

Morini Riders Club – AGM Minutes 2021

45 members attended.

Agenda Item	Minutes
1. Welcome by Chairman	Tom welcomed us to the AGM
2. Apologies	Apologies were received from Chris & Diane Webber, Paul Emmerson, Paul Compton, Dave Mason, Pete Morgan & Benjy Straw
3. Minutes of the previous AGM	The minutes of the 2020 AGM were accepted unanimously.
4. Committee Reports	
4a. Chairman's Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Thanks were expressed to everyone involved in organising this year's rally.Tom took this opportunity to present the Arthur Farrow cup for the chairman's run to Nick Hancock who travelled the furthest distance to the meet at the National Motorcycle Museum at Solihull. <i>See Appendix A for attached report</i>
4b. Secretary	
4c. Treasurer	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Nick added to his report that club is financially sound with £25,000 in the bank currentlyThe motion to accept the accounts for 2019/2020 was passed unanimously <i>See Appendix A for attached report</i>
4d. Membership	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Mark commented that his written report is already out of date as two new members joined that morning <i>See Appendix A for attached report</i>
4e. ATG Editor	<ul style="list-style-type: none">After David summarised his report, the chairman spoke about David's contribution to the club over the years, as librarian, chairman & ATG editor on the committee and as regular attender at the trackday working with Cadwell Park to manage the event on the day. He then proposed giving life membership to David. This was seconded by Gary Withers and passed unanimously <i>See Appendix A for attached report</i>
4f. Website	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Tom is standing down as webmaestro to concentrate on his duties as chairman.Mike Branscombe has offered to take his place <i>See Appendix A for attached report</i>
4g. Web Editor (this is not a formal role)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Julian Harty has offered to take this position
4h. Products	<i>See Appendix A for attached report</i>

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Agenda Item	Minutes
4j. BMF/MAG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andy Carrott asked if all members were familiar with the BMF and MAG and for those that were not he gave a brief explanation of what they do. He reported that the BMF does not appear to be as active as MAG at the moment due to a limited campaigns team • MAG have made good progress recently securing a meeting with the road minister, Baroness Vere of Norbiton, who agreed to work with MAG on 5 priorities • MAG have also taken over Ride to Work Day, an event promoting the use to motorcycles curiously dropped by the Motorcycle Industry Association • The Covid situation had led to a number of organisations working together to provide Covid advice to riders (namely the BMF, MAG, ACU, TRF, VMCC, IAM, Triumph Owners MCC and Biker Down). The alliance has led to the rebirth of the National Motorcycle Council consisting of the BMF, MAG, TRF and ACU. The NMC will provide a joint approach to the Government on issues affecting motorcycling (where there is joint agreement) • There are concerns regarding the ban on the sale of petrol engine vehicles which may impact on our ability to ride our bikes, an issue that is causing significant debate, particularly within MAG where some are concerned about its impact on our access to private personal transport • It was proposed that the MRC continues its affiliation to MAG, BMF & NABD. This was passed nem con
4i. Section Reports	<i>See Appendix B for attached reports</i>
5. Election of Officers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mike Branscombe was proposed as Webmaestro. This was passed • Julian Harty was proposed as Web editor. This was passed • It was proposed that all other committee officers were re-elected with a single vote. This was passed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tom Farrow – Chairman Jem Moore – Secretary Nick Hancock – Treasurer Mark Bridger – Membership David Marlow – ATG Editor Chris & Diane Webber – Products Andy Carrott – Affiliation Officer
6. Any Other Business	
6a. International Rally	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tom suggested the club should start looking at holding another international rally given the success of the 2018 rally • Which year to choose caused some debate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ 2022 is too soon; 2023 is the fiftieth anniversary of the launch of the Tre e Mezzo (3½) and many other national clubs might wish to celebrate and 2024 is <i>sempre domani</i> • It was agreed that the committee and any member who wishes to be involved start investigating locations and the best year (not later than 2024)
6b. Club Bike	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is still insured and is currently stored with Ian Wegner. Thought needs to be given as to its use next year.

