that she can confirm numbers with the SUSTAIN cafe. Pam will contact you for breakfast orders nearer the time.

Drive It Day 26th April

Organisers: Bill Reed and Ashley Alexander

By April “spring should have sprung!” and we shall all be ready to give our Moggies a spring clean ready for the Drive that Bill and Alex are in the process of planning. The plan is to gather at Studley Grange Garden Centre near Wroughton, then to follow a scenic drive to Woodborough where there are artisan shops and a garden centre. Cafes at Sticks and Stones and at the garden centre, so options for lunch-time refreshments.

There are a couple of possible visits along the way: Saxon church at Alton Barnes; and crop circle exhibition, Indian shop, warehouse and cafe at Honeystreet Mill.

More details to follow nearer the time but if you wish to take part then please email Bill Reed.

Wheelnuts Show at St. Roses School, Sunday, 3rd May - Last call for bookings!

If you wish to bring your Morris Minor to Wheelnuts with North Wilts MMOC Branch then please give your name and car registration to Pam Holmes by 21st March. pamlynnholmes@icloud.com. Please be aware that 10 of our 15 spaces have already been filled so please respond quickly, we have to confirm our numbers before the end of March.

South Wales Branch Rally at Caldicot Castle on Sunday, 10th May.

The South Wales Morris Minor Club are again holding their Branch Rally at Cadicot Castle. The event is open to all Classic Cars and all profits go to Tŷ Hafan Children's Hospice.

“Since we started holding this event at the castle in 2018 the show just keeps getting bigger and better! Last year we had over 200 cars in attendance of all makes and models. Please come along and join us if you can.”

Please complete the entry form to confirm your attendance:

https://tickets.mp/ZXZlbnQ6ODM4Mg==?utm_source=facebook...

Bill Reed has offered to “lead” the group from Leigh Delamere Services through to the Rally site.

If you wish to take part in this event, with other members of the North Wilts Branch then please contact Bill Reed once you have obtained your ticket (tickets are free). bill@euclidvillas.co.uk

Visit to Derbyshire: 12–15th June.



This is an opportunity to attend the Morris Minor Day at The Great British Car Journey, do some sight-seeing around the Matlock area and meet up with honorary Branch members Susie and Julian Marshall. Information is on the Branch website. Please note you will need to book your own accommodation, e.g. Premier Inn in Matlock is being used by some people. Contact Bill Reed for more information and if you wish to participate in this tour.

Minors On Summer Holiday (MOSH)

Previously MOT-UK

Several Branch members have been on MOT-UK trips, in recent years they have been to Norfolk, Wales, Derbyshire and Yorkshire. This year the “holiday” will be in Somerset, organised by Dennis and Sharon Saupe. Contact details from Pam Holmes.

Hampshire Branch Rally at Wilton House, near Salisbury. Sunday, 28th June.

We have been invited as a Branch to attend the Hampshire Branch Rally which is to be in Wiltshire this year, at Wilton House.

Application forms and details to follow; put the date in your diary!

Fairford Steam Show: Sunday 16th August.

A steam show with also about 150 Classic Cars on display. We have been invited to participate. This a first for our Branch! We have a maximum of 10 places.

If you would like to take part then please go to this link and book your place.

Link to website is <https://fairfordsteamshow.co.uk/>. Click on exhibitors then complete form.

(If that is difficult for you to do, then telephone Ash Holmes to make an alternative arrangement.)

Once you have a booked place then please email Ash to inform him and so ensure you will be in the North Wilts Branch patch.

Greetings from the Midwest!

Words and photos: Alison Shailes

Greetings from the Midwest! We have had a very cold and snowy winter so far with temps in -20's C for a good while. The last dump of snow at the end of January was 12 inches deep and we were snowed in for a few days!



