

## MGA REGISTER *e*NEWSLETTER May 2023 WORLDWIDE CIRCULATION: 1081

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The **eNewsletter** is not a publication exclusively for MG Car Club members in the UK. The MG Car Club MGA Register sees it as a shop window on the world of MGA ownership aimed at encouraging readers to join the MG Car Club in the UK and Europe or an equivalent organisation overseas. We welcome all readers, and all contributors.

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Please see information on page 8 of this eNewsletter about the MG and Triumph 100 Event at Silverstone on 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> June 2023.

The MGA Register needs your help in ensuring this is a great Centenary Celebration.

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My thanks to Colin Manley for helping me make this Table of Contents actually WORK. Press and hold the **Ctrl** button on your keyboard, and then click your mouse on the page number in the right hand column, and you will be taken directly to what you want to read...

#### Editor's Notes - Spring is in the Air, with a busy summer ahead

Welcome to another edition of the MGA eNewsletter.

By now I suspect that most of our (Northern hemisphere) readers will have their cars out on the road, enjoying the spring weather.

2023 promises to be a busy year for MG Enthusiasts, with the MG Centenary celebration events on top of the usual local and national tours and shows.

From late May onwards we have the start of those MG Centenary celebrations, and there is a large list of events planned worldwide over the following 12 months. – Look at <a href="https://www.mgcc/mg100">www.mgcc/mg100</a>/ to see that ever growing list.

For MGA owners and enthusiasts, we have already got a lot of bookings for our Spring and Autumn Tours (Lancaster and Faringdon, Oxfordshire, respectively) and there are a number of other less formal events planned. – Again, more details later in this Newsletter.

As you read this eNewsletter, that MGA Spring Tour is just 2 weeks away, and everything is in place for another excellent weekend.

Looking forward, if you have news and photos on any recent events, information on future events, or opinions and thoughts on any MGA-related matters, please forward them to me for inclusion in future eNewsletters.

My request for nominations for a "Famous Car" (aka, "The Pete Macwaters Cup") generated a number of entries and some amusing stories, some of which you will read later in this eNewsletter.

My thanks to all contributors, new and old. Please keep your contributions coming – Everything is welcome. Next edition will be issued during the first week of July 2023.

**Brendan Leach** 

**Editor – MGA Newsletter** 

#### **Reports on Recent Events**

#### MG Events in North America during 2023

Our USA correspondent **Dave Nicholas** keeps me entertained with the regular MGVR Newsletter. MG VR stands for MG Vintage Racers, and as the name suggests it is not a group limited to MGAs, though MGAs and MG TD / TFs are strongly represented in the group.

The racing season has already started in the States, and the April edition of the MGVR Newsletter concentrated on the history of the Sebring circuit (in Florida).

The first race there was held in December 1950, and racing has continued every year since (except 1974 with the fuel crisis). – And MGs have been there pretty well every year.

The Newsletter then tells the stories of 4 famous MG Sebring racers, through the eyes of their current owners:

- 1960 MGA Twin Cam UMO 93 (YD2 2571) John Wright
- 1959 MGA Twin Cam Coupe (YM2 932) Mike Eaton
- 1957 MGA 1500 (HDR43 / 24460) Mike Eaton
- 1950 (?) Motto MG A TD with a hand-made Ferrari style body in pale yellow (similar in style to the Parson MG TD shown on page 83 of April 2023's Safety Fast!)
   – David Ash

All excellent stuff, and a real tribute to those racers past and present.

Meanwhile, plans are well advanced for races around the country in April and May, plus of course, **GOF Central** (the **G**athering **O**f the **F**aithful MG Owners) at South Bend, Indiana between 20<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2023, and the BIG ONE for 2023 which is the 41<sup>st</sup> Lime Rock Park Historic Festival in Connecticut between September 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 2023 (the Labor Day weekend).

Dave publishes 12 MGVR Newsletters per year. - Thanks for all of this, Dave.

#### And News from "Down Under" ....

From the other side of our MG world, **Mike Ellesmore** is the **MGA Captain** of the Victoria Branch of the MG Car Club Australia, and publishes an excellent regular Newsletter containing news both Technical and Social, plus the usual "small ads" of parts and cars for sale.

As I write this eNewsletter in April it is still "peak MG Season" in Australia, with events both social and competitive coming thick and fast, including the MG National Weekend in Adelaide over the Easter weekend.

Plans are in place for 3 rounds of the Rob Roy Inter Club Hillclimb Challenge this summer, and next summer (that's November, folks!) there are plans for a 7-day tour of Tasmania. The MG CC group in Australia is undoubtedly thriving, with lots of events during the year. Lots of good links and photos in Mike's eNewsletter, showing MGAs in glorious sunshine (we can dream of summer 2023!). - Thanks for keeping us up to date with all the news, Mike.

#### Drive It Day - 23rd April 2023

2023's Drive It Day took place all around the country on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> April. A group of MG Car Club North West Centre members met at Pennington Flash Country Park near Leigh, Greater Manchester.

Here are couple of pictures of the day, including one MGA. (Where did that Morgan come from??)





Note for non-Northerners – A **flash** is a water-filled hollow formed by subsidence – in this case subsidence caused by many years of coal mining at the former Bickershaw Colliery. The flash is 170 acres of water in area, set on a total site of 490 acres, and is now a nature reserve, with bird-hides, fishing facilities, picnic and recreation areas, and a newly-opened café and car park.

In the summer months it hosts sailing, windsurfing, and rowing events, and walking tracks are available all year round.

#### Practical Classics Classic Car & Restoration Show 24th – 26th March, NEC

Although I did not attend this show, our MGB-driving "Special Correspondent" **Andrew Powers** went along, and a couple of items caught his attention. Here are some of Andrew's musings ....

- 1. There was a live 'question & answer' session with celebrities from the various TV classic car shows (Wheeler Dealers, Car SOS etc.). The panel were asked whether they had any concerns about the future of classic car clubs with respect to attracting new and younger members. In response the answer was a resounding "no". I think it was Fuzz Townsend who then went on to say "look at the mix of people here". He was correct, there was a very healthy mix of age groups, all enjoying the show together. My view is that the people are out there we just need to make contact.
- 2. Items for sale in the auction went beyond classic cars, to include a few commercials. There were three early Transit vans, all of which sold for above estimate. I think that next time we replace some of the fleet at work I may buy one and stash it away. Could be a nice investment!

#### **Future Events**



Brooklands is celebrating the coronation of King Charles III with the Best of British weekend, and we need you to bring your cars. From Alvis to Wolseley, we want every possible make and type of British vehicle to be here on Sunday 7 May.

As well as a huge array of cars, motorcycles, and other vehicles, we'll have a special display of MGs to mark the company's 100° anniversary. Visitors to the Best of British event are also being encouraged to wear clothes to fit the theme, so it's a great opportunity to put on your glad rags.

For some of our younger visitors, and slightly older fans of Michael Bond's cartoons, Paddington Bear is all set to make a guest appearance. We'll also have a brass band playing throughout the day and Great British food will be available from several outlets around the site.

Many of the British makes will be on car dub displays, and the famous Test Hill will also be used to show the cars and motorcycles in action.

