

The Classic "Y"

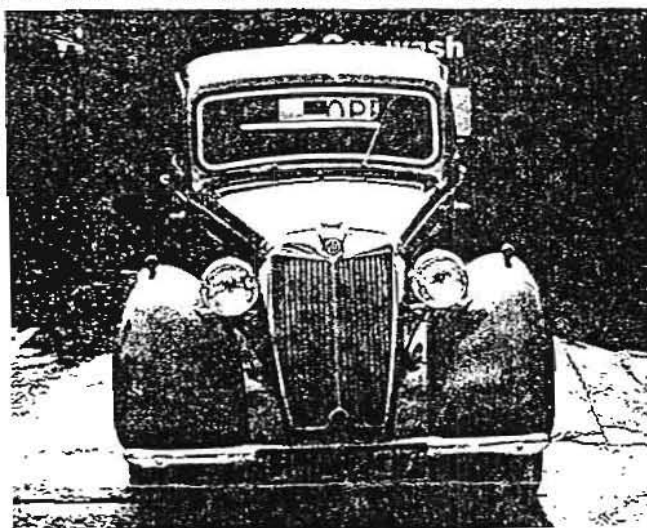


Issue No.129 January 1996.

The Newsletter of The M.G. "Y" Type Register

EDITORIAL:

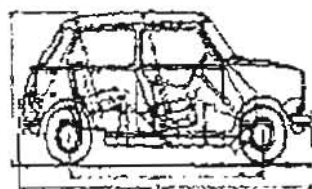
A useless piece of information: This is the first January issue of "The Classic Y" since 1981. Meanwhile, below is YB/0858, details of which can be found on page 6.



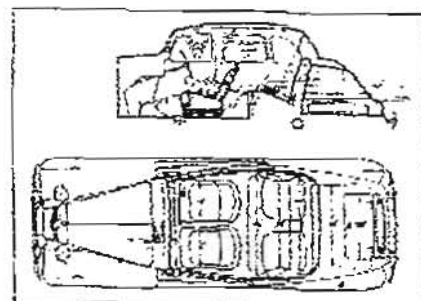
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U.K. Spares Co-ordinator (second-hand spares): D.Mullen, [redacted] Liverpool, [redacted]
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M.G. Y Register Danmark: F.Neumann, [redacted] Stoholm, Denmark.

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Y-TYPE & MINI



COMPARISON OF PASSENGER COMPARTMENT DIMENSIONS

		<u>MINI</u>	<u>Y-TYPE</u>
Wheelbase		80.16"	99.00"
Width of passenger compartment			
	front	47.00"	37.00"
	rear	41.00"	39.00"
Height from seat squab to roof			
	front	37.50"	35.00"
	rear	33.50"	33.00"
Leg room			
	front	44.00"/41.00"	40.00"/35.50"
	rear	44.50"/38.50"	31.00"/26.00"

Overall length of car	120.25"	164.00"
Overall width of car	55.50"	59.00"
Overall height of car	53.00"	57.00"

I think the above figures go to show just what a miracle of packaging the Mini was.