Signed: Date:
 Position Name Signature
 Secretary Jem Moore

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Appendix A: Committee Reports

Chairman

Welcome to the 2021 AGM, and it is a true delight to see so many faces here. Firstly, I want to thank the committee who have worked hard to make events possible this year and to keep the club functioning. And to all those who helped make our return to hosting a trackday such a success this year – trackday is such an important part of the soul of the club and it was fabulous to be able to hold it again after missing out in 2020. Hopefully in 2022 we will be allowed to welcome spectators back.

As you'll hear in the other committee reports, the club has had a fairly healthy year in membership growth, product sales, trackday and section events. We have not been able to attend many shows due to the on-going pandemic, however we plan to be at Stafford next month, and hope that 2022 will see a return to a more normal events calendar. As time moves on, and bearing in mind the issues many clubs (fortunately not ours at the moment) face with regards ageing membership and waning interest in the bikes, I am keen to reach out to potential new members outside of our traditional demographic – owners of the new 650cc machines are an obvious path, but equally other enthusiasts (Italian vehicle collectors, Cagiva fans, Tamburini bike followers etc.) or new bikers who perhaps aren't aware of Moto Morini. If anyone hears of any shows/groups/meetings which may fit the bill and would be prepared to help represent the club please let us know.

The Chairman's run was reborn this year, and we had an enjoyable visit to the National Motorcycle Museum, with a dozen or so Morini and a few non-members also. Well done to Nick Hancock for scooping the furthest travelled award – 140 miles each way. Keep an eye out in ATG for details on next year's run.

A reminder that when you are out and about on your Morini, attending section runs and club events, please take some time to snap a few photos and send a few words to the editor of ATG.

The new 650cc bikes are due to arrive on these shores imminently, and will be supported by a new importer/dealer network by the sounds of it. Ben Wylie at Amore Moto is holding a special X-Cape unveiling and open day at Moto Hub on 9th October to which you are all warmly invited.

Mdina Italia has now changed hands – as you will have heard the spares business has been transferred to Douglas Hussey of Ricambi Desmo. For now it's situation normal with regards online ordering of parts and club discount. Going forwards, if he wishes I would like the club to be able to help Doug to catalogue the parts he has and understand the various idiosyncrasies of Morini part numbering. Ensuring a continued supply of parts and consumables for our bikes is in all our best interests after all.

Finally, our minds are turning to the possibility of hosting another international rally – possibly in 2023. This would need a rally sub-committee setting up in a similar fashion to the 2018 rally, and would need organisation to kick off reasonably soon.

Thanks again for attending this weekend and for your support of the club.

I am happy to continue in the chairman's seat if re-elected.

Tom Farrow, September 2021

Secretary

No report

Interim Treasurer's Report 2020

Firstly I would like to thank Mike Hill for the sterling work he has put into the MRC Treasurer's role over the past three years and I shall endeavour to maintain his high standards. As last year's financial report was published in the members' area of the website and we are not yet at the end of this financial year for the club, I shall take this opportunity to update you on my progress as opposed to boring you all with figures.

I have officially taken over the club Treasurer's role as far as Santander are concerned and I now have full access to the club account, which if any of you have performed similar roles will understand what a headache this process can be. Many thanks to Jem Moore for organising this.

Having gained access to the accounts, my first goal was to acquaint myself with how the club is run financially and I'm pleased to say that it's a fairly tight ship however, we do rely on the annual track day to supplement income for the club.

I have also taken steps to introduce both an expenses policy and a budget for 2020/2021 based on previous years' finances, with a view to keeping the club 'on the road'.

Nick Hancock

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Membership Secretary Report September 2021

The increase of membership seen during the lockdown of 2020 has continued into 2021 and a year on year increase of **70** has seen membership grow to **494***.

*UK, EU, ROW, virtual and life members, so excludes honorary

Since renewals are now due, we expect that some (estimate 30-40) members will not renew, so the number of members will decrease after the renewals period.

However based on an ILOC Survey this growth is at the higher end of other clubs' experience, with many reporting stagnation or loss of membership.

With very little attendance at shows possible the majority of 70 new memberships have come through the on line web shop, with only a handful through other means.

