

# MGA REGISTER *e*NEWSLETTER May 2025 WORLDWIDE CIRCULATION: 1119

# Visit the MGA & Twin Cam Register Websites at

http://www.mgcc.co.uk/mga-register/

http://www.mgcc.co.uk/mga-twin-cam-group/

The **eNewsletter** is not a publication exclusively for MG Car Club members in the UK. The MG Car Club MGA Register sees the eNewsletter 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.

The (volunteer) members of the MG Car Club MGA Register Steering Committee can be found at <a href="https://www.mgcc.co.uk/mga-register/contacts/">https://www.mgcc.co.uk/mga-register/contacts/</a> But we are always looking for new members. Contact any member of the Committee if you are interested in joining us.

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# **Editor's Notes – Looking Forward to Summer 2025!**

Welcome to the May 2025 edition of the MGA Register eNewsletter, – and my thanks to everyone who has sent in contributions over the past 9 weeks or so. Your input is essential to keep this eNewsletter going.

As I compile this eNewsletter in mid April the weather here in the UK has been uncommonly warm and dry, - verging on "hood-down" weather on many days (till the sun goes down, at least!),

If you have not already done it, now is the time to check the MGA over, and get it ready for a busy summer ahead!

The only national events I am aware of since the last edition have been the Lancaster Insurance Classic Car Restoration Show at NEC (21<sup>st</sup> to 33<sup>rd</sup> March), the Magnettes and Steam gathering at Ecclesbourne Valley Railway, Wirksworth, on 19<sup>th</sup> April, and FBHVC's Drive It Day on 27<sup>th</sup> April,

From April onwards early 2025, there are generally lots of local shows most weekends. – see <a href="https://www.classicshowsuk">www.classicshowsuk</a> for shows near you. – You can search the site by REGION or by COUNTY.

Looking further ahead, we have a number of MGA Register events planned during the year for the MGA's 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

If you know of any other MGA or wider MG-themed events over coming months, please let me know and I will include them in future editions. (Better still, if you attend any events, please send me a brief report on the event and some pictures for the eNewsletter.) My thanks to all contributors, new and old. Please keep your contributions coming – Everything is welcome.

**BUT** – Please ensure any photos you send are in .jpg format, NOT Apple .HEIC or .HEIF format. - We commoners who do not use Apple phones are unable to view or use photos in these Apple formats, and I am not willing to load yet more "conversion" software to my (personal) PC, since every time I do such a software download another different function on the PC which has worked perfectly for years ceases to work, causing me great annoyance. (If all goes to plan) Next edition will be issued between 20<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> June 2025.

Brendan Leach Editor – MGA Newsletter

#### **MG Car Club News**

#### **MGA Register AGM**

The Annual General Meeting of the MGA Register of the MG Car Club will take place during the MGA Day weekend on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2025. All Register members are invited to attend. Here is the formal Notice Of the AGM:

**MGA Register AGM** 

Date: Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2025 Venue: Sudbury House Hotel

56 London Street, Faringdon, SN7 7AA

Time: 5.00pm

## **Agenda**

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

- 2. Approval of 2024 AGM Minutes
- 3. Chairman's Report
- 4. Treasurer's Report
- Election of Officers and Committee
- 6. Any Other Business

Nominations for Elections of Officers, Committee and AOB agenda items should be submitted by Monday 16 June 2025 to: Jill Eke, Secretary, MGA Register. jillgraham@btinternet.com

#### **Vacancy: MGA Register Secretary**

**Jill Eke** will be standing down as MGA Register Secretary in July, at this year's AGM, and we are now looking for a replacement. This is an interesting role, as it is one of the statutory positions, alongside the Chairman and Treasurer.

The Secretary provides secretarial and administrative support to the Register A brief summary of the Secretary's role:

- To attend Register Committee meetings and take minutes of the proceedings
- To attend the AGM (and any other General Meeting) and take minutes of the proceedings
- To work closely with the Register Chairman and other committee members
- To distribute agendas and other supporting documents to committee members prior to meetings

Ability to use Microsoft Word for the preparation of minutes and documents would be a great advantage.

If you'd like to have a chat about this position, please get in touch with MGA Register Chairman, **Howard Quayle**.

(Mobile: 07919-435819/ Email: hquayle1947@btinternet.com)

#### **FBHVC Survey**

The Federation of British Historic Vehicles Club advocates on behalf of over 500 Classic Vehicle Clubs (including MG CC) with a key objective of ensuring that those classic vehicles (over 30 years old) can remain on the road.

FBHVC is requesting that owners of classic vehicles (like us!) complete their survey to help them make their case to legislators for fair treatment of classic vehicles.

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The FBHVC website is very interesting, and is definitely worth a look, at <a href="www.fbhvc.co.uk">www.fbhvc.co.uk</a> Similarly, I encourage you to spend 5 minutes completing the survey at <a href="www.fbhvc.co.uk/survey">www.fbhvc.co.uk/survey</a> We classic car owners need to ensure that our interests are represented, and that we "fight our corner".

#### **Membership and Records**

Have you moved house in the recent past? Or changed your e-mail address?

Maybe you want to choose "Digital Membership" rather than receive hard copy version of Safety Fast! magazine (and to save money on your annual subscription)?

Or maybe you have changed your MG and wish to update which Registers you are associated with?

Did you know you can update your Membership details online via the MG Car Club website? – Just log in to the Members section – top right of the Home page (you will need your membership number and password!) and you can update the records held by Kimber House. <a href="https://www.mgcc.co.uk/members/login/">https://www.mgcc.co.uk/members/login/</a>

(Sorry, but this MGA Register eNewsletter mailing list is a separate file – "GDPR, y'know!"-, so if you wish to update your mailing address for this eNewsletter you will also have to write to me separately at <a href="mailto:mganewsletter@outlook.com">mganewsletter@outlook.com</a> for that!)

# **Reports on Recent Events**

Not many MG and Classic Events during March and April, but there are plenty planned for the coming month, as you will read below.

Looking forward, if you go to any events, feel free to send me a brief report and a couple of pictures (.jpg format, please, not .heic or .heif!), and I will publish them in future editions of this eNewsletter.

#### **NEC Classic Car and Restoration Show, 21st - 23rd March 2025**

This show is similar to the November NEC Classic Car Show, but rather smaller (just halls 3, 4, and 5).

Whilst the November show includes a lot of "after" cars, the Restoration Show features rather more "before" cars, including a large "barn find" display.

As well as vehicles, the show had a good range of trade stands and specialist suppliers.

# Magnettes and Steam - Saturday 19th April

This popular event took place at Ecclesbourne Valley Railway, Wirkswirth, DE56 4EQ, near Matlock in Derbyshire. I have not had any reports on the event.

# **Drive It Day – Sunday 27th April**

Drive It Day 2025, organised by the Federation of British Historic Vehicle Clubs (FBHVC), when we are encouraged to take our classic cars out and show them to the wider world, is Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April. – This is a week later than normal, to avoid a clash with the Easter weekend. See <a href="https://www.driveitday.co.uk/events">www.driveitday.co.uk/events</a> for major organised events – but there will be lots more local events as well.

## **Overseas News**

# **News from MG Vintage Racers – USA**



Two pieces of news from our MG VR Correspondent, **Dave Nicholas** 

### Dick Powers - RIP

MG racers; - We have lost one of our own. **Dick Powers**, long time MGA driver, passed away Monday eve. Dick spent many years with us, helped organize events, wrote articles and was a pure MG enthusiast. We will miss that smiling face and big head of white hair.

Here is a link to his obituary:

https://www.anthonychapels.com/obituaries/obituary-listings?obId=37900881

#### MG versus TR, at Pittsburgh

Racers Unite! Those pesky, ugly Triumphs have thrown down the gauntlet and we must respond. July 11-13 at Pittsburgh Motorsports. If you have not been there, it is a gem with great paddock parking, spots for RV's including electric and a smooth, rolling wonderful track where our wonderful handling MG's will send the roll over prone TR's whimpering back to their hovels. Here is the complete info; https://pvgp.org/triumph-mg-challenge/



#### Triumph - MG Challenge | PVGP

The PVGP is pleased to announce the new Triumph-MG Challenge PVGP Historics at Pitt Race July 11-13, 2025. The friendly rivalry between the Triumph and MG faithful will be tested, with racers from Coventry and Abingdon battling it out for bragging rights at a track ideal for these British racing legends.

pvgp.org

We will need volunteers from among you to help with our MG social evening. Really, what's the point of racing if you can't have some time with your buddies?