#### Brooklands "Best of British" Day – Coronation Weekend Sunday 7th May (Weybridge, Surrey)

Thanks to **Joe Walsh** for telling me that the famous Brooklands circuit and museum has organised a Best of British day to co-incide with the Coronation of King Charles III on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May. (Next weekend!!) According to their members magazine "....we'll have a special display of MGs to mark the company's 100th anniversary".

Full details on the Brooklands website at: <a href="https://www.brooklandsmuseum.com/whats-on/best-of-british">https://www.brooklandsmuseum.com/whats-on/best-of-british</a>

Or on the MGA Register website, in the **Events in 2023** tab

#### MGA Spring Tour 2023 – Lakes to Mountains, 19th to 21st May 2023

It's almost here! – The **Spring 2023** MGA Touring Weekend, which will take place on **19th** - **21st May 2023**, which is based at the Lancaster House Hotel near Lancaster (LA1 4GJ). If you have booked a place on the Tour you will have received update Bulletins from organiser **Jon Pollard** over recent weeks. Here's his final update on the tour, prefaced by a fine view of Brothers Water. (Congratulations to **Howard Quayle**, who spotted last month's deliberate (?) mistake – Brothers Water is **WEST** of Haweswater on the Kirkstone Pass):



#### **Lake District and Forest of Bowland, Lancashire**

**Jon Pollard** writes: "It's getting very close now to our Centenary Spring Tour in the Lake District and Forest of Bowland in Lancashire, over the weekend of 19th - 21st May.

Our Guest of Honour this year is Mr Roger Enever, whom many of you will recognise as the son of Syd Enever, designer of our beloved MGA. You can't get a more direct relationship to Abingdon in the 1950s than that! We are most grateful for Roger's presence at our Centenary Tour; he has kindly agreed to wield the chequered flag on the Saturday morning to officially launch the event.

We now have a record entry for an MGA touring weekend of around 70 cars; the majority are staying at the Lancaster House Hotel, but due to high demand for places, many others are also staying locally. Entrants are joining us from far and wide, including the Netherlands, Ireland, Scotland and Devon & Cornwall. Truly an international flavour this year, and a fitting way to kick off the Centenary celebrations of the MG Car Club!

Our routes have now been finalised, and entrants can look forward to spectacular mountain passes (you'll see the view above as you descend the Kirkstone Pass towards Brotherswater from your MGA), pretty market towns and villages and some of the finest scenery that Great Britain has to offer. You'll have a chance to visit stately homes and gardens, and also the award winning Lakeland Motor Museum, with its magnificent Donald Campbell collection.

There is still a chance for those of you who have yet to enter to join us; there is local accommodation available on <u>booking.com</u> and Airbnb. However, you'll need to act very quickly since arrangements are now being finalised. Please contact the organiser, Jonny Pollard on 07881 300061 or <u>jonknutsford.com</u> as soon as <u>possible</u> if you'd like to join the tour."





#### Magnette 70 – Milton, Oxfordshire – 19th to 21st May 2023

**Paul Batho** reminds us that if you are not joining the MGA Spring Tour, you may be interested in the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations of the Z Magnette Register, which are being held in Milton, Oxfordshire, over that same weekend.

An outline of the weekend's events, plus an Application / Booking Form for the car show, the dinner, and the visit to Kimber House are in Appendix 3 to this eNewsletter. All welcome – Magnette or not!

#### MG Centenary Car Display – Oxford City Centre – 1st June 2023

On Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> June, there will be a Centenary Display of six representative MGs in Oxford City Centre (this event is now fully approved by Oxford City council), recognising the importance of the MG Marque to the city and its history.

There will also be guided tours of locations in the city linked to William Morris, both as a car manufacturer and a garage proprietor - some of our members might be interested in coming along.

https://www.mgcc.co.uk/t-register/event/mgcc-centenary-event-bonn-square-oxford/

#### Oxfordshire MGOC "MGs In The Park" - 4th June 2023

The Oxfordshire branch of MG Owners Club have organised "MGs In The Park" at the Cotswold Wildlife Park near Burford OX18 4JP, for Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> June.

The park is 165 acres, and residents include penguins, meerkats, lions, crocodiles, red panda, and white rhino. There are numerous quality food outlets in the park. Dogs are welcome on leads and picnics are fine. No barbecues or stoves are allowed.

The show will include a Pride Of Ownership Competition, Car Of The Show Award, a road run around the Cotswolds, and many trade stands.

- Free entry to the Wildlife Park for MG and driver
- **Discounted** entry fee for MG passengers
- Free entry to the MG event once in the Park
- Event runs from 10am to 5pm; there is no need to pre-book.

For further details please contact:

MGOC Area Secretary - Pete McHugh <u>areasecretary@oxfordshiremgoc.co.uk</u> MGOC Events Secretary - Peter Mapson <u>eventssecretary@oxfordshiremgoc.co.uk</u>

#### MG and Triumph 100 (formerly MG Live!) - Silverstone 10th and 11th June

The 2023 version of MG Live! will be a combined event with the Triumph Clubs, celebrating the Centenary of the 2 marques.

All the usual attractions of MG Live! will be there including a full program of racing on the full GP circuit, two timelines of MG and Triumph cars over the past 100 years (including 6 MGAs), Concours and Pride of Ownership, Russ Swift's Stunt Show, AutoSolo, trade stands, lifestyle marquee, and a live stage with continuous entertainment and music.

For more information, go to www.mqtriumph100.co.uk.

Camping will be available on site, for an extra charge.

Tickets cost £37.50 for 1 day, or £50 for both days.

BUT ....., MG Car Club Members can get £10 discount per pre-booked ticket at any time. – Enter your MGCC Membership Number in the PROMO CODE box and be sure to press **Apply**. That will reduce the prices to £27.50 and £40 respectively (All tickets have a dreaded "booking fee" of about 7.5% of ticket value in addition to the ticket price! – But the parking is FREE!)

#### MG and Triumph 100 - Help Wanted .....

Your Register, the MGA Register, wants to ensure that we put on a great display of MGAs at MG and Triumph 100, and to provide the MGA Register marquee with an outstanding regalia/merchandising stall. To do this we need some help from you.

In the past the people who have volunteered to help have usually had to work quite long shifts. This year we would like to do it differently and find more people who are happy to spend an hour or two helping their Register so that the responsibility doesn't fall on just a few.

If you can spend an hour or two helping we would love you to let us know. There are two ways that you can help:

- 1. Helping park cars to ensure that we get our MGAs parked up in a great display. Cars will be arriving between 08.00 and 11.00 each day. We need help on both Saturday and Sunday, ideally 4-6 people on each day, each working for around 90 minutes.
- 2. Help on the regalia/merchandising stall. Providing the regalia and merchandising to MGA owners and others is a very important part of the Register presence at Silverstone. The stall is open from 09.00-17.00 on Saturday and 09.00-16.00 on Sunday. We like to have 2 people helping on the stall at all times. The more volunteers that we can get, the shorter the shifts will be and more it helps everyone. The bonus of spending an hour or two in the Register marquee over the weekend is that you get to catch up with a lot of your MGA friends while there.

