

Tracing a puzzling misfire on a Factory MGBGTV8 and finding replacement wiring harness clips



Ian Ailes says "you will recall my MGBGTV8 developing a misfire which I eventually put down to a crushed fuel line above the filter on the bulkhead. However the problem came back. I decided to replace the Newtronic electronic ignition with an Accuspark unit. This seemed to transform the engine on a test drive until I pulled up in my drive and it promptly and conveniently cut out! I got it to start again, but then the same old problem again - shut the bonnet and it cut out. This was at 9 pm and it was booked in for its MOT 12 hours later.

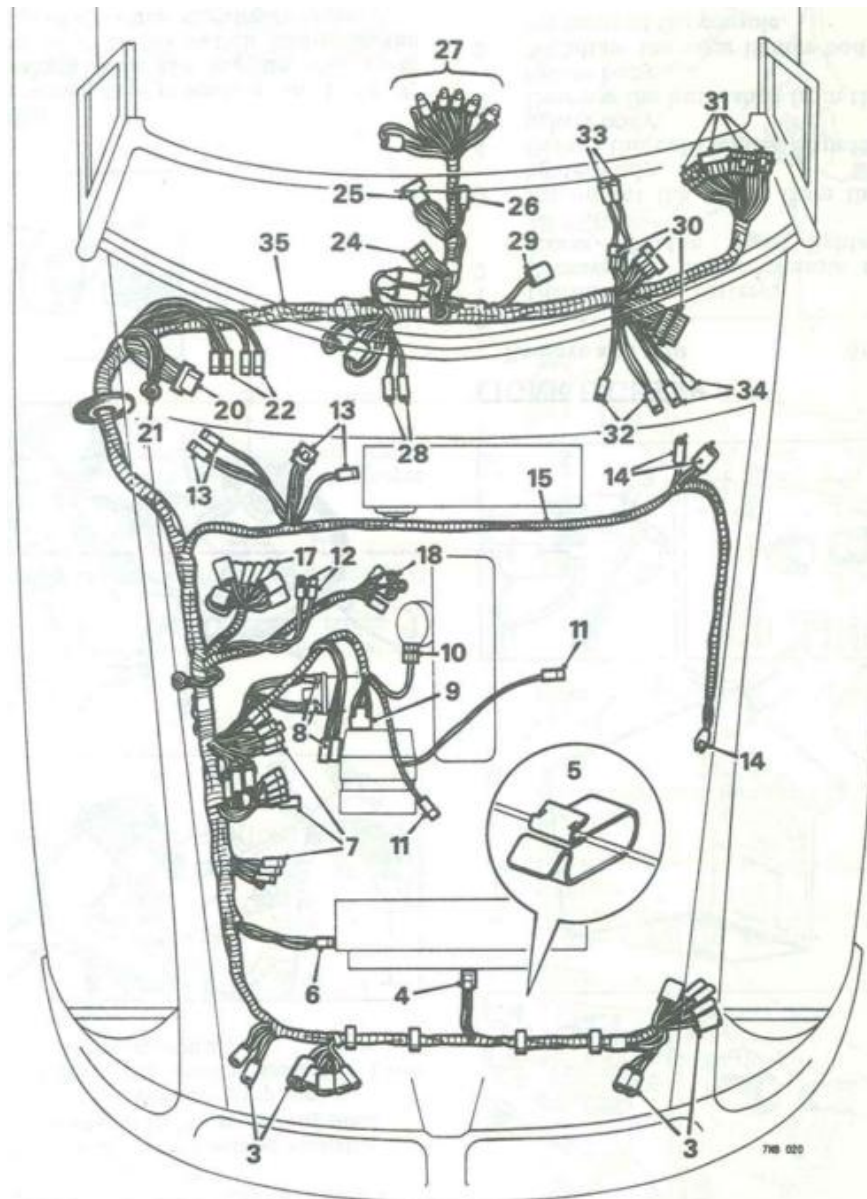
Looking very carefully around the engine bay I then noticed the front wiring loom was damaged; it had been fouling on the bonnet catch and of course, the catch had worn through the loom. Thankfully the problem was finally solved and was temporarily fixed with some tape.

I imagine that when the car was resprayed by a previous owner, they discarded the wiring harness clips which go on the panel above the oil cooler (the bonnet lock platform) and in their place put in "P" clips neatly underneath. The original MGB loom would have gone through the hole in the brace panel below but the v8 loom is too thick so the Factory introduced clips, which the rubber bumper cars also use, to fix it to the front of the panel well away from the bonnet catch. Imagine my relief at solving this one. (Ignore the white wire in the photo (top right) as this was for the old electronic ignition and redundant.)"

Barrie Jones said "I think you will find that the braided wire is actually pink, not white. It is the resistive wire that originally powered the ignition coil. It is drawn on the wiring diagram as a zig-zag. Your V8 was originally fitted with a ballasted coil, which you will have hopefully replaced with a 12 volt coil when you installed the electronic ignition.



