



MORRIS MATTERS

WESTERN CAPE NEWSLETTER

May-June 2018

Volume 32 N°3

MORRIS MINOR OWNERS CLUB WESTERN CAPE

Clubhouse: The Cape Multi-Motor Club, Jan Burger Sports Ground, De Grendel Road, Parow North.

Web: www.morrisminor.co.za

Facebook page: Morris Minor Owners Club: Western Cape

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman	Vice Chairman	Secretary
Frikkie Muller 021 903 1591 082 267 3398 gerdamuller76@gmail.com 	Ron Clark Tel. 021 761 4469 083 261 0675 clarkfam@zsd.co.za 	Gerda Muller 021 903 1591 083 619 8708 gerdamuller76@gmail.com 
Treasurer	Events	Regalia
Ian Pretorius 021 557-1749 083 275 5141 ianpretorius@mweb.co.za 	Donata van der Merwe 083 258 4853 didie.therapybox@gmail.com 	Mitford Roberts 021 558 3482 083 268 0957 mitfordr1951@gmail.com 
Technical	Web	Membership
Richard Laubscher 021 913 5937 083 677 6617 richardlaubscher1@gmail.com 	Tony Harrison 021 434 7265 082 373 8820 tohar@telkomsa.net 	Bertha Laubscher 021 913 5937 073 183 6630 bertiebuzybee@telkomsa.net 
Hospitality		
Sandy Gush 072 720 5789 sandragush@gmail.com 		

EDITORIAL by Cristina Jones



I hope you all had a nice Easter with plenty of chocolate bunnies and eggs. In this issue you will find articles on what we have been doing and where we have been with our Morris during these last couple of months, specially the 2018 Rally in Johannesburg.

As you know, Autumn is the best season of the year in the Cape with beautiful blue skies and no wind! Luckily also some rain that we desperately need. So, we have great outings and gatherings planned for these coming months which promise to bring lots of fun. We try to make our events an enjoyable get-together to get to know our new members and meet the old ones, exchange technical tips and enjoy the Morris camaraderie, which is what is all about.

Enjoy the read!

Articles, photos and suggestions are welcomed (crisota@netactive.co.za / 083 522 8881)

ADVERTISING IN MAGAZINE			
Full page	R 1,200 per year	Two lines plus photos once off	R 100
Half page	R 600 per year	Two lines once off	R 50

CHAIRMAN'S CHATTER

Report back from the 2018 Rally:

We had a warm welcome from the Johannesburg club and we learnt a lot during our stay there. We are taking in the good and going to try to improve on the not so good. Our Charlie Chaplin team won the 3rd prize for the Gala evening, Sandy Gush took the 2nd prize for the Tappet Cover Race and our Vice Chairman, Ron Clark's Bertie came home with no less than 3 prizes: People's Choice Award, Best Restoration and the car that had the longest distance to drive. But alas, even winners lose sometimes – we came last in the Quiz! Madame Secretary also won a prize for her communication skills.



As 2018 is the 70th birthday of the Morris Minor, we've already started planning for this major event. Mitford Roberts (Regalia) is currently working on special once off bumper badge commemorating this big event. As this is going to be a rarity, make sure that you let us know in advance if you want one. Please contact myself (082 267 3398) and Paul Hoffman (073 787 5284) regarding the run to Hermanus. Our aim is to get 70 Morries together - non-members are welcome, so spread the word, please.

As winter is approaching, get your cars ready for the cold and, hopefully, rainy weather. Make sure that your wiper blades are in good condition, check your lights and add some anti-freeze to the water in the radiator.

Sadly, we lost our eldest member, Ryk Melck. Bobby Moore is also not well and is currently in the Panorama Medi-Clinic.

FRIKKIE

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following members to the Morris family. May you enjoy many long and happy Morris years!

Dirk Potgieter
Fanie Viljoen



GET WELL



Wishing good luck and a speedy recovery to Bobby Moore, who is going for an operation this week.

CONDOLENCES

Our deepest sympathies to family and friends of our member Ryk Melck, who passed away recently.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Sunday 20 May: Morris Minor Mother's Day, bring and braai at the Clubhouse to celebrate Mother's Day. Men will cook and wash the dishes!

