

Winchester MG Owners Club 1022



June 2022

A road trip to Europe

Richard Knight

2022 is the 75th anniversary of the MG Y Type saloon and tourer. To mark the occasion a Y Type owner based in Epe, Netherlands had organised a Y Type gathering for Sunday 8th May 2022. The opportunity of a tour was too hard to resist for me and my regular navigator, so here is report of our adventure.



Tuesday 3rd May, we set off early at 5am and decided to take M27 east bound and follow the coast road towards Folkstone. We had driven just over 2 hours and were east of Brighton, close to Newhaven on the A27 when we pulled in to large lay-by for leg stretch and to find some cover from a hedge row to help irrigate the local flora. By around 7-30 the traffic had picked up a bit and we were due to resume our journey but as I pulled on the starter knob there was no response, the engine was dead with nil turnover. After an hour spent trying to sort out the problem, I conceded that the best option was call to the RAC and they quickly diagnosed that the battery was at fault as the dynamo was not supplying sufficient a charge to keep it topped up. The fact was that for first time in long while I had driven for 2 hours with head lights on and this had highlighted an underlying problem. Thanks to modern technology, a quick google search and two mobile phone calls, d was able to establish that Curd Brothers in Tunbridge Wells were able to look at and hopefully sort the problem. The trouble

was that they were approximately 40 miles from where we were stuck. Thankfully the superb RAC breakdown driver was only too happy to assist and follow me all the way to Curd Brothers with a couple stop for a top-up charge along the way. After we arrived at Curd Brothers a quick examination found that the brushes were stuck in the dynamo and the regulator was faulty. Less than 2 hours later, we were back on the road and heading towards Folkestone again.

We arrived at the Eurotunnel and crossed over to Calais, then headed for our first campsite at Ypres without further issue or delay. We pitched our tents and put the YB inside a farmyard outbuilding for a dry covered park up.



Wednesday 4th May we paid a visit to Ypres.

Thursday 5th May we visited Brugge using the train.

Friday 6th May, another early rise, and journey to Epe. We had last minute change of plan to the scheduled route as I had planned to go to the North West part of Netherlands to visit another Y Type owner. However, having re-visited the distance on google maps and re-studied the ap, it was jointly decided this was a step too far for one day. So, we headed to Epe a day earlier than planned and had a long journey crossing over the border from Belgium into the Netherlands



with an all-day drive and with the last hour on the motorway to ensure arrival in Epe before dusk.

Saturday 7th May, in the town of Epe there was local Classic Car and Spring Music event with live bands, which I was told was organised by the local retailers. The town was full of people and there was a large mix of car marques on display. The sun was shining and it was fantastic day with two Ys on display and my car being the only UK registered vehicle at the show.



Sunday 8th May, there was a gathering of 12 Y types in total, which is a truly superb gathering for an event held in mainland Europe. There were some superb cars on display and the MG car Club of Holland had provided sponsorship for the event. There was some nice cake and champagne to help us all celebrate this remarkable event. The hosts and their fellow guests all spoke superb English and made us most welcome.



Monday 9th May we left at roughly 9-30 for a trip to Arnhem, where we were due to stay on a campsite at a working farm in Doorwerth. For no other reason other than because I could, I decided I wanted to cross the border into Germany, simply to add another country to the list of countries we had visited. We planned a slight de-tour to our route and crossed the border. We filled up with fuel and had a cake stop at town called Vreden. We then drove back into the Netherlands and en-route to Arnhem stopped at a car sales showroom gallery called Gallery Aaldering <https://www.gallery-aaldering.com/> There were 4 or 5 floors ram packed with some very exotic 6 figure

priced vehicles. We only stayed for brief flash review as we had been on road for bit and were keen to get to our campsite. But if there were more time, one



could easily have stayed for longer and enjoyed a cup of tea or coffee at the café on site. On arrival we pitched our tents and again I parked my YB inside a farmyard outbuilding. The farmer moved their large combine harvester to allow space for YB to undercover in a secure area.

Tuesday 10th May we had day trip in Arnhem

Wednesday 11th May, we drove from Arnhem to Ypres and then returned back to the campsite. It was very hot in the mid-20s and a mixture of rural and more urban driving. Despite built-up slow-moving traffic around Mechelen in Belgium, we got to Ypres without any problems.

