



6.3.5. Register notes - SF April 2015

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Welcome to the 635 Register newsletter this month!

For the newest of the MG marque, we have been steadily building a following of new owners some of which are existing MG owners and others new to the marque who are extremely impressed by the great value for money these cars are offering. Sales of the MG3 continue to steadily increase with more being seen on the road. So far in 2015, there have been 198 cars registered, which is an increase of 13 over last year. The MG6 facelift is being eagerly awaited and we hope to see a big advertising campaign to promote one of the best kept secrets in the automotive industry to the wider general public. There has certainly been a lot more TV advertising since Christmas, which is great.



There has been a flurry of activity with the new 15 plate registrations at the beginning of March. Its great to see so many new owners photographed picking up their cars on the Facebook pages from the sales centre in Longbridge and dealers all around the country. There also seems to be a very noticeable increase in younger owners, which is great for the future of MG.

Telford MG has opened a £1-million new showroom in the heart of the town's 'motor alley' and sold a new MG33STYLE to a delighted 21-year-old Alix Lye on the opening day. Miss Myers picked up her hello yellow 15 plate MG3 from Eric Stead. The Sales centre at Longbridge had many collections on Sunday the first of March, the first being at 7am!.



Photo courtesy of MG Motor



Photo courtesy of Eric Stead



Apple MG line up their 15 plate MG3s ready for delivery

Ron handed the keys over to Mr Savage to his new MG6 TSE in Union Blue. The first of many Mazda owners to switch to MG



Photo courtesy of the MG Motor Sales centre



Paul Guinness had his MG6 SE diesel delivered from Summit Garage

New dealers are springing up regularly. Its particularly nice to see the Hendy car store in Exeter getting their funky new look showroom back together after a fire last year. They are fully up and running with their sales, warranty and servicing including a fleet of courtesy cars and now their signage and flags are making a splash of colour to the forecourt.



Photo courtesy of Hendy Car store

There now seems to be quite a few MG3 and 6 families in the Register, most seem to be colour co-ordinated and a lot with personalised plates.



Photo courtesy of Paul Upton



The Haines fleet

We have seen owners joining us from all over the world and also more favourable reviews from the motoring press, including Richard Hammond who has recently described the MG3: "It looks good, it drives really well, it's spacious inside and it's extremely good value." "Give it a test drive if you dare to be different". Or perhaps you could just follow the crowd -"Baaaaaaaaaaa" said the sheep! Lets hope his dopey mate doesn't get his mitts on one....

Its been a busy few months behind the scenes for the new Register Committee, particularly setting up the events for the year and a big effort to capture owners details for the formal Register. We have been bringing the Facebook page up to date with news items and owners have been sharing articles and modification "how tos", which seem to be growing week by week as owners start to look at ways of enhancing their vehicles further through available upgrades from both the UK and China.

We are forging ever closer links with MG Motor and also with Triple Eight Engineering and their media team to give us mush moor access and insight into the coming BTCC season.

We are looking for Regional representatives to work closely with the Committee to expand the Register throughout the country. If you are interested in becoming a Regional Rep, then please contact us through the Facebook page, or directly to Matt Kimberley matt.kimberley@gmx.com

The Register has an updated micro site on the MGCC web page, which will be added to over the next few months. There will be a short biography of the current Committee members so you all know who we are, what we look like (!) and how to get hold of us, as well as the event list and links to the Facebook page and Twitter feeds.

A recent addition has been the setting up of an eBay sales page to raise some funds for the Register. We are always looking for MG related items that members may have lying around surplus to their needs (no cars please!) that we can sell on the page. If you have something, please pass it to any Committee member at an event or send to Steve Haines. http://www.ebay.co.uk/usr/mg63_uk2015. We will be reviewing our club merchandise and would like to hear from you with ideas of what you would like us to sell.

Also, don't forget that Register clothing is available from Top Signs online shop here: <http://shop.topsigns.net/>

What do you think of your MG3 or 6?

Tell Auto Express by entering the 2015 Driver Power Survey and you could win £2000.

Last year accolades came for the MG6 in the form of Best Handling and sixth Best Car to own, while MG were named the third Best Manufacturer and eighth Best Dealer Network.

Let's see if our MGs can do even better this year: <http://www.demographix.com/surveys/TWHI-SO67/HX7A54V2/?ref=MG>



Mark Cropper's 3 years of MG6 Ownership.



I first drove an MG6 at the Pro-drive test track, and was very impressed by the performance and handling. I owned an MG TF 85th but I needed a car with more than 2 seats when Sue became pregnant with my youngest son Aaron. I looked at the usual suspects a BMW 3 series and also the Peugeot RCZ, but after having the use of an MG6 GT SE, that I stretched out for 4 weeks I was hooked ! I decided upon the Magnette TSE Model as it had a sunroof. I purchased my MG6 Magnette from the MG Sales centre at Longbridge and was looked after by Simon Bennett, the service offered is excellent.