Sunday 17 June: We are planning a trip to Pringle Bay to have an early lunch at the 365 Bistro & Simply Coffee. More details later.

Sunday 15 July: Bingo at the clubhouse, plus soup and bread - fundraising event, so bring a few friends.

Sunday 19 August: our yearly trip to Snoekies in Hout Bay. Always a winner with the club members.

Sunday 16 September: Commemoration of the 70th anniversary of the wonderful little car that brought us all together. We are trying to get 70 Morris together.



Sunday 21 October: Still to be decided.

Sunday 4th November: Killarney Classic Motor Car Show **Sunday 2/9 December:** will be out End of the Year Function. Venue to be decided.

Sunday 11th November: Beatlemania at the Artscape

NEW SUBSCRIPTION RATES for 2018

Notice the new Subscription Rates:

Full Member	R 250.00
Full Member + Spouse/Partner	R 300.00
Senior Citizens (over 65 years)	R 200.00
Senior Citizens + Spouse/Partner	R 250.00
Students (25 years)	R 150.00
Country Members:	R 160.00
(Living more than 100km from Cape Town)	
Overseas Members	R 160.00

Subscription Fees include **R50.00** National Rally Levies determined by the National Body. New applicants must pay REGISTRATION FEE (Compulsory) of **R50.00**. **Membership badge is included.**

Bank: Standard Bank

Branch Code: 050 704

Account name: Morris Minor Owners Club

Account no: 27 119 3093

PLEASE NO CHEQUES. PAY CASH OR BY EFT TO SAVE THE CLUB BANK CHARGES,

Kindly notify Bertha Laubscher of change of address or e-mail so you can be sure to get all notices.

FINAL PAYMENT DUE end of March. A re-joining fee applies after that.

BIRTHDAY LIST

<u>MAY</u>		<u>JUNE</u>	
Daphne Young	2	Dien Riggs	4
Stephen Leibbrandt	6	Norman Penfold	5
Helen Goldenbogen	11	Sandy Gush	14
Sanel Barnardo	10	Richard Laubscher	18
Mike Farella	12	Alistair van Huyssteen	19
AnneMarie Krzesinski	12	Johan Bruce	21
Philip Trotman	22	Craig Buchanan	24
Anita Wright	25	Mitford Roberts	26

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!

RECENT EVENTS

CLUBHOUSE BRAAI – 18 MARCH

by Donata van der Merwe

The braai at the clubhouse on 18 March was well attended, despite the absence of the JHB Rally goers. We had some interesting canine visitors, as Greg and Lynne brought their huge and medium doggie friends, and they were joined by Ian Gillespie's little Khaya, a rescue adopted by Ian, after Charl Cilliers and myself picked him up, 2 months prior, from the side of the road, adjacent to Khayamandi in Stellenbosch. It caused a bit of an upheaval, as we were not aware of the dog training going on on the adjacent field, but all ended well.

We had some new young members attending from Worcester, in their beautiful sky-blue Moggy - welcome to Michael and Sune! They are very keen to join us on our future outings! Marianna and the Buckley family are also fairly new members, so we were delighted to have had them attending as well. It was one of the nicest, most relaxed braais we have had, as people really had a chance to chat and get to know each other.

All our regular, steadfast members that were not on the JHB Rally, were present - what would a braai be without Mitford, Bobby, Andrew and Norman? Without Gerda to organise the usual daily activities, there was a bit of confusion, but Charl and Mitford were in control and the ladies that did attend, gave such wonderful support that everything went super smoothly!

A special word of thanks to the ladies that were commandeered to assist, and to all that helped out. Many hands make light work!



RALLY 2018 @ EMERALD CASINO, JOHANNESBURG

by Bertha Laubscher

Die Johannesburg tak was bevoorreg om somer ook die Morris Minor se 70e herdenking te vier. Ons het die 18e Maart ingeboek en het die 22e Maart weer vertrek. Die kostes was R2900 pp – verdeel dit deur 4 nagte en die kostes was R725 per dag, wat 'n buffet ontbyt, 'n middagete, 'n buffet aandete, 'n golf hemp, 'n bustoer, verblyf en vermaak ingesluit het. Voorwaar 'n bargain!

