

From The Central West

After such a successful harvest and better rainfall totals it is not uncommon for an increase in weeds and pests, including locusts and mice. Did I say *mice*? We have been overrun with them in a plague as big as the devastating 1984 mouse plague. We see hundreds running across the roads at night and people living in semi rural locations catching 50 to 100 a night.

Our farmers are buying bait by the tonne and what I have bought cost \$50 for a 10kg bucket - enough for a month. Here's hoping for an early cold wet winter.

Wellington Vintage Fair

The first Club outing for us since March last year was another great Wellington weekend, the 11th time we have supported this event. With some things changed to align with the Covid restrictions, the weekend was enjoyed by all who attended.

We started with our usual Friday night BBQ at Wellington Caves Caravan Park, with a few drinks and the programme announcement for the weekend. This year I produced a quiz where answers could not be googled. Called 'Who am I', each question had a few words about a Club member with participants guessing who. This was very entertaining. We were pleased to have three local members presented with certificates for long membership:

Tom & Maureen Deveigne - 10years

Don & Wendy Gorton - 30 years

Maree & Elisha Adams - 30 years

Saturday saw us having morning tea in Cameron Park, as the street parade was cancelled, then we had a run to Burrendong Dam for lunch, where Sue got some members playing 'Finska' or 'Klop'. Well done Stuart Treuer, the game winner.

Once again we booked the historic Hermitage Hill, a place with great atmosphere, for a lovely dinner. Surprised winner of the quiz was Les Whale; many did not guess themselves as possible answers.

Sunday saw us at the Fair with a little mix up in our allocated position but sorted quickly. Twelve cars lined up, making a good display with lots of interest again. Congratulations to Stuart and Ann, who won second prize for 'Best Presented Car' from *all* the cars at the Fair.

A couple of members unfortunately had to pull out earlier in the week: Robert Keene, who had a back problem, and John Hepburn, whose daughter flew in to visit.

Why Join A Morris Minor Club?

People sometimes ask about the benefits of being in a car club. My advice is if you are restoring or own a Minor the sooner you join the better. It's about friendship, advice, and help from like-minded people, and often information re parts and where to get them.

I was recently after a rear door to replace one on my car and before I hardly started looking, I had a pair offered by John Hepburn - and I have been able to help him by supplying a couple of good brake drums I had. Leaving the Fair last Sunday my drivers side window had broken (another story) and I had been offered a replacement by the time I got home.

That's what belonging to a car club is all about.

Members' Cars

Tom Deveigne has had surgery on his back so the Morris is not a good mode of transport at the moment; it sits lovingly waiting in the shed.

Denis Woodford had his Minor MM registered just in time for this event. All those reading our magazine will agree that this was a very thorough and fast restoration from what was a 'basket case'. The car did not disappoint on show or on road, even though it still has the original 803cc engine as it was in the car; the plan is that this will be replaced later. It was great to see Denis the true gentleman, who let Julie drive the car out the 30kms from Burrendong - all went very well.

drums and shoes on all four wheels. We will see an improved unit soon.

John Ballard Both cars going alright at the moment; Sue drove the car to Wellington allowing me to bring the Ute (its first car show since restoration). Speaking of it, I was just about to hop in to bring it home after the Fair had finished and standing there with the door open talking to someone when behind me I heard what I thought was a gunshot. Then I noticed my drivers side window was shattered! It was only up about 75mm. What exactly happened I did not find out, the window was in an operational mode since July last year. It took about 4 hrs to get the glass out; picked up another one that Brian sent to Orange.

I recently learned the hard way to pick up your pop rivet stems when working as I had run over one, getting a puncture in the car as I put it away, costing me \$50.

Len Jones arrived at Wellington on Friday night but had to be elsewhere on the weekend. He was driving his newest acquisition, former member Colin Drady's Minor 1000.

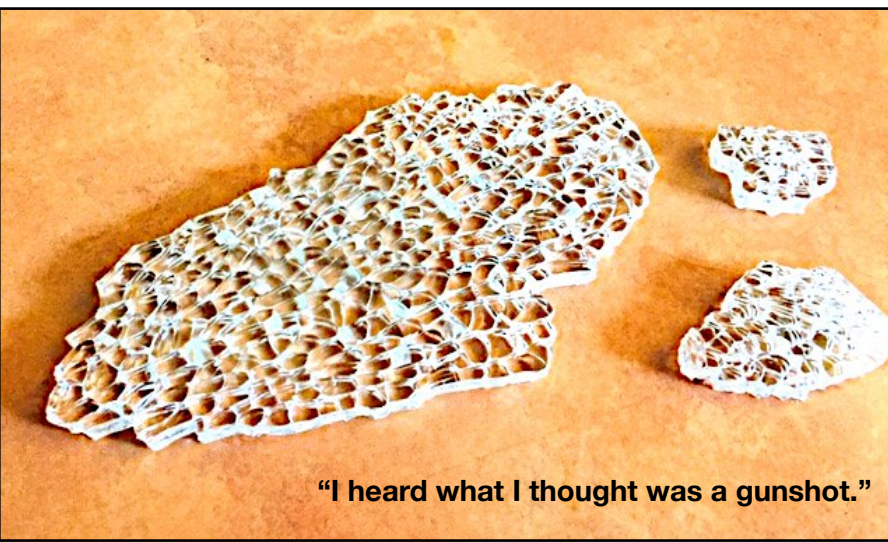
Ian Fleming Great to catch up with Ian on Sunday who tells me he is working on his Morris, hoping to get it back on the road soon.

Gary Martin The ute he is building is progressing and Gary is trying to build it into a 'king cab', using a couple of doors off a two door which he managed to buy from Brian. Seeing Gary's height I know he would have some difficulty getting into a standard ute cab.

I am hoping to send out an email soon of a run and a get-together.

John Hepburn The Traveller is improving every week with tie bars finished. John has started to redo his brake system, replacing

Stay Safe
John Ballard
Central West Region



"I heard what I thought was a gunshot."



Having coffee with Robert Keene in Orange (above) and dropping drum brakes off to John Hepburn (below)