The 6 has been utterly reliable, only needing to go back for annual servicing and a recall . In the time I have owned the car it has had the heavier gear knob fitted to aid gear change when cold, an under bonnet rubber trim that split and a new top on my key fob after I broke it. The ride and handling always impresses and is comfortable cruising on the motorway or down a twisty country road. My Magnette has been driven up Prescott hill, it coped that well it just felt like a Sunday afternoon drive in the country!

The overall build quality and paint finish is very good and even after 20K miles still looks as new. The electric heated seats are fantastic and the leather has worn well .The carpets could have a thicker pile to enhance the appearance of the interior but this is the only thing I would change.

Even after 3 years I still think the reverse park camera is a cool feature. The built in Satnav, once you get used to entering the full details in, is really good to use, and in fact I prefer it to the Garmin we also own.

The performance is more than adequate for my needs and I always return an average of at least 35MPG, this compares well with the lower powered Peugeot 308 1.6 we also own. I am proud of the fact that the car is made in China with design and engineering in the UK.

I normally change my car before the first MOT but as of yet I have not found another car that I would want to replace my Magnette with, so I will keep it until the facelift 6 is launched or the GS SUV !

The 2015 BTCC season is taking shape...

The BTCC circus moved into Thruxton on Wednesday 18th and Thursday 19th February, along with support racers for some pre-season testing. It was a case of dry testing on the Wednesday and very wet on the Thursday! We were lucky to catch up with Andrew Jordan on the Thursday to have a chat with him about his move to MG, testing and his recent MG3 ownership experiences.

Andrew had enjoyed his first foray in the MG6 at Brands Hatch the previous week. "First impressions are that the general feeling's pretty similar to the Honda to be honest. It is all the same running gear, so there aren't too many differences in terms of fundamentals. The Swindon engine has different characteristics to the Honda, which I thought it would based on my experience in 2010. I think the engine will be more challenging to drive, which I'll enjoy, because the power comes in more aggressively than on the Honda." After completing over 70 laps, Jordan, who was joined at the test by his father, Mike, was happy with the faultless performance of the MG in the tricky cold temperatures, which were at times as low as two degrees.

We talked to Andrew at lunchtime about his experiences so far. He reported that he was very satisfied with the MG6 and its performance and was certainly looking and feeling extremely happy and confident, very laid back in fact! Andrew is a very approachable and affable guy. He gave us some of his valuable time for a general chat, photos and autograph signing whilst his mechanics beavered away getting ready for the 1PM session. We talked about his recent acquisition of an MG3 from MG Motor and described his month of ownership as very enjoyable with the 3 being "... a great little run around".



Andrew got in some more valuable laps around the very wet and fast Thruxton circuit for which he as a driver is a bit of an expert, but the MG6 has never performed well there over the last 3 years. He was certainly pushing the car to the limits through the chicane, visually looking the quickest of the BTCC cars out there.... Or maybe we're a bit biased!

Despite being soaked, we enjoyed the days testing and are very much looking forward to the start of the BTCC season.



Andrew Jordan followed through the Thruxton chicane by Rob Collard – photo Matt Haines



Matt Haines with Andrew Jordan

Great news from MG/888 was that Jack Goff has been announced as the second driver for the 2015 BTCC campaign .



Photo courtesy of Jakob Ebrey Photography

The reigning constructor/maker champions, Triple Eight Racing, have signed BRDC SuperStar Jack Goff to a one-year race deal to compete alongside 2013 BTCC Champion Andrew Jordan in the 2015 Dunlop MSA British Touring Car Championship (BTCC) in a second works-supported MG6.

“It’s a thrill to start the season in the quickest front-wheel drive car on the grid,” commented Goff. “Obviously as a kid growing up, driving for a works team is the pinnacle. I’m chuffed that we’re working with Triple Eight and MG, over the course of the past three years they’ve shown that the MG is a race winner and a championship contender.

Goff has a significant allegiance to MG and is no stranger to its devoted fan following, having begun his racing in a MG and owned seven MG road cars. The arrival at Triple Eight as a MG works-supported driver sees the Triple Eight driver go ‘pro’ with the Longbridge based brand.

“I started my track driving with MGs in the MG Trophy Championship in the ZR and having had lots of MGs in my lifetime, I have a real soft spot for them. I spent a lot of hours working on my MG race cars in the garage! The MG brand is huge and it has one of the most devoted and passionate sets of supporters of any car manufacturer. To hopefully have the weight of that support is going to be a real bonus this season.”



Triple Eight Racing's Founder and Managing Director, Ian Harrison believes Goff will complement Jordan well and is excited about the new line-up for the 23-times champions, who will set out to defend their 2014 Constructor/Manufacturer title won with MG.

