



# MORRIS MATTERS

## WESTERN CAPE NEWSLETTER

March-April 2019  
Volume 33 N°2

### 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](http://www.morrisminor.co.za)

**Facebook page:** Morris Minor Owners Club: Western Cape

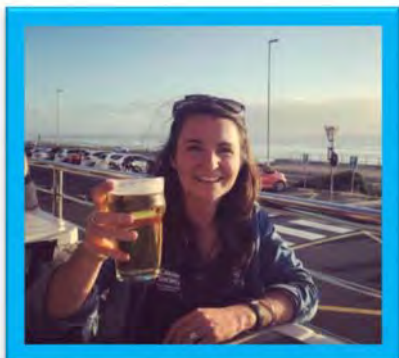
### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman		Vice Chairman		Secretary	
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		Hospitality			
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## EDITORIAL



Greetings to all Morris enthusiasts! What a busy two last months we had! Laura Morrison ended her epic 8,800 miles trip from Aberdeen to Cape Town in her Morris (Charlie) and that's why I dedicate this issue to this brave young woman. Cheers to that! We also had Timour Hall and George Classic Car Shows and last but not least Open Bonnet/Mad Hatter/Bring and Braai. Everything you want to know on those events (the good and the bad) and much more features here with photos to show how this Cape Town crowd can have a good time!



Keep an eye for the upcoming events. Autumn is the best Cape season, let's make the most of it.

Don't forget to attend our AGM on the 17<sup>th</sup> of March.

Enjoy the read! Articles, photos and suggestions are welcomed ([crisota@netactive.co.za](mailto:crisota@netactive.co.za) / 083 522 8881)

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

## CHAIRMAN'S CHATTER

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2019 started as usual, with a few casualties. Steve Leibbrandt ended up in hospital due to back problems – the problem has been diagnosed and will now be monitored, and he has already been discharged. He was his old self when I visited him in hospital, but he will need our prayers.



The George Car Show was the best ever, but with the good, came the bad. At the assembly point, where we met to drive to the school grounds, Willie Bouwer told me that Malcolm Jones became ill during the night, and Ron went to investigate. He offered his Combi (and asked his friend, Mike Greeff) to drive Malcolm and Cristina back to Cape Town. Malcolm was taken to hospital, where he was diagnosed with having a mild heart attack and severe anaemia but has already been discharged. Thanks to Ron and Mike, for literally saving Malcolm's life. Mike was prepared to drive back that same evening to bring the Combi back to George. A friend in need, is a friend indeed.

The club secretary, my wife, die ou vrou, the local witch, was also in hospital for a knee replacement. She was discharged last Friday, and last Sunday night she sent a short email to you all, which shows her determination and stubbornness to do the job she committed to do.

A special thank you to my committee – we are a relatively small committee, and everyone is pulling his/her weight behind the scenes. As we are heading toward 2020 against warp speed, we are so aware of how much there is still to be done to be able to host the best rally EVER. I cannot stress enough how much we have to lean on our members (84 at the last count) to please come forward NOW, with any of help, be it financial donations, physical help, sponsorship (financial or in the form of presents to give out as prizes). We need goodies to put in the goody bags, we need prizes for the winners of different competitions and lucky draws/raffles. We cannot always rely on our core group of regulars to do everything and to donate all the prizes. Everybody has a spare bottle of wine, or whiskey, or even that body lotion that you got for your last birthday, that you really don't like, or chocolates – anything will be appreciated. Just bring it along to our next event.

Thank you to everyone for the excellent attendance of the last two car shows – it broke all previous records. The growth in the membership, I believe, is due to word of mouth, to enthusiastic members, due to a phenomenal growth in Facebook membership, and last, but not least, to Laura Morrison, who with her little Charlie, put the Morris Minor firmly on the map.

Like my father-in-law always said, “hef aan lê nog voor”.

Frikkie

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## *NEW MEMBERS*

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

**Julie Dunkerley**

**Joe Robinson**

**Joe Smit**




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## *FORTHCOMING EVENTS*

**Sunday 17th March @ 10am - Annual General Meeting**

**Sunday 14th April - Picnic at Helderberg Nature Reserve**

More details on each event will be sent by e-mail closer to the date. Please contact Frikkie (082 267 3398) should you wish to attend any of the above-mentioned events.