Die groepie wat Vrydag môre vertrek het, is Johan & Amanda Bruce, Peter Albert & Yvonne Bootcov, Richard & Bertha Laubscher, Owen & Sandy Gush. Ron Clarke en Frikkie Muller het later vertrek weens werk-situasies. Ons groepie het rustig gery, gestop vir kuier en tee en verder gery met genoeg tyd om alles langs die pad te sien. Dit is ongelooflik om die groen grasperke te sien en glo my, die grootste 'treat' was die wonderlike BAD!!!!

Matjiesfontein was ons eerste kuierstop. Hoeveel mense weet dat daardie pragtige ou klein dorpie sy eie motormuseum, kompleet met Morris Minor in, het? Ons het by Travalia geslaap na 'n interessante koshuiskuier op Owen & Sandy se bed. Koffie kan dan nie beter smaak nie.

In Parys het ons die Bloemfontein groep, asook Ron & Frikkie ontmoet. Die wedersiens was baie aangenaam!! Hier het die wit Morris van Johan 'n clutch kabel gebreek, maar 'n boer maak 'n plan. Hy het ons nie opgehou nie en Vanderbijlpark gehaal. Parys lyk na so 'n wonderlike interessante dorpie, maar daar was nie tyd vir kuier nie.

Leon & Sophie het ons begelei tot by die Emerald Casino. Die Johannesburg klomp het ons gul ontvang. Ek het die gesigte herken deur al die jare wat ons rallies bywoon het, en almal is soos familie gesqueeze. Sondag aand het ons 'n heerlike verwelkomings-braai gehad.

Maandag môre het ons 'n buffet ontbyt gehad, waarna ons per luukse bus vertrek het na Soweto. Dit is iets wat ek nie sou gekies het nie, en tog is ek baie bly dat ons dit wel beleef het.



Dinsdag is die gebruikelike Driving Skills gehou, en het ons heeldag tyd gehad om die Fun Walk te doen. Dit was 'n lys met vroeë en instruksies bv. Putt putt, balle gooi ens. Die oudste het dit toe gewen!!! Dit was aangename vermaak.

Die gebruikelike Fancy Dress Party is die aand gehou, met die tema 'Everything British'. Ons groep het gegaan as Charlie Chaplin – almal geklee in swart bolhoedjie, wit strikdas, swart hemp, wit broek en kiere. Later die aand het iemand opgemerk dat ons nou soos die Undertakers lyk!! Ons het die derde prys gekry vir 'dress code'. Die musiek was reg en almal het dit geniet.

Woensdag môre is die motors beoordeel, en terselfdertyd het die Tappet Cover Race plaasgevind. Ron se motor het die Tops afdeling gewen, asook die People's Choice en ook 'n toekening omdat hy die verste gery om by die rally te kom. Sandy se 'Sting Like a Bee' het tweede gekom in die 'resies'. Ons het so trots gevoel op hulle.

Die prysuitdeling is natuurlik ook 'n netjiese geleentheid. Frikkie het ons klub vereer met 'n gepaste toespraak en ek het trots gevoel! Gerda het sowaar 'n prys gekry vir haar goeie kommunikasie met die Johannesburg klub. Dit is uitsonderlik dat 'n sekretaresse so vereer word en sy verdien dit!!!

Die huistoe ry het ons rustig aangepak en almal het veilig by die huis gekom.

En nou is die BALL IN OUR COURT!!! Ons as komitee het hulp dringend nodig!!! Kom asb met voorstelle, idees en veral praktiese bydraes.



TOEKA SE STOOR – SUNDAY 15 APRIL

by Gerda Muller

A while ago I received a Whatsapp from Donata with photos attached to it, saying "This is a potential event for the Morris club". A week or so later, a friend of mine also sent me a Whatsapp, saying "this is a must see – when can we go?"

So, without further discussion, Donata booked for lunch, not even knowing how many people would attend. To my surprise, it was one of the best attended events in a long while! Donata sure knows how to spot a good one....