#### **Future Events – 2025**

("By special request...") In this and future editions of this MGA eNewsletter, I also give details of events "led by" or "sponsored by" our colleagues in the Magnette Register. - As someone remarked - "The Magnette is really just a 4 door MGA..."

Magnette Register Events Organiser **John Harris** is still looking for feedback on any previous Magnette events, which for a variety of reasons have had a "mixed response" in terms of attendance in recent times. - Magnette owners and anyone who attended the events are invited to pass their comments to John at <a href="mailto:johnharris37@btinternet.com">johnharris37@btinternet.com</a> Here's a summary of the 2025 Events involving the Magnette Register (MGAs Welcome!):

- 28<sup>th</sup> Magnette International Weekend, Nijmegen, Netherlands (28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> June)
- EEOTY in Italy, Padua / Venice See later (29<sup>th</sup> May 1<sup>st</sup> June)
- Fawley Hill. MGA Day. See later (6<sup>th</sup> July)
- Kop Hill. (20<sup>th</sup> 21<sup>st</sup> September)
- Lou Shorten Weekend, Norwich. (4<sup>th</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> October)

News of future events in 2025 and beyond for all types of MG, MGA, and Magnette are in the following paragraphs and on the respective websites.

# Donnington Historic Festival – 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> May

This event takes place over the Bank Holiday weekend of 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> May 2025. Further details on the MG Car Club website.

## **Scottish MGA Day 2025 – 18th May 2025**

**Paul Dean** writes .... The Scottish MGA Day will be held on the earlier than usual on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May in 2025. This is because the Register's 2025 MGA Spring Weekend traditionally held in May has moved into July for this 70th Anniversary Year.

That Spring Weekend is also across the water in Derry, Northern Ireland. This has given us the opportunity to move the Scottish MGA Day into May which is something we have always fancied doing as the Scottish weather tends to be better a bit earlier in the year.

Planning is progressing and it is expected we will start at the Blair Drummond Smiddy Farm Shop. Our route will take us north over the high road to Comrie and via Loch Earn to Loch Tay. Then we take the spectacular Ben Lawers Road to Bridge of Balgie in Glen Lyon. Lunch isn't sorted yet but after lunch we have a choice of route to head south towards Crieff. The main route takes us directly south from Kenmore up the many steep hairpins and over to Glen Quaich. I really like this road but it is possibly the most vicious bit of road in Scotland hence if drivers prefer they can take the easier route via Aberfeldy with its excellent views north. The routes come back together at Amulree and we then head south to Crieff and the finish in the Caithness Glass Shop Café.

Bookings remain OPEN on the MG Car Club Caledonian Centre's web site, or you can contact me directly, at email address is <a href="mailto:pmz.dean@gmail.com">pmz.dean@gmail.com</a> or my phone is 07803-602209.

# **Scammonden Hill Climb Sunday 25th May**

This popular hill climb takes place on Sunday 25th May.

Scammonden is a large reservoir alongside the M62, and the hill climb is held (with permissions!) on the service roads of thar reservoir.

The track is about 500 metres long, and best times are between 25 and 35 seconds. It lies between Oldham and Halifax on the A672 road, - about 4 miles from J22 of the M62. Approaching from the east, take J23 (A640) towards Rochdale. Competitors and spectators welcome!

# 29th Magnettte European Weekend – 28th and 29th June

This year's event will be held in Nijmegen, in the Netherlands.

#### MG Fest North – 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> September 2025

This is a NEW event to the calendar, organised by the MG Car Club.

It will be held at the **Croft Racing Circuit**, near Darlington (DL2 2PL) over the weekend of 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> September 2025.

The event will include:

- A full weekend race programme, including MGs, organised by BRSCC.
- Main Arena attractions including Anniversary car celebrations
- Parade Laps
- MG Car Club Parking, and MG Car Club Stands (any volunteers for the MGA Register stand?)
- Trade Stands and Autojumble, Bar and Food Stands
- Pride of Ownership, and Show and Shine,
- Road runs, and Carkhana,
- Classic Buses into Northallerton
- Daytime musical entertainment, plus Live Band and DJ (Saturday night ticket entry)

There is no camping allowed on site, but there are plenty of campsites and hotels nearby. Further information from the MG Car Club website or on page 27 of February's Safety Fast!

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#### There's more!!!

2025 is the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of railways in the UK, and of course the first railway line ran between Stockton on Tees and Darlington, which are close to Croft.

For rail enthusiasts, there is an excellent museum near to Croft (Hopetown, formerly the Head Of Steam, at DL3 6SW) with celebratory events on throughout this bi-centenary year.

# **Kop Hill – 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> September**

Another "old favourite" for the Magnette Register in particular – It is both a social event and a competitive event. And this year the MGA Register is participating. - Here's a summary of the event from **Joe Walsh**:



The MGA Register has teamed up with the organisers of the prestigious Kop Hill Climb weekend to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the MGA - 'MGA 70'.



The centrepiece of this exciting event will be the replica of the famous BMC Competition
Department transporter which will be on display with a selection of MGAs.

To be part of the 'MGA70' paddock display you will need to book a display pass for one or both days.

The cost is:-

- £30 for one day (including one passenger i.e. per MGA)
- £45 for both days (including one passenger i.e. per MGA)

On each day, places in the MGA Register allocated parking area are limited, so please book early if you want to be part of the 'MGA 70' display.

When booking, it is important that you affiliate your car to the "MGA Register Club" display. Only MGAs registered and affiliated to the "MGA Register Club" will be able to park in the dedicated "MGA 70" parking area in the paddock. (For help on "Affiliating" see the Kop Hill page on the MGA Register website – link shown at the end of this article.)

All bookings and payments must be made through the Kop Hill booking website – www.kophillclimb.co.uk

Owners attending the event will have the opportunity to take part in untimed and non-competitive runs up Hill itself. This part of the weekend is always oversubscribed so if you want to run your MGA up the Hill be sure to book this extra activity as soon as possible. IMPORTANT - Please note though that cars which are selected to participate in the Hill run will be not be parked with "MGA 70" display cars and will be in a separate area in the paddock.

PLEASE NOTE - Hill runners will not be able to park in the "MGA 70" dedicated parking area. In other words, MGAs taking part in the "MGA 70" dedicated display will not be able to run their car up the Hill.

The good news is that MGA owners who register for the event with the intention of running up the Hill, but who's application is unsuccessful, will be offered the opportunity to display in the "MGA 70" display area.

If you are intending to go to the event please register and "Affiliate" to the "MGA Register Club".

If you have not booked with Kop Hill previously you will need to set up a booking account.

More information to follow as it becomes available.

For the latest information on the event, and booking instructions, see the MGA website at <a href="https://www.mgcc.co.uk/mga-register/events-in-2023/kop-hill-2025-20th-21st-september/">https://www.mgcc.co.uk/mga-register/events-in-2023/kop-hill-2025-20th-21st-september/</a>

The Kop Hill Climb takes place near Princess Risborough, HP27 0LB.

Se <u>www.kophillclimb.org.uk</u> and the MGA and Magnette Register websites for more details.

#### Lou Shorten Weekend - 4th and 5th October

The traditional Magnette Lou Shorten weekend will be held over the weekend of 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> October. It will be held in the Norwich area.

#### LATE NEWS - EEoTY 2025 - 29th May to 1st June 2025

The MG Car Club European Event of The Year (EEoTY) is an annual event which in 2025 is being hosted by the MGCC of Italy. The Event will be based at the Terme Euganee on the outskirts of Padua.

The organisers have limited the number of participants based on a maximum of 200 cars so if you are interested in taking part it is advisable to register as soon as possible. You can find more details on the event at <a href="https://www.mgcarclubitalia.org/476-mg-eeoty-2025.html">https://www.mgcarclubitalia.org/476-mg-eeoty-2025.html</a> Padua is located in the beautiful Veneto region of Northern Italy which offers many UNESCO heritage sites and ideal roads for our MGs.

More information on the location and the activities which have been organised for participants can be found on the information sheet. You'll find a link to this sheet on the registration page, at <a href="https://www.mgcarclubitalia.cloud/mgeeoty2025.php?lng=it">https://www.mgcarclubitalia.cloud/mgeeoty2025.php?lng=it</a> If you have any difficulty downloading the information sheet, there is a link on the main MGCC Website at the end of this piece.