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## 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:** 051001

**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>MARCH</u>		<u>APRIL</u>	
Dave Gerstner	1	Greg Smit	3
Malcolm Jones	3	Fred-Earl Williams	3
Heidi Fourie	15	Joe Smit	3
Marie Petousis	15	Cristina Jones	4
Rob Tissington	15	Chris Worthington-Smith	8
Joe Robinson	22	Elsie Marnewick	8
John Swift	24	Yvonne Bootcov	9
		Santina Harrison	13
		Mila Bouwer	13
		Michael Morris	14
		FC Kotze	15
		Pat Birkett	16
		Anthea Kotze	21
		Johnny Maritz	22
		Dirk Potgieter	25
		Ettienne van Bergen	26

		Erika Williams	27
		Roger Buckley	29

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!

## RECENT EVENTS

### LAURA & CHARLIE'S ARRIVAL, 12 January 2019

by Mitford Robert

A group of us had planned to meet Laura on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> of January on her arrival to Cape Town. Ron Clark had been in contact with her during the trip on Facebook and e-mails. He was overseas and on route back to South Africa, having spent Christmas with family in New Zealand.



Waiting for Laura & Charlie

Saturday morning greeted us with a sunny day after a hectic storm the night before. I'd been in contact with Laura through WhatsApp. She was 350 Km from Cape Town travel time estimated 5 hours, planned to leave at around 08.30 am.

I put a message out on our social page, inviting all members that could join giving meeting times, etc. A message came through that Charlie wouldn't start! Another frantic message went out to members to reschedule and I forgot to contact Paul, who doesn't have WhatsApp!

Charlie fired up round 09.00am, after a push start!

We proceeded to our point of assembly at N7 Engen. We met Frikkie, then phoned Paul (who was still at home!) In record time the powder blue Morris joined us with a trail of oil, which was topped up and all was well.

Delarey Calitz arrived in his 850 and choked off on arrival. Clive Burton whipped out his massive tool box and in seconds the 850 was ready to go.

We decided to drive through past Malmesbury (02.00pm) as Laura was 130 Km away, she had just hit the N7. We found a picnic spot and waited about ½-¾ hours for Charlie. A message came through "I'm 34 Kms away".



They are here!!!

In the distance we saw Charlie making his appearance!

Everybody's cameras started flashing. We greeted Laura, who was so glad to meet us all. She was presented with a well-deserved Black Label, which was most welcomed, after the long drive.

We then proceeded to Meklbos and on to one of the parking sites, we took pictures of the group, Morris, Laura & Charlie and Table Mountain in the background.

Charlie needed some serious TLC, springs needed to be re-tempered and engine needed service before the next leg of her trip, going up to Botswana to settle.

We parted ways. Laura off to meet her friends in Table View, and the rest of us here to tell all about this amazing experience.

She had an interview in Cape Town with Pippa Hudson from Cape Talk, on Monday at 14.00, and felt very chuffed to have exceeded her target of \$30,000 donations to Cancer Research.

This was a trip that her Dad wanted to do, but unfortunately, never made it as he died of cancer. That motivated her to take on this mammoth challenge in his honour.

We have to salute Charlie, what an amazing car! Only one puncture and some work done on the front suspension. The carburettor had to be changed and a few other adjustments had to be made, but she made it in a standard full tank with 25 litres container in boot. At certain stages she had to carry an additional 20 litres with, where she was expecting fuel shortages.

We wish Laura well on the last leg and will be following Charlie's movements en route to Botswana.



Paul giving some TLC to Charlie (here with Clare and son Martin)

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### **LAURA at "MAESTRO'S"**, 15 January

by Gerda Muller

Everyone who belongs to any Morris Club all over the world, knows about Laura Morrison, the courageous young lady who drove all the way from Aberdeen, Scotland, through Africa, to Cape Town.

After she arrived on Saturday, 12 January 2019, she was kept busy doing interviews with radio stations, television, journalists and visiting with friends – everyone wanted a piece of her. Poor Charlie was worse for the wear and Paul Hoffman took it upon himself to take care of him. We were fortunate enough to be able to book her for ourselves on Tuesday night, the 15<sup>th</sup> January.