Where known, most new members join as a result of a recent purchase or prospective purchase, some of the new memberships (**16**) are actually returning lapsed memberships which is encouraging. One was a bike transferred within the family. I think around 6 joined in order to attend Cadwell Track day.

New member breakdown by bike (some new members have more than one entry):

125/250	3
3½	38
K2	2
Dart	1
500	6
Off road	9
Custom	1
Water cooled	5
Pre '70s	0

Not known/none 28 (Cadwell, looking for a Morini, or prefer not to say)

New members by address are predominantly non-urban/city – with southern Postcodes being dominant. Overseas/EU membership continues to be limited as do virtual memberships.

Where known, the most common reasons for non-renewal were; sold the bike, member of too many clubs, or lack of funds. No one had anything negative to say about the club or Morinis in general. Unfortunately some non-renewals were due to ill health and/or giving up motorcycling.

Whilst most members renew on-line or through standing order/BACs the renewals process could have been less time consuming as about 40 needed several reminders including a dozen or so from whom postage costs were incurred for reminders.

All members who pay by direct debit (*sic* banker's order) with one uncontactable exception paid the correct amount. Despite many attempts I have been unable to contact this person and have suspended the membership.

If available to us Direct Debit would be less effort.

Membership costs are around £40 per quarter and are predominantly postage and stationery costs.

Your humble incumbent is happy to continue in the post if elected.

Mark Bridger

ATG Editor Report September 2021

No change to ATG, the printing and delivery process continues to be satisfactory from the point of view of the editor and committee and we have no intention of changing this at the moment. Although the club could make considerable savings in moving ATG fully online it is believed that the magazine having a physical presence is one of the main benefits of membership of the MRC. Printing and especially postage costs will remain under close scrutiny especially given the volatility of prices in the current conditions.

We have a new challenge with the change of importer for new bikes and also the change of ownership of the main spares supplier. We are confident that adverts for these services will remain in ATG in future.

Having just passed the landmark of 10 years and 60 issues in post I remain committed to producing 6 issues per year in the current format provided the membership will continue to submit content that I am able to plagiarise in order to fill each issue.

It is up to the membership if they want me to continue to produce such nonsense as I can always be voted out at the AGM.

Consideration may soon be needed for an update to the editorial iMac as after 10 years it is full and this may impact on production of ATG in future. A cost effective and data secure solution is to be investigated.

I am happy to continue in post if elected.

plus...

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Librarian's Report September 2021

No change this year on physical items, Consideration needs to be given on an enduring solution for the preservation of club owned digital information and knowledge. This currently is stored on the club FTP site to ensure auto back-ups and access by committee members, but the amount of storage is small and we have several times in the past gone over our allowance. This is chiefly due to storage of photographs.

A full discussion and actions on this would be desirable as a large amount of information and knowledge on matters of the club and technical information is held by individuals and will be lost if they were to leave the club for whatever reason.

I am happy to continue in post if elected.

David Marlow

Web-maestro (resigning)

The website and forum continue to be an invaluable front for the club, and in particular product sales, trackday registration and rally booking via the website save the committee hours of administrative time and simplify the process for 99.9% of our members.

Website costs are pretty much unchanged over previous years, and represent good value for the club, however we do require more cloud storage space and so I anticipate an increase in web hosting costs going forwards, depending on the solution chosen. Current costs are:

£120 for Website hosting, members' area security and club email

£15 for domain registration

£60 for the forum

Online shop costs 2.2% + 20p fee per online transaction, plus around £7 per month hosting.

It is now time for me to hang up my keyboard – the website needs an architecture and content refresh and a review of our current web hosting & data storage solutions. I am happy to continue to support in the background during a transition period and am happy to continue to provide technical support for the membership database, print on demand & web shop integrations for the foreseeable future.

Tom Farrow, September 2021

Web editor (position vacant)

No report

Products

Overall: with the ongoing health situation still having an effect on events, our ability to attend motorcycle and other shows has continued to have a detrimental impact on Product sales. Fortunately, this has been offset by an increase on the web-based shop sales.