Some MGA owners have already signed up and are planning an exciting road trip there and back through France over the Alps. This road trip is open to all MG owners of course, so if you are interested in joining us please contact **Joe Walsh** at <a href="mailto:joe-walsh@hotmail.com">joe-walsh@hotmail.com</a> For more information, see

https://www.mgcc.co.uk/mga-register/events-in-2023/european-event-of-the-year/ (Ignore the date in the page title – I think it is a previous years' web-page being re-cycled!)

#### MGA70 - 2025

#### **MGA70 Grille Badges**

Way back in September, **Joe Walsh** wrote:



The MGA was launched in 1955 meaning that 2025 is the marque's 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary. If you have read previous editions of the eNewsletter you will know that the MGA Register commissioned a limited edition of 100 very special grille badges to celebrate the event. The eNewsletter gave full details of the badge and although it was stated "when they are gone they are gone" it was not expected that the entire production run would be oversubscribed and would sell out within a few weeks.

Due to unprecedented demand for this 'MGA 70' grille and pin badges the Register has commissioned a 4th batch which should be with our Merchandise Manager (Graham Eke) by the middle of May.

**There's more!** - We also commissioned a matching pin badge (right). This measures 30mm wide (right).

To order your badge(s), contact mgaregistershop@outlook.com . Our PayPal account continues to be the preferred method for invoicing and payment, but other payment options are available.

Postal charges have recently increased. Prices:

- Grille badge only = £25.00 + p&p (£3.70 for UK Royal Mail 1st Class)
- Grille badge + pin badge = £26.00 + p&p (£3.70 for UK Royal Mail 1st Class)
- Pin badge only = £3.50 + p&p (£3.20 for UK for up to 5 badges Royal Mail 1st Class)



# **MGA70 Cloth Badges**

I have also learned that MGA Enthusiast **Gio Delicio** has commissioned a series of cloth MGA70 badges, - for use on your coat or overalls in various colourways (left). He has advertised these on the MGA Forum within the MG Experience website.

They were advertised at 15 Euros each, plus shipping <a href="https://www.mgexp.com/forum/mga-forum.2/mga-anniversary-badge.4881489/">https://www.mgexp.com/forum/mga-forum.2/mga-anniversary-badge.4881489/</a>

# MG Club of France - MGA 70 Event, 11th to 14th September

The MG Club in France have organised a special event for MGA70. – It will take place in Saint-Julien-en-Genevois in the Haute-Savoie, Rhones-Alpes (on the Swiss border, about 20 km south of Geneva).

MGChode Power Here's the story from organiser Wendy Packer:



**70th** Anniversary of the MGA Rally at Saint-Julien-en-Genevois

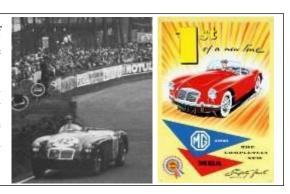
Ta Bood'A 11 - 14 September 2025

Come and take part in the 70th. anniversary of the MGA in the Haute-Savoie in the region Rhône-Alpes!

It is a meeting dedicated to the MGA, but other models in the club are welcome. Priority will be given to MGA owners up until 31 March 2025.



The MGA appeared for the first time in the form of three prototypes EX182 during the 24 Hours of Le Mans in June 1955. It took until October 1955 for the production model to appear, presented at the London Motor Show with a new slogan « MGA, first of a new line»; presage of a great commercial success because 101,081 examples were produced between 1955 and 1962.



#### **Provisional Programme**

The meeting will take place from Thursday afternoon 11th. Until Sunday after lunch 14th. September.

Participants will be welcome at the AC Hôtel by Marriott Saint-Julien-en-Genevois for the duration of the touristic rally (3 nights).

**Thursday:** From 3pm, reception of the participants, issue of welcome kit and roadbook, animations and club boutique.

Information on the procedure of the anniversary weekend, installation of the participants at the AC Hôtel where the bar will be open for those who wish to quench their thirst. Then the apéritif hour will be followed by a dinner Food Truck « Poêlée Tartiflette ».

(Please make sure of your tolerance for cheese as well as that of your <u>copilot</u>, in the case of negative please tell us on your inscription)



#### Friday: Day between "land and sea" (180 km)

Departure split into groups Band'Abondance and Band'Annecv.

For the Band'Abondance group, departure at 08.00 for a route in the heart of the Vallée Verte with gentle meanders to reach the mountain village Abondance, with a choice of visit either to the Abbaye or the Maison du Fromage (choice to be indicated at the inscription). (90 km)

After lunch, some well-defined bends will lead you to Publier, departure point to discover the "Parcours de la Goutte d'Eau Evian®". (30 km)

Then return to the AC Hôtel (60 km)





Dinner in the restaurant Les Cocottes – Christian Constant

For the Band'Annecy group, departure later at 9.00. It is the same route as the first group but the opposite diection...

Lunch will take place in the mountains (group Band'Abondance) or by the water (group Band'Annecy). Saturday: Bells but famous! (90 km + free ride)

Participants will have half a day free, morning for the group Band'Abondance and afternoon for the group Band'Annecy. Free but occupied, because the challenge will be to choose which sites will you discover among those included on a list which you will be given... unless you prefer to laze about on this

half day free?

The two groups will be reunited at Sevrier for lunch in the form of a buffet on the « Balcons du Lac d'Annecy », until the ring of the bell invites you to go to the Musée de la Cloche Paccard, tenor bell, chimes, bells... you will know everything! Like the day before, switch over the groups for the visit of the musée de la Cloche Paccard.

Dinner in the restaurant Les Cocottes – Christian Constant







The 2 groups will take the high route in the direction of the Plateau des Glières, strong point of the Résistance (1440m), the morning will begin with the route of the historic circuit of discovery and the visit of the "Centre de Mémoire du Maquis".

In order not to forget the

70th. anniversary celebration of the MGA, A group photo will be taken to immortalise your presence.

Lunch « Chez Constance » will close the 70th. Anniversary of the MGA!



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#### **Hôtel and services/Casino**

AC HOTEL BY MARRIOTT® SAINT-JULIEN- EN-GENEVOIS 9000 Route d'Annecy, Zone de Cervonnex, Saint Julien-en-Genevois, France, 74160

The AC Hôtel by Marriott is a 4-star establishment which incorporate a complex within the hotel « The Casino de Saint-Julienen-Genevois » and the restaurant « Les Cocottes » of Christian Constant. The hotel has 93 top comfort spacious bedrooms, a lounge area and a fitness area. Parking is guarded. Animals are accepted (ask us).

The hotel bar is open Monday - Friday 10.00-23.30 Sat-Sun 11.00-23.30

The hotel is completely pre-reserved for our event. The bedrooms are equipped with free Wi-Fi, air conditioning, safe, mini bar, welcome tray, iron and ironing board, hair dryer.

# Special animations « Anniversaire de la MGA »

- Exhibition of the models Thursday afternoon in the car park of the hotel AC Marriott,
- > Games to discover there.

#### **Assistance breakdown**

We have a recovery vehicle contactable by telephone in the event of a vehicle broken down.







#### **Tarifs**

- ➤ The tarif includes four days, starting Thursday 11th. September afternoon and finishing Sunday 14th. September after lunch with :
  - 3 nights with breakfast and taxe séjour at the AC Hôtel by Marriott Saint-Julienen-Genevois,
  - Dinners from Thursday to Saturday, lunches from Friday to Sunday (drinks included for dinners only),
  - o Roadbook and rally plaque, goodies, organisation, assistance,
- ➤ Tarif for a team of two people: 970€
- ➤ Tarif for a team of one person alone: 680€
- ➤ We ask you to register with a first payment of 200€ (preferably bank transfer), and the balance on the 31st. May,
- ➤ We will give priority to registrations for MGAs until 31st. March Limit Date for subscription: 30 June 2025.

## **Information - Organisation and Registrations:**

Registration: Jocelyne Denis – <u>jocelyne.denis@mgclubdefrance.com</u> +33 6 09 41 51 83 Organisation: Stéphanie Portal – <u>stephanie.portal@mgclubdefrance.com</u> +41 79 368 2004

To register online, go to <a href="https://mgclubdefrance/calendrier-2025/">https://mgclubdefrance/calendrier-2025/</a> and search for MGA in the box that says Search for an exit. The registration form can be printed and downloaded from there.

