



MORRIS MATTERS

WESTERN CAPE NEWSLETTER

January-February 2019
Volume 33 N°1




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	
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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 laubscherbertha@gmail.com	
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		Sandy Gush 072 720 5789 sandragush@gmail.com			



EDITORIAL by Cristina Jones



Greetings to all Morris enthusiasts! I trust you all had a wonderful time with family and friends this Christmas and that you enjoyed your holidays if you've been away from home. I hope you are relaxed after this Season break and ready for all the 2019 exciting events that the Club has prepared for us.

So, the first edition of the new year starts with a bang! As customary, you will find articles on the last events of 2018. First, Killarney Classic Car show, followed by "Beatlemania" at the Artscape Theatre, a Bring and Braai & Boot Sale at the Clubhouse and the End of the Year lunch at the Spur. Plus, technical notes and other interesting snippets of information.

And by the way, roll up your sleeves because 2020 Rally is just around the corner and the Committee is counting on your support.

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

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To the Morris family,

The Committee has been working very hard to get the ball rolling for the 2020 Rally. More than ever, we will have to depend on our members to support us in this effort, as we will, in the end, all benefit from it. We are still in desperate need for sponsors – we need small gifts to put in the goody bags, for instance. If anyone can come up with any idea, it would be sincerely appreciated.

As usual, Timour Hall is the first event of the year, and this time it's on the 20th of January. After that, is the George Car Show on the 9/10 February. These events are the most popular of all car shows. Make sure that you will be able to attend them if you never have.

As Gerda and I will be out of the country during the holidays, we wish all our members a very happy Christmas and a great New Year, enjoy your loved ones.

See you all at Timour Hall!

Frikkie.



NEW MEMBERS

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

Theo & Michele Smit

Danie & Heleen Wagener

Nick & Lou-Ann Joubert

Danie & Elsie Marnewick

Izak & Carolina Beukes.



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Sunday 20 January: Timour Hall.

Saturday 9 /Sunday 10 February: George Car Show.

Sunday 24 February: Classic Car Show @ D'Aria, Durbanville



More details on each event will be sent by e-mail closer to the date. Please contact Donata (083 258 4853) should you wish to attend any of the above-mentioned events.

NEW SUBSCRIPTION RATES for 2019

Notice the new Subscription Rates:

Full Member	R 300.00
Full Member + Spouse/Partner	R 350.00
Senior Citizens (over 65 years)	R 250.00
Senior Citizens + Spouse/Partner	R 300.00
Students (25 years)	R 200.00
Country Members:	R 210.00
(Living more than 100km from Cape Town)	
Overseas Members	R 210.00

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>JANUARY</u>		<u>FEBRUARY</u>	
Saray Bothma	2	Willie van Eck	1
Nico Wolmarans	3	Peter Blease	1
Theo Smit	4	Dawson Blease	2
Janita van Huyssteen	7	Werner Calitz	4
Emma Carpenter	7	Andrew Riggs	7
Peet Baderhorst	8	Christa Robbertze	7
Sandra Rennie	10	Anthony Krzesinski	8
Gareth McConkey	15	Donata van der Merwe	8
Heleen Wagener	16	Lynne Smit	18
Gerhard Robbertze	18	Graham Balharry	20
Schalk Wolmarans	29	Clive Burton	21
Malcolm Johnston	29	Nan Peck	22
		Greg Peck	24
		Sydney Young	25

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!

RECENT EVENTS

KILLARNEY CLASSIC CAR SHOW, 4th November

by Mitford Roberts



On Sunday the 4th November we gathered at the Killarney race track. It was a nice early start with a good turnout of Morris plus Willie's Moke. Our Morris always standing out amongst the Porches, Jaguars, Minis to name a few!

Food was in abundance from sarmies to hot dogs and burgers, which we tackled happily.

We had one problem: our spot was facing two massive PA speakers and boy was that music loud! We could not hear a word spoken!!! That was a bit of a damper.

The show had all sorts of exhibits, model aircrafts, motorcycles and Monster displays.

