



Welcome to the MGC Register newsletter 6

We hope to send these out at regular intervals to keep you up to date with MGC news and events.

If you have something to share with fellow MGC owners send it to me and I will include it.

We hope to see some of you at some of the following events, let us know if you are coming to any of them.

In this issue we look at what has gone on in the last couple of months

Here are some dates in the diary.

**Sunday February 9th** - MG & Triumph Spares Day at Stoneleigh.

The C Register will have a stand there, we had so much fun last year we thought we would go again.

Thanks to Martin for sorting this out.

**AGM— April 12 @ The Fairmile Cobham @ 3 pm**

**Please come and join us**

Also on that date in the morning, for those that have UM cars

[University Motors Reunion, Fairmile, Cobham, Surrey, Saturday 12th April 2025. Coffee from 9.30am. Talk starts 10.30am](#)

This year's reunion will feature a talk by Alastair Macintosh about his time as a salesman at Hanwell. We also have a talk from Neil Mears

The meeting will open at 9.30am. The talks and slide show will start at 10.30am. Afterwards there will be time to look at the cars and talk to everyone followed by lunch for those who wish to stay on.

All past UM staff, UM Specials and UM supplied cars are especially invited. For more information, please contact [fairmile@mgccse.co.uk](mailto:fairmile@mgccse.co.uk)

**Saturday & Sunday June 21/22 is The MGC day/weekend**

**See the full details on the next pages**

**Saturday & Sunday September 6/7 MGCC Fest North @ Croft Circuit, Darlington**

We will be having a C Register Stand there, come and see us.

Let us know if you have been on any good trips or runs, send us your photos to share or just send us a photo of your car.

Good driving Mike & Angie Haughton



**ADVANCE TICKETS ONLY £12\* ON THE DAY £15**  
**STONELEIGH PARK, WARWICKSHIRE, CV8 2LH**



**BOOK YOUR TICKETS ONLINE TODAY AT**  
**[www.mgandtriumphsparesday.co.uk](http://www.mgandtriumphsparesday.co.uk)**

**FOR OFFICE & TRADE ENQUIRIES**  
**PLEASE CALL 01775 768661**

\*all advance bookings are subject to a booking fee



## MGC Day 2025 – 22 June



Our main event will be held at the **Shuttleworth Collection** – classic vehicles, planes, house and gardens. Let's see if can get an MGC picture like this!

**[www.shuttleworth.org](http://www.shuttleworth.org)**

**Alder Drive**

**Biggleswade**

**Bedfordshire**

**SG18 9EA**

**(SatNav use SG18 9DT)**

We will have a dedicated parking area to display our cars.

Please note that gates do not open before 10am!

Cost is £10 per vehicle (see below) – you can also pay on the day

We have also reserved a number of rooms at a nearby hotel on

Friday, Saturday, and Sunday 20, 21, 22 June at:

**Moore Place Hotel**

**Aspley Guise Village**

**Milton Keynes, Bedfordshire**

**MK17 8DW**

Phone **01908 282000** to book using reference **MGCAR**

Dinner Bed and Breakfast is £149 double (£120 single)

We have arranged private dining

Menus will be sent later for you to  
make choices.

***Please let me know once you have booked***

For those wishing to make a weekend of it, or can't make Sunday,  
we are planning to meet on Saturday 21 June from 11.00am at the:

**The National Museum of Computing**

**Block H  
Bletchley Park  
MILTON KEYNES  
MK3 6DS**

Entry is £10 (£7.50 concessions) – pay on the day.

This is next door to the main **Bletchley Park Museum**, so you can also walk there:

**Bletchley Park  
Sherwood Drive  
Milton Keynes  
MK3 6EB**

You might want to book in advance at:

<https://bletchleypark.org.uk/book-now>

Entry is £23.40 (£21.15 concessions)

We also have a limited edition **British Racing Green Polo Shirt** to celebrate  
**50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the MGC Register**

**Available to pre-order at £18.00**

Payment details as above. Email us with size/number required.  
These will be handed over on the day of the event, or earlier at cost of post.



