

The Classic 'Y'



Issue No.204 June 2008

EDITORIAL

So here we go - the very last issue of *TCY*. In recent months many have said to me that it's a pity publication can't continue. Well, maybe... Just what's brought us to this state of affairs anyway?

In recent years there have been momentous changes, completely unforeseen in the late 1970s (when *TCY* began) in communications, transmission and storage of information, and to a significant extent in people's attitude towards historical archiving in general, and the concept of registers in particular. I refer, of course, to the coming of the Internet and e-mail. Over the last ten years or so I seem to have presided over the slow and painful death of the conventional postal system. First to go, really, was the cost-effectiveness of sending any kind of printed publication overseas. It was always fiddly and messy, and now it's just so expensive into the bargain. It's no wonder people turn to e-mail. The early 1980s were probably the "golden age" of *TCY* and this kind of "club" newsletter.

Admittedly, over the last twenty years or so my interest in Y-Type M.G.s has declined, and other people and groups have thereby "moved in on me". It seems I'm only truly happy when I'm researching new topics which no one has hitherto thought worthwhile. And furthermore, my interest wanes when a "project" is no longer exclusive to me, is no longer "mine". I would additionally make the (perhaps questionable) assumption that nowadays there is very little indeed still to find out about Y-Type M.G.s. So, I have moved on to other things.

I only owned a Y-Type for ten years and now concede that one can't keep a specialist newsletter which is dedicated to them at the forefront without day-to-day practical experience of maintaining and operating the cars and/or going out around the country specifically to dig out further information for new articles etc. Over the last thirty years I have also discovered about myself that my talents (such as they are) lie with "shuffling paper" rather than physically working on (restoring) old cars.

cont'd...

Strictly Non-Internet

Finally, something must be said about the loss of the marque to China in 2005. There should have been more resistance to this; after all, we lost a significant part of our English heritage with the departure of "M.G.". The argument that "there just isn't the money in this country" just doesn't hold water. One more example in thousands of the steady and insidious erosion of our culture since the end of the Second World War. Of course, one can understand the mercenary stance of the major worldwide M.G. Clubs - they lick their lips at the possibility of attracting thousands of new members from China and elsewhere, if and when modern M.G. production gets into full swing. But by thus taking the "global" view, can these people in all conscience still be regarded as true "M.G. enthusiasts"? Only time will tell, I suppose. But I just know it's not for me, that's all.

Thank you all for your unbelievable long-term loyalty. No one would surely credit it that thirty years after *TCY* first appeared there would still be half-a-dozen or so stalwart subscribers from those very early days. M.G., the Y-Type Register and *The Classic Y* have been a very large part of my life, and have changed my life, too. You know how people say to enthusiasts with an all-consuming interest they want to devote more time to, that they "should not give up the day job"? Well in 1985 I did, and look where it's got me! Take care everyone...



There follows the final part of our "Reference Library"/*TCY* Index...

Restoration Narratives & Car Histories, etc.:

			Published in TCY etc.
<i>Popular Motoring</i>	03/81	"Love At First Sight"	(1)
<i>Practical Motorist</i>	06/79	"Cars Worth Keeping - M.G. YB" Pt.1 by Phil Reckless	(2) 23; RSA; 119
<i>Practical Motorist</i>	09/81	"Cars Worth Keeping - M.G. YB" Pt.2 by Phil Reckless	(3) 120
<i>Practical Motorist</i>	03/87	"Cars Worth Keeping - Morris Eight Series E"	(2) 175
<i>Wheelspin</i>	12/78	"Have You Ever Felt That You Were Meant To Buy That Car?" by Ron Gay	(2) 20
<i>Wheelspin</i>	??/84	"Maintaining The Brute" by A.Bird	(8)
<i>Safety Fast!</i>		"Y-Type Story" Pt.5 by Jonathan Oglesby	(3)
<i>Safety Fast!</i>		"For The Love of a 'Y'" Pt.1 by Julian Alderton	(2)
<i>Safety Fast!</i>		"For The Love of a 'Y'" Pt.2 by Julian Alderton	(1)
<i>Safety Fast!</i>	03-04/77	"HOJ Does It Again" by Peter Jones	(2)
<i>Safety Fast!</i>	01/94	"Is There a Bucket in Your Boot" (poem)	(1)
<i>Safety Fast!</i>	01/95	"The 'Light Restoration'" by Jerry Birkbeck	(1)
<i>Safety Fast!</i>	01/95	"Thank God It's Finished!" by I.C.Hazell	(1)
<i>Safety Fast!</i>	01/95	"A Y's Buy" (poem)	(1)
<i>Enjoying M.G.</i>		"'Y' Type Y Not ?" by Peter Davis (includes drawing of a "Y" by A.Morgan)	(4)
<i>Enjoying M.G.</i>	07/96	"Special M.G. Y-Type Saloon" ("KSC171")	(2)
<i>Octagon Bulletin</i>	04/86	"Why - Oh! Y?" Pt.1 by Stephen Harris	(5)
<i>Restoring Classic Cars</i>	11/88	"Survival Course" (1947 "YA" restoration)	(4)
<i>Your Classic</i>	07/90	"Around the World in 40 Years" (1950 Y/T restoration)	(4)
<i>Practical Classics</i>	10/91	"Black Beauty" (Dennis Jeynes' "UMG480")	(4)
<i>Practical Classics</i>	12/91	"Reader's Restorations - 'Basket Case' M.G." by Miles Harris	(1)
<i>M.G. Enthusiast</i>	03/06	"1940s Hot Wheels" (Y/6551, "KSC171")	(5)
<i>M.G. Enthusiast</i>	08/06	"A Tradesman's Tail" (ex-Mervyn Davies Pick-up, ex-"UMG594")	(5)
<i>M.G. Enthusiast</i>	04/07	"Why So Rare?" (Y/T/EX(U) 1977)	(4)
<i>Auto Express</i>	No.186 21-27/04/92	"Q.C. Pleads Guilty to Love of Classics" (features red Y/T, "RSU541")	(2) RSA
<i>Thoroughbred & Classic Cars</i>	08/93	"Y/T For Two"	(6)
<i>Classic and Sportscar</i>	02/95	"Wolseley Eight in Hong Kong - ripe for revival"	(1) 171
		"Maharani - The Story of an Indian Princess" (Y/2399 history) by Geoff Becher	(2) AUS-1
		Y/2437 history	(2) AUS-7
		Y/3755 history by Bill Spall	(1) AUS-3

Y/T 4017 history by Kerry Reily	(1)	AUS-8
Y/5539 history by Gary Turner	(3)	AUS-5
Y/6448 history by Kerry Reily	(1)	AUS-8
"'Y' Not" by John Allen	(1)	AUS-7
"Organising a Rebuild" by I.Pattenden	(2)	AUS-12
"The 'Y's and Wherefore of Y/5460 ('UMG235')" by Tory Skopecek	(10)	
TCYs: 76; 77; AUS; 79; 80		
"The Restoration of 'Enterprise'" by John Lawson	(32)	
TCYs: 2; 6; 11; 15; 18; 27; 29; 36; 37; 42; 49; RSA; 50; RSA; 51; 52; RSA; 53; 65; 66; 67; 69; 72; 75		
"Virginia - or Pitfalls in Your Restoration" by R.S.D.Shepley	(3)	2
"Love Story" by D.G.Eaton	(1)	3
"The Re-incarnation of 'MKA933'" by D.Green	(5)	59
"The Ardill Family Y/T" by D.Ardill	(8)	73; 75; 77;
		AUS (Pt.3)
"10 Years Ago" by C.Dye	(3)	54
"Restoration Tips" by R.McManus	(1)	2
"The M.G. Y/T" by H.R.Sanni	(2)	99
"M.G. Y/B Tourer" (Y/T 3208) by R.Prior	(4)	145
Cartoon, "The Perishers" (comment about scrapping of "Y"s to supply TD spares)		
by Neil Cairns	(1)	139
"So 'Y' Do We Do It? - A short story about the survival of the marque"		
(justification for scrapping "Y"s to ensure the survival of others)		
by Jeremy Havard	(3)	147
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"'KSC171' - Development & Modification History" (Y/6551) "Register News" notes	(1)	168
"KSC171" (Y/6551) (two photo pages)	(2)	170
"My Owner Loves Me!!!" (YB/1041) by John Watson	(2)	180
Building of a Special from Y/3540 ("FDW693") by Gordon Talbot	(5)	197