We met, as usual, at the Engen 1Stop on the N1, and this time we were accompanied by Alida and Hannes van Eeden's in their gorgeous Model A Ford – always a show-stopper! Charl and Willie came in their Mini's and at the venue, on the Domaine Brahm's wine estate, we had another surprise FC and Anthea Kotze and his parents arrived in style in his 1956 Austin Van den Plas DM4 8-seater limousine! I guess the fact that it was his birthday was worth bringing out the big guns!!! Happy birthday FC, I hope you and your family enjoyed the day with us!



If you've never heard of this place, please Google it - it is full of nostalgia, old tractors and cars, vintage signage.... too many things to describe, so just believe me... it's a MUST SEE! Around every corner there is something that you either had as a child or was used in your parents' and even grandparents' houses.

But as always, if it isn't Frikkie driving into a fence pole, someone's car breaks down or something else goes wrong. This time it had nothing to do with the Morris club. The chef didn't pitch that morning and the gas stove didn't function properly. The poor waitresses had a terrible time seeing to everyone's needs and the hostess, Lynette, kept a calm face, but I spoke to her afterwards... she was seething on the inside!! I felt so sorry for all of them – they handled it to the best of their abilities. Some people didn't want to wait for the dessert, some got upset, some said "we're here for the company and enjoying the day out", some, like Donata and I, were running around, trying to find out what's going on and placating everyone. All I know.... I *never* want to be in the hospitality business. If something goes wrong, it goes wrong big time!

However, so many of us thoroughly enjoyed the day – it was a beautiful day (having plenty of those lately, with the rain staying away) and there were so much to see and enjoy and to take in. In itself, taking our Morrisies on a drive should be the highlight of the day anyway.

PS: I took a friend there for lunch the Wednesday after.... I discovered that there was another big store full of treasures (yes, even a Morris Minor) that I wasn't even aware of!!! There's even a big red double-decker bus and I, of course, went up and saw some breathtakingly beautiful views. I came home and wrote some words of praise and put some photos on TripAdvisor for all of the world to read next time when they want to go for a drive somewhere.



TECHNICAL

TECHNICAL TIPS PART 5.

by Richard Laubscher

The following issues are uncommon but can occasionally occur if you are not aware of the condition of your car's engine.

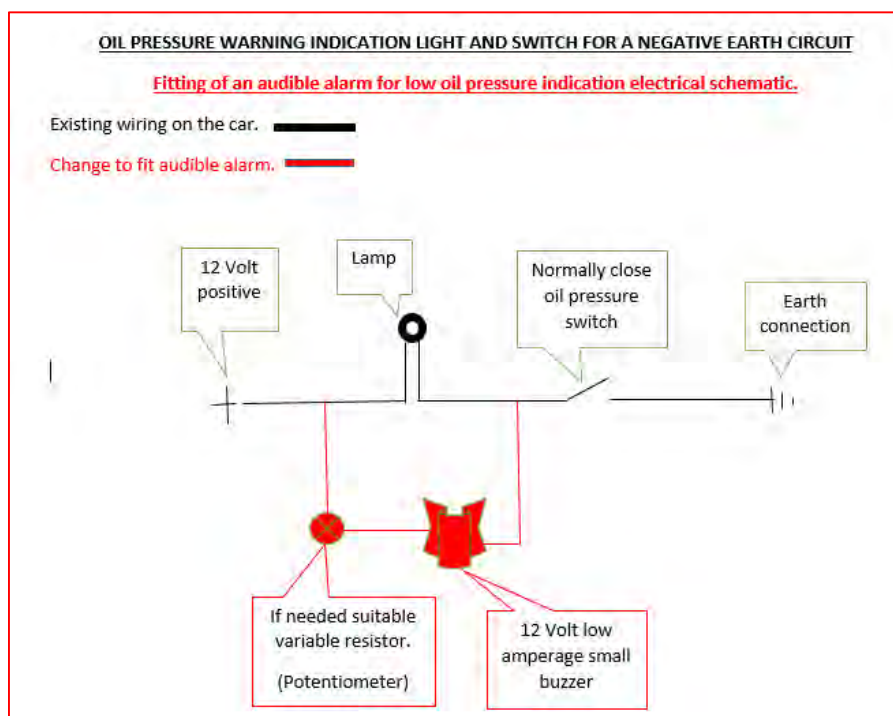
1. Engine failure due to lack of lubrication:

Every one of us should know the condition of our car's engine, whether it is using oil or even worse, leaking oil. It is recommended that you check oil & water levels before startup, and to take oil with on longer trips, and also to make sure that, during the trip, the levels are kept up. By looking at our gauges regularly, whether it is the single oil pressure light in the speedometer or our fitted oil pressure & water temperature gauges, we are spoilt by our modern cars to give ample warning of trouble, and therefore are negligent to adhere to the warning indicators.