If you can help with parking, please e-mail **David Halliday** – <u>zmagnette@gmail.com</u> If you can help in the marquee, please e-mail **Jill Eke** – <u>jillgraham@btinternet.com</u> Thanks in advance for any help you can provide. – Jill and David.

#### MG Centenary Celebrations - 2023 and 2024

The Centenary Year for the MG Car Club will cover May 2023 until mid-2024, and MG Groups and Enthusiasts worldwide have got events planned throughout that 12 month period.

For a full list, look at

www.mgcc/mg100/ - But that list of events is growing every week! For UK readers, in conjunction with our partners - the MG Owners Club, The Octagon MG Car Club, the Early MG Society, and the MG T Society - we will open the year with a major event at the British Motor Museum, Gaydon, on 27 May. Recent experience with the MGB60 event suggests that space will be at a premium, given the forecast attendance of over 2000 cars. However, the BMM is confident that this level of attendance can be satisfactorily managed. A provisional site plan has been prepared, to include a timeline of MG models, but limited to 50 cars because of space constraints. The Octagon and T organisations are organising the timeline.





An advert containing details of this event appeared in recent months' editions of **Safety Fast!**, Enjoying MG, and other partner magazines. A May 27<sup>th</sup> 2023 website has been set up (see below), to exclusively promote the days events (only). – <a href="www.mgcentenary.co.uk">www.mgcentenary.co.uk</a> All tickets will be sold through the website, including entry to the various road runs being organised. The cost of a ticket to the event at Gaydon will be £10 per person, with an additional £18-£20 per car for the road runs. For more information on this "opening event" of the Centenary, see <a href="www.mgcentenary.co.uk">www.mgcentenary.co.uk</a>

The MGCC's first "solo" event of the Centenary programme is the central Oxford "showroom" event on 1 June, marking the first appearance of Cecil Kimber's **M**orris **G**arages Sports Special. - The 6 cars which will appear in that display have now been selected. The MGCC's own Centenary website is now in place, containing details of all worldwide centenary events. It includes a Google map with embedded markers to UK and world-wide events, providing links to event details. MG Car Club Centres, Registers, and Branches, both in the UK and elsewhere, are encouraged to place **their** events into this website. Centenary events will continue until mid-2024, to provide a year of celebrations, some of the events provided in conjunction with the partner clubs. More information about these events will be provided in future editions of this Newsletter and in Safety Fast! and other publications.

For a full list of MG Car Club-connected Centenary events worldwide throughout the centenary Year (May 2023 to June 2024) go to <a href="www.mgcc.co.uk/mg100/">www.mgcc.co.uk/mg100/</a> or for a full list of MG Car Club events (not just MG100 related, but also Competition Events, Centre Events etc) go to <a href="www.mgcc.co.uk/club-events/">www.mgcc.co.uk/club-events/</a>

#### Scottish MGA Day, 2nd July 2023

Our Scotland correspondent **Paul Dean** tells us that Scottish MGA Day 2023 will be held on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July, and the tour route will include a section in the Trossachs.

The route will start at 10.30 am at NTS Bannockburn Centre, Stirling, FK7 0LJ, from where the drive takes us over the Campsie Hills to Kilsyth and then back over the hills on the scenic road from Lennoxtown to Fintry.

Going by the Lake of Monteith to Aberfoyle, we take the Dukes Pass before heading east to join the A82.

We will now head north along the shores of Loch Lubnaig to Loch Earnhead where lunch is booked at the lochside Clachan Inn.

The afternoon run follows the north side of the loch to Comrie, where we head over the moors to Bracho and finish back in the Stirling area. - Looking forward to seeing you there. Booking is available **now** on the MG CC Caledonian website – <a href="https://www.mgcaledonian.com">www.mgcaledonian.com</a>

#### MG 100 in the North – Great British Car Journey, DE56 2HE 23rd July

Deep in the list of MG100 events is a meeting for all MGs at the Great British Car Journey, planned for Sunday 23rd July.

The museum is near Belper in Derbyshire, and is just a couple of miles away from the famous Crich Tramway Village (formerly Crich Tramway Museum) <a href="https://www.tramway.co.uk/">https://www.tramway.co.uk/</a>

The Great British Car Journey is a very **different** kind of car museum. Rather than exotic and obscure cars, it contains "the cars like your dad used to drive" – standard saloons of the 1930s to 1980s. There is even an option to drive the cars around the museum site. It is a truly excellent day out, and strongly recommended.

See https://greatbritishcarjourney.com/ for more details of the Museum.

And MG Car Club Members can get an **extra discount** on booking by entering code **MGCENT** when booking tickets.

**P.S.** The MG Z Register is having it's own meet at GBCJ on 17<sup>th</sup> September – Again, use code **MGCENT** when booking to get a discounted price.

#### MGA Day Picnic – Gloucester Warwickshire Steam Railway, 6th August

MGA Day 2023 will be held at the Gloucester Warwickshire Steam Railway near Cheltenham, (GL54 5DT) on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> August 2023.

The day has been arranged by MGA Register Committee Member and MGA Register Archivist **Howard Quayle** – a keen railway enthusiast.

The day will follow the usual format of a "Turn Up On The Day" picnic, so no pre-booking will be required (just prayers for a dry and ideally sunny day!).

The MG Car Club has been allocated a field adjacent to the railway site, accessible and signposted from the B4077. The field will be split into 3 parking areas, for MGAs, Magnettes, and MG CC South West Members respectively, and will be open for visitors from 09.00 on the day.

NO BARBECUES are allowed on the site. Bring a picnic if you want to, or there will be hot and cold food at the adjacent Toddington station, refreshments on the trains and at other stations on the line, and pub food (and Donnington Brewery beer!) at the Pheasant Inn, also adjacent to Toddington station.

The railway company has offered us tours of the locomotive depot at Toddington, for "small groups". Howard Quayle will investigate how this might work, so if you are interested in joining such a tour, please let Howard know at <a href="https://hquayle1947@btinternet.com">hquayle1947@btinternet.com</a>
Further news when we have numbers and a plan.

ALSO, Howard is looking for 3 volunteers to manage the flow of cars into the parking area and the parking therein, between 08.45 and about 10.30 "on the day". – A chance to wear a hi-viz vest and wave your arms about quite a lot!!

If you can help, again, please contact Howard at <a href="https://hquayle1947@btinternet.com">hquayle1947@btinternet.com</a>

There will be diesel and steam trains running on the day. See <u>www.gwsr.com</u> for full details of the venue and details of the (Pink) timetable which will be in operation on the day.

The "Cotswolds Caper", Sudbury House, Farringdon, 29<sup>th</sup> Sept to 1<sup>st</sup> Oct The venue for the MGA Register Autumn Tour 2023 will be Sudbury House Hotel, 56 London Street, Farringdon, Oxfordshire, SN7 7AA, where we have provisionally booked the entire hotel – 50 Rooms! The tour has been organised by **Tony Bratt**.





**Sudbury House Hotel** 

#### Here's **Tony's** status update....

49 out of 50 rooms are booked at The Sudbury House Hotel for our Autumn tour of the Cotswolds and MG Heritage.