Miscellaneous Items:

		Published in TCY etc.
Autocar	11/03/49 Letter No.61802 "Cars For Export" (& photo of Canadian "Y")	(1) 69; RSA
Autocar	05/05/50 Disconnected Jottings by "The Scribe"	(1) 94
Autocar	11/09/53 Photo of Y-Type towing a Wessex caravan	(1)
Autocar	Various Various letters from readers about Y-Types	(4) 61; 86; 89;
		RSA (61)
Motor	02/12/53 "Why an American Buys a British Car" (with reference to the Y-Type)	(1) 94
Practical Classics	04/92 Details of 1/43rd-scale metal Y-Type model/kit	
	from R.A.E. Models	(1)
News on Wheels	22-28/03/89 Cover photo showing Y/5020 (Louisiana, U.S.A.)	(1) RSA
Malvern Southern Cross	12/89 photo showing Y/4146 (Victoria, Australia)	(1) RSA
Motor Sport	06/70 Letter outlining the virtues and drawbacks of the YB	(1)
Motor Sport	08/70 Two letters extolling the virtues of the Y-Type	(2)
The Sacred Octagon	05-06/72 "Interchangeable Parts Between "T" Series M.G.s & Various Other Makes of British Motor Vehicles"	
	by Robert F.Gibson	(8) RSA
The Sacred Octagon	12/93 "How is the Auspuff?" (discussion of various types of stainless steel for exhausts) by Ralph Cacace	(1)
Safety Fast!	02/76 Photo of Norwegian Y-Type ("YA14378") on cover	(1)
Safety Fast!	04/94 Removing rust by electrolytic action by Dave Romer	(1)
M.G. Enthusiast	02/95 Details of R.A.E. "Y" model/kit range	(1)
T Times	Fall '93 "Storage Tips for the T-Series M.G."	(2) 176
	Details of 1/43rd-scale R.A.E. model Y & Y/T	(1) AUS-2
	Restoration of choke & starter cables	(1) AUS-6
	Tips on wheel repairs by Tony Slattery	(1) AUS-10
	Designations of nuts and bolts fitted to Y-Types	(1) RSA-13
	Fitting child safety seats in Y-Types by David Mullen	(1) 102
	Details of 1/43rd-scale metal Y-Type model/kit from R.A.E. Models	(3) 108; AUS
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	"'Y' Values" by Neil Cairns	(2) 133
	Greetings Card, "M.G. Summer Rally" (featuring the MGYTR spotlight covers)	
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Notes

- Figure in brackets after description of item indicates number of pages comprising that item.
- Abbreviations in 'published in' column:
AUS: Published in Tony Slattery's Australian Y-Type Register newsletter **or**
original of item sent to Tony Slattery to help in setting up the Australian Y.T.R.
RSA: Published in David R.Lawrence's South African Y-Type Register newsletter
or original of item sent to Dave Lawrence to assist in preparation of *Let There Be Ys*.

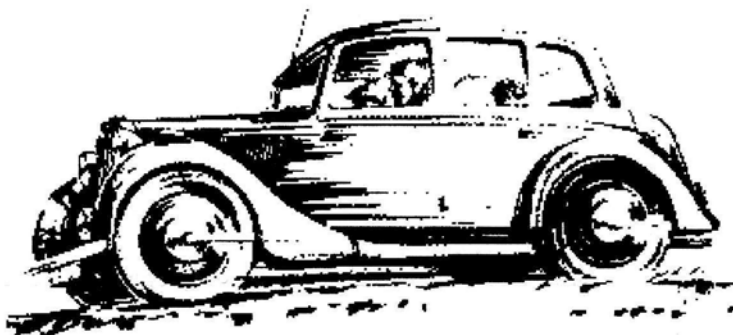
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Thank you...