Unfortunately, a few of our club members had unnecessary failures as a result of not adhering to the recommendations drafted above.

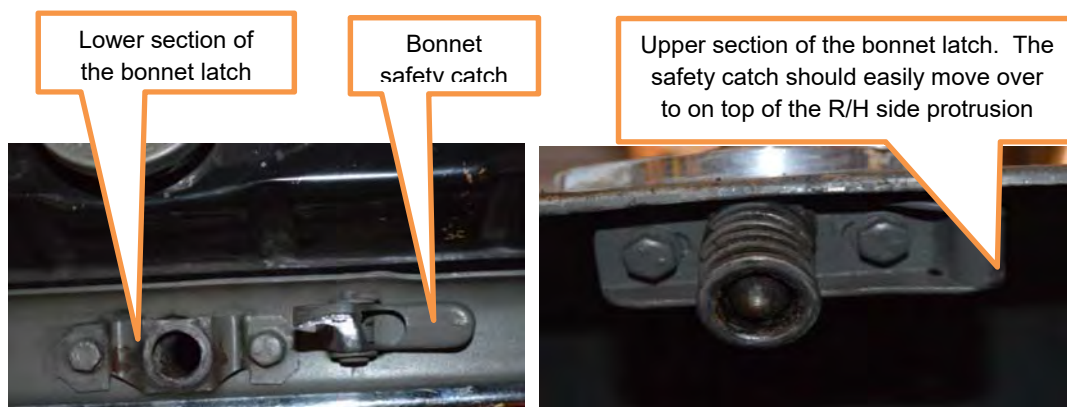


Abovementioned device can be fitted to your car's oil pressure alarm indicator system, that will make a sound when you switch on the ignition but will stop when the oil pressure builds up to the switching pressure of the pressure switch. If the alarm should sound whilst driving or idling, the oil pressure is too low. An audible alarm (buzzer) and a variable resistor can be bought at electronic company shops, for example, Yebo Electronics. etc. The reason for fitting a variable resistor is to control the sound; alternatively, the sound of the buzzer can be controlled by partially sealing it off with tape. A positive earth control circuit can be changed the same way as a negative earth control circuit, as shown in the draft below.



2. Possible defects of bonnet catch:

When servicing your vehicle, make sure to lubricate the bonnet catch. If you don't have the necessary knowledge to open the bonnet correctly, be careful as the safety catch can break, due to metal fatigue. The safety catch will hook in properly onto the striker plate under the bonnet, if the bonnet is lowered slowly. From there the bonnet must be pushed down firmly to engage properly with the bonnet latch. These safety catches are virtually unavailable, secondhand or new. Some members I contacted for a possible replacement unit, admitted that they themselves also broke theirs and they could not find a replacement. A bonnet flying open whilst on the road, can cause serious problems, like constricting your vision and even damage cars behind you.

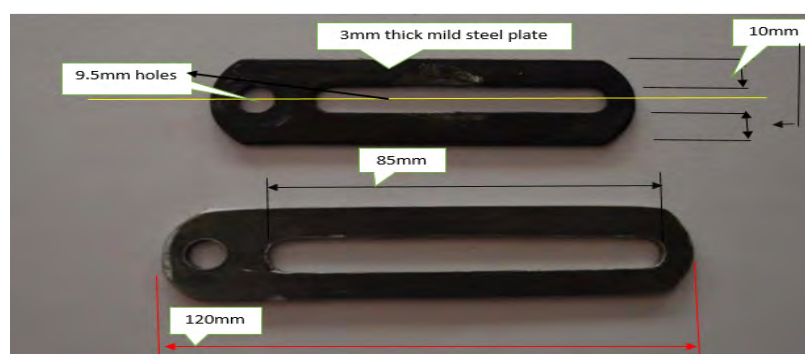


If everything is not correct on the bonnet latching mechanism, whether it is through a mechanical problem or failure to close properly, this can be the result; broken off bonnet hinges and a “bridal car”, if you are lucky to have tie down straps.