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Ian Ailes enquired “do you know if these clips are available anywhere? – see **item 5** on the diagram of the main wiring harness above. I cannot find a part number anywhere but they are mentioned alongside the diagram as the **harness retaining clips on the bonnet lock platform.**”

Peter Beadle responded saying “there are two sizes of this clip - **BHA4232** the smaller clip is designed to support two cable bundles up to 1/4”dia each and **BHA4233**, the larger clip which is designed to support two cable bundles up to 5/16”dia each. Both sizes were used on MG Midgets whereas the MGB Parts Catalogue AKM0039 only lists **BHA4233 Clip –edge** on page 108-H 50. I think that both Moss Europe and Brown & Gammons supersede the two part numbers above to a “similar” clip, **BHA4473**, which performs the same function and still looks correct. They both currently have a stock of **BHA4473** (Wiring Edge Clip) at approximately 60p each.”



When you look up BHA4233 on the Moss Europe website it says it has been superseded and directs you to **BHA4473** as Peter says:

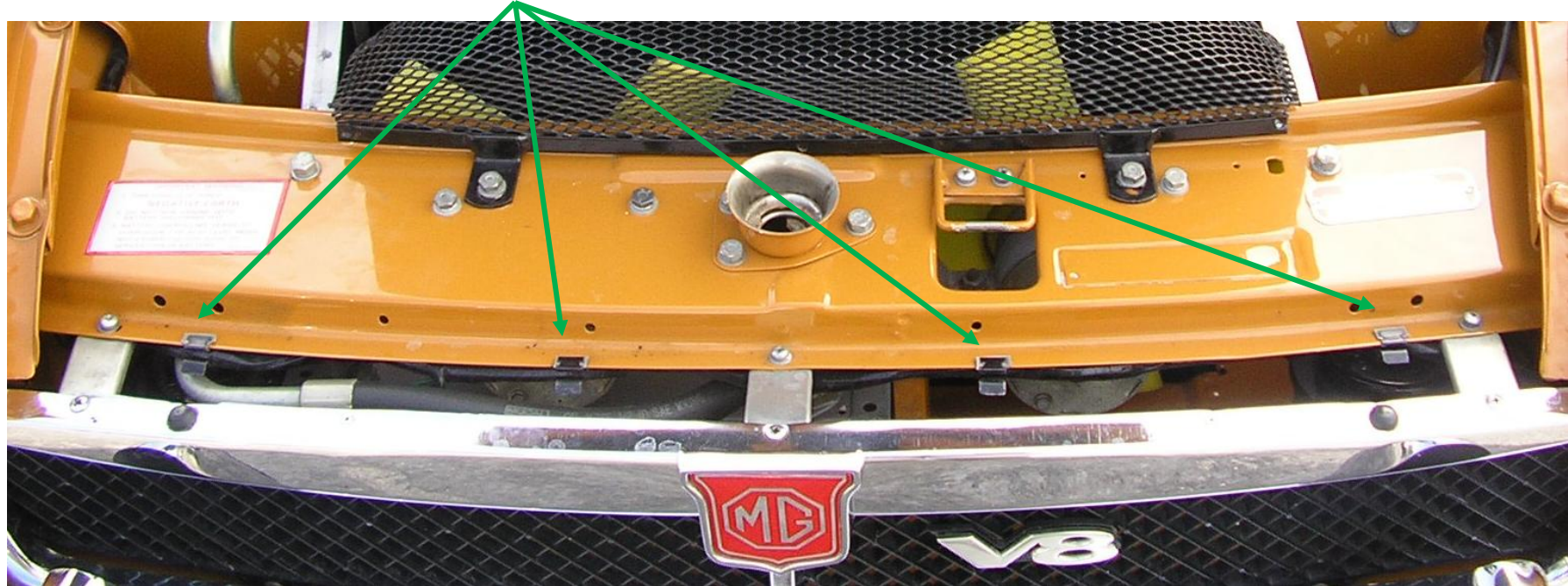
The product you have selected, **BHA4233**, is no longer available and has been superseded by the product below. If you wish to purchase this product, click the add button below:

Part #	Description	Application	Price	Qty Rqd	Qty	
BHA4473	Clip: harness to bonnet lock platform Note: Sprite II & Midget I only	Sprite I, Sprite II, Sprite III, Midget I, Midget II	£0.66 €0.75	1	1	Add

<http://www.moss-europe.co.uk/Shop/Superseded.aspx?pg=vp&pid=1369&opc=BHA4233&npn=14890>

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Peter Beadle provided this photo of the clip used to secure the wiring harness under the bonnet lock panel – see the **four clips below**.



He added that he had checked on his MGBGTV8 and “all 4 clips are the same and designed to accept up to two bundles of 5/16”dia cables. I also checked on my late 1979 MGBGT and found the same. I assume they were used right up to the last MGB off the line in late 1979.”