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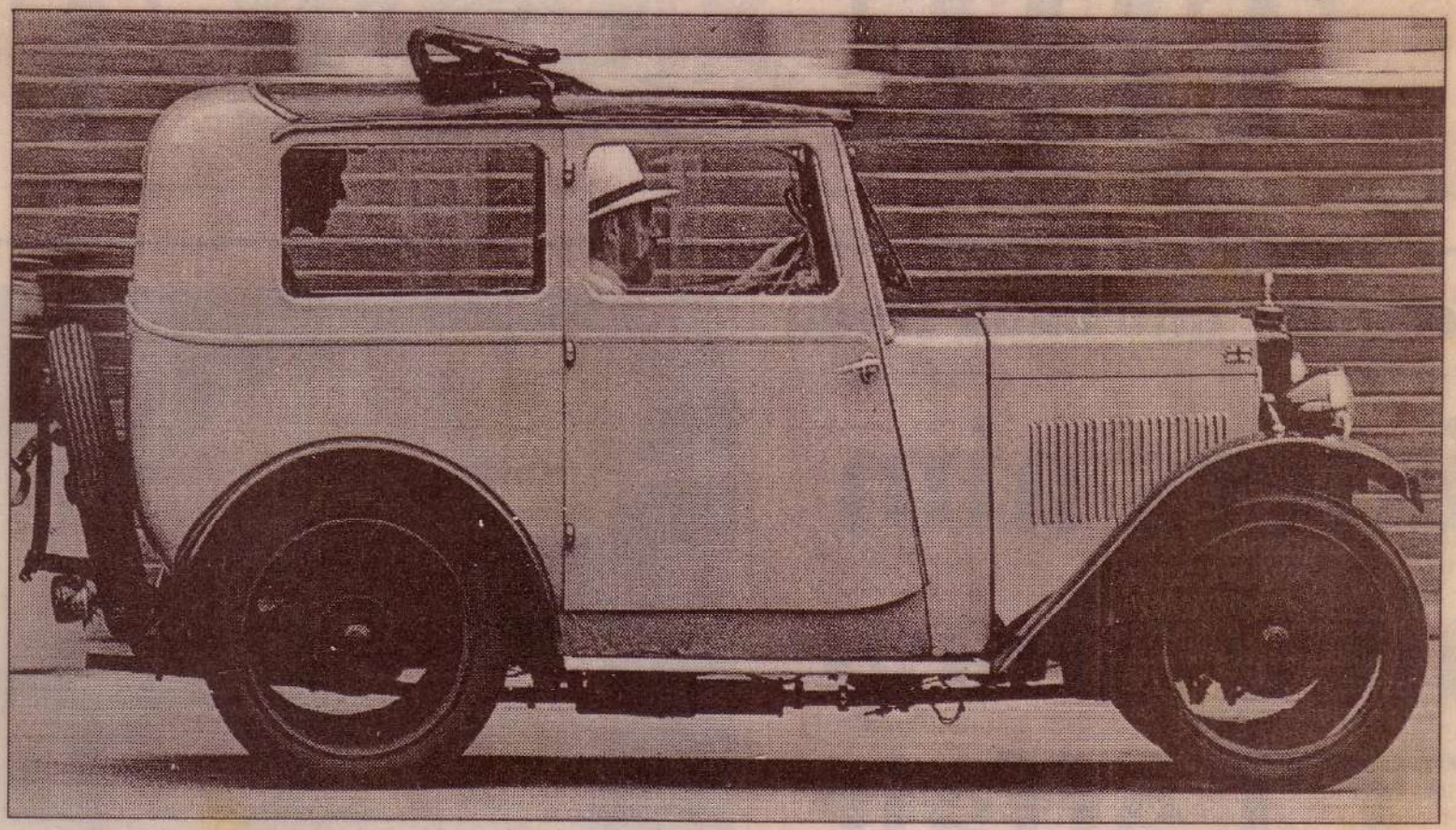

Rare vintage: Ted Coney taking a trip down memory lane to raise money in his 60-year-old Morris Minor

Old Minor still playing a major role

By JOHN SHAW

TED Coney's Morris Minor celebrated its 60th anniversary yesterday raising money for his school in Cambridge. He offered rides for £1 around the quadrangle at Hills Road Sixth Form College, where he teaches. The money will help to equip a £2000 darkroom extension.

The Morris is the only car owned by the Coneys, who live in Great Shelford, near Cambridge. Mr Coney, head of art, bought it 20 years ago for £100.

Although he says he does not know any more about the Morris now than he did in 1971, it is clearly a much-loved member of the family. He said cheerfully: "I am not mechanically minded, but there is a good local garage and, enthusiasts help as well.

"It is a very silly car for someone with three children, but I am used to the pedals." The accelerator is in the middle. "I do not think I could drive a modern car now."

When the Coney family goes on holiday the suitcases take up all the room, so he drives and the family goes by train to their destination. If they grumble, "I threaten to sell it and they shut up", Mr Coney said. Asked if he minded other children clambering in and out for their £1 rides, he said: "Not at all: it is a normal car used every day.

"I love it, but I am not precious about it. It is marvellous, 25 to 30mpg

"We are doing this to raise money. Other members of staff are doing similar things."