Register members are still invited to join the tour and choose either of the Saturday Cotswold runs (short or long to include the British Motor Museum at Gaydon) and the Sunday MG Heritage tour. If you miss the last room at Sudbury House Hotel, there is alternative accommodation close by at the Faringdon Travelodge, which is only 2 miles by road or a 1.1 mile walk.

There is plenty of space at the Gala Dinner on the Saturday evening for members who may not end up staying at Sudbury House Hotel. Finally do remember that you need to complete the attached registration form which can also be downloaded at the MGCC website:

https://www.mgcc.co.uk/mga-register/events-in-2023/mga-autumn-tour-2023/



#### MGA Autumn Tour 2023 - MGA Register

The Cotswolds Caper Friday 29th September to Sunday 1st October 2023 The MGA Register is pleased to announce that booking will be open from 7th November 2022 for our Autumn 2023 tour. The venue will be Sudbury House Hotel, 56 London Street, Farringdon, Oxfordshire, SN7 7AA, where we have provisionally booked the entire hotel – 50 Rooms! The ...

www.mgcc.co.uk

The cost of the Gala dinner is £38 person, if you are not staying at Sudbury House Hotel.

There are still four members who have booked at Sudbury House Hotel but who have not yet registered for the event with the organiser, Tony Bratt. Please check that you have sent your cheque to Tony, and if not then do click on the link above and get your registration in to Tony, otherwise you will have a lovely weekend at the hotel, but you will not be on the tour.

Alternatively, the entry form for the Autumn 2023 MGA tour is Appendix 1 to this Newsletter, so you can print it and complete it before returning it with your entry cheque, or readers can contact the organiser **Tony Bratt** to get an entry form.

Phone 07771 947247. e-mail to <a href="mailto:brattanthony@aol.com">brattanthony@aol.com</a> or by post to 47 Greenwood Avenue, Chinnor, Oxfordshire, OX39 4HW

Newsletters and tour info updates will start immediately after the Lancaster Spring Tour. Those of you who have not yet registered for the tour will of course not receive those newsletters, as I do not have your e-mail address......

With the Spring 2023 Tour around Lakes and Mountains, pretty well fully booked for 19<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2023 is already looking like a good year for UK MGA Events.

More news in future editions of this eNewsletter, and in the events section of the MG Register web site.

#### 2023 MG European Event Of The Year (EEotY), 2nd to 6th August 2023

The 2023 MG Car Club European Event of the year (EEotY) is being arranged by the MG Car Club of Denmark, between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> of August 2023.

This event will be part of the MG Centenary Celebrations, of course – but it is also the 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday of the MG Car Club Denmark.

Planning is still in progress, but attractions will include:

- Exhibition of MG Cars of the past 100 years
- 2 \* "Birthday Party" events for the 50<sup>th</sup> and 100<sup>th</sup> anniversaries.
- Anniversary Auto-Themed Market Day at Hindgavl Castle ( <a href="https://hindgavl.dk">https://hindgavl.dk</a>)
- Concours Competition
- MG Sports Track Racing events (with cars you won't have to run!)
- Rocker Cover Racing
- Organised outings and tours

For more details, look at <a href="https://mgcc.dk/jubilaeum-2023/">https://mgcc.dk/jubilaeum-2023/</a>

#### MG Centenary Final (?) Event – Brooklands on 17th and 18th June 2024

The South East Centre of MG Car Club has arranged for South East MG Day at Brooklands Circuit on 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> June 2024, which will probably be the final (UK) event of the MG Centenary year. They are looking for volunteers to help run the event on the 2 days. More news as we get it .....

#### Future MGA Tours and Events – 2024 and beyond

Planning for MGA tours and events never stops. – And the scale and popularity of those events means we need to book suitable venues up to 2 years in advance of the event date. We already have tentative plans for Spring and Autumn Tours in **2024**, along the same format as those for 2023 and past years (nice hotel, great tours, good company etc). Believe it or not, we are also working on a **big** tour for **2025**, which will be the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the MGA. (In 2015, our intrepid MGA tourers went from Lands End to John O'Groats, of course!).

On behalf of all participants, our thanks go to the volunteers working hard to organise those events for our enjoyment.

More news as we get it....

#### MGA Register AGM - 19th May 2023

The MGA Register Annual General Meeting will take place during the MGA Spring Tour at Lancaster on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2023. **"Don't panic!"** – It won't be a long meeting. We have booked a conference room at the Hotel between 5.00 pm and 6.00 pm for the meeting, - so there will be plenty of time to get changed after the meeting and before we meet for the buffet Dinner which will be available from 7.00 pm.

Details of the agenda, the minutes of the previous meeting, and all the supporting documents are available on the MGA Register website, at

https://www.mgcc.co.uk/mga-register/annual-general-meeting-of-the-mga-register-2023/ Additional documents will be added to this page between now and the AGM on the 19th, as individual Committee Members' reports on their activities are placed there. – So keep watching and checking!

The MG Car Club and the MGA Register both depend upon volunteers to keep operating – organising events, maintaining archives, publishing magazines and newsletters, and much more besides. Register meetings are an important way for members to participate in the running of **your** club and **your** Register, so please support the AGM and your Register Committee by participating. (As a bonus, you will probably see the faces behind the names you see on the website!)

#### MGA Register Help Wanted .....

In common with many "volunteer led" organisations, the MGA Register is always on the lookout for volunteers to fill roles on the Register Committee and to keep the Register functioning.

We still have two roles we need to fill immediately, with a third role falling vacant by the end of 2023.

Here is a bit more detail on each of these roles: - Your Register needs YOU!

- Safety Fast! Correspondent. You will produce copy for the magazine editor four weeks prior to publication. Nine editions each year have a limit of 500 words (half a page). The other three are four full pages including words and pictures. For the months when it's just a half page, the publicity of MGA events and snippets of news generally fills the available space. For the four-page months, the Correspondent does not have to write the four pages in full. Articles from members and reports from overseas should be more than enough. Previous experience in journalism is not necessary, just a love of the MGA and the ability to create documents in "Word" or similar will be fine.
- **Register Secretary.** The publication of agendas and minutes for two committee meetings and an AGM each year is the main activity. The Secretary may choose to attend the MGCC Council and AGM as one of our two delegates. Some experience in business or voluntary administration would be an advantage. Two formal meetings per year are currently held in person at Kimber House although the use of virtual meetings is likely to become more widespread.
- And from the end of 2023 we will need a new **Register Chairman**, as Edward Vandyk steps down from the role. In addition to keeping the wider Committee "in order" as it were, the Chairman represents the Register at Council, and thus has a role in the future direction of the wider Club.

Be assured. – For all of these roles you will not be simply "Thrown in at the deep end" as it were. – There will be chance to "work alongside" the current holder to learn how it works.

For more information on any of these roles, please contact the current job holder via their email address on MGA Register website **Contacts** page. ("Free consultations - No obligation!")

