



Edinburgh, Lothians and Borders MG CLUB

www.MG-Edinburgh.co.uk



July 2026



Photo:
Steve Hastwell

Club Run to Bo'ness Car Museum

Credits: Helen, Keith, Steve, Peter, Martin

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Our new committee member



Name: Keith Chinnery

Occupation: Retired Insurance Loss Adjuster

MGs and current state of repair: My first foray into sports car ownership was a Triumph Spitfire in Java Green which I actually shared with my mum!



I eventually sold the Spitfire and bought a 1974 MGB Roadster in Citron - with my brother's 'B.



I remember it was ten years old at the time but incredibly it needed new front wings and sills and a new hood. Clearly cars were not built to last in those days! I reluctantly sold the car after a few years as I moved down to Kent with work and had nowhere to keep it.

My current car is a 1973 MGB Roadster in Blaze which I have owned since November 2013.



Once I found myself in a position where I could re-live my youth and get another MG my search began. I identified a number of potential ones to look at and over the course of three days, along with my brother, we set off on our journey. This began in Glasgow and from there we headed south to Harrogate, then Kings Lynn, then Ipswich, then Bracknell and finally Reading. The car we had gone to see at Beach Hill Garage, Reading was actually a 1971 MGB Roadster and although it was completely original with a lot of history, it was going to be a major project. That was not something I had intended to do. By chance they had just taken in the Blaze MGB which they were selling on behalf of a customer. This stood out from all the ones we had looked at, particularly the colour, as Blaze was my preference. There was a problem though as once we fired it up the rear core plug blew out! After a series of discussions between the garage and the owner it was agreed that he would cover the cost of the repair. As this was to involve taking out the engine I took the opportunity to have the engine bay re-painted as it was looking quite tired. Three weeks later I drove it back home!

I have since had a re-conditioned engine fitted (courtesy of Helen), a new gearbox and overdrive unit (many of you will know the troubles that ensued there), the interior has been completely refurbished and more recently it has had a full respray. I'll leave it at that in case Mrs C reads this, as I foolishly said when I bought it that this would not cost us any money!

What is your normal car? Audi A4 Blackline. I have only recently acquired this following my retirement. I was fortunate to have company cars throughout my career, so it was a bit of a shock to the system when I had to go out and buy my own car!

How many miles did you do in your MG over the last 12 months? 3,500

Who are you insured with? Lancaster Insurance

Who does your repairs? Robertson Garage, Brunswick Road, Edinburgh. I stumbled across them by chance quite a number of years back and can't fault them. Ally and Laurence are very knowledgeable and have a real passion for cars both old and new.



TAYSIDE CLASSIC CAR SHOW



We were delighted to attend the 19th Tayside Classic Motor Show on Sunday 14th June 2026. The show is held to raise funds for local charities and over the years have donated over £114,000 to charities.

The day started early with most members meeting up at Kinross Services at 08:30 where passes were given to those who missed the club

night. An advance party (Chris, Keith, George, myself & Margaret) headed-off to establish a base camp of gazebo and flags at the showground ahead of the rest of our cars arriving. Unfortunately entry into the site was a bit slow with too many classic car entrants arriving at the same time. Eventually we were set-up and ready to look for the nearest coffee van (and of course the essential rest rooms).



The ELBMG Club fielded an entry of 15 cars accompanied by 25 club members. The allocated area was close to the food stalls and had plenty of room for the 15 cars plus gazebo. Fortunately, the grass was cut quite short and all was dry underfoot so no risk of any of the cars getting bogged down.



Over 800 classic cars, motorcycles, commercials and agricultural vehicles were at the show. ELBMGC's stand was amongst an expanse of other single marque and general club stands.



In addition to the usual stalls and auto jumble an entertainment ring which held displays by a Pipe Band, Scottish Country Dancers and a Dog Agility Team. Later in the day some car clubs also had the opportunity to circle the arena, showing-off their (mostly immaculate) cars. Next to the showground was a Sunday Market and Car Boot sale, in case anyone needed retail therapy.