Cape Town crowd

Sandy Gush came with the idea to go to Maestro's on the Beach, in Milnerton – no matter where you sit, you have the most beautiful view of the mountain and the sea. The sun was setting when we got there and we took as many pictures as possible, which Laura appreciated, as she couldn't get enough of the view. Coincidentally, the new owner of the restaurant, Marc Levy, is also a

Morris fan and even owns one. He was chuffed that we chose his restaurant to entertain Laura in.

Frikkie started the evening off by welcoming her and thanking everyone who was able to join us on such short notice – in the end, there were 26 people, plus Laura, of course.

At our End of the Year Functions, Frikkie always hands out prizes and some people receive Shifting Spanner Awards for special services rendered. As they weren't able to make it in December, he awarded Alastair Morrison Van Huyssteen with a Shifting Spanner award for



Laura and some of her devotees

sponsoring us with a big prize at our Barnyard Fundraiser. Alastair, being of Scottish descent himself, did an excellent job in his impromptu version of Loch Lomond. He even went through all the trouble of printing a copy of the Morrison family tree, just to prove that he is one up on all of us, and that Laura might be a relation of his! And if that wasn't enough, he even brought his buddy from university, John Morrison, with – apparently there's safety in numbers and if anyone wanted to

dispute kinship, he was ready for them!

As Bobby Moore also wasn't able to make the End of the Year Function, he received a special prize for always winning the best costume at any dress-up event we might have. He received a beautiful pink and turquoise Mohawk wig – I'm sure he will be able to use it at some stage.



Laura receiving gifts from Mr Chairman

Laura was also "knighted" with the Shifting Spanner for proving that she is now capable of driving a Morris and fit to continue her journey! She received a cap with the Morris logo on, plus a T-shirt which had been made especially for the 70<sup>th</sup> Celebration of the Morris Minor. She was ecstatic and said that this was the first time that she's ever received anything with a Morris logo on it! Go Western Cape!!!

After presenting her with a special collection for herself, the Committee also gave her a donation for the purpose of her trip, a fundraiser for Cancer Awareness, in memory of her father.

Laura and Charlie departed for Botswana on Friday, where she will be starting a new life. Who knows, she even might join us on the Rally next year.

**TIMOUR HALL**, 20 Januarie

by Bertha Laubscher

Die Timour Hall skou word jaarliks gehou. Elke jaar kry die MMOC dieselfde gerieflike staanplek onder die bome. Vanjaar was weereens goed ondersteun.

Wanneer jy vir soveel jare die skou bywoon, raak dit ook soort van 'boring' vir die vroue. Die oplossing daarvoor is altyd om na die mense te kyk!! 'n Blaasorkes het al spelende, agterop 'n ou bakkie, die mense vermaak. Daar was 'n pragtige jong vrou met 'n lang

geblomde rok wat so vroulik gelyk het en dan vra ek myself af: hoekom kan jy nie ook maar so aantrek nie?? Ek het my verkyk aan die een jongman se tatoeërmerke: eish, smaak verskil!!

Soveel mense het Mitford se Mechanic met die kiere 'n steek gegee om te kyk of daar lewe is, ander skop die arme ou!! Twee kleuters het op hul magies gaan lê om te kyk wat daar onder aangaan. Ag hulle was te skatlik!! Die prediker wat Lorna vd Westhuizen begrawe het, het ons kom uitnooi na hul funksies en kon ons al die nuus rondom Gary gee. Hy beweeg tussen sy kinders wat in Nieu Zealand en Australië woon.

Jare gelede het Albert van Rensburg ons nuusbrief gedruk - sy kinders kom gereeld die Morrisgroep groet en ons Morris-baba het 'n oulike jong kind geword. Dit was vir my so lekker dat die kind nader gestaan het om te groet!!!

