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## Electrifying modern twist on classic car

**A** fledgling Midlands-based motoring manufacturer has drawn inspiration from the MGB Roadster of the 1960s to produce an electric version of the classic (Dominic Walsh writes).

RBW EV Classic Cars said that it had worked with Continental, which provides the technology for Formula E electric racing cars, to produce “a vehicle with the

aesthetic appeal of a classic car but with modern electric engineering”.

RBW, which takes its name from the initials of the three children — Rose, Becky and Wes — of Peter Swain, the boss, began as a classic car restoration business, but it moved into the field of electric classic roadsters after Mr Swain’s wife, Jane, expressed an interest in driving an MGB but considered them unsafe and unreliable.

After constructing a

pre-production vehicle, an initial 30 of the limited-edition, hand-built models will start early next year. Prices start at £95,000, plus taxes.

Mr Swain, right,

managing director, said that, under a patented system, the electric

motor was at the rear of the car, with the lithium-ion battery technology under the bonnet.

Mr Swain, 51,

who has a background in electronics, said that the RBW system and architecture could be installed in other body shells, including the classic Austin Healey, E-Type Jaguar

and Mini. “Each car can be built to the clients’ personal specification. The opportunities are endless, safeguarding the future of classic motoring,” he said.

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RSW

The MGB Roadster has been given a new lease of life by Peter Swain

Peter Swain of RBW EV Classic Cars says “with the aesthetic appeal of a classic but with modern electric engineering, the opportunities are endless, safeguarding the future of classic motoring”.