Payments for Shuttleworth and Polo Shirts should be paid by BACS to:

**MG Car Club C Register  
Sort Code: 40 32 03  
Account no: 21488805**

To confirm Shuttleworth, confirm hotel booking, and order shirt -

Please email to: **[mgcshutt2025@gmail.com](mailto:mgcshutt2025@gmail.com)**



## A Nasty Experience

On Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> October, my wife and I travelled back to Barnet in her car to attend a neighbour's party. I still had my MGC garaged in Barnet so thought it was a good opportunity to drive it back to our new home in Cirencester. It was a sunny day and despite it being rather cold, decided to put the roof down for my onward journey. I must add at this stage that I had had all four tyres replaced less than 50 miles ago by a company in Broxbourne, Herts, as I knew I had this fairly long journey and my existing tyres despite looking in perfect order, were in fact over 20 years old!

My wife got ahead of me on the M25 and when I got onto the M4 decided to get into the outside lane to catch her up. I was doing 70 MPH (perhaps a little more) when suddenly there was a terrible noise from my car and the steering became very heavy and a little uncontrollable. I suddenly realised that I had a blow out on my offside front tyre. I knew I had very little time to get to the hard shoulder so I waved my left arm to try and gesticulate to other drivers that I had a major problem and please get out my way. Amazing enough everyone moved out of my way and I soon came to a grinding halt on the hard shoulder with a smouldering front tyre! To say the least, I was very shaken up especially bearing in mind the speed I was doing and how busy the M4 was at that time of night. Fortunately I have classic car breakdown insurance who came to my rescue and later on I went on my way again at a much slower speed to reach Cirencester .

I could not understand how I had this puncture, especially as the tyre had done less than 50 miles. There was no evidence that I had driven over any sharp object, as the outer part of the tyre was basically in tact but obviously unusable. I took the car to a specialist tyre company in Cheltenham who confirmed that the tyres had been badly fitted by the previous tyre company. Instead of inserting rubber band around the inner rim of the wheel, they had wrapped gaffer tape around over the inner spoke ends. The gaffer tape had slipped exposing the inner spoke ends which then punctured the new inner tube. All tyres had to be removed and new inner rubber bands fitted and thus tyres now fitted correctly.

The moral of the story here is ALWAYS have new rubber bands fitted to your inner rims of your wire wheels. Do NOT wrap gaffer tape around instead of using the correct rubber band membrane.

I am a very lucky man ,as the consequences could have been a lot worse with a very bad accident, writing off my lovely MGC and that would not be good news.

Sorry to have bored you with my nasty experience, but felt that other owners of MGs with wire wheels should know about these rubber bands to protect the inner tube thus avoiding a puncture.

Paul Johnson







Croft Circuit • Darlington

*MG Car Club are coming to the North*



**MG Car Club announce - MG Fest North 6-7th September**  
**Croft Circuit - Darlington**

***Celebrating MG Car Club's 95th Anniversary***

**A FUN FILLED FESTIVAL WEEKEND**

**Arena entertainment, trade stands and circuit racing**

**Enjoying friends old and new**

**Eating, drinking and enjoying music**



*An MG Car Club event for all MGs*



**This weekend Festival will feature displays, trade stands and motorsport action**

**Full weekend race programme provided  
by British Racing and Sports Car Club including MGs**

**Main Arena attractions • Anniversary cars celebrations • Arena Compere**

**Pride of Ownership • Show and Shine • Road Runs • Carkhana**

**Parade Laps • MG Register parking • MG Car Club shop**

**Classic buses into Northallerton • Music entertainment**

**Live band (Sat night Ticket entry) and DJ**

**Bar • Food • Trade stands • Auto Jumble**

**more to be confirmed!**



**No camping on site - but there are lots of local campsites and hotels around the area**

**Tickets and further information available soon via the website.**

**For more information - [office@mgcc.co.uk](mailto:office@mgcc.co.uk)**

**(Subject to change)**



**Croft Circuit, West Lane, Dalton On Tees, North Yorkshire DL2 2PL**



# University Motors



Distributors



## **V8 MGB GT & MGB**

*For immediate or early delivery.  
Personal Tax free exports.*

**209 Balham High Road  
London SW17 Tel: 01-675 0241**



# LBL 412D

## MGC GT 1966 PRE PRODUCTION DEVELOPMENT CAR



The MG Car Company Production and Delivery Records and BMHIT confirm that LBL 412D, chassis number #GCD 11111 is the first UK specification MGC GT pre-production line-built development car.