#### **Notable Journeys**

So, - "What's this Notable Journey story, then?" you may be wondering. Here's **Stuart Mumby's** background to the Award:

The Notable Journey Award was gifted to the MGA Register by former Committee member Roger Martin. The first recipients were Geoff and Pam Barron in 2011. Since then, the award has been made every year except for 2020, when no nominations were made owing to Covid restrictions having curtailed any notable journeys. There are two couples who have won the award twice. We are sure that there must be more owners who have made notable MGA journeys and not put themselves forward. So if you are planning a trip during 2023 that you feel would qualify as a Notable Journey, (see the guidelines in Appendix 2 at the end of this eNewsletter) don't hide your light under a bushel, bring it out and provide the Committee with a bit of a challenge in choosing a winner. The winner does not necessarily have to have made a circumference of the globe, in fact there are two years in which the winner has not left this Sceptred Isle.

So that's the history of the Award—We had 2 nominations for the 2022 Award, and the winner of the 2022 award was **Beth Corbett** from Exeter, who to drove her 1600 Coupe, Mavis, to and through Italy during the summer, retracing the footsteps of her father when he escaped from POW Camp 49 in Fontanello in Northern Italy in 1943, and then made his way on foot to Mount Majella and the Allied lines. That epic journey took him 3 months. Beth's trip was quite a journey, which resulted in a nomination for the 2022 MGA Notable Journey Award.

Beth's story is too long to print in this Newsletter, but the following link takes you to her excellent write-up of the trip – "Mavis On A Mission", which is well-worth reading. https://ldrv.ms/b/s!AqblwACX3Q97gbADe0CFQMF XL9HjQ

The trophy was awarded to Beth by the previous year's winners, Geoff and Pat Jebb early in March 2023. – Here are some photos of that handover, courtesy of Pat Jebb.





If you make a Notable Journey in your MGA in 2023 and wish to enter for this prestigious award, the Notable Journey Nomination form is Appendix 2 to this Newsletter.

#### **Le Mans Classic 2022 (and 2023?)**

The Le Mans Classic returned last year (2022) and reader Daran Scarlett went along to the event. - Somehow, his report on that trip has evaded publication – until now......

Thinking about taking your MGA to the Le Mans Classic?

## 2023 marks the centenary of the famous Le Mans Circuit. For those thinking of making the trip, this article by Daran Scarlett covers their visit to the Le Mans Classic in 2022 and what to expect

What makes Le Mans so special? Along with the TT, most folks, even the least petrol-headed, have heard of it. It is the home of the world's oldest endurance racing event, since 1923 it has become an annual pilgrimage for motorsports fans from around the world. Bentley, Jaguar, Aston Martin, Porsche and Ferrari are threaded through its history, and Steve McQueen immortalised it on the silver screen. But if you own an MGA, it has special significance.

Our cars were born there. What was to become the MGA first raced there in 1952, at the 24hrs of Le Mans, at the hands of a privateer, George Phillips. Just 3 years later, the factory was there in force, with 3 works-prepared prototype MGAs, two of them finishing 12<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> overall. What is more, they drove them there, raced them, and drove them back. What they learned from Le Mans, and their success on the track at Le Mans, gave us the cars we have today.

So, Le Mans can be said to be a very special place for us and no better opportunity to experience this comes with the Le Mans Classic, a version of the 24 Hours devoted to the classic eras of motorsport, with everything from 1920's Bentley Blowers to 1990's Group C racers howling around the circuit.

In 2018, my co-pilot, Tony and I took our '59 Roadster, along with friends Ron and Mike in their smart red '60 1600 and it was every bit as good as we hoped. Plans were made for 2020, then came Covid and everything was cancelled. 2022 saw our long-awaited return. Setting off under cloudy skies from Buckinghamshire on the Wednesday, we made an uneventful journey to Folkestone, save for a loose wire switching off my overdrive enroute. This was quickly rectified in the car park of our guesthouse, with a quick test run confirming all was well. The next day saw a light drizzle, but we kept the tops down and successfully boarded our shuttle to Calais on Thursday morning.

Good progress was made from Calais, leaving the coast around 9.30am after a 35-minute crossing and settling into a good pace for the trip down. With a little rain, we decided against the slower planned 'scenic route', avoiding the toll roads. Instead, we stayed with the autoroutes. This actually worked well; many classics were heading south for the event, and we spent as much time waving and beeping other cars as we did dodging the showers, still with the tops down. We discovered two things. 1. It's surprisingly hard to get really wet in an MGA once over about 60mph and 2. How poor the wipers are at any speed - when Syd Enever designed our cars, he evidently took the day off and left the windscreen wiper system to the tea boy!

No matter, the showers faded away as we neared halfway and from then on, we were destined for very good weather for the duration. The car's lapped up the miles and soon after our fuel stop, we were nearing the circuit. Our home for the weekend was a 'glamping' option at Porsche Curves, an iconic section of the track for its fast, flowing right-left sections with close racing to be viewed from the banks. In 2018, we had been camped at Hunadieres, near the famous Dunlop Bridge; the biggest benefit this time was not having to carry camping gear. Two soft holdalls (and the obligatory overkill of tools and parts) was all we needed per car.

Once at the circuit, getting to Porsche Curves via the perimeter was expected to be a slower process, and it was. It was by now noticeably warmer as we inched forward in the traffic, thankfully the cooling systems on both cars behaving. We finally arrived at the campsite at around 6pm to a cheery welcome from our English and French hosts, discovering we were amongst the first to 'get the keys' to our tent. This was a very comfortable 5 metre bell tent, with decent single beds, white linen, solar lighting and a table and chairs outside. Luxury! But first and most important was a well-deserved beer at the site's bar.

Le Mans draws a fantastic range of cars for this weekend, something for everyone. Within a few minutes, we were joined by a group of (modern) Ferraris, Astons DB2/4, Lamborghinis and an impressive GT40 replica. MGs were there in force of course, with several As, Bs and a C close by. By 8pm the bar was very lively indeed, with the weekend still to officially start. If you like a carnival atmosphere, the numbers are staggering - some 195,000 folks descended on Le Mans that weekend, in over 8,000 cars, from every part of Europe and beyond.

But it's once within the circuit that you really get to understand why it's so popular. With close-up access to multiple paddocks, grouped by era, featuring a huge range of iconic race cars spanning some 70 years, there was always something else to see - be prepared to do a LOT of walking (although the free 'Petite Trains' circulate for those who want to save some shoe leather). We found that most owners /drivers were very happy to chat about their cars and allow close inspection. There is plenty of places to eat and drink, generally the prices are OK, in fact comparing well with UK motorsport venues. Le Mans also lays on its own unique brand of entertainment, with roving live musicians, quirky dance floors, a great museum, trade stands and even a car auction, for those with the deepest pockets.

Saturday morning saw us take to the track for 'parade laps'. This is an optional extra at time of booking our trip and a real highlight. I had fond memories of the last time back in 2018 and to drive this track is something I urge everyone who goes to Le Mans to do – it's unforgettable. Helmets are compulsory, there is no speed limits and once the pace car pulls off, things really open up. We were amongst a range of older classics, including Renault Alpines and Gordinis, TR4s and various MGs, mixed with classic supercars such as 80's Lamborghini Countachs, through to more modern high-performance cars. The only rule being that you must move around the car in front, as they keep their line. To us, the pace seemed quicker than in 2018, with fewer older cars such as ours, but it was great to push the car a little more and hold onto those revs – we saw 106 on my GPS on the Mulsanne straight – happy with that! From a safety perspective, if you were to take this option, I would recommend a brake overhaul over additional tuning (including new pads if at all marginal) before your trip. Remember you still must drive it home!



