

The MG Car Club presents



90 YEAR TIMELINE

MGB GT V8

1973

Launched in 1973, the V8 powered MGB combined the GT body style with a powerful 3.5 litre light alloy V8 engine. Around two thirds of production were chrome bumper and the balance with the later rubber bumpers. Valued by enthusiasts for its effortless performance, understated style and rarity.

Clive Wagerfield

This is one of five Pre-Production Development cars built at the Abingdon plant in 1972 to evaluate the Rover P6 3.5 litre V8 engine. This car (VIN 96) has its original registration, MMO 229L. It is the second right-hand drive variant and is finished in Glacier White with its original 1800 spec Navy Blue interior trim. As a development car it has many unique features notably the engine bay was modified to accommodate the V8 engine by reverse welding segments cut out of the inner wing. It became a template for production MGBs thereafter. The car reached 222 kph (138 mph) during tests in France by Alec Houslow, foreman of the Development Department and former riding mechanic to the racing legend Nuvolari.