Rob Tissington is 'n man wat 'n groot hartaanval gehad het en hy het die moeite gedoen om te kom inloer. Ek het toe sy vrou ook vir die eerste keer ontmoet. Danie Marnewick en John Swift kom van die Weskus – hulle moes bitter vroeg roer om al die pad te kom met 'n ou motor. Gawie Hugo is 'n lid sonder 'n motor en hy het al die pad van Worcester gery om skou toe te kom. Dis nou wat 'n mens toewyding noem!

Daar was lede van die publiek wat dringend op soek is na 'n Morris om te koop! Ons het ook versoeke gehad van mense wat belowe het om aan te sluit by die klub. Intussen het ek twee van hulle se aansoekvorms gekry. Gerda se bedrywigheid op die internet & Facebook werp beslis vrugte af.

Ron het weer eens raffle-kaartjies verkoop, wat ek gewen het, maar aangesien ek dit geskenk het, het ek dit teruggegee en toe het Norman dit gewen!! Peter & Bernita was heeldag baie besig met die parte en kon glad nie tyd kry om rond te beweeg nie.

Ongelukkig was Tony Harrison en Annaline Nel albei ongesteld, maar ons glo dat hulle volgende jaar weer teenwoordig sal wees.




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### **GEORGE CLASSIC CAR SHOW 2019, 9-10 February**

by Gerda Muller

George Classic Car Show is the one show which, to my mind, as a woman, is worth the effort to overnight. The drive there, although mostly chaotic, due to people not sticking by the rules of the convoy, is always fun, as it's a beautiful route and we have plenty of stops along the way. With 17 Morris driving in convoy, we certainly attracted a lot of attention along the way!



We arrived at our destination, the Mountview Resort in George, at around 2:00 p.m. Being South Africans, the first thing on our minds when unpacked, is what are we going to braai tonight. Su Prins came in her plastic Mercedes (okay, okay, fair enough, her Morris is still in the hospital, having a heart transplant) and as it was the biggest car there, off we went to the nearest mall to buy provisions. Our chalet inhabitants worked like a team together and that first night we had chicken and boerewors and delicious salad made by Brenda Garcia.

Our chalet was the hub of the get-togethers because it was the biggest and quite soon our neighbors, Theo and Michelle Smit, Ron and Sharon Clark, Helen Goldenbogen and her colleague Vanessa, Charl Cilliers, and Donata van der Merwe joined us.

The next morning, after polishing their Morris to a gleam, the procession met at the gate. There we heard the unfortunate news that Malcolm Jones had a mild heart attack that night and had to be rushed back to Cape Town in Ron's Combi - Ron's friend, Mike Greeff, deserves a medal for driving the Combi the previous day all the way to George, then back to Cape Town the next morning, just to arrive back in George later that same night. Phew!!! Thank you, Ron and Mike. You two literally saved Malcolm's life. Malcolm was taken to the hospital after being diagnosed as severely anaemic as well, but in the meantime has already been discharged and doing much better.

I can't really comment on the show itself, because having to go in for a knee replacement on the Tuesday after the show, I wasn't capable of walking around much, but sitting under the gazebos the whole day, chatting, canvassing, joking and getting to know people, is my idea of fun anyway. So many people came around looking to buy a Morris, and we had quite a few people who wanted to join the club. The influx of new members is quite unbelievable! From the photo's that everyone else took, I could see that there were some spectacular cars and during the drive-by, while Frikkie was giving a rundown on all the Morris and their owners, I was actually in a prime spot to see the response from the people! People just can't help loving a Morris Minor!!!



The next morning everyone went their separate ways, but in the end, we did find each other on the road, as Helen Goldenbogen's Bertie was not feeling well and had to be nursed all the way home, with the help of Peter Albert. Mariana Snyders' Doris was leaking oil and had to be filled up at every service station along the road. Our mascot, yet to be named, was unfortunately left home in Cape Town, as Theo and Michelle Smit forgot to bring him/her with.

The services of said mascot are now required firstly by Helen Goldenbogen, then Mariana Snyders, and then Greg and Lynne Smit again, as their car broke down yet again. Seems to me we should have more than one mascot. Usually, the first drive a new member goes on, their Morris breaks down, as had happened with Greg and Lynne Smit and then after them Theo and Michelle Smit. Now Helen Goldenbogen does her first George trip, and so did Mariana Snyders.