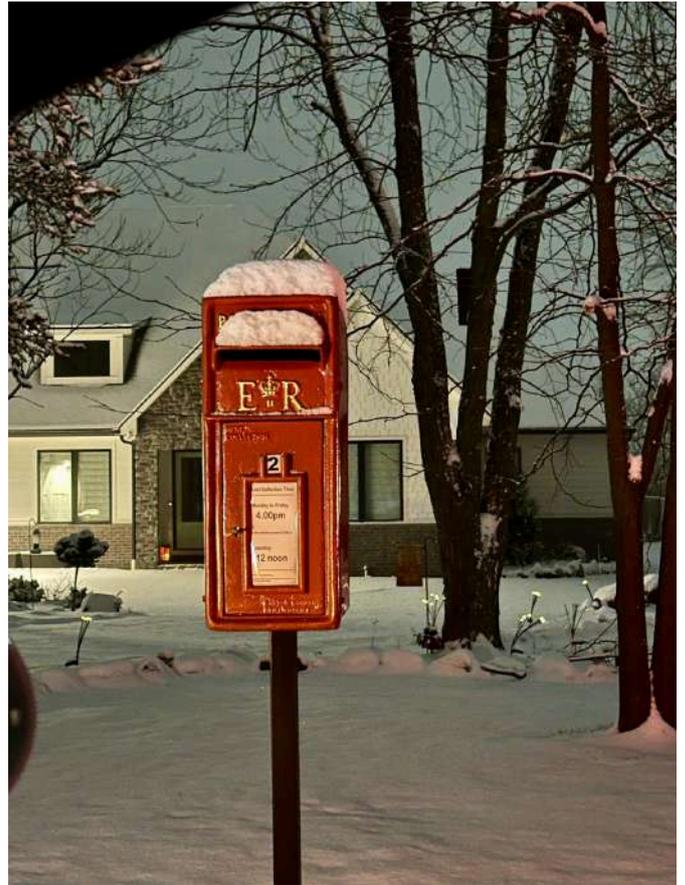
As a result Doris is going no where for a while! She is currently wrapped up in her new garage space after we moved to the countryside last August. No longer sharing her space with the sit on mower and the workbench which I am happy about.

We are looking forward to the spring / summer time to get back out to the car shows and country roads. I am planning a car show with Dad in the over 55 community they live in. It is run by the Veterans Club which Dad is part of. In previous years it has always been a good day out and Doris gets a lot of attention.

I am on the British Indiana Car Union



community and we will start planning our next car show soon. The show will be in August and typically we will attract around 150 British cars which is always nice to see. One year there were 4 Minor's but we haven't seen that for a couple of years sadly!



Please enjoy the photos of Doris in hibernation, the snow and our new mailbox! We hope you are all well and looking forward to the spring / summer as well!

Alison, Doris and the family.

Update on the last North Wilts Branch Committee Meeting

Words: Pam Holmes

Your seven committee members met on Thursday, 26th February from 7-9pm.

I believe we had a successful meeting, key points were:

- the Branch finances were reported to be in good order. There are now 55 paid up members and these people will receive the regular programme updates and other communications.

- we reflected on the Games afternoon: attendance was low due to several apologies due to illness and family or other commitments however it was felt that the event was successful judging by the laughter, participation in games and the level of conversation! The slide show of events during 2025 seemed to be of interest. Everyone contributed to the success through setting-up and clearing-up the room, preparing and clearing away refreshments. There were useful contributions to help with the programme planning for this year, it was seen as important to involve everyone in this.
- committee members gave feedback on the planning they had done for specific events in March: Coombe Mill, visit to Care Home etc. These visits to be advertised to members, also a Breakfast meet up at Sustain.
- further preparation for the Branch Rally was discussed and it was agreed that a Risk Assessment should be completed at the next Committee Meeting. Applications are arriving with Martin for the Branch Rally. Wording agreed for the rally plaques, Pam will pass to Gill for ordering. Identified people who have volunteered to help with Rally but others are needed, for example to put up Branch signs and shelters on the day.
- programme for the summer months was further discussed and calendar expanded; we have moved to having a busy summer programme.

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

Alison Shailes
Bill Reed
Ashley Alexander
Steve Chater
Ash Holmes

Please would you send me a photo and note about your Morris Minor and where it has been in March for the April Branch Newsletter.
Send to: pamlynnholmess@icloud.com