John Lawson. ☺

LETTERS

Dear Mr. Lawson,

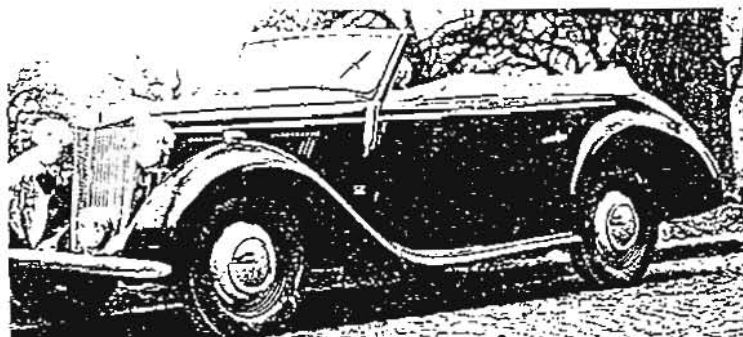
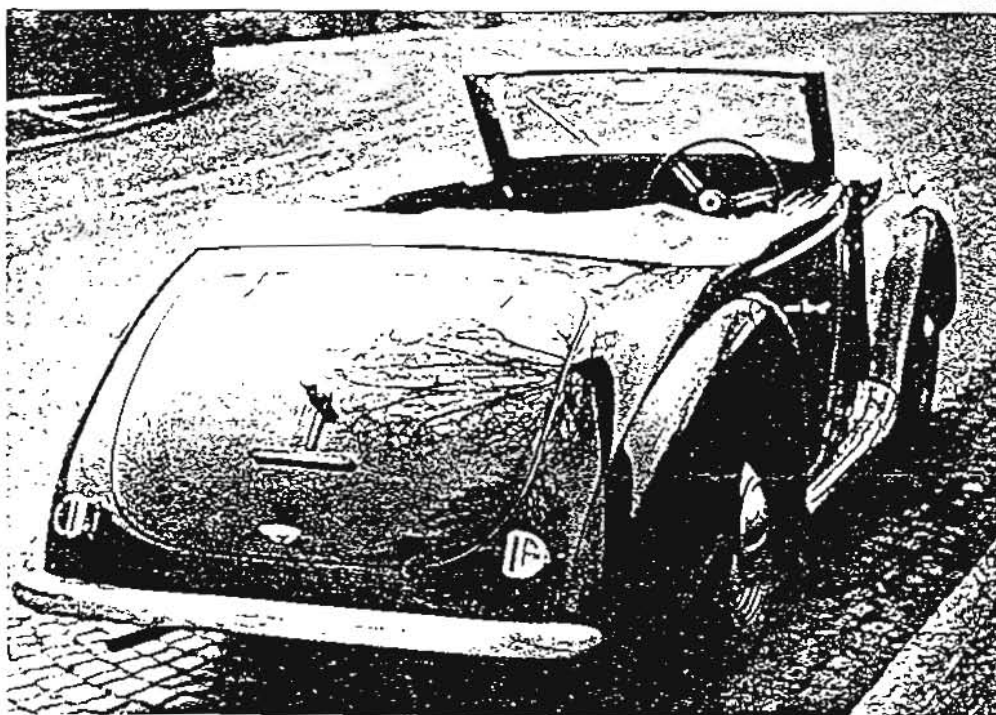
In my last letter I sent you a photograph of a special-bodied Y-Type cabriolet built by the Swiss coachbuilder Beutler. You published this in your issue 127.

Since then I have found photographs (*below*) of a similar car built by Carrosserie Worblaufen. First I thought that this was the same car and that it had been attributed erroneously to Beutler. But then I realised that the Worblaufen car and the Beutler car were different cars, because the Beutler car had "suicide doors" as against the doors mounted at the front end of the Worblaufen car. The shape of the front wings is also different.

The Worblaufen car shows by far the best design of all special-bodied cars known to me. It is well documented in the book of Günther, Rive Box and Stoop: "Schweizer Automobile", ISBN 3-9802766-2-7, page 184. The photograph of the Beutler car I sent you before was published a couple of years ago in the Swiss weekly "Automobil Revue".

So, the mystery of the nine "chassis-only" cars seems to come a step nearer to its solution.

Dr. Tobias Studer,
[REDACTED], Switzerland.



cont'd....

Dear John,

I have the answer to the questions over YB/0322, "438LRM" (see TCY128 "Register News" - Ed.).

It was involved in a bad accident, at a roundabout in Wetherby, Cumbria, in about 1963, and was relegated to one of the barns at the premises of Mr. Bliss. He kept the number of the car for his new one, obtaining a 1963 number for the M.G.

By 1983 the car was in a very sorry state, and it was decided to restore it. I have contacted the restorer, Mr. Hutchinson, who tells me the car needed quite a lot of new panels, and the mileage was 32,079, from his records. The present 49,900 may well be its true mileage. The car was originally Almond Green all over and Mr. Bliss specified the lighter colour to make it into a two-tone. The lighter colour is Cumberland Green; like Almond Green, this is a B.L. colour.

It is believed that the chrome horns (mounted either side of the radiator grille - Ed.) were original.

Neil Cairns,
[REDACTED],
Bedfordshire.