The Figures: Sales for the year to date (start of September) are £1,082, with a further £268 received to cover postage costs and £142 sales at sections meetings and runs; bringing in a total of £1,510.

Costs are £925 in stock value and postage at £272 – a total of £1,297.

Currently, stock in hand has a value of £1,375; a precise figure will be provided after the stock take at the end of our Financial Year (October 31st).

Postage charges currently exceed income purely due to the relatively high cost of sending complimentary calendars abroad; this excess was covered by the overall income from that specific product, which made a small surplus as well as creating goodwill amongst other European Morini clubs, each sent a copy.

In comparison: last year, to the end of October, the figures were total sales of £1,020 from the web shop with a further £205 at shows, runs and events; a total of £1,225. The value of stock held was £2,100.

Highlights:

The move the Club made last year to offering 'print on demand products' has proved successful; 29 of the 80 sales over the web were for on-demand items, including the 2021 Cadwell T-shirt design.

Having the Club Calendar available on line several weeks ahead of availability was also successful with the product being sold out before the end of December 2020.

Prices have been revised to give a higher margin for sales to non-Club members. Club members should not forget to claim their discount if making an on-line purchase, although this does not apply to membership renewals!

We will need to restock some core products at some point, incurring cost to the Club.

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The next special *Limited-Edition* product (a Strada T-shirt to follow the successful Sport T from 2019) will be offered as Print on Demand only from the end of October until the end of December 2021.

Jenny Westwood has generously donated sixty previously unobtainable Corsaro 4-speed 125/150cc tank mounting bolts, sized M7 x 12mm, which will be made available at the meeting and on line.

Calendars, as a joint commercial and PR product, will continue to be offered at a cost that subsidises the postage to those given a complimentary copy.

Thanks: to Julia and Butch for their unstinting help in offering a range of products at shows and this AGM, to David for putting together our most collectable calendars, to Tom for work with the web shop, design and creating the line of print on demand items, and to you all for supporting the Club through your purchases over the year.

Chris and Diane Webber, MRC Products

BMF/MAG

No report received.

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Appendix B: Section Reports

Corsaro Section Report

As with all groups, Covid has impacted on the Corsaro Section's meetings and the tail end of 2020 saw two meets before the lockdown suspended them again in 2021. As the country moved out of lockdown, the first meet was held at the Station Cafe, Alton as pubs were still only allowing six to a table and preferably pre-booked. It may have been the weather, or the frustration of being locked down but 14 Morini were in attendance, plus a few others who weren't on Morinis.

As the 'rule of six' was relaxed, the section returned to The Pub With No Name and understandably numbers fluctuate but the meets carry on. An additional ride was organised from The Devils Punchbowl, Hindhead to Alresford Station on the Watercress Line for a bit of steam action and lunch. Many thanks to Andy Collett for proposing and organising it.

Although named the Corsaro Section, the meets are open to all and there's usually a variety of interesting bikes (mostly owned by Dave Roberts) and the odd Buell.

The Corsaro Section continues to meet on the first Saturday of each month from midday at The Pub With No Name, Prior's Dean, GU32 1DA.

Nick Hancock

Green Lane Section Report

Since we formed this section in August 2020 it has grown steadily to now number around 20 members spread right across England, Scotland and Wales. As we are so spread out arranging group rides has not been as easy as a regional section would find it. Despite this we have managed a few low-key rides and one spectacular where we managed 6 bikes of the marque green-laning together. This ride took place just over 12 months ago in Leicestershire and looked like it would be the only thing we ever did as the great pestilence descended again immediately afterwards.

Happily though, we are about to repeat that great extravaganza this October in Devon, and we are hoping to boost our rider numbers by 50% over the 2020 event.

Apart from the events mentioned above, a good number of us have managed solo or small group rides in our own local areas.

The ABR event (Adventure Bike Rider magazine) in Warwickshire drew a few of us together for what was a really worthwhile long weekend. I fancy doing that one again.

Two of us (on Morinis) also joined the world famous Steph Jeavons of 'round the world solo on a Honda 250' fame on a recent 2 day trail ride in Wales. Another cracking weekend and she'd never seen a Morini before!

