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The Morris Register promotes interest and enthusiasm for Morris Minor and Morris Eight Tourers. To help as far as we are able to preserve them. To act as a clearing house for information on repairs, restoration and rebuilding. To facilitate the circulation of spares at reasonable cost. To arrange occasional Club events, rallies, treasure hunts, driving tests, and Concours d'elegance. To promote friendship amongst all our Members".

Thus we listed our aims when the Club was formed in the last days of 1959. Formed, we might say, almost by accident for "The Morris Eight Tourer Club" was the outcome of a chance conversation between our first Secretary, Beverley Hicks, and Treasurer, Roy Chasmar, over a cup of coffee. Both enthusiasts were owners of Morris Eight Tourers, and there were unmistakable signs that the much maligned "Eight" was going to pass the "students's hack" stage. Already there were one or two models that had been restored to "as new" condition.

By the early months of 1960 the membership had reached a figure of something like 25 members. As the Club grew it became necessary, for administration reasons, to set up regions, the first of these being the North Region which came into being in 1961. Now we have ten Regions in Great Britain and several overseas, groups, the 21st anniversary in 1981 was celebrated with a Round Britain Relay.

Six months after the Club was formed, the first issue of our magazine, "The Journal" appeared.

Since that shaky start, with a circulation of about 30 copies, it has appeared at more or less regular intervals of 3 months members always on the look out for spares, and now our magazine. The circulation is now 2,000 copies; in addition the Club publishes a monthly newsletter which includes details of future events and advertisements for Morris vehicles and spares. Inevitably, it wasn't long before the Club opened its doors to the pre-war Morris Minor and Morris Eight saloons. Then in 1967 it was decided to widen the scope of the Club by forming an additional section to be known as the "10/25 Register" to cater for many Morris Ten to Twenty-five horsepower cars of pre-war vintage. A situation now arose where the original name was something of a misnomer, so an all-embracing title "Morris Register" was decided upon.

Technical information on the pre-war Morris vehicle is not the easiest thing to obtain. After a good deal of research the first of the Club's information Manuals for members appeared in 1965. Publications now include Manuals on the Minor, Eight and Ten; books of Road Test Reports reproduced from the Autocar and Practical Motorist and pocket reference books of Morris Cars and Morris Commercial vehicles.

In the early days of the Club many events were the outcome of a suggestion made by someone at a "Noggin and Natter" a few days before the event took place. So it was with our first London to Brighton Run in January 1962 when almost by word-of-mouth advertising, forty persons in twenty cars got together on a wet Sunday morning in Queen Anne's Gate to enjoy what was to become a firm annual event. Sadly, such spontaneity is now behind us for we now have regulations imposed by the Department of Transport with which we contend. Regular summer events include major rallies in most regions and a bi-annual visit to the continent.

Perhaps our most important service to members is provided by "The Spares Group", a dedicated group of members always on the look out for spares, and now arranging the manufacture of popular items.

The success of the Morris Register can be summed up by referring to the dictionary definition of "Club".

"To join together for some common end". Our common end is the enjoyment of owning, restoring and running a pre-war Morris.



January

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February

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March

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December

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