We started packing up round 16.00 after a day well spent.

BEATLEMANIA – 11th November

by Gerda Muller

In the beginning of the year, during a meeting, we were discussing interesting events for the rest of the year. Bertha Laubscher came up with the idea to do something completely different - something we've never done before – and that was to attend a show at the Artscape in Cape Town. She happened to know that Beatlemania was coming to Cape Town.

Growing up in that era, remembering dancing to the Beatles' tunes, we were immediately interested and when I read the write-up, I was sold on the idea:

“Relive the heyday of the world's favourite pop act with Beatlemania – On Tour, the complete live tribute show that recreates a true Beatles experience – authentic costumes, replica instruments and all songs performed with exquisite attention to detail and in their original key!



With sold-out shows across the US, Canada, Dubai, Hong Kong, South Africa and New Zealand this is a must – see spectacular for all Beatles fans!”



So, along we skipped, excited to see the show: Owen “One Crutch” Gush, Gerda “Swollen knee/Shoulder” Muller, Norman “Crocs & Socks” Penfold, who came in his usual attire (and forgot to put in his teeth!) Cristina Jones, with her newly operated-on back, big guys, trying to fit in small seats (Llewellyn Buckley and Peter Albert), Bertha “Sensitive Ears” Laubscher, who had her fingers in her ears the whole time, and then the “normal” guys, like Frikkie and Richard, Roger,

Patsy and Courtney Buckley, Yvonne Bootcov, Sandy Gush, Mitford Roberts, Ron and Sharon Clark, Rob and Sue Tissington, Malcolm Jones, and our guests Ivan and Samantha le Grange.

Once the music started, it was over..... the whole Artscape was packed to capacity with grey-haired guys and gals, clapping and singing and bopping and twisting to those old familiar tunes.... bingo wings flapping as the ladies clapped and shook their arms, swaying to the beat of the music and singing along. I was quite surprised that I actually remembered all the words of most of the songs. In fact, I was singing so loudly that I ended up hoarse and I clapped so enthusiastically, my shoulder was sore for the rest of the night.

We came home, reliving every moment. Frikkie and I were not married yet, and we remembered driving weekends to his sister in Otjiwarongo, South-West Africa (now Namibia) to “Here Comes the Sun”. I was in Standard 6 when we twisted to Roll over Beethoven and “Twist and Shout”. In the 70's, “Yellow Submarine” and “Ob-La-Di-Ob-La-Da” were played at every party we ever went to and later on, when the Beatles became more Zen, “Hey Jude”, “Let It Be” and “Come Together”, were crowd favourites.



With our youngest daughter living, first in Birkenhead, just across the Mersey River from Liverpool, and later in Chester, we've visited the Beatles Museum and the Cavern and even the houses the Beatles grew up in, quite a few times. To land on John Lennon Airport, to see street names like Penny Lane, and to go to Scarborough Fair and even Strawberry Fields, is just an amazing experience.

Thank you, Bertha, for a most enjoyable Sunday afternoon!! We must do it again!

BRING & BRAAI / SWAP MEET – 18th November

by Cristina Jones



One of our regular annual features, the Bring and Braai combined with Swap Meet was a total success. A beautiful sunny day, perfect for this outdoor event.

Apart from our own members selling their parts, members of other Clubs supported us booking tables and selling their goods too. Peter Blease in charge of our Club spares sold a lot as well as Mitford Roberts in his Regalia department.



The boerewors stand (run by Ron & Sharon Clark) just managed to keep up with the huge demand of a hungry crowd. And that was a starter! Because afterwards a big fire was lit to cater for everybody's braai. The attendance was one of the best in a long time.

Nice to see new faces (recent additions to our members' list) as well as some old members (re-joining the Club). Ron organized a raffle that was won by Helen Goldenbogen and we had also a surprise announcement: Donata van der Merwe and Charl Cilliers got engaged! Congratulations and we wish them all the best and thank them for their hard work and involvement in the running of the Club. All in all, a fun day for everybody.