This was the first time ELBMGC has been to this event and it didn't disappoint. Cars at the show, ranged from huge American muscle cars through to cute Japanese Nissan Figaros, alongside the customary range of classics from just about every British marque. Overall quality of the exhibits was high, evidence that classic car enthusiasts (like us) have put tremendous effort to present their cars in great condition.

Overall, it was a super day; the weather was kind to us, bright and dry, although sometimes with a cool breeze.

Many thanks go to Peter for organising the day and to him and Helen for the photos. Also many thanks to members who made this an enjoyable day: Keith, Craig & June, Jim F, Jim T & Marjorie, Tony & Caroline H, Ronnie & Caroline K, Ian & Chris L, Helen, Simon, Neil Mac, John, Andrew, Phil, Donald, George, Chris W, Peter, Fraser and Margaret - as well as our canine members Hector and Cooper. **Steve Hastwell**





RUN TO BO'NESS CAR MUSEUM and RAILWAY

A gloriously sunny day saw us assembling at the Klondike Garden Centre at Polmont and it was good that some Stirling MGOC members could join us. We had seven ELBMG club cars and four from Stirling, with a good range of models - an MGA (Donald), a V8 conversion (Jim F), 3 MGBs (Steve, Keith & George), 3 GTs (Peter & Fraser, myself & Joan and Brian from Stirling), a Midget (Nigel & Sue from Stirling) and 2 TFs from Stirling (Joe & Alan).



Steve had planned a scenic route over Clackmannan Bridge to the Powmill Milk bar for a light snack - i.e tea, coffee, pancakes, bacon & egg butties, strawberry tarts and whatever else took your fancy! The place was stowed out with Bikers and families, but Steve had booked us a table and we were served fairly quickly considering how busy it was.

Feeling refreshed, we set off on the second part of the route going over the Kincardine Bridge back to Bo'ness, even taking us through some areas I didn't know - which is amazing after 40 years of doing MG runs!





Steve, being well organised, had arranged a private parking area at the Bo'ness and Kinneil Railway. Not everyone went to the Car Museum, but those who did enjoyed the wealth of cars and film memorabilia.

I had Joan as my navigator as her GT was without an overdrive and since I'd been to the museum and she wasn't that keen, we were in the small group that went straight to the Railway for lunch - where we met Eion & Wendy McLean from the Glasgow MGOC, who'd come to meet us. Sadly, Eion can no longer drive and is selling his lovely MGC roadster.

After lunch and a quick look at Lord Roberts (the steam engine on duty) we headed for home. A most enjoyable day and thanks to Steve for some of the photos and organising it all so well - and to Keith who helped check the route. As ever, I'll finish with some general photos, including some delights of the car and railway museum. **Mrs Grumpy**





SKIPTON STREET PARTY WITH A DIFFERENCE

Sunday 7th June 2026



About 200 vehicles of all sizes and ages took over Skipton town centre this year from 10am to 4pm - quite spectacularly with beautifully turned out vehicles.



Although a fabulous day and the triple fly past of a D-day DC 3 Dakota was welcomed by the crowd, my original idea of a weekend away for our club proved not to be an option. They specialise in individual vehicles but not clubs. It works beautifully for them but not for us.



I would happily recommend this event for an personal weekend away - you can enter privately by Googling the Skipton Car Show, which will give you information and booking details for next year's show. **Martin Fraser**



INTERESTING CAR

Spotted by Martin at South Gyle



Sunbeam Stiletto

THE GREMLIN HAS FOUND A NEW HOME

Keiran took the Wee Madam (my TF1500 bitzer) away and got her starting and running well. So, on a glorious sunny afternoon in late summer, I took her for a run with Dave Mac riding shotgun. In her normal fashion, we got about three miles down the road before something went wrong - the ignition light came on. Not being sure how long she would run on battery alone (for hours apparently) I did a circular route and headed for home.