#### MGA Register Chairman **Howard Quayle** adds:

Annecy (about 30km south of Saint-Julien) and its lake are a beautiful place to spend a few days at any time of the year, but you could also make a longer holiday built round this event, travelling down via Dijon, Geneva, and Lac Leman. For anyone wanting to go further south, why not travel south to Aix-en-Provence and Marseille, or venture into Italy, trying out some of the Cols used by the road-testing experts of European car magazines in the 1950s?

# Future MGA Tours and Events – 2025 and 2026

## **MGA Spring Tour 2025**

(As noted earlier in this Newsletter) 2025 is a special Anniversary year for MGA and for MGA owners – it will be 70 years since the first MGA was made.

In conjunction with Scenic Car Tours, the MGA Register Committee has arranged a correspondingly "special" and memorable Tour for 2025, designed to appeal to Register members worldwide – not just in the UK.

As reported in previous editions of this eNewsletter we have put a package together, which is based around Scenic Car Tours **Celtic Classic** Tour of Northern Ireland, - Full details of that tour are at <a href="https://www.celticclassic.co.uk/">https://www.celticclassic.co.uk/</a> In summary:

• It is 5 days and 4 nights based in Derry. Driving tours will cover the North East corner of Ireland, between Belfast and Derry, and will include tours of the Causeway Coast (East) and a stretch of the Wild Atlantic Coast from Derry to Letterkenny (West). It will also include a visit to the Giant's Causeway (sorry - extra charge of £19.50 per person for non-members of the National Trust!). We will also drive to Belfast, where we will visit the Titanic Experience and have the option of a guided tour of the city. Whilst in Belfast, there will be an opportunity for exclusive MGA parking on the famous Titanic slipway at the docks.

- Price per person for this tour is £649 for Bed and Breakfast, plus an additional £75 per person for the Sunday Night Gala Dinner and Ceilidh, using the 4\* Waterfoot Hotel in Derry. The MGA Register has reserved all the available rooms at the Waterfoot Hotel for the period of the tour, and these are now fully booked.
- We have an "overflow" hotel nearby The White Horse, but that will cost £699 per person for "Standard" rooms. Guests staying at the White Horse will be able to join Sunday's Gala Dinner and Ceilidh at the Waterfoot Hotel. (Transport will be provided)
- Sadly, single supplements apply to all tours even the car ferry costs the same with
  one passenger or two!. But current MG Car Club Members can get an extra £50 per
  booking discount on these prices see the table of prices below. There are still a
  couple of suites available at the White Horse.
- The tour price includes daytime ferry crossings between the mainland and Ireland –
  Liverpool to Belfast, Cairnryan to Belfast, Holyhead to Dublin, Fishguard to Rosslare,
  or Pembroke to Rosslare. Overnight sailings may carry a surcharge. (For Irish
  residents, and members not travelling from the mainland, "Event only" prices
  excluding ferry costs are shown in the table below.)
- Tour dates are Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> June to Monday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2025.
- Details of the itinerary for the 5 days, and details of the Waterfoot hotel, are on the MGA 2025 Celtic Classic / Scenic Car Tours website. <a href="https://www.celticclassic.co.uk/mga-celtic-classic">https://www.celticclassic.co.uk/mga-celtic-classic</a>.
- All prices assume 2 persons per room, and 2 persons per car.
- During the afternoon of Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> June (following our visit to the Titanic Experience in Belfast) we have an opportunity to drive to the Dundrod circuit the site of many famous MGA successes in the 1950s. Following a buffet lunch (£13), we will have a presentation about Dundrod and the MGA, and a chance to drive the circuit. To date, we have around 40 people joining this additional excursion, but places must be pre-booked. If you wish to join this excursion, please contact organiser Mervyn Gillespie at mg.mga@btinternet.com, using the booking form in Appendix 3 to this Newsletter.
- If you join this excursion, then:
  - You will have early breakfast on Saturday, so you can depart from your hotel for Belfast by 08.30
  - You will be in the first tour groups onto the Titanic, from 10.15 am.
  - We will have dedicated parking at the Titanic, to allow rapid exit after the Titanic Tour
  - We will depart the Titanic for Dundrod by 12.30. A route out of the city will be provided.
  - We will arrive at Dundrod by 1.00 pm for a finger-buffet lunch, including sandwiches and tea or coffee, followed by a film show of the 1955 race preceded by a short talk on the history of the Dundrod Circuit and MGs involvement.
  - We will then take a led drive around the circuit. Thereafter we will drive along the Seven Mile Straight which was part of the old Ulster Grand Prix Clady Circuit to Nutts Corner, made famous by Geoff Duke (if you're old enough to remember him).
  - From there you will be given directions for a main road and scenic drive via the Glenshane Pass back to Londonderry, arriving in good time for dinner.
  - (And rather than take the Bus Tour of Belfast on Saturday afternoon, you will have a transferrable ticket which will allow you to take that tour on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> if you wish.)

Organiser **Mervyn Gillespie** adds: This excursion is a separate event from the Scenic Tours' Celtic Classic. It is organised by members of the MGCC MGA Register, and as such will be covered by a MSUK exemption certificate and also will have Police Service Northern Ireland approval.

The cost of this optional part of the tour will be £13.00 per person, to include lunch. Final joining instructions will be sent nearer to the date.

I hope this will be a sociable and enjoyable MG themed afternoon as a part of your Ireland experience.

#### **How to Book the Celtic Classic Tour?**

- Follow the booking links on the Scenic Car Tours website OR
- Phone Scenic Car Tours 01732 879153 Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm, quoting your unique MGA Tour codes "CC-WFMGA" for the Waterfoot Hotel, or "CC-WHMGA" for the White Horse, overflow hotel OR
- If you have previously booked a tour with Scenic Car Tours, and your details remain
  unchanged from your last tour, you can simply email Scenic at
  <a href="mailto:admin@sceniccartours.com">admin@sceniccartours.com</a> to ask to book, and Scenic will send you an invoice using
  the saved details.

An ADDITIONAL £50 per **booking** MG Car Club discount can be used by MG Car Club Members (only), if a current and valid MGCC membership number is quoted at the time of booking. Those booking online, will need a unique discount code, obtainable from the Members Area of the MG Car Club website, <a href="https://mgcc.co.uk/members/login/">https://mgcc.co.uk/members/login/</a> and click on the Member Discounts box, or to speak to the Membership Team at Kimber House on 01235 555552 in order to enjoy the £50 per booking discount.

#### **Tour Prices**

1001111000				
	Prices <b>per person</b> – 4 nights and 5 days, B&B basis Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> to Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2025.			
	(MG Car Club Members deduct a further £50 per <b>booking</b> !)			
<b>Guests From</b>	Celtic Classic –	Celtic Classic –	Ferry Arrangements	
	Waterfoot - FULLY	White Horse		
	BOOKED			
UK Mainland	From £649 pp for twin	From £699 pp for twin	Daytime sailing -	
	/ double	/ double	Mainland to Ireland,	
	(from £1049 single)	(from £1199 pp single)	return, included	
Ireland	From £520 pp for twin	From £570 pp for twin	No ferry costs	
	/ double	/ double		
	(from £791 single)	(from £941 single)		
All prices are PLUS £75 pp for the Sunday Night Dinner and Ceilidh, which must be pre-booked.				

#### Other useful information:

- Online prices are based on standard rooms, upgrade rooms may carry additional charges.
- Full payment for the Tour, plus Scenic extras (= hotel costs, plus NT charges) are due NOW. All bookings are bound by Scenic's conditions of booking, found at https://www.celticclassic.co.uk/terms-and-conditions
- Please ensure you have thoroughly read all the information, before making a booking with your non-refundable payment.

#### **LATEST UPDATE!**

We already have at least 46 MGA Register cars booked on the tour, and all the rooms at the "main" Tour hotel, the Waterfoot, are taken. But there is still time to book a place on the Tour, with just 2 suites still available at the White Horse.

#### **What Happens Next?**

If you have booked a place on the tour, then by now Scenic Car Tours will have contacted you to confirm your booking, confirm your ferry arrangements, and collect your final payment! (If not – YOU need to contact Scenic Car Tours!!)

You can expect to hear more from Scenic during the first 2 weeks of June.