The build commenced on 3rd November 1966 approximately 12 months before the MGC GT was officially launched in October 1967.

The car was used for Development Testing before being sold to David Hiam (a BMC Works Rally Competition driver for Austin Healey, Mini Cooper and MG) for his personal use.

**CHASSIS NUMBER #GCD11111**

**ENGINE NUMBER 294RCH111**

**BODY NUMBERS 00108, E00003**

### **SPECIFICATION:**

Metal SLV BU/BLK (Silver Blue metallic with black trim); automatic transmission - the first and only automatic GT development car (although it now has a manual gearbox fitted); home market spec, wire wheels, Dunlop SP radials, and MPH speedometer.

Internally it has early MKI MGB interior spec and door pulls not found on series production MGC GT's.

### **HISTORY**

#### **MG WORKS DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

LBL 412D (a Berkshire Registration number allocated to the MG Factory) was registered by Abingdon Works to the car in November 1966 and used by BMC's Competition Department for brake dynamometer testing at the Motor Industry Research Association's track facility in the Midlands to establish some datum power output figures for the new MGC GT as confirmed by members of the development department who worked there at the time.

#### **JGD 999D - DAVID HIAM**

When MG had finished using the car for testing it was sold to David Hiam (The Plough Garage, Minworth, Warwickshire) a Works Driver for BMC and well known for Rally Competition in MG, Austin Healey and Mini Cooper for BMC in the UK and across Europe in the early to mid 1960's. He has confirmed that he purchased a number of Works cars from MG at that time (notably including the Mille Miglia AH3000) and re-registered LBL 412D with a cherished plate JGD 999D and ran it for several years before selling it.



## KWD 224D

When the car was sold the cherished number was removed and KWD 224D (a Warwickshire number) was allocated. A copy of the 1970s continuation log book shows that the engine size was amended to 3,528cc which indicates that a Rover V8 engine was fitted, which was an extremely rare modification for a C in the early 1970s.

## JD CLASSICS

It may have been at this time that the car also acquired its highly distinctive hand built radiator grille or possibly later when JD Classics restored the car in the late 1980's (see below). Either way David Hiam has confirmed that he does not remember the grille when he acquired it from the factory and so it is definitely a later addition.

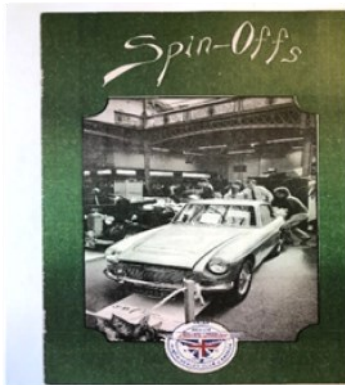
## JUSTIN LAW

From 1997 the car was registered to the well-known classic Jaguar racing driver Justin Law, winner of a large number of classic Jaguar events including Le Mans before it was sold at a Christies auction for £15,291.25 including commission in 1999.

## LBL 412D

The car was restored in the late 1980's by JD Classics and re-united with its original Abingdon Works number plate and a 2,912-cc engine and a manual / overdrive transmission that remains fitted.

It was on display at the Classic Cars World show at Olympia Exhibition Hall in London in 1990 and featured on the cover of a US Healey club magazine (below) and available for \$65,000!



The Austin-Healey 3000 Mk. IV prototype of 1966, codenamed ADO52, shows the attempt to marry the distinctive Austin-Healey 3000 grille with the nose of the MGB. Donald Healey would not sanction the use of his name on this car and so it was abandoned.

There appears to have been some suggestion that it was the Healey MGC GT prototype (codenamed ADO52) above.

Don Hayter confirms in his book "Don Hayter's MGB Story" that in 1966 having been produced at the works but having failed to gain the sanction of Donald Healey ADO52 "was converted back to a standard MGC and used for development tests".

There is however no hard evidence that I have seen to support that LBL 412D is the same car other than circumstantial timing and the fact that that it was the first pre-production MGC GT development car produced.