We had a special visitor from Dover Foxcroft, Maine in the USA, Rogan Taylor (also a proud owner of a 1958 Morris Minor 1000) and this is what he wrote in his facebook page on his return home:

"What a wonderful time I had with you all yesterday, meeting you and hearing so many of your stories. It was the best morning ever! Thank you so much for your kindness and open hearts. I look forward to staying in touch. Best wishes one and all, Rogan Taylor"

END OF THE YEAR FUNCTION – 9th December

by Gerda Muller

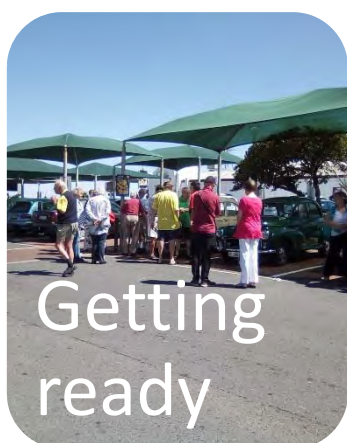
All too soon the last function of 2018 was upon us – the year was so full of drama and poor health for some of us, that we all were looking forward to ending the year on a high.

True to Morris tradition, we met at the Engen 1Stop on the N2, and also true to form, the first event a new member attends with a newly acquired Morris, disaster struck!! This time it was Theo and Michele Smit's turn, with a battery that wasn't charging. And once again (see photos) the men gathered around the front end of the car ... there is almost something tribal about it!!!! Looking back in history, on Gerhard and Christa Robbertze's first event, they had a flat tire, Greg and Lynne Smit's Morris had a huge breakdown and had to be left at the roadside, to be towed back later that evening.

But... when you belong to a club like the Morris club, help is always at hand and advice and encouragement are free of charge. Frikkie firmly believes on every event, there has to be a breakdown – apparently it keeps things interesting

It was a beautiful, almost windless day in Gordon's Bay and the manager of the Spur gave us a whole shaded area to ourselves. Due to different circumstances, members who booked couldn't make it, but others brought friends, which made this one of the best attended events of the year, with 46 people present.

After ordering the drinks, Frikkie welcomed Janet Verrier, from the Johannesburg club, and her mother, Elizabeth Crouch from the UK, in our midst – it was a special privilege to have them with us for this event. He also thanked everyone who helped and attended events during the year – events are the core of any club and if members do not attend these events, no team spirit can develop. He also announced that the venue for the 2020 Rally is going to be Club Mykonos in Langebaan and urged members and visitors to start saving up for this, because we plan to make it an unforgettable rally!



There were a few prizes handed out: Cristina Jones, our editor, received a candle (LED nogal!) with a medal, for burning the midnight oil whilst toiling away to get the magazine ready. Norman Penfold also received a medal for attending almost all events, and Andrew Riggs, on his heels, also received a medal... and also for being the most popular with the girls...! Peter Blease and Llewellyn Buckley were "knighted" with the Shifting Spanner Award

– Peter for being willing and helpful with storage and sales of the spares and Llewellyn for leading us safely to our destination on the Hout Bay event.

At the previous event in November, Donata van der Merwe and Charl Cilliers, rather “unwillingly” announced their engagement (well, they were technically ambushed and forced by me!) but they didn’t really mind and this time I jumped the gun again, and presented Donata with a wedding veil with a wreath of small rosespiece by piece I’ll get them in front of the altar!

After a lovely meal, we slowly and rather reluctantly made our way towards the cars, to go home for a Sunday afternoon nap.

Life is bliss when you drive a Morris!!

TECHNICAL TIPS

CHECKING OR REPLACING YOUR CAR'S U-BOLTS

Being in the 70th year since the birth of the Morris Minor, it is now starting to show its age and most of the cars are starting to suffer from the same problems.