- If you still have any outstanding amount it can be paid to Scenic either by:
  - Phoning the Scenic Office on 01732 879153, 09.00 17.00 M-F, or
  - Using Manage My Booking on the Scenic Car Tours website <a href="https://www.my-holiday-booking.co.uk/managebooking/auth/login/i/13">https://www.my-holiday-booking.co.uk/managebooking/auth/login/i/13</a>

#### Additional South and West Coasts Pre-Tour

In addition to this Celtic Classic Tour weekend, some MGA owners are investigating their own "pre-tour" and to visit the Republic of Ireland / Eire. - In particular to see the south and west coasts of Ireland, - the **Wild Atlantic Coast.** 

Here's some information from Organiser Ian Prior:

A very enthusiastic group of (mainly) Australian MGA owners will be touring the UK and parts of Spain and France in 2025 to celebrate the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the introduction of the MGA. We will also be undertaking a Pre-Tour of southern Ireland as a prelude to the Celtic Weekend. 29 Aussies and friends in 15 cars will be arriving by ferry at Rosslare from Spain on the 16<sup>th</sup> of June staying in Gorey before driving to Dublin for a two-night stay. It is envisaged that European based MGA Register members could join in on this Pre Tour commencing in Dublin if they wish to do so. Members could stay with us either one or two nights in Dublin or alternatively join us early in the morning of Thursday the 19<sup>th</sup> of June to commence the pre - Tour proper.

#### **Schedule & Route Summary:**

The tour starts in **Dublin** on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> June (2 nights), moving to **Waterford** on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup>, then on to **Cork** on Friday 20<sup>th</sup>.

On Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> it will go to **Killarney**, staying there for 2 nights. Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> it goes to **Galway**, and on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> to **Westport**. Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> takes the tour to **Dungloe**, and then on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> the group will drive to **Londonderry** to join the wider group for the first night of the Celtic Classic.

If you want details of the route and hotels chosen, see the March edition of this eNewsletter, or contact me at mgcarclub-mganewsletter@outlook.com

For those who are not in this Australian group, this will **not** be an organised tour. – Rather, it is simply an outline itinerary, a suggested route, and a list of possible hotels en-route, as shown in previous editions of this eNewsletter. – It will be down to the participants (= **you**) to make their own hotel bookings etc. - If you previously asked to be kept informed of this pre-tour, you will have already had full details of hotels and rates etc as agreed by Ian Prior from Ian or the eNewsletter editor If you require that information now, please contact me at mqcarclub-mganewsletter@outlook.com

Finally, IF you choose to participate in this pre-tour, be sure to let me know, so that I can tell Ian Prior and he can include you in further update communications.

#### MGA Day 2025 - Fawley Hill - Sunday 6th July

2025's MGA Day will be held rather earlier in the year than usual, on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> July, at Fawley Hill, near Henley on Thames RG9 6JA. <a href="https://fawleyhill.co.uk">https://fawleyhill.co.uk</a> As the website says: Fawley Hill is the private estate of the late Sir William McAlpine and Lady McAlpine in the heart of the English countryside. Once described by Country Life magazine as 'the most bonkers estate in Britain', it is home to a restored Victorian railway station, the steepest standard gauge railway track in the world, a railway museum and over 20 animal species. This change of date is so that guests from outside the UK who are joining us for the Spring 2025 Tour of Ireland can also join us for MGA Day (it is a long way to travel twice from Australia!!)

# Can we get 70 MGAs to Fawley for MGA 70 Day? Yes we can, we now have 75 cars registered for this event and there's still room for more.

Organiser **Jill Eke** writes: On Sunday 6th July 2025 we have a private invitation to visit Fawley Hill Railway and Museum, the home of the late Sir William McAlpine, to celebrate our MGA Day.

A route will be provided from Faringdon to Fawley Hill for those who have booked into the hotel (Sudbury House Hotel, SN7 7AA) which will include one of the test routes used by the MG Factory "back in the day".

Entry to Fawley must be pre-booked via the MGA Register (£15 per head). This is a private function and tickets will not be available on the gate. Details are of booking for entry to Fawley are given in the Booking Form at Appendix 2 to this eNewsletter. Further details will be sent out nearer the time.

There is now only 1 room available at the Sudbury House Hotel, Faringdon, Oxon. Booking details for the hotel can be found on the MGA Register website.

## 2026 and Beyond

Our 3 day driving tours are always popular, and so already we are now looking for organisers for events in **2027**. You can get a flavour of these events from the pieces about past events earlier in this and previous editions of this eNewsletter.

(Like most things in an organisation like the MGA Register) these events are all organised by volunteers from our membership, and so we are now looking for volunteers to organise the **Spring and Autumn 2027** events.

2027 sounds like a long time from now – but finding suitable venues can be a problem. We typically get between 50 and 60 cars, so we need a venue that has a similar number of rooms, and secure parking for our precious cars. Beyond that, the details are pretty loose! – Use your imagination!!

Plans for the **2026 Spring Tour** (so that's May 2026!!) are progressing well, and our organisers have agreed a package with an excellent venue in Lancashire – The Macdonald Tickled Trout Hotel, alongside J31 of the M6. The tour will take place between Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> and Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2026, and will include driving tours to excellent local countryside and attractions. We expect to OPEN bookings from September 2025, and there will be more details including room rates etc in the July and mid August editions if this Newsletter.

Similarly, plans are already well advanced for the **2026 Autumn Tour** (September 2026) which is likely to be "beside the seaside" in Devon. - More news of these events in future Newsletters, and on the MGA Register website.

If you think you could organise such an event, please let me know, and I will put you in touch with organisers of past events who will be able to answer any questions, and to advise and guide you through the process. ("Free consultations. No obligation!")

# **MGA Register News**

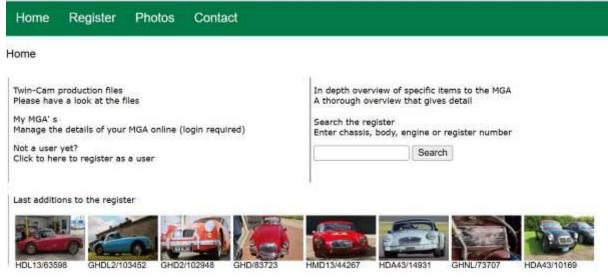
Get ready to be confused ......The term **MGA Register** refers to the MGA-Owning Group of members within the MG Car Club. This eNewsletter is prepared by a member of that **MGA Register**, and many of you readers are also members of the **MGA Register**. – But you already know that, of course (?) - (All clear so far??)

But members of that **MGA Register** within the MG Car Club also maintain a record of all MGA cars ("Living and dead!") their owners and their histories. – for the benefit of current and future owners. – And this database of cars is also called – **The MGA Register**....... This **MGA Register** database is not new, and it already contains details of a lot of MGAs (possibly including yours!), - but it has now moved into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, because thanks to the efforts of our Acting Registrar **Joe Walsh**, and MGCC colleagues in the Netherlands, it is now an ONLINE Register.

In the March edition of this eNewsletter Joe explained **why** it is a good idea to get your car on the Register (for your benefit, and for the benefit of future owners) and explained **how** you can do it. - Here's a progress update from Joe: - It is now getting on for three months since the new online MGA Register was launched and so far nearly **100 owners** have registered as users and "claimed" their car. Many owners are now regular visitors to their personal online record, updating details and history about their car and adding photos. Although the database is comprehensive, many car records do not record the **body number** and this is where the Register needs your help. Please log on to your personal MGA Register page and add your body number. Whilst there why not check other details e.g. colours, engine number etc are up to date and correct. Adding a recent photo is a good idea too. If you haven't yet joined the new online Register visit the MGA Register website for more information and instruction on how to register.



# The MGA Register



(Here's a picture of the site "Home page" - above)
Go the Register at <a href="https://mgcc.co.uk/mgaregiste/the-mga-register/">https://mgcc.co.uk/mgaregiste/the-mga-register/</a>

There are thousands of MGAs recorded on the Register database so the chances are your car is already listed. If your MGA was recorded on the old UK MGA Register it should be there waiting for you to "claim" it. You also will find a wealth of information on thousands of other MGAs at your fingertips.

You can search by chassis, engine or body number. If your MGA was on the earlier version of the Register, and you know the Register number, you can also search for your car using its Register number. Here is an example of the basic (public) information held on a typical MGA.

If you do not yet own an MGA you can still look up information about a car you might be interested in without having to register as user. Just search the car's details and you will be able to see the basic public record of the vehicle.