The Le Mans classic has a packed programme with back-to-back racing across the eras and of course its own 24 hours race, with a classic run-across 'Le Mans start' at 4pm on the Saturday. The grandstands were packed; it's wise to get somewhere to sit early, especially if you are after some shade. After this, it is really a case of settling back for a long night of racing. The various banks, such as down by Hunadieres or Porsche Curves, offer great viewing and a very friendly atmosphere, as folks of all nationalities 'picnic' into the small hours. The pace does not let up; we never tired of watching the brake discs glowing red hot on the faster cars coming through Porsche curves.

MGs featured well in the racing, with classic works-prepped MGAs and MGBs dicing with much more exotic machinery. I think there were three MGAs entered. Great to see them drifting on the right hander before Dunlop Bridge and screaming full belt down through to Mulsanne.

Off track, the atmosphere into the night at Le Mans is magical. Plenty were simply cruising around the perimeter in their cars, throughout the evening, or wandering between food stands, club displays and various entertainment throughout the infield. The overall feeling is of a very friendly festival of motorsport, classic cars and camaraderie.

Our return on the Sunday was via a scenic route that included a stopover in the city of Rouen. This was at the same hotel as in 2018 and allowed us a relaxed evening in the medieval quarter, sipping cold beers at a corner café, and a nice dinner. The next morning, our trip back to Calais was taken at a moderate pace, allowing us to take in some classic French villages and countryside en route.

In total, we recorded 943 miles of driving, which the cars seemed to lap up. That the weather was kind was a bonus, allowing us to take our time and enjoy the trip.

So, would we recommend a trip to the Classic? Absolutely! If you drive an MGA, the Le Mans Classic should certainly be on your list and taken at a relaxed pace with friends, the journey as enjoyable as the destination. 2023 is going to be special; it is the centenary year of Le Mans as a circuit, and the Classic will feature again in July to celebrate this. We will be there, and hope to see and hear from more of you making the trip too.

Normally the event is held every 2 years, but Covid cancellations in recent years have knocked the sequence out, so exceptionally there will be second consecutive event this year, 2023, which happens to be the CENTENARY Year of the Le Mans Classic – and Daran is going again. – This years event takes place over the weekend of 29<sup>th</sup> June to 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2023.

#### **Technical Topics**

#### **HRG Derrington Cylinder Heads**

In the March edition of this eNewsletter, reader Dave Adams reminded us of the HRG Derrington cross-flow head, which was a performance-enhancing modification on B Series engines in the 1950s and 1960s.

That piece generated a few responses – highlighting that:

- 1. There are still some original HRG Derrington heads doing sterling service even 60 years later.
- 2. If the thought of fitting 60 year-old cast alloy head fills you with dread, (notably around porosity and flatness) then there are modern equivalents still available.

#### **Alastair Chisholm** writes:

I was interested to read your article on the above cylinder head. My car (a Previous Owner home made 1600 MKII Deluxe roadster) has a Derrington head, and runs well on twin 1-3/4" HS6 SU's: I find them less leak prone than the H series carbs. I would say to anyone contemplating the conversion for BHP to use bigger carbs or even twin 40's as getting added air into the motor is fundamental for added power.

My head is #388, manufactured in December 1961 (pre MGB). I mention this as I believe there are a number of B's running around with these heads. I saw a BGT with one sporting twin 40mm Webers and this prompted me to fit mine after a discussion with the owner.

I attach a URL to the redoubtable Mr Bill Spohn's HRG page, also with sub links to other interesting X Flow stuff.

www.rhodoworld.com/HRG.html

Finally let's not wallow in nostalgia too much as the HRG B series X Flow head lives on as the MSX head, available today along with a choice of inlet manifold, gaskets and other handy parts from Webcon, see link below. Although the product is aimed at MGB owners I would think they could supply for MGA engines if the resultant compression ratio was discussed prior to ordering. Not cheap, but possibly a better bet than buying a 60 year old old cast alloy head which could prove problematic in service.

www.webcon.co.uk/products/29-mb-msx-aluminium-crossflow-cylinder-head-assembled/

#### Paul Dean writes:

It is good to see the piece on HRG Derrington heads. Just to say I have a copy of their period catalogue (it wasn't period but current when I got it)! which carries a vast amount of performance data on various B series engines fitted with the heads. I do though understand that many of the surviving original heads have now gone porous but there are newer replicas. Cameron Gilmour who rebuilt my 1800 engines, as well as **Colyn Firth's** super powerful engine, has plenty of experience and knowledge of these heads.

And **Steve Dixon**, who owns and still competes the semi-works car UPO 929 adds: I have the semi-Works car UPO 929 that you can pull-up details of on the internet ~ various sites ~ this website is one I have made contributions to as it specialises in Mille Miglia cars Car History • 1955 MG MGA • Automotive Masterpieces

Anyway, UPO 929 has had a Derrington Head with Weber 42 carbs since those days. We think they were fitted in 1957 but maybe after the MM where it would then have been disqualified from the Limited-Price Class in which it was the first <1500cc car home. However the class was won by Tommy Wisdom driving the big Austin-Healey 100/6 and UPO was second albeit with 1200cc less capacity.

It was classified 8th in the straight <1500cc class where it was beaten by the ex182 cars LBL301 & 303 that Fitz had on loan from the Works which of course had aluminium bodies, Weslake engines and disc brakes so were not classified as Limited Price.

It was fitted by Len Hall at the Works with a very early 1800 engine under the Derrington head and Weber 42 carbs. That set-up has been fitted on and off ever since but mostly with its 1800 engine. The 1500 engine has now been rebuilt with a Derrington head and Weber 42's for those events that demand the 1500 set-up like the Mille Migila or Goodwood.

I should say that the car performs very well indeed with either engine even though tey are not tuned/equipped to excess.

The car (with the big engine and Derrington/Webers) was on display at the Abingdon Clubhouse for a whole year back before Covid.

Here are a couple of pictures from Alastair Chisholm,— You can see the carburettors are on the "wrong" side of the head (the right as viewed from the driver's seat), and just the exhaust pipes exiting on the left / passenger side.





#### Personalised Plates, Plus .....

**Howard Quayle** has brought my attention to a piece about the history of personalised number plates in the UK, and the role played by MP Gerald Nabarro in changing the law so that transferring numbers from one car to another (or just holding a number "on retention) became possible.

(If you don't remember Gerald Nabarro, you must be in lowest quartile of our readership age group!).

https://www.carblog.co.uk/the-uks-most-infamous-number-plate-collector/

#### Is YOUR MGA Famous? Tell us the story ....

The March edition of this eNewsletter included a piece about Pete Macwaters' famous MGA Roadster LSU 323, which Pete tells us has featured in no fewer than 15 different publications over the years (often, but not always with Pete at the wheel). I asked if other readers could match or beat Pete's record of appearances — either in terms of number of appearances or in terms of the quality of either the article or the publication? I got some very interesting and entertaining replies. Here are a couple of those replies..... Jim Torpey's car was featured in the **Sunday Times Magazine** (which for non UK readers is a high-quality, full colour Sunday supplement!)