James Hall BSc (Hons) FRICS







Data from MG Car Company VMC Production and Delivery Records.									
CLASS	CHASSIS	COLOR	SPD	SPD	NOTE	DESCRIPTION	BODY	ENGINE	CLST
NUMBER	COMMENCED								
101	03/11/1966	BL-BLK-BLK	STD. H	O. H. SP. TO BK. P. HOD. 147H		Scid to Development	000004	107	
102	03/11/1966	GY-BLK-BLK	STD. H	O. H. SP. TO BK. P. HOD. 147H		Acid to Development	0100001	105 Home	
103	14/11/1966	WH-RD-BLK	QID. H	O. H. SP. TO RD. P. HOD. 147H	LBL 587E	Ex. Storing Development w/ren. Oil	000007	116	
104	03/11/1966	WH-RD-BLK	AUTO. MA	O. H. SP. TO RD. P. HOD. 147H		Autulm - Development	5	114	
105	14/11/1966	BL-BLK-BLK	QID. H	O. H. SP. TO BK. P. HOD. 147H	FRX 612G	Development	000000	118 Home	
106	14/11/1966	BL-BLK-BLK	AUTO. H	O. H. SP. TO BK. P. HOD. 147H		Development	000006	110 Home	
107	28/11/1967		AUTO. STD. H	O. H. SP. TO BK. P. HOD. 147H		Org built by r/sa Salva	Autz 195		
108	03/11/1966	BLK-RD-BLK	QID. MA	O. H. SP. TO BK. P. HOD. 147H	Scid by direct channel 04/12/66	Development	000000	113	
109	03/11/1966	GY-BLK-BLK	AUTO. MA	O. H. SP. TO BK. P. HOD. 147H		Development	000002	118	
110	03/11/1966	North G.D. Sealed	QID. MA	O. H. SP. TO BK. P. HOD. 147H		Development	000002	108	
111	03/11/1966	North G.D. Sealed	AUTO. H	O. H. SP. TO BK. P. HOD. 147H	LBL 612D	Development	000007	114 Home	
112	10/11/1966	Beige / RV	QID. H	O. H. SP. TO BK. P. HOD. 147H	LBL 613D	Development	000007	106	
113	10/11/1966	Beige / RV	QID. MA	O. H. SP. TO BK. P. HOD. 147H	Development Green Tack Development 10/10/67 Development 27/11/67 Cut Up & Stripped	Development			
114	20/07/1967	Regency RD. RD (VMA 1000)	QID. H	O. H. SP. TO BK. P. HOD. 147H		Development			
KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS									
Recipient = Body Colour - Trim Colour - Head Colour			SPD = 4 Speed Manual		O = 1475 White				
GT = Body Colour - Trim Colour (in green ink)			QID = Competitive		H = Heber				
			Auto = Automatic		SP = Curving SP				
BU = Mineral Blue					Redick				
GN = Birch Road Green					TC BK = Tonsen				
					TC RD = Tonsen				
WH = White (Gross Old English White)					H = Heber				
					NVA = North America				
					Spec				
BLK = Black					P. HOD. =				
Metal GD = Metallic Golden Beige					P. HOD. =				
Beige = Sandy Beige					P. HOD. =				
Metal SH BL = Flamingo Silver Blue Metallo					P. HOD. =				

## MEMBERS CARS

Hello

A quick update on the progress of my MGC Roadster restoration. I previously told you I had moved the project to France after a 35 year lay-up!

Well, this summer the car, previously UMM340F was re-registered as a French historic vehicle, complete with new plate GZ 675 GT.

It took part in its first "meet" the local town square "Boisson et Bavardage" where it received a fair amount of interest - not many "C"s in these parts!

I'm delighted with the restoration - mostly my own work with a few subtle improvements, though the amazing David Duppi of Issigeac did the bodywork / paintwork and the car now looks as new.

Graham Bibby





## CARS FOR SALE



Longstanding C Register member and supporter Bob Cole is selling his tidy primrose yellow MGC roadster. Unfortunately he feels at an age where he can't really drive it much longer. Well maintained over many years ownership, Bob has driven this on many Register events in the UK and around Europe.