To register as a user, go to the new MGA Register UK page on the MGA Register website <a href="https://mgcc.co.uk/mga-register/the-mga-register/">https://mgcc.co.uk/mga-register/the-mga-register/</a>. Here you will find more information and be able to access the step-by-step guide to registering and "claiming" your car.

Once you have registered as a user you can access the online Register and "claim" your MGA. Once you have "claimed" your MGA it will be linked to your unique personal login and you will have private access to a much more detailed record of your car.

No one knows their car better than the owner so once you have "claimed" your MGA you will be able to update the car's record and be confident that the Register is up to date and describes your car accurately. You can also add photos of your car if you wish. There is the option to add historical documents to the private record of your car such as a copy of the Heritage Certificate and/or a scan of the original RF60 log book.

If your MGA is not listed in the new online Register just follow the same procedure to register as a member and then add your car details. Your car will be allocated a new Register number which will remain with the car for the rest of its life.

If you are lucky enough to own more than one MGA you can claim/register all your cars in the same way so they will all be linked to your unique login and viewable on the "My MGA Register" page.

If you experience any difficulty accessing the Register please contact Joe Walsh - mgcarclub\_mgaregistrar@hotmail.com

# **Notable Journeys**

"What's this Notable Journey story, then?". Here's **Stuart Mumby's** background info.

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 2025 that you feel would qualify as a Notable Journey, (see the guidelines in Appendix 1) 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.

We read in the March edition of this eNewsletter that the award for 2024's Notable Journey went to **Howard and Jan Perks**, **and Roy and Sonia Aldworth**, who took their MGAs through the Netherlands, Germany, and Denmark en-route to a tour of Norway. – a total of 3458 miles (each car!). - Full details are in the November 2024 edition of Safety Fast!



MGA Committee member **Graham Eke** (on the right of the picture)
presented the Notable Journey
Trophy to (left to right) **Howard, Jan, Roy, and Sonia** at the
Restoration Show at NEC in March.

Here's Howard's comments ....
On behalf of our friends Roy &
Sonia and my wife Jan and me, I
would like to thank the MGA
Register for giving us the notable
journey award for our drive from
Plymouth to explore Norway.

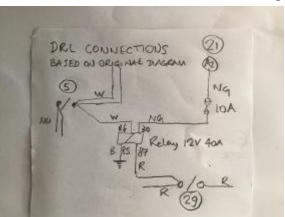
Graham and Jill Eke handed us the lovely trophy at the Practical Classics Classic Car and Restoration Show at the NEC. An article about our trip appeared in Safety Fast last November.

Being recognised for using our MGAs as they were surely intended on a significant road trip means a lot to me. I bought our car in 2015 to use for such adventures, not to be a primped and preened show queen, and I look forward to many more notable journeys in the foreseeable future. Sadly, these will not include this summer's register trip to Ireland due to other commitments, but I'm sure the four of us will meet you on the road again another time, possibly next spring, but certainly at the Autumn 2026 Register trip to Devon that we are organising for the Register. That tour will include coastal views, moorland, villages and towns and the best country roads we can find.

# **Technical Topics**

# **Daytime Running Lights on an MGA**

Reader **David Adams** has devised a wiring set-up suitable for daytime running lights on an MGA.



It has been published on the MG Experience / Autoshrine Blog

Be seen! Be safe(r). Fed up with forgetting to switch off your running lights?

Here is a simple circuit that will switch your running lights when you switch the ignition ON. The relay energises power from terminal A2 to the running lights at the map-light switch

I have been using this modification since 2021 and it works fine.

#### Wiring Woes?

In recent times we hear of damage to the electrics of "stored" vehicle wiring caused by rodents chewing through the wiring, particularly on what we would refer to as "modern" vehicles. — I have learned that as a way of reducing the use of plastics in cars, the wiring insulation is now made from soya rather than plastic, and soya is a food source for may rodents — apparently the green wires are particularly tasty.... Mystery explained?

#### **Seat Belts in Classic Cars**

I found the following piece in the SVW Newsletter of the March 2025 edition of Safety Fast! – My thanks to **Paul Campbell**:

An interesting article in Practical Classics tells us that police have confirmed that owners of classic cars that are not originally fitted with seat belts would need to contest automatically issued penalties for not wearing them, AI cameras are now being used to detect drivers who flout the law on belts, and are automatically issuing offenders with penalty notices without distinguishing between pre-1965 classics – which aren't legally required to have seat belts fitted – and more modern vehicles!

**Editors Note:** The law is that any passenger vehicle made from 1965 must have seat belts fitted. – Many MGA owners have retro-fitted seat belts, of course, to their pre-1965 cars. The law also says that where seat belts are fitted (irrespective of the age of the vehicle) they **must be** used.

The message is clear, - IF you do not have seat belts fitted, and you receive a Notice of Prosecution, then do not ignore it or assume it is a hoax. You **must** challenge it, pointing out that your car is exempt and does not have seat belts fitted. If you do not challenge the Notice promptly, you will be in the "Computer says...., and we cannot change the computer..." death spiral, with a penalty and points on the way.

## **MGA Coupe Rear Wings**

In the March edition of this eNewsletter we reported on MGA Register Chairman **Howard Quayle's** search for replacement rear wings for his coupe. – Who knew that on the coupe all 4 wings are different to those on the roadster??

#### Here's **Howard's** progress update:

My 1960 MGA 1600 Coupe is currently being "refurbished", and as usual, once you start, problems begin – the common story.

The bad news came within a few days of delivery to the restorer, with a phone call to say that the rear wings "did not look in good shape", and suggesting that I should come down and take a look myself. One look confirmed the restorer's view (botched metalwork, copious filler, badly installed repair pieces, and so on), but we need not dwell on this.

I decided that replacement wings were the preferred option, rather than yet more repairs, but where should I source them from? They were certainly available as new replacements from the usual suppliers, such as Moss, NTG, and the celebrated Sports Car Metalworks (of "Metal Mickey" fame!). Used rear wings were also available on E-Bay, again from some recognisable traders and in various states of (dis)repair.

As a well-known name to us all, I decided to call Bob West up in Pontefract, who, after checking his stock, confirmed that he could supply two **Coupe** rear wings from a (presumably) dry state MGA.

<u>Coupe</u> rear wings? This was the first time that I had been made aware that there were differences between Coupe and Roadster rear wings, the suppliers listed above making no differentiation between body variants.

Bob told me to check the MGA 1600 Service Parts List (BMC publication AKD1215 Fifth Edition), which showed the following descriptions and product codes (in brackets are the new codes after chassis 100352):

#### **Coupe**

Wing R/H Rear: AFH4480 (superseded to AFH7478) Wing R/H Rear: AFH4481 (superseded to AFH7479)

Roadster

Wing R/H Rear: AFH1768 (superseded to AFH7462) Wing L/H Rear: AFH1769 (superseded to AFH7463)

So.... differences after all, according to BMC's Service Parts List. However, looking at the limited images available, I cannot identify differences which would justify the separate codes for the Coupe and Roadster variants. Moss list just two codes for right- and left-hand rear wings (AFH7462 and AFH7463), which suggests that any differences must be minor. "MGA Guru" Barney Gaylord was asked about this, in 2019, making the following comment: I believe the coupe rear wings are a little different shape where they meet up with the roof line. Likely roadster rear wings could be made to work on a Coupe with a little fettling. There is also only one cut-out for door buffer in the Coupe rear wing vs. two in the Roadster rear wing.

Maybe this is the answer.....Can anyone throw more light on this topic? In the end, I collected two perfect (by which I mean 100% metal and not dinged) Coupe rear wings on 6 January from Bob West, en route to daughter's in Harrogate in the Passat Estate.

Howard is optimistic he will have his car back on the road over the coming weeks. And here's some additional information on the topic from **George Dutton,** - who actually has an original copy of the MGA Factory Parts List AKD1215:

**Coupe Wings -** In the last issue of this Newsletter, Howard Quayle reported on his problems finding rear wings for his MGA coupe and noted that all the current parts catalogues list part numbers for the front and rear wings but separate numbers for the coupe wings are not listed.

"Original MGA" tells us: "The coupe body was on the same basic design as the roadster, but with a simple roof. Of the major panels, the coupe front shroud was modified in the scuttle area to incorporate a lower windscreen channel and the rear tonneau panel was cut back to the line where the lower frame of the rear screen met the panel."