Thursday 11th May was the last day of the trip. Having camped for 9 nights and 10 days away, this was the only time we had rain, which was overnight. However, the tents were kept relatively dry by the wind and we were up at 5am. Away by 6am, we took main roads, N roads and the A16 to Coquelles for the channel tunnel journey home. We managed to get on the 08-20am crossing arriving back in Blighty at 07-55 UK time.



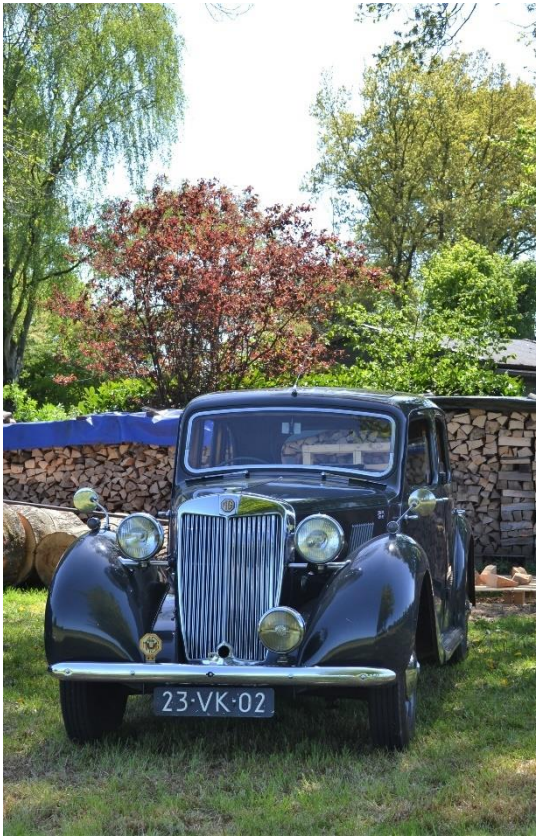
As we drove back towards Hampshire, I discovered that a fuse had blown. I had no fuel gauge or rear lights. This had happened previously on my trip to Western Isles of Hebrides in 2020. I re-fitted a spare fuse and we soon stopped for full-monty breakfast at a place called the Village Shop and Café at Etchingham, East Sussex.

We eventually arrived home at 1-30pm, just after my YT had arrived home from a wedding duty. (Ed. As reported in the last newsletter). This completed the trip and the total mileage was 1019 miles, with only overnight rainfall throughout the 10-day trip. Another very successful journey in my 1952 MG YB.

I can bet that the workers at Abingdon back in the 50s would never have envisaged the humble Y Type going on such a journey in 2022 and beyond. Here is to many more years of happy motoring in what surely is truly green car, compared to today's more throw away modern cars that last perhaps 10 to 15 years before they are scrapped.

(Ed. What a great time everyone had – great to see MGs bringing people together!)







Sally and I took the TF on the Southampton and New Forest Run on Sunday 12th June. We arrived at the start point in Boldre where we enjoyed a second breakfast of bacon rolls and coffee that would help sustain us until lunch. There were around 160 cars taking part and a large number of these were already at the start and displaying the route banner.



We planned to meet up with Sally and Allan in their Midget. They joined us shortly afterwards having gone on a small unplanned detour. A very friendly chap called Adrian joined our planned convoy in his vey souped up MGF.



He was on a day pass as he had left his wife at home looking after a one and a four-year-old. We passed many fellow MG'ers along the way at pubs or having picnics with an exchange of hearty waves.

Two other WMGOC members attended, it was good to see Richard Knight and Saul Duck in their lovely YBs. The weather was glorious and surprisingly the roads were not overly busy, even the Mamils (Middle Aged Men In Lycra) were far fewer in numbers than we usually experience on the Forest roads.



The cars all set off in small groups around 10:00am. We had a very enjoyable two-hour drive to our first stop at the Lamb inn in Nomansland where we keenly knocked back our first pint.



We then sat out on the green and enjoyed a picnic lunch. After lunch we set off for our final destination The South Lawns Hotel. We had driven 75 miles in some of the best countryside so the Cream tea was a very welcome end to the run.