The rear axle of the Morris is held in place by 4 U-bolts. These U-bolts, through the years, tend to stretch slowly and due to the rubber pads, that collapse, more play is visible on the rear axle, which in turn, will have an effect on the road holding. The U-bolts are secured with double nuts. These nuts can loosen and fastened again. If this doesn't help, then the U-bolts have to be replaced. If there is excess play on the rubber pads, it will cause the rear axle to be unstable.

If you attempt to do this yourself, it is best to do it one rear wheel at a time. When jacking up vehicle, rather place the stands under a stable part of the body than under the axle, because when loosening the U-bolts and the stands are under the axle, it will cause damage to the car and cause injury to yourself. Keep the axle on the jack for support the whole time you're working on this. By doing this, you'll be able to lift or lower the axle to remove rubber pads.

Clean thread of U-bolts with wire brush and oil them well. Remove the locknuts completely. With a hammer and a wooden block under both ends of the bolt, knock the U-bolts upwards. Visually check U-bolts. If thread is worn, it is recommended to get new U-bolts, rubber pads and locknuts. Simon Spring Works specializes in U-bolts, shackle bushes and springs, etc. However, if you want to use the old U-bolts again, use Spanjaard Copper Compound Additive on the thread. When replacing the axle rubbers, be careful not to let any oil or grease come in contact with the rubbers. Align bumper stops above the axle. When the U-bolts are pulled into position and the first nut is finger tight, start tightening the nuts properly with a socket or ring spanner. It's important to do this in a diagonal sequence, bit by bit. Do not squash the rubber pads unnecessarily. Fit locknuts and tighten.

Very Important: When securing the locknut with the first spanner, tighten the locknut with a second spanner. This is to lock the locknut against the first nut and to keep it secure.

THIS CHART IS AN EXTRACT OUT OF OUR AUGUST 2010 NEWSLETTER:

CHASSIS PLATE NUMBER CODING IDENTIFICATION			
Early series MM Morris Minors had a simple coding system giving limited information. Each plate carried the Engine number and chassis number which was in all cases prefixed with the code SMM. The remaining field designated the vehicle type, identifying the Morris Minor with the designation MNR, this was then followed by the paint type			
1952-58			
First Letter	F Morris Minor	O LCV	
Second Letter	A Four Door	B Two Door	
	C Convertible	L Traveller	
	E Van	F Pick-up	
	G Chassis/Cab	H GPO Mail Van	
	J GPO Engineers' Van		
Third Letter	A Black	B Light Grey	
	C Dark Red	D Dark Blue	
	E Mid Green	F Beige	
	G Brown	H CKD Finish	
	J Dark Grey	K Light Red	
	L Light Blue	P Ivory	
	R White	S Mid Grey	
	T Light Green	U Dark Green	
	First Number	1 RHD Home market	2 RHD Export
		3 LHD Export	4 North American Export
5 RHD CKD		6 LHD CKD	
Second Number Paint type			
1958-1971			
First Letter		M Morris	A Austin
Second Letter	A A series engine		
Third Letter	S Saloon	2S 2Dr Saloon	
	T Tourer/Convertible	W Traveller	
	V Van	U Pickup	
	Q Chassis/Cab	G GPO Postal Van	
	E GPO Engineers' Van		
Fourth Figure	3 948cc	5 1098cc	
	C Austin LCV		
Optional Letter	D Deluxe		
Post 1968 Suffix (Factory)	M Cowley	F Adderley Park	

Malcolm Johnston, together with his wife Shelagh, joined our Club recently and here is what he has to say:

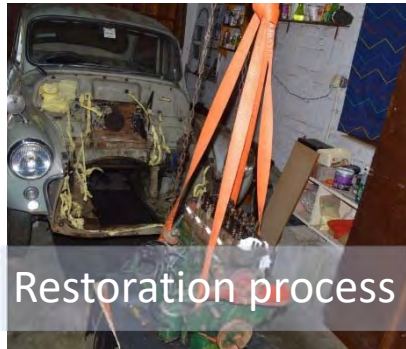
"My late father-in-law Archie Clarke of Pinelands was a motor mechanic and run his own business in Upper Canterbury Street Cape Town for many years, he liked working on English cars only and used to service and repair this Morris for my mother. I am lucky enough to have his workshop manual and some books as I married his daughter Shelagh in 1968. On going through some of his old books I have come across the original " The Motor " magazine Road Tests. I have copies of the following:

