

# PLG Historic

40 year rolling free road tax exemption

## Successful tax class changes and free tax discs

Many members with MGV8s built in 1973 have report they managed to get a tax class change for their car but the experiences were varied. Some members like Paul Batho with a car first registered in 1973 were successful with an application made at a local Post Office. Paul reported he was "pleased to report that I was able to submit the change to Historic taxation class at my local post office and be issued with a 'free' tax disc". John Fry in Worcestershire reported that "the tax disc on my V8 expired yesterday, the 31st of March and I today went to my local Post Office today armed with the V5C, MOT certificate, insurance certificate and licence renewal. It could not have been simpler - the Post Office counter staff scanned in the V5C and their computer told them vehicle could be amended to Historic (which they were not able to do last week), changed the V5C to show this, then I signed - and voila a free tax disc! They sent

the V5C off to DVLA Swansea so a new one showing Historic Vehicle taxation class could be issued." But other members like Brian Western in Cornwall reported "my recent attempts to apply for a tax exemption disc from my local Post Office didn't work, they had never issued one before so I had to bundle all my relevant information up and consign it to the tender mercy of the DVLA in Swansea."

An alternative route is a direct application to DVLA Swansea and Mike Dunlop with an early V8 reported he received a new V5C noting "Historic Vehicle" and a few days later the postman delivered a free tax disc. Other members with cars first registered in 1974 but built in 1973 included a Heritage certificate in their application package and were successful in getting the V5C tax class changed and a NIL value tax disc.

Now we have seen from fellow members' reports how their VED exemption applications have been handled, we have updated our guide on applying for a change of tax class to "Historic Vehicle" and for a NIL value tax disc. We also have a useful flowchart which sets out how to find your way through the process – see copies on our "more" webpage at:

[www.v8register.net/more.htm](http://www.v8register.net/more.htm)

## What was happening to production at MG Plant around the end of 1973?

Members with MGV8s made around the end of 1973 have been puzzled by the seemingly erratic "build" dates for their cars but the country was in a state of turmoil at the time which caused serious disruption to manufacturing plants, particularly companies like MG involved in production line car assembly. At the end of 1973 and into 1974 there were some exceptional conditions affecting manufacturing industries in the UK - inflation following a major hike in oil prices as a consequence of the Arab-Israeli war, strikes resulting in power cuts and restrictions on the commercial consumption of electricity like the three day week.

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V8 Roadster conversion on a US spec MGB owned by Martin Ingram was up for sale recently