Spares for Sale & Wanted

For sale: Gearbox, clutch, brake drums, steering wheel and column, cylinder head, rocker box cover and other Y-Type parts. Contact: Mr. M.G.W. Jones, [REDACTED], Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, [REDACTED] Tel: [REDACTED]

MG YB FRONT and rear wings, second hand but good £250. Lea Francis 14HP gearbox £75. Austin Heavy 12 gearbox 1927, £75. Large amount of brake cables, oil and air filters, cheap. Other old stock - ring for details. Shepley Lane Garage, Hawk Green, Marple, Stockport, tel 0161 427 3671 (T1)

MG 'Y' TYPE wheel brace wanted. Also MG 'M' type radiator block, headlamps, bronze carburettor, side/rear valances, hubcaps, dashboard, instruments, switches and panel, windscreen frames, doorlocks, steering wheel, bonnet sides and catches wanted. MG literature required. Tel [REDACTED] (1/11)

MG YB GEARBOX must be good or TD gearbox. May consider good gearbox parts for overhaul. Mr A Atkins [REDACTED]

MG Y BONNET £80. Austin T0/4 Cambridge front axle £45, radiator very good £75, propshaft £15, wheels 3 off £25, rear axle £45, boot £25, bonnet £45, steering box wheel etc £35. Other parts Riley RM petrol tank £35. M Malledent, [REDACTED]

Member Mike Silk, of [REDACTED] Wakefield, [REDACTED] would like to know how to take a Y-Type bonnet catch apart. Can anyone help him?



Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency
Driver and Vehicle Licensing Centre
Driver and Vehicle Policy Group
Longview Road
Swansea
SA6 7JL

GTN 1213
Telex 48102

Telephone
Fax

Your reference:

Our reference: Budget 1995

Date: 29 November 1995

Dear Sir/Madam,

In his Budget speech, the Chancellor of the Exchequer announced that vehicles over 25 years of age in the Private/Light Goods, Motorcycle and Tricycle classes will, from 29 November 1995, be exempt from Vehicle Excise Duty (VED). Vehicles powered by steam will qualify for an annual VED rate of £35.

From 29 November 1995 vehicles qualifying for the exemption will move into the new exempt "25 year" tax class. They will still be required to license annually and display a tax disc, and produce a valid MOT and certificate of insurance.

The age of vehicles will be reckoned from 31 December in the year they were first registered (or the year they were first used on the road if that was earlier). Vehicles qualify for exemption when 25 years has elapsed from the qualifying date, ie on 1 January. So, vehicles first registered or used in 1969 will be exempt from 29 November 1995 and, from 1 January 1996, vehicles first registered or used in 1970 will also become exempt and so on.

For vehicles qualifying on 29 November 1995 and which have a current VED licence in force, DVLA will be sending automatic refund applications (Form V14/AR) showing the amount of duty refundable. This is calculated on the complete months remaining on the VED licence following the vehicle's 25th anniversary. When this has been completed and returned, DVLA will arrange for a refund to be despatched within 6 weeks. Keepers should not return the VED disc with the V14/AR application form, but continue to display it on the vehicle until the licence expires. On expiry of the licence DVLA will issue a re-licensing reminder (V11) in the new exempt "25 year" class, showing duty payable to be "NIL". Keepers may use this to re-license at any Motor Vehicle Licensing Post Office.

Once DVLA has authorised a refund of VED, the tax disc will have no value and no subsequent applications for a refund received at DVLA will be valid. Therefore, anyone purchasing a qualifying vehicle after 29 November 1995 should be aware that no further refund will be payable on the surrender of the licence. Similarly, anyone disposing of a vehicle with a tax disc, to which a refund has been made, should inform the enquirer that the vehicle is exempt from duty, a refund has been paid and the disc has no value.



A Keeper of a qualifying vehicle not identified under DVLA's rebate scheme may license in the new exempt class at one of the Agency's local Vehicle Registration Offices, providing the date of registration or manufacture is shown on the vehicle's registration document (V5). If the V5 cannot be produced, the keeper will be required to prove the age of the vehicle. This might be done by producing a certified extract from manufacturers' records or, if the manufacturer is no longer in existence, a formal statement from an enthusiast's club. You may therefore receive a sudden surge in requests for written confirmation of vehicles ages.

