Archive, History and Trophy Report for 2022.

Not a lot to report in respect of pre-war cars, however, an interesting exercise carried out assisting one of our SE members find an MGC GT to his liking. We must have trawled through via the Internet for all the cars on sale during the middle of last year.

Amongst those for sale was a Genuine Downton Engineering modified car which was originally part of the McGlen collection. Unfortunately, when inspected, recent poor quality restoration work had been carried out. It was highly priced with little room for negotiation in order to bring it up to the standard it deserved. It had been for sale for some time which proved a point. A genuine ex police car was again spotted, again not quite what the advertisement stated. Pleased to say a good car was eventually found in Scotland.

I obtained a copy of the recently published ‘MGB The Superlative MG’ by David Knowles, after all this time, and as many books, good to see different material still being published. Interesting to see Richard Clark’s former MGC GT an automatic and originally built for Sir George Harriman now resides in France. Before moving, Richard asked me to see if we could unite the car’s MGCC event plaques with the newish owner. Still working on that one with the MGC Register.

As many of you will already know our presence at Brooklands events always creates a lot of interest amongst the public in general.

At the British Marques Day in April, we included a timeline to mark the 60th birthday year for the MGB, we were fortunate to be able to include an early build 1962 car which had been tastefully restored to its very early factory condition.

Thanks to a SE Centre member we had three Farina Magnettes on display which created a lot of interest on the day and subsequently the website. A rare MG Airline Coupe also turned up of which fifty were only ever built.

In turn this car also created a lot of interest, in fact one gentleman who spoke to us said he was aware of another Airline being rebuilt in America and that was not the car which featured on Wayne Carini’s ‘Chasing Classic Cars’ shown on Freeview TV.

Lastly, an American who was visiting the UK came and asked if we could identify for him the MG models that would have been driven by the late Pat Moss as he is in the process of writing a book about her. We did our best to point him towards the relevant cars on display.

You never know who is likely to be present at these sorts of events!

As 2023 starts the 100th birthday celebrations for MG, Brooklands have asked us to mark the year by providing a timeline at the ‘Best of British Day’ on 7th May and have indicated they want to feature period race cars at the Double Twelve on 17th and 18th June.

Trophy Report

Pleased to report the SE Centre now has a replacement ‘Magic Midge’ trophy largely down to John Morgan’s efforts. This is issued on an annual basis following the best result achieved at various driving tests. Unfortunately, the original was lost a few years ago as a result of the death of a previous recipient and his next of kin not appreciating the trophy belonged to the club.

A subsequent decision has been taken that all trophies will be clearly marked MGCC property and signed for with the recipient’s name and contact details. It is also the responsibility of the person receiving the award to return it to the SE Committee at the end of their tenure.

Pleased to report all trophies for 2021 were issued by the end of 2022, the delay being due to Covid restrictions earlier in the year.

In order to gradually bring us back into line with previous custom, 2022 awards will be issued on 21st May, Kingscote event.

John Davies