**MGCC SE Centre – AGM notes for Trophies and Archives 2025 AGM**

**Trophies**

Over the last year further trophies have turned up relating to past SE Centre events these have been donated by past members/families or in one case by Bognor Regis Motor Club.

I was contacted towards the end of last year by the above club regarding a trophy they had had for some time which had not been issued by themselves. They asked if the SE Centre would like to have it as part of our collection. It was duly sent to our home address and as the picture shows it is basically the same as ‘Summer Gathering-Spirit of The Event’ trophy we have been issuing for some years, however this one is in better condition than ours due to return by post damage!

The inscriptions read: -

The MG Car Club Award. Best performance by a member of the SE Centre in an MG.

Last awarded in 2001 to Valerie Gilmore, an earlier recipient is John Watson.

(*Thought to relate to the time when Abingdon Works was part of the SE Centre*)

Turning to the other donated trophies of interest the following have turned up via William Opie:-

Flemings Thorough Bred Sports Car Championship Classes B and D.

Last awarded to Colin Jones class B in 2002 and Roger Connel class D again in 2002.

Additionally, the Geoff Mabbs Trophy to MGCC relates to Adrian Beer in 2007.

(*The three above trophies are all silver plated not solid silver – in case anybody has ideas of what we should do with them!)*

The previously donated ‘Carissima Cup’ was issued in 2023 as a Spirit of the Club award and will continue in that capacity.

The Committee are currently looking at the future issuing of trophies and keepsakes in this ever-changing world. This is a considerable drain on the SE Centres finances particularly in respect of the keepsakes when they must be posted and not collected by the recipients or passed on by other members. However, the change of format for the Autumn Awards lunch where trophies/keepsakes could be collected over just coffee and cake did result in a greater number of face-to-face issue of awards.

The Banana trophy was awarded to Andrew and his father Vic. jointly for 2024 based on Andrew being the most successful driver at the Brands Hatch Spring meeting and Vic for preparing the highly successful MGC and recognition of his racing and preparing these cars over the last fifty years. Vic did not race in 2024 as suggested in February 2025 Safety Fast. (See archives below for the trophy history).

**Archives**

Our two-day Fairmile/Brooklands event attracted some interesting cars not necessarily seen together before.

At the Fairmile a 1966 MGB GT turned up with a German registration number, not a member of any UK MG club and was purely passing by. It transpires the owner restored it under John Twist’s guidance whilst in the United States. As the owner works in various parts of the world for some time he had applied for German registration as that was to be where his next work contract would be and storage for the car whilst he finished work in India. (The Indian Licensing Authorities had not been at all helpful).

We welcomed the owner to our event and John Day ‘as a mark of friendship’ gave him an application form and details for MGCC membership.

As you may know John Twist attended one of the recent Fairmile natters where he together with the ex-University Motors guys gave an interesting talk, our thanks to Jon Glover and Ian Ailes for setting these talks up.

On the Sunday at Brooklands, we were able to see two MG PA Airline Coupes together for the first time. The two tone blue deluxe car belonging to Mike Long from the Isle of wight and the maroon car belonging and recently restored car William Opie. As many of you will know there were of course many other interesting cars but these two attracted the public interest.

Currently the Committee are in the process of copying an archive sound recording kindly loaned by Philip Bayne Powell of a talk given by the late George Eyston on his successful career racing MG’s. Once copies are made these will then be available to the Natter Group leaders to present to meetings. It is hoped a donation can be made when talks are given to support our charity supported at the time.

Back to the Banana Trophy, it maybe of interest to see the original 1934 MaGazine which I have on display referring to the original presentation of this trophy to the MG Car Club by CMI for the club’s Chiltern trails. The magazine was found by our son when clearing out an elderly car enthusiast’s collection of non-MG items.

John and Gwen Davies