Jack closed off one of the most memorable weeks in his motor racing career at Donington Park, when he got behind the wheel of the Triple Eight Racing MG6 GT for the first time and realised a long-held ambition to drive a MG BTCC challenger.

Running in a plain, unbadged livery, Goff racked up valuable track time as he began his preparation for the forthcoming 2015 Dunlop MSA British Touring Car Championship. The BRDC SuperStar ran alongside fellow Triple Eight driver Andrew Jordan in his Pirtek liveried MG as both drivers set about their respective pre-season test programmes.



Photo courtesy of Jakob Ebrey Photography

“It’s been a long time since I got behind the wheel of a NGTC car and it was good to get so many laps in and blow away a few cobwebs.

“I pounded round and did a lot of laps, around 300km, not in search of overall pace, but the car is mighty quick on a race run on old tyres, so it’s given me a lot of confidence for the further tests I’ve got coming up.”

After experiencing both Vauxhall and Volkswagen machinery over the past two seasons in the BTCC, Goff was pleasantly surprised by the performance of the MG around the fast and flowing National Circuit, getting a taste of things to come in 2015.

“The VW was a step on from the Vauxhall, but this (the MG) feels like a bigger step on in terms of differences again. My initial thoughts are that the MG feels so much stronger; it really encourages you to push and I’m looking forward to doing just that at Snetterton on Friday,” explained Goff.

“This was a very successful test, in which we covered a high mileage with both cars,” commented Ian Harrison, Triple Eight Racing’s co-founder and Managing Director. “Andrew and Jack had very different targets today, but both completed many laps and delivered consistency and pace in good measure. We’ve got more to work through with each driver before the start of the season, but I’m pleased with the progress being made.”

We’re looking forward to supporting the fresh young MG team this year, roll on 5th April at Brands Hatch for round 1!



Photo courtesy of Jakob Ebrey Photography

2015 Events

We are looking forward to the 635 Register 2015 events, which will be generally of a national nature, with focus on the Pride of Longbridge meet on the 18th April, MG Live! at Silverstone on the weekend of 20th and 21st June and the BTCC Silverstone event on the weekend of 26th and 27th September with the in field parking and reduced ticket entry provided by The Car club. There are a few other more local events that will be supported by the Register throughout the year and please do feel free to organise events and publicise them on the Facebook events page. Please do come along, even if you don't own a 6, 3 or 5 as we are a very friendly bunch who are always happy to chat about our cars, good and bad! We would also encourage participation for owners in their local MG Car Club meets and natters, a list of which can be found here: <http://www.mgcc.co.uk/centres/> or contact our BTCC and events co-ordinator, Matt Kimberley matt.kimberley@gmx.com



It was great to see 3 Register members in their MG3s at the Harrogate club meet and run in February. Photo courtesy of Richard Campleman.



MG6's and 3's at last year's Haynes Museum meet. Photo courtesy of Stu Forbes



Cars in the park Litchfield 2014. Photo courtesy of Mark Cropper



MG90 Timeline

Please do keep in touch with the Facebook page to see what's going on and where and add your names as attending so we can see what numbers we are expecting: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/MG635Register/events/>

2015 Events list

Date	Event	Location	
Tues 24 March	BTCC Media day	Donington Park, Leicestershire	
Sat 4/Sun 5 April	BTCC	Brands Hatch (Indy), Kent	
Sat 18 April	Pride of Longbridge	Cofton Park, Birmingham	Committee meeting
Sat 18/Sun 19 April	BTCC	Donington Park, Leicestershire	
Sunday 26 April	Drive it day	Bressingham	
Sat 9/Sun 10 May	BTCC	Thruxton, Hampshire	
Sat 6/Sun 7 June	BTCC	Oulton Park (Island), Cheshire	
Sat 20 / Sun 21 June	MG Live!	Silverstone, Northants	Committee meeting
Sat 27/Sun 28 June	BTCC	Croft, North Yorkshire	
Sat 4 th July	Cars in the park	Beacon park, Litchfield	
Sun 2 August	Shuttleworth Wings	Biggleswade, Beds.	
Sat 8/Sun 9 August	BTCC	Snetterton, Norfolk	
Sat 22/Sun 23 August	BTCC	Knockhill, Fife	
Sat 5/Sun 6 September	BTCC	Rockingham, Northants	
Sat 26/Sun 27 Sept	BTCC	Silverstone, Northants	
Sat 10/Sun 11 October	BTCC	Brands Hatch (GP), Kent	
Sat 5 December	AGM / Xmas Do	TBC	Committee AGM

We are very much looking forward to the next few months meeting old friends, new ones and those interested in the 6,3 and 5. Most of all we are looking forward to a bit of FUN!