I'd like us to maintain the momentum we have achieved under awkward circumstances, so that more such events can be set up all over the UK and possibly beyond in future.

If you want to know more about Morini trail riding then please get in touch-my details are in ATG.

Steve Brown

London and South East Section

Although it's been great to have a revived London and South East Section the size of our area and relatively low density of Morini riders within it means that our activities have been limited during the year. Some members have attended other sections, particularly the Corsaro meet which is just outside of our 'manor' and there has also been mutual assistance between members.

We had a meet-up at Ryka's Cafe near Box Hill in September then various levels of lockdown intervened till well into the New Year. We had a ride-out in April attended by eight and accompanied by good weather and on 29th August Julian (sorry don't know his last name) hosted tea and cakes in his garden.

For the coming year it may be advisable for us to set at least an outline calendar of events – perhaps three definite meets and or ride outs during the main spring-autumn season, so that members can plan their attendance around the rest of their busy lives.

John McNally

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South Coast Section

The section is still active, we have stopped meeting at the pub venue advertised in A Tutto Gas as my job was stopping me attending regularly due to doing shift work, we now meet at the Corsaro meet every first Saturday, we haven't done much to mention, but I found a new member through Facebook who is new to Morinis, as mentioned in a previous e-Mail I would like a contact e-mail address for the section as there isn't one in the contacts section of the club magazine.

Dave Roberts

New Zealand Section

After 15 years of ownership, I'm pleased to have been accepted as Section Captain for the MRC New Zealand membership. You'll be aware this is a tiny proportion of the total Membership but I believe we have more Moto Morinis in NZ than club members.

I suspect NZ's Moto Morini owners are spread out across the country and to the best of my knowledge, includes 500s, 3½s, off-riders, track-bikes, singles and moderns. My initial aim is to ensure all are made aware of the club and its activities. An immediate and enormous uptake would be great but I'll settle for a few distant mumbles to begin with. My previous experience has been that NZ Moto Morini owners are not notably gregarious. I'll certainly follow any interest to see if I can increase Virtual Membership.

I would also like to organize a physical get-together or rally of some sort, potentially the first NZ National Meeting. In all probability I'll go ahead regardless of uptake and can form a plan once I see where everyone is based and how loud the mumbles are. That said, fellow-member, Paul Wiggins and I have been meeting regularly to make progress on both our 3½ Sports, so if it's just the pair of us, that's a meeting.

In pre-Covid Auckland, an annual Italian Day is organized for things red, white and green. I could potentially take a stall there, using it as a publicity/recruitment/photo opportunity. Previously I've just parked up with the Ferrari lot and looked incredulous when they say they haven't heard of Ing. Lambertini.

I look forward to the role and sharing my Moto Morini journey in the upcoming issue of ATG.

Dom Blaazer

Warwickshire Section

The Warwickshire section has been an active group throughout 2021, meeting at around 18:30 on the 2nd Monday of the month at 'Caffeine and Machine', near Ettington off the Fosse way. We normally get a turnout of 10 or so, many travelling an hour or more to get there – despite the section name most of our section don't live in Warwickshire!

C&M is an interesting 'destination venue' with plenty of interesting machines coming & going and a good place to watch the world go by, with good coffee & food available.

The section WhatsApp group is active too, with banter, advice and a few ride-outs planned via it.

I am happy to continue to be the point of contact for the section, or equally happy if someone else wants to give it a crack.

Tom Farrow, September 2021

North Midlands

The small but perfectly formed North Midlands Section has been far from inactive, though normally without its captain as John Parbery was trapped in locked-down Leicester for much of the last 18 months. Poor health has kept Roy (Eric Bloodaxe) off motorbikes, though he has just acquired an electrically assisted bicycle, and Jenny decamped to Warwickshire some time ago so it has been just me and Sally most of the time. However, as the Strada has been our main transport the section has been out and about to several parts of the country, including visiting John Shepperd down in Surrey.

The section was out in force (ie. with John as well) at Founders Day and the excellent Jennings Steam Outing at the beginning of September with North Midlands members making up 60% of those on the ride-out.

Phil & Sally