It seems likely that these modifications would have implications for the wings which are bolted onto the shroud and tonneau panels. Also the coupe does not require the rectangular cut-away on the top surface of the front wings where a roadster's windscreen stanchions slot into the body.

The simple answer to Howard's question is **Yes**, there are unique part numbers for wings listed for coupes and roadsters. The original MGA Service Parts List for the Series MGA 1600 (AKD1215, pages shown below)) had 2 completely separate illustrations and text pages for the body. Plate R shows parts for a Tourer (roadster), and Plate RA is the coupe version.

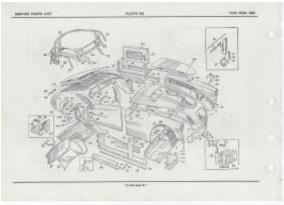
**Coupe Front** = AFH6618 and AFH6619.

**Coupe Rear** = AFH4480 superseded to AFH7478, and AFH4481 superseded to AFH7479. **Roadster Front** = AFH6614 and AFH6615.

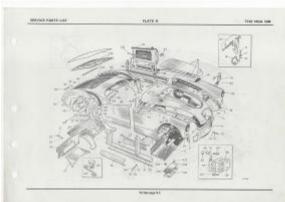
**Roadster Rear** = AFH1768 superseded to AFH7462, and AFH1769 superseded to AFH7463 Nowadays parts suppliers only show the drawings and parts for the Tourer body and leave it to the poor panel beater to make the wings fit whenever a coupe comes into their shop.

**Editor's Note:** All we need now are the engineering drawings for these mystery items!!









#### 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.

#### For Sale – MGA Rear Axle

Complete rear axle for MGA, suitable for bolt-on wheels (not wire wheels and splines), Original 4.3: 1 ratio. – Excludes brakes and hubs.

Useable condition. Replaced with a wire-wheel type as part of a rebuild. Collect from Colne, Lancashire (north of Burnley!) £100.

Contact **John Chatburn**, john.chatburn@yahoo.co.uk or 07971 568044

#### For Sale: Used MGA 1600 gearbox

Following upgrade to Ford T9. It is the type with a flange connection to the propshaft, and a 10 spline input shaft (OE number 1H3362), typically fitted to 1500, 1588 / 1600, and early 1622 cars.

Running well when removed mid-March – quiet, oil drained out clean and without metal particles in it. Synchro on second gear is a bit tired but works fine if shifted slowly. Located in Brentford, TW8 west London. Might deliver it fairly locally.

£250 or near offer. Please contact **James Cape** james@saltgrass.uk

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#### For Sale – MGA Coupe Parts

- 1 pair N/S and O/S Couple door drop glass £70 for the pair
- 1 Coupe door O/S (drivers side) catch in good condition £40

Collection for the glass preferred.

Other MGA parts available please just ask

**Adrian Malthouse**, - 07484886182 (South East)

#### For Sale – New MGA Roadster Parts

Ideal for a refurb/restoration project

All are as new, never used in original packaging, from a pet and smoke-free home. Offered to register members first, before I advertise more widely.

No traders please. Sample images below but can provide more on request. Cash and pickup only – location Kent. I will not post or give to couriers etc.

- Reconditioned hood frame, nice action no wear, painted in original colour £200
- Pair new black real leather/cream piped roadster standard seats, seat backs are on original asymmetric frames with new foam seat backs. Seat squabs are on correct bases, correct shape, original packaging, retail for up to £2000, never used. £975
- Complete unused, still in original packaging interior trim panel kit in correct satin black vinyl – 2 x Door panels, 2 x matching door pockets, 2 x front kick panels, 2 x front chassis covers, 2 x rear pick panels. £200



- Pair repro Chrome headlight rims £10
- Pair new black Furflex door seals £10
- New boot seal rectangular profile £5

Pick-up from Kent, and cash on collection only, please.

**Daran Scarlett** - 07841 321118.

## For Sale – MGA Spares

**Robert Leese** is a long-standing MGA owner, - he has owned and driven the same MGA for over 50 years! His story was featured in the MGA Register Notes in Safety Fast! in November 2024 (pages 49 to 51).

He is now having a clear-out of his storeroom, and has a lot of MGA parts for sale:

Set of Fibreglass	Windscreen Surround	1500 Tail Light	Sidescreen Frame
wings	and Glass	Plinths	
Bonnet	Rear Bumper	Radiator	Heater Units (2)
Boot	Front Bumper	Front Grille	Distributor
Doors	Luggage Rack	Dashboard	Brake Shoes
Front Valance	Hood frame	Steering Wheel	Master Cylinder
Battery Cover	Starter Motor	Dynamo	Clutch incl Friction Pl

He will sell as individual parts, or (ideally) as a job lot – Just the stuff you need for that next restoration! – "Make him an offer!" To discuss detailed specs, conditions and prices, contact **Bob Leese** at <a href="mailto:robleese@ntlworld.com">robleese@ntlworld.com</a>, or on 07591 603264. (Parts are located near Derby.)

For Sale - NEW MGA Leather Seat Covers





Reader **Andy Schultz** has some NEW MGA seat covers for sale: New MGA Seat covers for standard seats. - Black with white piping. Best quality leather, these covers are 100% leather not just leather faced. £550 the pair. Will post.

Tel: Andy 07716399266 - Andypr55xq@gmail.com (Preston area)



#### For Sale – MGA Hard top Reader Phil Slade has a fibreglass hardtop for

Reader **Phil Slade** has a fibreglass hardtop for an MGA for sale:

I believe this hard top is an original factory fibreglass one. Owned for many years but not used now. Good condition, includes rear hold downs. - £ 925

Tel:- Phil Slade on 07703661221 pslade@derlee.com (near Watford)





#### 1959 MGA Roadster Mk 1 For Sale



**Rory Smith** writes: I am planning to sell my beautiful MGA as shown left and below. - I have owned the car since 2001

I am the third owner and have pieced together the history.

The first owner had the car for 21 years, The second owner who purchased the car in 1980 seems to have at some stage had to hand the car to a farmer in Church Stratton, Shropshire apparently against a debt. He did not use it but just left it in a field until I bought it in 2001 in a sorry state.

It has since a 'no expense spared' complete

nuts and bolts restoration from the chassis up with photographic record. I also have a full file of supporting invoices.

All electrical components, brakes, hydraulics, carburettors etc etc have been rebuilt and/or renewed. The engine has been professionally rebuilt and had an unleaded conversion and is bored out to 1622cc. The gearbox has also been rebuilt and a new clutch plate fitted. The spare is unused with a new Pirelli Cinturato tyre.

It is a very original and reliable car. (We have had several tours to Le Mans and UK/Europe in her without missing a beat.)

**Price £27500**. – The car is located in Dorking, Surrey, off J9 of the M25.

07710905521 or <a href="mailto:roryjmsmith@btinternet.com">roryjmsmith@btinternet.com</a>









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For Sale - MGA 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 **bobskiing1@gmail.com** (Camberley, Surrey)

#### **Wilmot Breeden Ignition Keys**

Reader **Barry Brownleader** has a wide selection of original style FP\*\*\* and FS\*\*\* keys. They are FREE to any MGA owner wanting spares – Just tell Barry the key number you want and he will post them to you (overseas customers please pay him the postage costs!). The key / lock number is stamped on the front face of the ignition barrel in the car! - Contact Barry at barrybrownleader@gmail.com

Since this advert was originally published, Barry has "found" some more keys, - so if you have asked previously and he was not able to supply the one that you want, please contact him again – he may have found "your" key now.

#### For Sale – Safety Fast Magazines

Safety Fast Magazines - 1992 to current or will split into individual years. All in mint condition, some in MGCC Binders. All proceeds will go to Prostate Cancer UK. Reasonable offers to Stuart on 01430 871078 or email to mga@live.co.uk

#### **Car Intercom Set**

Reader **Colyn Firth** (Calm down, ladies – it's not **that** Colin Firth – this man keeps his shirt on at all times!) has designed and made a car intercom set, which he is now offering to eNewsletter subscribers Here's the story:

My MGA has a particularly loud exhaust on it which makes conversation a bit of a challenge, especially if the top is down and the road speed is up!

We have done a lot of Long Distance European trips over the last 10 years or so and after struggling to hear shouted directions, I decided to see if I could rig up an in-car intercom system.



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I didn't want to spend a fortune so I decided to experiment with a BT T-Com-VB motorcycle intercom system, which usually have small speakers that are installed inside the crash helmet.