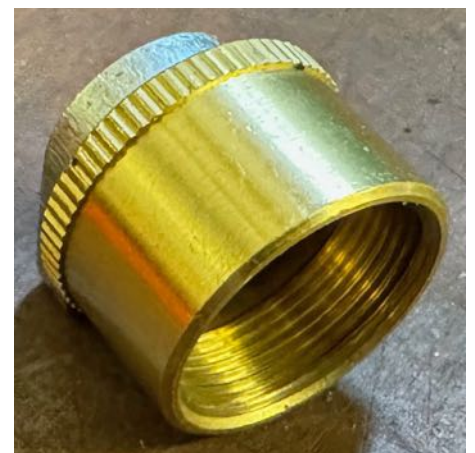
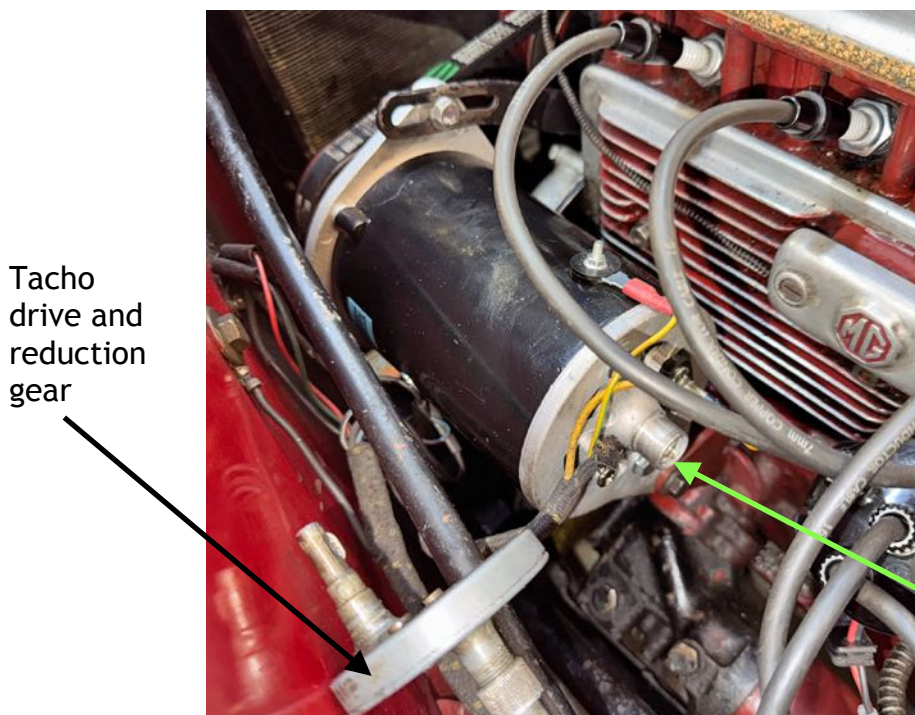
Close inspection revealed one of the wires had come off the dynamo as there wasn't much of the connector sticking out for you to attach it to. Dave Mac managed to pull out the connector and hold it while he attached the wire. That lasted five miles before the wire fell off again.

Rather than faff around with the dynamo (someone in the past had twisted the connector, presumably to stop it moving) I decided to buy one of those alternators that looks like a dynamo since I thought that might be better with the electronic ignition. This time I managed to get a negative earth one, with Tacho drive, for a TF from NTG Motor Services who were very helpful - even phoning up in a panic because they'd sent a positive earth one by mistake! Anyway, the correct part arrived and sat on the shelf as I wasn't for taking the Wee So & So out in winter and I'd to wait until Keiran was free.

Keiran came down in April and swapped them over in two hours - which was pretty good as you've to remove the control box from the equation, causing a wiring glitch - no headlights! Soon sorted and the Wee Madam was now running well, charging well - but had no rev counter because the Tacho drive brass attachment would only screw on about a quarter of the way, so the drive wasn't connecting. Keiran didn't want to force it obviously, so I ordered another of the brass connectors - thinking I could attach it as Keiran had done the difficult stuff.