MAKE AN AJUSTMENT PLATE FOR EASY REMOVAL & FITTING OF A SIZE 214 FANBELT

For an unknown reason the correct size fan belts are not available for easy removal and fitment on our Morris Minor cars. Size 213 is too short and acquires complete loosening of the generator to enable it to fit. Size 214 is slightly too long; by manufacturing a new adjustment plate as demonstrated below; that is 15mm longer than the original; enables easy removal and fitment of the size 214 fan belt without generator complete removal and fitment.



Recommended tools for easier manufacturing of the 15mm longer adjusting fan belt plate.



REGALIA

AVAILABLE STOCK



30TH ANNIVERSARY MUGS	R 115.00
BUMPER BADGE	R 180.00
CAP BADGE	R 35.00
CAPS	R 65.00
DUST CAP REMOVER	R 30.00
CARDS	R 15.00
CLOTH BADGE (rectangular)	R 15.00
CLOTH BADGE (round)	R 20.00
FLAGS ENGLAND	R 30.00
FLAGS UNION JACK	R 30.00
FRIDGE MAGNETS	R 20.00
GOLF SHIRTS	R 145
KEY RINGS	R 50.00
LRP ADDITIVE	R 120.00
MAGNETIC STICKERS	R 40.00
PENS	R 25.00
STALK FLAG	R 20.00
STEERING COVER	R 85.00
STICKERS	R 20.00
TIMING COVER METAL GASKET	R 100
VARIOUS BOOKS	PRICE ON ITEMS

“BLUEBELL”

Some may be interested in knowing that Minors are still racing in the UK with some success. The 1959 saloon "Bluebell" races in the HRDC (Historic Racing Drivers Club) series for 1950s Saloon cars.

Bluebell is just 998cc and not modified much - she's just a great little car, getting class wins pretty well every year since she started racing 36 years ago.

It has raced at Goodwood, Silverstone, Oulton Park, Donington Park and Brands Hatch.

Andy and Mark Cross first came across "Bluebell" in a central London lock-up. Although the car had already been transformed from a gentle shopping car to a race car, it hadn't had the best of luck on the track – despite having been campaigned by many members of the Classic Touring Car Racing Club, it didn't have a win to its name and had barely finished half of its races.

However, its reputation didn't matter to the two brothers, who had grown up with Morris Minors. So, they bought it, tidied it up and made it more reliable – then went ahead to win two Classic Touring Car Championships in 1991 and 1993.

"I am a big A-series fan, and we'd always had Minors", says Andy Cross of Bluebell, the Minor he's owned for almost 30 years. "Mum had one, dad had a Traveller, my brother Mark had a saloon that he squeezed his drumkit in, and I had a van as I was into karting. So, when I wanted to go racing, it seemed the thing to do".

Remarkably, the motor is a 1-litre, based on an overbored 948cc Morris Minor original, following the old club rules. However, Andy's building "something with a little more torque" but still within the HRDC's 1200cc Class D. *"We run a Weber 40, although we used to have to run a single 1¼in SU, as standard. I'm not sure if the car goes any better – it just makes more noise".*

"We dyno'ed it at 65bhp at the wheels, and it's all about conserving momentum, building up speed over the first few laps. We don't slow down much and, before we had an LSD, that forced us to open up every corner, widening the radius as much as possible and treating them like straights so we wouldn't pick up the inside rear wheel and waist power. But, it's frustrating when bigger, faster cars overtake and then brake in front of you. We've got front discs but don't use them much – we've made two sets of pads in the last 30 years. Conversely, if the faster cars brake where we do, they tend not to make the corner"

"Bluebell", Jaguar, MG and Rover
(Goodwood, 2012)



Andy Cross, lined up against ex-F1 cars, Ferraris, Jaguars, at The Chateau Impney Hill Climb, in Worcestershire, on July 9-10 - only the second time the event has run in 50 years. (2016)



Cross brothers and their Morris Minor "Bluebell" (Goodwood, 2017)