1949 Morris Minor test number 4/49
 1950 Minor Tourer test number 13/50
 1951 Minor 4 door saloon test 9/51
 1953 Minor series 2 4 door test 1/53
 1956 Minor 1000 deluxe 4 door test 29/56 1959 Minor 1000 Convertible test 23/59
 1963 Minor 1000 4 door test 2/63

“If any of your members would like copies of these originals I can e mail them”



Shelagh & Malcolm



Restoration process

LAURA & CHARLIE

In case you haven't read the article, I mentioned in the previous magazine that Laura Morrison is driving her Morris named Charlie all the way from Aberdeen, Scotland to Cape Town. She is raising funds for cancer research. You can follow her progress in our Morris Minor facebook page. She is driving through Namibia at the moment and we Capetonians can't wait to welcome this amazing and courageous lady!



MEETING WITH THE SOUTH CHESHIRE MOGGIES (Morris Minors Club)

by Gerda Muller



Whilst visiting our children in the UK, we made contact with the South Cheshire Moggies Club. They invited us to meet them in Tarporley, at the Tollemache Arms pub, where, on a Monday, they have their monthly meetings. Morris owners all over the world are truly a family, and we immediately felt welcome and were exchanging Morris stories in no time. As Anthony Morrey, the Chairman, and his mum, Margaret Mellor, said, belonging to this club, is pure fun. Brian and Sue Stokes from North Wales, Pat and Syd Rimmer (who is the Treasurer and also the Editor of their newsletter) and Shaun Karrell were unfortunately the only other members who could make it, but it was really an enjoyable evening. Apparently, Shaun is famous for his love of cake, especially carrot cake, and Anthony's mum, Margaret, is the supplier. Brian and Sue Stokes even gave us a little Morris Christmas decoration, which now has a special place in our house.

I promised them photos and an article in our newsletter and will send it on to them. I also strongly advise you to join our Facebook page and through that, you will be able to see how all out they go when having an event or outing. We will definitely see them again when we go visit the kids again.

For those of you who remember Graham and Jane Ross' friends, Peter and Trudy Hargreaves, who attended a few of our events whilst living in South Africa, we contacted them as well and had lunch with them - they weren't members of the club, but we chatted without breathing in between!

Nice to know we have friends all around the world.



Syd Rimmer, Frikkie, me, Shaun Karrell, Anthony Morrey, Brian and Sue Stokes. In front of Shaun was Syd's wife Pat, and Anthony's mum, Margaret Mellor. Our daughter Leana Hughes, is kneeling in front, as she was our chauffeur.

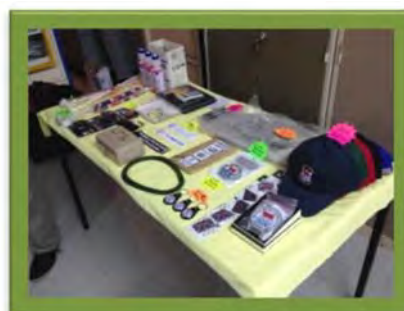
And an oldie:

For some time now, I have been suspecting my wife is having an affair. I had put it to the back of my mind but tonight I could not ignore it any longer. She went out, as usual, to see her friends but always took a bag with her - I suspected a change of clothes or something like that. Anyway, I didn't want to follow her and make it obvious, so I thought I would wait for her to come home and hide somewhere so I could see who was dropping her off.

To cut a long story short, I hid up by my garage between the house wall and the back of my Traveller. I had been waiting there for about 20 mins when I saw car lights come into the street. I moved around trying to get the best viewing angle and it was then that I saw a nail in my back tyre. So, my question is - can I pull the nail out and hope it's not gone all the way through or should I put the spare on anyway and not take any chances????

REGALIA

Mr Regalia busy at work

**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