The new part arrived and only screwed a quarter of the way on the new alternator, but (you'll be ahead of me here) would screw all the way on the old dynamo. So the new alternator has either a faulty or the wrong thread. Botheration. NTG said they'd send a carrier to pick it up when I let them know I'd got the new alternator off the car and removed the pulley.

Not something I'll be doing myself - I can manage changing the alternator on the GT or the V8 as they're right in front of you and you've got oodles of room. Not so with a TF, plus you're bending over a wide wing - my pelvis moves out of position just thinking about it!



The wrong thread where the connector above should screw onto, holding the Tacho drive in place

Nice mechanic Jim removed the offending alternator so it could be sent back and he removed the pulley - which fought back a bit, but it was separated with the use of the appropriate tool!

Duly phone NTG to let them know the alternator was off the car and when could they deliver the replacement and pick up the faulty one. I got someone 'on the ball' as he said they had another negative earth in stock, he'd get a new brass connector and check it would attach properly. And you've guessed it - it didn't, sticking about a quarter of the way down the thread. The guy was very apologetic - all his positive earth ones are fine, but his two negative earths (mine being one) have the wrong thread.

NTG contacted the manufacturers and weren't happy as apparently all the negative earth ones have a metric thread. NTG had a good play around with their one and got one of their connectors about three quarters on, with a reduction gear attached (to see if it was working - it was) and four washers just to take up the slack. So they sent me the whole shebang FOC - which was very nice of them as it was £120 worth!

It all sat around until nice mechanic Jim could pop round and fit the alternator and Tacho drive. He wasn't totally convinced about NTG's system - but he got the connector far enough down that the drive worked and he used three of the washers to take up the slack. And it works - we've a rev counter!!

Mrs Grumpy

PS: Went to take her for a run and the steering is locked solid!

PPS Have attached a photo of the Wee Besom in typical mode - being towed back by the GT!



FOR SALE

eFOLDi mobility scooter - should fit into an MGB GT. Only used at 12 shows, so as new. Offers when seen. Contact Andy Baillie at 0131 440 0799

ELBMG CLUB CUSTOM SHIRTS

We now have some club branded apparel available for purchase by club members.

Polo Shirt @ £16.50, grey

Dress Shirt @ £20.50, blue, short sleeves

Fleece Jacket @ £20.00, grey

Available in sizes S/M/L/XL/XXL/XXXL

Also available with your name on, please confirm details with Steve if you wish to order

CLUB BBQ

The annual club BBQ will be held at the August 13th meeting at Boroughmuir at 7.30pm

McKenzie catering will provide Burgers etc for £15 a head and the club will pay the first £10 - so you only have to pay £5! Please let Allan know if you are coming and transfer the £5 a head to the club bank account. 80-22-60, 14185469.



EDINBURGH MG CLUB

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Monthly meetings at the rugby cub, second Thursday of the month, 7.30 for 8pm

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

All provisional

July 4 *Seafield Gala - see Martin*

July 8 *Coffee & Classics, 10.30 - 12.30 Archerfield*

July 9 *Monthly Meeting*

July 11 *Dunbar RNLI. Contact Martin*

July 12 *SVVC Glamis Castle Show with Tayside MGOc*

August 12 *Coffee & Classics, Crieff Hydro*

August 13 *Monthly Meeting, BBQ & Raffle*

August 21-23 *Weekend away to Cumbria Classic show at Dalemmain House, near Penrith*

September 9 *Coffee & Classics, Melville Castle*

September 10 *Monthly Meeting*

September 13 *Carhailes at Newhailes House*

October 8 *Meeting & Raffle*

October 14 *Coffee & Classics tba*

October tba *Last run of the season*

November 11 *Coffee & Classics, Mortonhall*

November 12 *Monthly Meeting*

December 10 *Monthly Meeting*

December tba *Xmas Dinner & Raffle*