Of course, there was a raffle in which both Sally's won two prizes, Sally R was very pleased to win an MG hat and sported this on the way home. A great day out and a big Thank you to the organisers.

Tony & Sally B



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Please mention WMGOC when asking for a quote for your car, house or other insurances

The New Forest Run – Take Two!

Richard Knight

(Ed. I received two reports on the New Forest run which was obviously very much enjoyed. I note that both mention the bacon rolls! So, here is another viewpoint from Richard)

Sunday 12th June, I entered the Southampton and New Forest 1009 MGOC 2022 New Forest Run. I have only ever partaken in this event back in 2019 and due to the pandemic had to wait until this year to partake again. I had so looked forward to re-entering this superb run around the New Forest which comprises of some lovely scenery and has some superb watering holes along the route.

I became aware of the fact that two other YTs and YB were entering the event this year on the 75th Anniversary year of the MG one and quarter litre series saloon and tourer. I made contact with the event organiser to ask for special arrangements for the cars to be lined up in row together for the special anniversary, and the club duly obliged.

The day started with my car being the first entrant to arrive with only club volunteers setting up the arrival location at the East Boldre village Hall.



Upon my arrival, I was directed to park by entrance right next to the main road, where the smell of newly cooked bacon was wafting through the air.

At 0830 hours it was time to register and collect the route book and run plate to affix to the front of the car. I awarded myself the prize for the most-wonky affixed plate as tying string or fast wraps I just could not get it to line up straight.



After the arrival of the four Y-types we soon set off to follow the route book, which I must comment was well presented and the best route book I have seen to date. Instructions were clear and apart from one junction overshoot by Bolderwood car park heading for Ornamental Drive, we followed to route directions to perfection.

We made the end point at South Lawns Hotel and were the first Y to arrive. Again, the club made special efforts to allocate a section for the Ys to line up at the end for a photo shoot.

I was pleasantly surprised to be awarded the best pre 1956 car. Certainly, there was little to choose between each of the Ys present, not to mention the other fine pre-1956 cars on display.

Finally, my thanks must go to the Southampton and New Forest MGOC for organising a fine event, with 73 miles route through the national park and what fine day of sunshine was had.

Until next year, I look back at both my New Forest runs with fond memories.

Richard Knight

MG YT and YB Custodian.



Classic and Sports Car Rally

More of the good stuff
CAFE & GIFT SHOP
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BREAKFAST CLUB

Sun. 10th July
9am 'til 11.30am
in the grounds of Worthing House

Email (sash@motgs.co.uk) or message us via Facebook to register.
FREE ENTRY. Bacon or sausage rolls, tea and coffee available.



More of the Good Stuff, The Old Stable Block
Worthing House, Basingstoke, RG23 8PX
an event with the kind permission of Worthing House

The Bear & Ragged Staff

CAR MEET
Classic - Retro - Modern



CAR MEET AND BBQ
FROM 6PM

Last Wednesday of Every Month (April - Sept)

Southwick Revival

Bob Cross

There were some MGs at the Southwick revival, a 1947 MG TC and a very nice MG YT. The MGA was nice, even if a bit out of place for the event. I was going to take my MG TA but bumped into some guys in Normandy from the War Bikes group. They were going to be at Southwick and they asked me to take my Matchless outfit and join them.





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Sunday 07 August 2022

**Sammy Miller Museum
Bashley Cross Roads, New Milton, Hampshire BH25 5SZ**

'An event exclusively for MGs'



MGOC Club Stands, Trade Stands, Grand Tombola, Book & Jigsaw Sales, Plant Stall,
Summer Hamper Draw, Craft & Gift Shops, Animal Sanctuary,
Bashley Manor Tea Rooms including BBQ

Gates open 10am

Pre-booking essential - £12.50p per person - includes museum entry

Advance booking closes Friday 15 July

(A limited number of on the day tickets will be available - £15 per head)

Full information and an entry form can be found at:

https://www.1020mg.org.uk/event/1020-big-day-out/?instance_id=297

or via email from - Chris Adamson: chris@1020mg.org.uk



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More details at www.1020mg.org.uk