Contact him for more information on 01276 465581 or 07796 831082

## Love it or Hate it ?



## YOUR C REGISTER COMMITTEE

The Chairman –Mark Downing

[mgc.register.chairman@gmail.com](mailto:mgc.register.chairman@gmail.com)

Secretary— Mike Haughton

[mgc\\_mike@btinternet.com](mailto:mgc_mike@btinternet.com)

Treasurer—Angie Haughton

[mgc\\_angie@btinternet.com](mailto:mgc_angie@btinternet.com)

+44 151 336 1994

Registrars — Barrie & Ginny Cartmell

[barriecartmell@me.com](mailto:barriecartmell@me.com)

[ginnycartmell@btinternet.com](mailto:ginnycartmell@btinternet.com)

Vic Young

Our Technical advisor

What he doesn't know about MGCs.....

[vjyoung@btconnect.com](mailto:vjyoung@btconnect.com)

Colin Howes

Tim & Virginia Hodgkinson

Martin Reynolds



Hi MG Enthusiast (UK),

The Book, 'MGCs Down Under', is now available.

**Description:**

The chapters cover a range of topics from the creation of the MGC, with a particular focus on the Australian connection, personal stories from MGC owners, Bruce Ibbotson's modification and RichardMixture's technical ramblings, to how the new MGC ended up Down Under in Australia, New Zealand and Papua. It also includes a list, with thumbnails photos, of MGCs in Australia and New Zealand - who knows, yourMGC might be there.

**What it costs:**

It's excellent value at AUD \$79 for the soft cover, AUD \$110 for the hard cover (only 100 copies available). Australia Post charges AUD \$58 postage to the UK.

**Quotes:**

"No other MG book that I have, has so much technical information about problems and the fixes required, it should become a reference book for MGC owners." Bruce, Aust.

"The second MGC book following Graham Robson's "Abington's Grand Tourer" to be published and it is a great read, informative, amusing and RichardMixture is a national treasure! If Graham was still alive, he would have been most pleased to see it." Barrie, UK.

"I want to say that I am amazed at what was done by the guys in Australia and New Zealand to improve the C. You really put together a fine book ..." Jeff, USA.

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No doubt you are aware of the book 'MGCs Down Under'. I have finally sorted out the links and now the MGCs Down Under website is live.

Please have a look. <https://www.mgcsdownunder.com/> (to purchase the book)

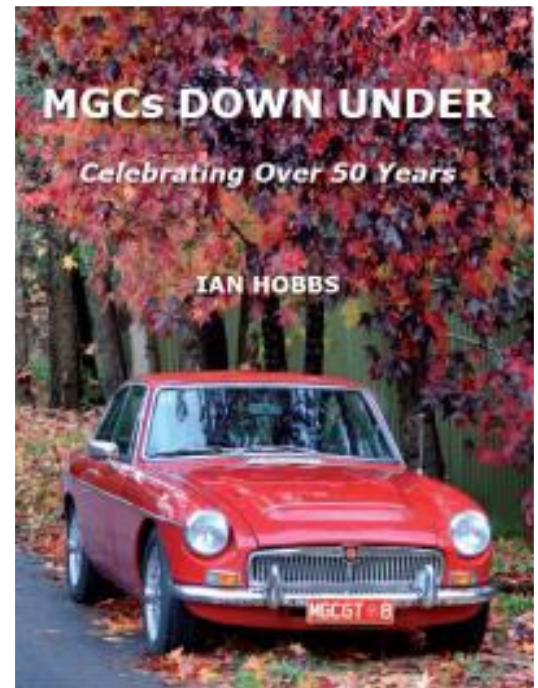
Please share the website with your members. Thanks

**Ian Hobbs**

MGC Co-ordinator

MGCC SA [mgcgt@optusnet.com.au](mailto:mgcgt@optusnet.com.au)

I can highly recommend this book having got a copy, its very interesting.



And finally, we have a range of clothing items available via ACE, this is just an sample of some of the things available, many more items and colours available. Just a note that the sizing is on the snug side.

## MGC Register Merchandise Store

Order on-line here:

<https://mgcreg.ace-online.co.uk/catalogue>



Polo Shirt £15  
T Shirt £10  
Sweatshirt £20  
Hoody £25  
Bobbie Hat £15  
Beanie Hat £10  
Baseball Hat £10  
Fleece £25  
Softshell Jacket £29.95  
Parka Jacket £40  
Soft Padded Jacket £40  
- Plus Postage (multi items same cost)