Vehicles registered under a "Q" registration mark will not be able to claim the exemption, until they have held that mark for a period of 25 years.

Vehicles over 3.5 tonnes which are designed or adapted to carry goods or burden but which were formerly taxed as PLG because they were used privately or unladen have been transferred to the "Special Vehicle" group and will therefore pay a VED rate of £150 per annum. Administratively, they will be termed "Private/HGVs". Vehicles used laden for HGV driver training and testing will pay the basic goods VED rate of £150 per annum, irrespective of their weight. The pre-1947 concession has been abolished and the 25 year exemption will not apply to the above vehicles.

Further information regarding the 25 year exemption can be obtained by contacting the Customer Enquiries (Vehicles) Unit, DVLA, Swansea, SA99 1BL. Telephone 01792 - 772134 (Minicom 01792 - 782567) between 8.15 am and 4.30 pm Monday to Friday.

DRIVER & VEHICLE LICENSING AGENCY

Dealer News

Just one "New Discovery" for you this time. Register No.1205 has been allocated for YB/0858. This YB was first registered on 27th November 1952 and originally had engine no. SC/17754 (sic - I think that should be "SC2" - ed.). It was purchased from University Motors and registration number "UM1237" was transferred to it from the new owner's previous Y-Type. A replacement engine (no. SC2/RS19069) was fitted at Abingdon in 1961 when the car underwent an extensive refurbishment (total cost £497-13-11d.). About six years ago the original Sun Bronze exterior paint was resprayed using a metallic Daimler-Benz shade which gives a more greenish appearance. YB/0858 today belongs to Mr. Peter Arnell of [REDACTED] Surrey, and is London lic.

THE M.G. 'Y' TYPE REGISTER

Annual Summary of Important Statistics (as at 1st January 1996)

	<u>1996</u>	<u>1995</u>
YAs on the Register (of which 13 are left-hand-drive)	665	651
YBs on the Register	253	244
YTs on the Register	223	217
YRCs on the Register	3	3
Specials/Composites on the Register	14	13
Unknown (mainly saloons) on the Register	50	51
Total number of cars on the Register	1,208	1,179

as classified by chassis number:

1947	65	64
1948	101	100
1949	281	274
1950	195	193
1951	98	94
1952	89	84
1953	97	96
TOTAL	926	905

Number of cars in each country: (33 countries in 1996, 32 in 1995)

England	569	554
Australia	313	309
U. S. A.	118	114
Republic of South Africa	47	47
Scotland	31	30
Wales	18	17
Eire	16	15
Canada	15	14
Switzerland	12	11
New Zealand	11	11
Netherlands	9	9
Northern Ireland	9	9
Denmark	5	5
Singapore	5	5
Belgium	4	4
Channel Islands	3	3

Two each in Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Germany, Portugal, India and Norway.
(same as in 1995)

One each in Madeira, Japan, Zimbabwe, Cyprus, Hong Kong, Bangladesh, Macau, Namibia, Austria, Finland and France.

(France is a new entry for 1996, although it has appeared in the stats in previous years).

Cars for sale

"M.G. Y-Type, 1950, BRG, original green leather interior. RHD, 'UMG186', old log book, V5, sunroof, walnut dash, octagonal dials, stored 20 years, running but needs work on brakes and sills. Must sell, space needed, old motorcycle taken in p/ex. Tel: [REDACTED] (Tyneside)".

"M.G. YA 1951, Almond Green, restored rolling chassis, body rebuilt and resprayed professionally (cost over £2,000), rechromed, new tyres, wiring loom etc. Complete car but some work required to finish project. Original instruction book, known history. £4,000. Tel: [REDACTED]"

"M.G. YB 1954 (sic), good reg', undergoing complete body and chassis restoration. Anyone interested? Tel: [REDACTED] Wick for details on [REDACTED]"

"For Sale. M.G. YB 1953. Black with green upholstery. Very good condition and very reliable; engine rebuilt, body good, rechromed, rewired. No tax required. Reg No.: MG7317. £5,500. Contact: Gordon Talbot, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Cumbria. Tel: [REDACTED]"



This is YB/0322, which is owned by Neil Cairns. Neil has written a couple of good articles for us, and these should be appearing in the next issue of TCY.