



NEWLY RESTORED



managed to gather together all the correct bits. I had intended to return the car to as close to original as possible. Having secured a full complement of Lucas lamps as well I feel I've achieved my ambition, I made a new dash from a piece of applewood, with the help of a template.

just been out for my first run in the car, and completed 90 trouble-free miles.

"There's a synchro 'box, hydraulic brakes and direct positive steering. I think that considering my overall outlay of £7000, I've got a splendid example of a rare early-1950s MG, and I'm certainly happy with that."

"Mechanically the

Around the world in 40 years

Brian Shackleton, a 54-year-old restaurateur from Budleigh Salterton in Devon, came by his rare MG YT tourer after a friend in London found it recently imported from Canada.

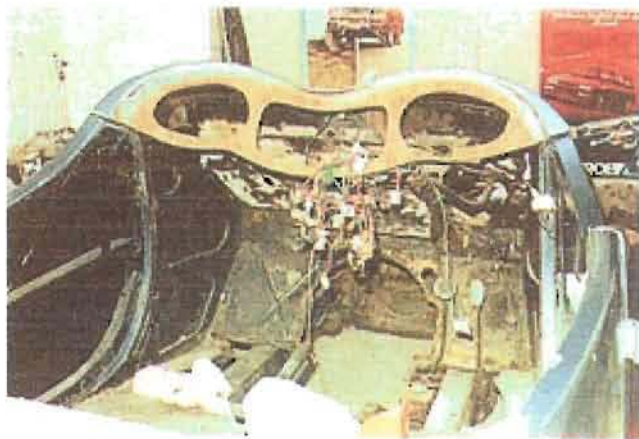
The 1950 open car had originally been exported to Singapore and was one of only 200 made in right-hand drive form.

"After I'd got hold of the car I took it to our local village garage," explained Brian. "Although the car was tatty, a strip-down revealed absolutely no rust whatsoever."

"We stripped the engine down and refurbished it, although it was in fairly good order to start with. The

chassis proved to have been twisted but Dennis and David Smith, the intrepid garage men, tracked down a jig for us to make sure we could get it true again. The body was shot-blasted and revealed that it had been painted three times, originally in Sequoia cream, but had been resprayed both black and metallic blue during the last 40 years. We painted the car ivory as it was the current colour closest to the original.

"The trim was sound - a few bottles of proprietary cleaner brought the seats up well. Unfortunately the dash was missing and a whole host of strange Japanese gauges and dials were scattered around. After a long chase I've



Shell of the MG YT tourer

engine was fine, the front and rear springs were renewed and the electrics were revitalised, care of a new loom made up specially to my specification.

"Looking back at my first restoration it's been a rewarding, not a daunting, task. The YT isn't a complex car to work on, which helped matters, and with the excellent assistance of Dennis and his son, the task was completed well within our six-month time limit. I've



Engine before restoration

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