In the recent MGA Newsletter you asked for MGA owners' claims to fame. I'm not sure if this counts as you cannot see the number plate, but my MGA Roadster appeared in the Sunday Times magazine on August 2nd 2020......

With a slight easing of COVID lockdown rules during July 20, my wife Kathryn and I drove down to Goodwood in our Iris Blue MGA roadster 347 UYV for a drive-in movie - Fight Club. It was a beautiful, sunny warm day and we had stopped off for some supplies en-route, which we tucked into ahead of the start of the film. Having been cooped up for so long, we decided to treat ourselves to some non-traditional picnic fare - Sushi!



We are very infrequent readers of the Sunday Times but, by chance, a couple of weeks later we bought a copy.

Flicking through the magazine whilst sitting in the back garden with a cup of tea, I had to do a double take as I realised that there was a picture of Kathryn and me eating our picnic in our MGA! An unflattering picture - as I was in the middle of asking Kathryn to help me look for the pickled ginger that had just dropped between the seats. So, I was wondering whether we could claim a couple of fame points ... ?!

**Editor's Note:** I think an appearance in the Sunday Times rates a very high score on its own, and the pickled ginger dimension adds extra "flavour" to the piece.



singalongs to Grease should keep wannabe Sandys and Dannys entertained



The Sunday Times Magazine 135

Drive-ins peaked in popularity in the US in the late 1950s, with more than 4,000



Another reader and well-known MGA-owner who **could have** scored high marks on the "Publication Quality" measure got a full colour front page appearance, no less, in **Cheshire Life** Magazine, as shown in the picture above. – Very upmarket!!. Sadly, in that feature he decided to show his "other car" which is / was an MG TD, so he is not eligible for the prize in this competition. – But I wonder if any other readers recognise this individual (*Clue: His hair is a not quite so dark these days*!). Can any of our readers "*Name that Goon*" from this photo?

I was also promised entries from **Stuart Mumby**, and from **Frank Hiscock** in Australia both of whom claim numerous historical appearances. – I await their lists of appearances and publications.....

No-one has yet come near **Pete Macwaters'** total of 15 appearances. So the winner for now is **Jim Torpey**, - who gets a year's FREE subscription to the famous MGA Register eNewsletter.

In that same March article I asked if any readers had any information on a grey LHD roadster **642 UYN** which also appeared in the Classics World article which included Pete Macwaters' car? – the registration number looked faintly familiar to me. My thanks to **Stuart Mumby** (our former MGA Registrar) who tells us: 642 UYN was Chassis No. GHNL/70342 that Wheeler Dealer Mike Brewer imported from USA. The restoration of the car was serialised in Safety Fast in Oct/Nov/Dec 2018.

#### For Sale and Wanted

The advertisements below are placed in good faith on behalf of readers of the eNewsletter. The seller writes the advert and the description of the parts or car. These products are not covered by the MGCC public liability insurance. The MG Car Club and the MGA Register has no responsibility for the quality or completeness of the products offered, or the accuracy of any description. Buyers should convince themselves the part is of the required condition and / or specification when buying.

#### **MGA Books For Sale**

The widow of a well-known Member of the MGA Register who passed away recently is looking for a good home for her husband's collection of MGA related books, - see attached photo. She would prefer the books to be sold in one lot. Based on prices quoted by various Internet sellers, to buy all of these books together would cost in the region of £255. Offers around £100 are invited. Buyer collects or postage extra. Bids for individual books will be considered. All bids to mga@live.co.uk

As a guide, typical online "buy it now" prices from various Internet sellers are listed below:

- **John Thornley said "Call it MGA"**, signed by Piers Hubbard and Roger Martin 232/251. (Hardback 2<sup>nd</sup> edition 2015) MGA Register Shop £30
- Original MGA The Restorer's Guide to all Roadster and Coupe models including Twin Cam by Anders Ditlev Clausager. (Hardback 2010 edition) Various vendors/dealer on ebay at an average of £54
- MGA The Complete Story (2010 Paperback edition) by David G. Styles (2010 Paperback edition) Used copies on ebay £15-£25
- MGA Restoration Guide by Malcolm Green (2005 edition) £46
- MGA Workshop Manual Series MGA 1500, MGA 1600and MGA1600 (Mk 11) (2005 Paperback edition) Amazon £12.99
- MGA 1955 1962 All models ohv dohc Owners Workshop Manual by J H Haynes and Ian Coomber (Paperback 1989 edition) £25 new
- The MG (Series "MGA") WORKSHOP MANUAL AKD600 Ring Binder Good used condition £35.99
- THE MG Series MGA 1600 Driver's Handbook AKD 1172 C (Paperback 1964)
   Various used copies from £10-£30
- **THE Essential Buyer's Guide MG MGA** All models 1955-1962 by Roy Crosier and David Sear (2013 edition) World of Books £9.99
- MGA Register Technical Manual (version 1.1pdf) CD Memory Stick version from MGA Register Shop £8



#### For Sale – MG Parts

Following a restoration of a 1962 MGA 1600 Mk 11 Parts available:

- Pair 7" Used Osram Sealed Beam units 60/45w RHD £20
- Pair 7" New Wipac Halogen headlamp units with bulbs and Boots RHD £50
- Pair Used Lucas Front Light Units good chrome and lenses £15
- Rear Used Lucas No. Plate light unit good condition £10
- Pair New Door Hinge Fixing Kit NTG T142K £15
- 5 Used Wire Wheels painted 48 Spoke VGC splines need TLC £25 Buyer Collect.
- MGA/MGB Oil Spin on Conversion Kit £20 (Retail £20)
- 2x Spin on Filters £10 (Retail £15)
- MGA Hood Frame used good condition

#### For Sale - NON MG Parts and Tools

Milenco Tow Mirror £20 (Retail £38)

Contact **Chris Norman** (Suffolk)

E-Mail chrisnorman2211@btinternet.com Tel. 07591 177490

#### For Sale - Parts

Various MGA Spares for sale

Please tell me what you want and I hope I can help you

Contact **Bob Cole** 01276 475581 or email <a href="mailto:bobskiing1@gmail.com">bobskiing1@gmail.com</a> (Camberley, Surrey, area)

#### **Merchandise Shop**

The MGA Register Merchandise Shop has stocks of just about all current items.

MGA Register caps, priced at £10, are now available again, including in Black and Navy Blue. To view our current list of products, go to <a href="https://www.mgcc.co.uk/mga-register/">https://www.mgcc.co.uk/mga-register/</a> and click on Merchandise Shop in the menu on the left.

The Merchandise operation is in the hands of **Graham Eke**. The email address for orders remains as <a href="majered-majered-method-emailto:mgaregistershop@outlook.com">mgaregistershop@outlook.com</a> and our PayPal account continues to be the preferred method for invoicing and payment.