I had a pair of lightweight telephone headsets of the type that are often used in call centres, I removed the tiny earpieces and replaced them with the intercom's speakers. The intercom unit was attached to the side of the headset.

This all seemed to work really well until we tried them in the car, I had forgotten that in a motorcycle helmet, the speakers are almost an inch away from the ear, but on the headsets, they fitted actually against the ear. The first time we tried them we found that the volume was deafeningly loud and if one of us spoke, the other almost jumped out of the seat!

So, I decided to see if I could modify a set of headphones to install the intercom into, I found a cheap set in a "Wilco" store, they are the type that many young people are now using instead of the earpiece type. I removed all of the headphones speakers and hollowed them out to fit the larger Intercom's speakers. They fitted inside surprisingly well and when we tried them in the car, they worked really well too. The speakers are now about a half inch away from the ear and this has brought the volume down to a comfortable level. The Intercom connects using Bluetooth and has a "noise-reducing" tech in its electronics which emphasises the spoken voice whilst reducing background noise.

You can also pair each headset with a mobile phone which lets you each answer by pressing a button on the intercom, no need to touch your phone.

Finally, the Intercom has a built in FM radio receiver and can also be paired with an MP3 music player or listen to music from your mobile, so there are lots of options. Finally, the batteries are as new.

So, I would like to give the intercoms to someone who will make use of them, I don't want any payment for them, apart from the cost of the postage.

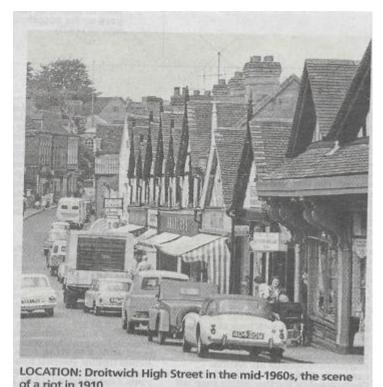
Why am I giving them away? Well, this set was my first attempt at building a car intercom and I decided to try again with another headset that would let me bury the wires inside the headband. So, I now have two intercom sets that work really well and I am hoping that someone else will like to give my Mk I intercom set a try. I have had these Car Intercom sets on my workbench for a while and thought that maybe someone else may like to make use of them.

(If anyone is also a biker, the intercoms can always be converted back to work in a pair of crash helmets, I will include all of the original parts to let you do this)

For a mechanical-only person like me this looks like pretty impressive technology (Ed). If you want to know more, contact Colyn at colynfirth@msn.com

#### **Lost and Found**

#### Roadster 404 BOM



# (Acting) MGA Registrar **Joe Walsh** writes:

My thanks to Neil Sharpe for bringing this to my attention. This old photo was published in the Worcester News on the 21st March 2025.

The photo shows Droitwich High Street in the mid 1960s and as you can see it features an MGA. The registration number is a little difficult to make out but if it is 404 BOM then the car is still "alive" and on SORN (see DVLA record, below)

That DVLA record shows the car as a '1600' first registered in 1960, 14th June to be exact, This information fits with the rear lights and the date of the photo. If it is the same car then the chassis number is GHN89686 and you can search for it on the new online UK MGA Register, here

https://www.mgaregisteruk.com/browseregisterresultshow.php?chassisno=89686
If this is your car you can "claim" your car and add some current photos in to MGA Register Database. Or if you know who the owner is please pass this information onto them.

#### Howard Quayle adds...

This photo will not be earlier than 1963. The car on the far left is a Ford Cortina Mk.1, deliveries of which started late in 1962, with volumes only starting to trickle through to Ford dealerships early in 1963. Just above the Cortina, you can see the near-side of a Land Rover, above which I think is the rear end of a Vauxhall Cresta PB, introduced at the 1962 Earls Court Motor Show, so around the same period. The second vehicle in front of the MGA is an Austin A55 panel van, but I am more intrigued by the little Coupe in front of the MGA. What is it? My own guess is that it's an Austin 7 with a special sporting body - a large number of coachbuilders offered this sort of thing in the late 1929s/early 1930s - but it looks immaculate, as if it was someone's pride and joy. It could also be an MG M-Type Midget, as after 1930, produced some Midgets with a boot instead of a boat tail. I wonder if any reader can offer a more accurate identification??

# **404 BOM**



#### MOT

No results returned

Incorrect tax status?

Incorrect MOT status?



Warning If you've just bought this vehicle the tax or SORN doesn't come with it. You'll need to tax it before

Vehicle Details		
Vehicle make	MG	DVLA services
Date of first registration	June 1960	Tax your vehicle
Year of manufacture	1960	Get a vehicle logbook (V5C)  Driver and vehicles account: sign in
Cylinder capacity	1588 cc	<u>or set up</u>
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions	Not available	Register your vehicle as off the road (SORN)
Fuel type	PETROL	Change your vehicle's tax class
Euro status	Not available	Tell DVLA you've sold, transferred or bought a vehicle
Real Driving Emissions (RDE)	Not available	<u>Update</u> your vehicle's address
Export marker	No	Report an untaxed vehicle
Vehicle status	SORN	Check you're not buying a stolen vehicle
Vehicle colour	BLUE	Check if your vehicle can run on E10
Vehicle type approval	Not available	petrol
Wheelplan	2 AXLE RIGID BODY	
Revenue weight	Not available	DVSA services
Date of last V5C (logbook) issued	27 February 2025	Check the MOT history of a vehicle

# **MGA 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, Navy, Red, Royal Blue, Green, Red, Grey

To view our current list of products, go to https://www.mgcc.co.uk/mga-register and click on Merchandise Shop in the menu on the left.

The MGA Register Merchandise operation is in the hands of **Graham Eke**. The email address for orders remains as <a href="mailto:mgareqistershop@outlook.com">mgareqistershop@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**

This book was compiled and published by the MGA Register, and 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. We have the final few copies of **MGA Register - The First Fifty Years** remaining and to clear we are offering a reduced price of £20 plus P&P (was £35) Post and packing is around £5.50 to a UK address. - 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. https://www.mgcc.co.uk/mga-register/merchandise-catalogue-november2016-2/

#### <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 **the MG Car Club MGA Registrar**, at: - Mgcarclub mgaregistrar@hotmail.com

Happy MotorinG, All..... - Brendan Leach, May 2025

# **Appendix 1 – 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 2 MGA 70 Gala Weekend 5<sup>th</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> July 2025





# ENTRY FORM

Your Details		
Driver's Name: Navigator's Name:		······································
Address:		••••••
Tel: email:		
Your MGA		
MGA Type:		
/eur		
Reg No:		
Your Arrangements. *Please indicate Yes or No  1. *I/We have reserved a room at the Sudbury House Hotel.	YES	NO
2. *I/We will join the Gala dinner on Saturday $5^{th}$ July.		
3. *I/We wish to attend Fawley Hill on Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> July.		
4. *I/We have made payment of £15 per person for our entry fee to		
Fawley Hill by BACS to The MG Car Club MGA Register Sort Code 40-		
36-15 / Account 3382 8727 reference Fawley Hill + surname.  OR		
5. We enclose a cheque payable to: The MG Car Club MGA Register for		
our entry fee to Fawley Hill of £15 <b>per person</b> .		
6. Please return completed entry form and cheque or BACS confirmation to: Graham & Jill Eke, <u>jillgraham@btinternet.com</u> or 14 The Junipers, Barkham, Wokingham, Berks. RG41 4UX		
Entrant Signature:DateDate		

# Appendix 3 - MGA 70 Dundrod Visit 28<sup>th</sup> June 2025

# ENTRY FORM

Your Details		
Driver's Name: Passenger's Name:		
Address:		
Tel: email:		
Your MGA or other (if available)		
MGA Type:		
Reg No:		
$\rm I^{\prime}$ We intend to join the group visiting Dundrod on the afternoon of Saturday 28th June		
*I/We have made payment by BACS to The MG Car Club MGA Register Sort Code 40-36-15 / Account 3382 8727 reference Dundrod + surname for £13 per person for our entry fee to Dundrod		
I enclose a cheque payable to: The MG Car Club MGA Register for £13/£26 for my/our entry fee to Dundrod.		
Entrant Signature		
Date		
Please return your completed and scanned entry form and BACS confirmation to: mg.mga@btinternet.com or cheque to		
Mervyn Gillespie at 156 Hummersknott Avenue, Darlington, DL3 8RN		