

# MORRIS 8 Build - DIARY OF EVENTS

## Terry Richards

The following is a timeline of the last 5 years in the sequence of events building my Morris 8 Sports. I bought the Morris Sports in May 2018. I started with just the shell and chassis.

The motor and gearbox were both completely dismantled as was the rest of the car.

At this stage I joined the M8TCNZ to enable me access to parts and information. It also helped that I worked at Upper Classics as a Restorer.



*Figure 1: Car arriving home in original state*

### *Year 1: (2018-19)*

After buying the car I decided to get the motor rebuilt so I sent it off to Engine Reconditioning Services and while it was away I rebuilt the gearbox, new bearings etc. Over this time I also stripped all the chrome work and had it redone, rebuilt the entire wooden framework and ordered lots of new parts from England. (*Wiring looms, door latches and handles and tail lights etc.*)

At this stage I was also buying lots of parts from the M8TCNZ Club as well as getting good advice and encouragement

*(At this stage I was also voted in as President of the Club)*

By the end of 2019: The motor and gearbox were fitted and the woodwork was completed and it was starting to look like a car.



*Figure 2: Woodwork all completed and engine in*

Year 2: (2020)

2020 saw the radiator getting re-cored and work starting on the body. Panel beating the doors (*new bottoms*), the cowl and guards. I also manufactured new rear quarter panels and a new rear panel.

The new wiring loom was fitted and I fitted up all the new chrome parts. Other jobs undertaken were getting the gauges checked out, sorting all the tools for the toolkit (Swap Meets), and getting motor ready to fire.



*Figure 3: New panels made*

### Year 3: (2021)

This year I got the body ready to paint and bolting it together to make sure it all fitted before painting. I wasn't happy with the brakes so stripped them down and machined the drums, new linings and reconditioned wheel cylinders, plus master cylinder. Another task was to make new seat runners after which I had the trimmer upholster the seats.



*Figure 4: Body panels fitted and lined up*

### Year 4: (2022)

This turned out to be a big year of the build as I could finally see the fruit of my labour. Many hours were spent rubbing and blocking the body ready for painting. Fortunately the painter at work applied the final paint after guiding me through the sanding process (*thanks Steve*). Another job was to make new running boards from a buck (*supplied by John Lester*) which I covered in rubber as close to original as possible.



*Figure 5: Running boards being made from template*



*Figure 6: Painted and in process of assembly*

Year 5: (2023)

I finally got the car to the trimmers to finish the upholstery, and now I am just waiting for Waka Kotahi, (*Car Registration*) to do their thing before getting it registered.

It has been an enjoyable journey as I have met many new friends along the way and learnt a lot about Morris 8's and I am looking forward to venturing out in the Sports.



*Figure 7: Upholstery fitted and completed*





*Figure 8: Finished article ready for registration*

I would like to thank all of those that have assisted me with parts and advice throughout the build.

*Cheers Terry*

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