#### Call it MGA

This excellent book by Roger Martin and the MGA Register's late Historian, Piers Hubbard, has been reduced in price from £20.00 **to just £12.00 + post/packing**. Visit the Merchandise Shop, as above, for details of the book and how to order.

#### MGA Register – The First Fifty Years Second Edition SELLING FAST!

This new book, compiled and published by the MGA Register, celebrates the history of the MGA Register from its inception in 1970. Members of the Register Committee and others compiled this book, covering all aspects of the work and history of the Register in its 19 chapters, totalling 153 pages. Topics include 'How It All Began', the development of the Register Database, touring events, MGA publications, Safety Fast! down the years, Technical Support and much, much more. The book is A4 sized, hard-back and in full colour. The cost is £35, plus £5.50 post/packing to a UK address

We have a few copies of The MGA Register - The First Fifty Years available priced at £35 plus P&P. It is unlikely there will be a third reprint so if you have not purchased a copy of this excellent story of the Register, now is the time to purchase one.

To place an order for one of these final few copies, just visit the merchandise shop for a preview and details of how to order and pay. <a href="https://www.mgcc.co.uk/mga-register/merchandise-catalogue-november-2016-2/">https://www.mgcc.co.uk/mga-register/merchandise-catalogue-november-2016-2/</a>

For ALL our MGA Register Merchandise, If you want to save the postage, then call in to see us at our MGA Register Marquee at MG and Triumph 100 Silverstone, we will be very pleased to see you. All stock will be available to purchase.

#### <u>Important – Membership Numbers</u>

Can we remind you that when contacting Committee Members with requests for help or information it is important to quote your MGCC Membership Number. If you are a Member, it is in your interest to quote your Membership Number. as priority will always be given to Members and there is some information that is only available to Members. There are many cars on the Register owned by non-Members and whilst we are happy to help where we can, the MGA Register is a part of the MG Car Club and priority will always be given to paid-up MG CC Members.

#### **And Finally.....**

We like to keep our contact lists for both the Newsletter circulation and the MGA Register Listing up to date, so if your details have changed at all just let us know. Perhaps you have sold your MGA or you've bought another one.

For all Newsletter contributions or comments, or if you wish to be "unsubscribed" please tell us at:

Brendan Leach
MGA e-Newsletter Editor
Mgcarclub-mganewsletter@outlook.com

And for vehicle registration and history matters, please contact **Bob Bull Registrar, MGA Register**mgcarclub\_mgaregistrar@hotmail.com

Happy MotorinG, All..... Brendan Leach, May 2023

#### **Appendix 1 – Entry Form Autumn 2023 Tour**

#### **MGA REGISTER**

"The Cotswolds Caper"

Farringdon, Oxfordshire Fri. 29<sup>th</sup> Sept. to Sun 1<sup>st</sup> Oct. 2023





Navigator's Name:				
Address:				
Telephone:				
e-mail: (please print)				
MGCC Member No:				
MGA Type:	Year:	Colour:	Reg. No:	

#### \*Please now delete all that do NOT apply

- \*I / we have booked our own accommodation arrangements
- \* I / we have booked accommodation at Sudbury House Hotel, 56 London Street, Farringdon
- \*I / we will be joining the Dinners at Sudbury House Hotel on Fri\* / Sat\* / Sun\*
- \*I / we will be joining the Saturday\* / Sunday\* / Both Tours\*

I / we enclose a cheque payable to: **The MG Car Club MGA Register** for our entry fee of £25.00 per car (£50.00 FOR NON-MEMBERS)

Please print and send this completed form with entry fee cheque to: Tony Bratt, 47 Greenwood Avenue, Chinnor, Oxfordshire, OX39 4HW



We will only use your personal data to process your entry for this event. You can obtain further details on this or withdraw form the event by contacting the organiser named above. For a copy of the MGCC Privacy Policy contact the General Manager, MGCC on 01235 555552 or <a href="mailto:info@mgcc.co.uk">info@mgcc.co.uk</a> or at 12 Cemetery road, Abingdon, OX14 1AS.

#### **Appendix 2 – Notable Journey Nomination**

# MGA REGISTER 'NOTABLE JOURNEY' AWARD

When they were new, MGAs were driven significant distances, not only as everyday cars on an annual basis but also long-distance individual journeys. A notable example was when MGA Register founder Chairman Dennis Ogborn drove his MGA home to England from Qatar.

Half a century later, some MGAs hardly do any mileage at all. Yet, if maintained and serviced properly, MGAs can still be relied upon to undertake enjoyable significant journeys.

The MGA Register 'Notable Journey' award is intended to acknowledge the exploits of those UK members who do undertake significant journeys in their MGAs and to encourage others to do so.

Journey award considerations include:

- a 'notable' journey is likely to have encompassed a relatively high mileage;
- the location in which a journey is undertaken may be significant, e.g. a journey in north Africa is likely to be more 'notable' than a similar mileage in Britain;
- successful perseverance against set-backs, e.g. on-road repairs, could make a journey 'notable', especially if imaginative improvisation was involved;
- a significant journey undertaken in competitive circumstances, e.g. an organised long-distance rally/raid could make a journey 'notable';
- a write-up of such a journey for Safety Fast! would add weight to any claimant's eligibility for the award.

### Appendix 3 – Z Magnette 70th Anniversary Event, Milton, Oxfordshire, 19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> May 2023

Names	
MG CC Membership Number (or N/A)	
Postal Address	
e-mail and Phone Number	
Car Type and Registration	
Year of Manufacture	
T Shirt Sizes – S/M/L/XL (For MM Tour)	

Please register below for the parts of the Event which you wish to attend

Date	Time	Location	Events	Price per	Number	Cost
				Person		
19 May	6.30	Plum Pudding, Milton	Informal Gathering	Own Cost		Nil
20 May	10.00 -	Milton Manor, Milton	Car Display	£35 (£40)		
	4.00		Concours / Pride Of Ownership			
			Gymkhana			
From			Picnic Lunch (included)			
			Guided Tour of Milton Manor, including T			
			Shirt, goody bag, and mug			
			Factory Test Route Run			
	From	Plum Pudding, Milton	3 Course Dinner	£30		
	6.30		Guest Speaker: John Day (MG CC Chairman)			
			Guest of Honour: Celia Palmer			
21 May	10.00	Kimber House, Abingdon	Tour, Coffee, and Snacks	£10 (£15)		
	11.00	Abingdon to Clifton Hampden	Scenic Drive	day rate		
	12.00	Barley Mow, Clifton Hampden	Lunch	Own Cost		Nil
	3.00	Nuffield Place (National Trust)	Visit and Tea	Own Cost		Nil
				TOTAL	1	

Cheques should be made payable to MGCC Magnette Register and sent with the completed form to:

John Harris, 16 Stonelea Road, Sywell NORTHAMPTON NN6 0AZ

Payment may also be made by electronic transfer: Account name – MGCC Magnette Register Sort code – 30-94-92 Account number – 00478601

For more information, go to the Magnette 70 website at <a href="www.magnette.org/Magnette70">www.magnette.org/Magnette70</a>