Through sickness and in health, till a breakdown do us part, we shall forever remain faithful to our Morris!!!

**OPEN BONNET, MAD HATTER AND BRING AND BRAAI DAY**, 17<sup>th</sup> February by C.Jones

Three in one!!! This “triple event” always a winner with everybody in the Club, old and young. Apart from our youngest member little Dawson, Zanria (Nico & Paula’s granddaughter) and Damian (Mariana’s grandson) were also there and had a great time. Men rummaged in other men’s Morris bonnet looking for “treasures”, ladies had cups of tea and chats while the fire got started. Afterwards we gathered around the long table and enjoyed our braais, all among a very relaxed atmosphere and the classic Morris camaraderie. But the best was the theme of the day: “Mad Hatter”, what a selection of Mad Hatters, in all colours and sizes! The best hat prize being awarded to Roger Buckley.



**TECHNICAL TIPS**

From the magazine “Classic Motoring”: Morris Minor (Published: 1st Jun 2011)

- Exterior panels rust most readily on the trailing edges of the front wings and along bottoms of the doors. The condition of the structural elements should be of far more concern - check especially the front chassis legs, central crossmember, leaf spring hangers (especially rear), inner sills and A-post both for rust and poor, cheap repairs.
- Less critical but a useful haggling point is rust at bottom of the bootlid, in the trough at the rearmost extremity of the boot and all floorpans.
- Mechanical parts for the later cars are cheap and readily available, but the situation for side-valve and 803cc engines is not so good and rebuild projects should be viewed with caution.
- Oil leaks are not uncommon on all A-Series engines, but if substantial quantities of oil are seeping from the bellhousing, it may be simply that the crankcase breather is blocked.
- Engines are also notoriously rattly, often down to worn tappets or timing chains. Both are cheap and easy to replace.
- A gearbox that jumps out of gear on the overrun is likely to need rebuilding. One with a noisy first gear can slog on for ages. If clutch judders on take-off, check that the engine steady bar is attached and doing its job.
- New trunnions on old kingpins are unlikely to last too long, so check receipts carefully if you are paying tops for a car that's been 'sorted'.
- Good secondhand trim is becoming scarce. Everything is available new for modest prices, but it can add up so do your sums carefully if you need (or want) to make extensive changes. Front seats collapse but new webbing is cheap and easy DIY replacement.
- Traveller wood that's been filled, painted or bodedged needs as much as £2000 to have it all replaced. It's a professional job too unless you were good at woodwork at school.
- **Driving: 4/5**  
Not fast but fun due to fine handling and tuning potential
- **Usability: 3/5**  
Moderate performance but ok. Estates are very practical
- **Maintaining: 5/5**  
Superb support; plus is a DIYer's dream
- **Owning: 5/5**  
As cheap as chips plus appeal to all classes and pockets
- **Value: 4/5**  
Top cars can be dear. Cheapies a liability so choose carefully

We reckon...

Driving a Minor for the first time can cause you to re-evaluate your view of how a classic should be used. A well-sorted car with the right mechanical specification will handle well, accelerate briskly and cruise without fuss, and it will do it day in, day out for years on end. That Noddy styling evokes a smile from virtually everyone who sees it, not least the lucky soul behind the wheel. The Minor regularly tops the polls as Britain's favourite classic, and it thoroughly deserves its position at the peak. Just try one and you'll love it.



Most Definite Not The 1st Time Experience on a Morris Minor:



"It's easy, lady...just follow the oil leaks!"

And an oldie:

Nice sunny day, and the vicar is off to the shops in his Moggie with the Parish Church Council treasurer.

Suddenly, a sports car pulls out from nowhere and forces the vicar to brake hard. Not a word from his lips.

Then, a truck zooms past and cuts in sharply, and again the vicar has to brake. Not a word.

A cyclist pulls out unexpectedly into the middle of the road, and the vicar has to swerve to avoid hitting him. Silence.

Finally, a Morris Minor makes a surprise right turn with no signal, and the vicar has a hard time avoiding an accident. Words of abuse stream from his mouth, shocking the PCC treasurer.

"Why are you only upset with the Morris driver?" she asks.

"He didn't wave back!" replies the vicar.

