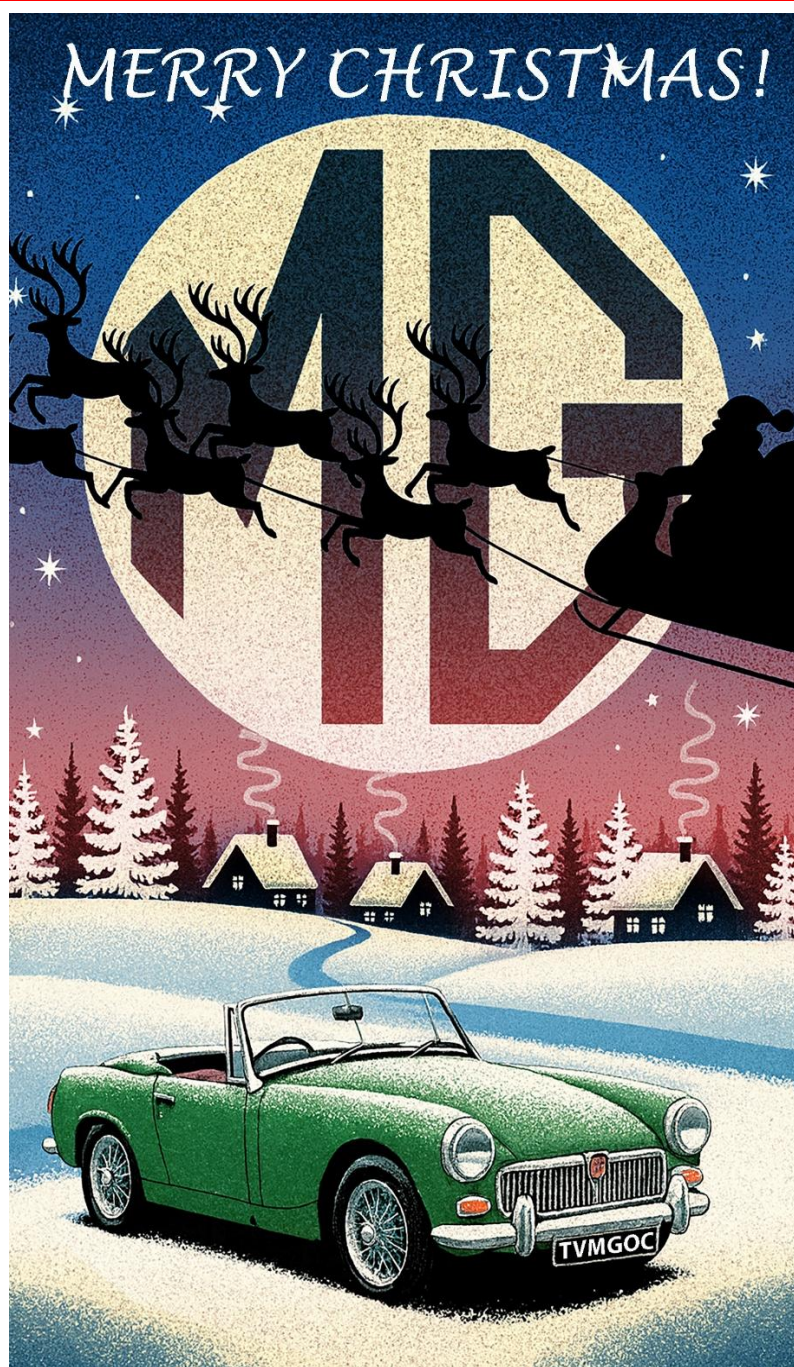




# Newsletter December 2025

**This Month**  
Committee reports  
Upcoming events  
Drive It Day fundraising



ENJOY YOUR MG MORE WITH SANTA





## Secretary's Report



Dear Motorneers,

The November Sunday lunch run was a lovely day out despite the weather. If it wasn't for our club trips like these, I'm sure not many of us would venture out on such an unpromising day. Jill and Andy's route was smashing and what with an excellent lunch at the Burrator Inn it seems a no brainer to repeat the same run again in summer when hopefully the weather will be a lot nicer.

I'm looking forward to our club Christmas lunch. Janis, aided by Jill, deserves our thanks for putting a lot of effort into organising it. As well as donations from you for the raffle, there will be a few goodies to be won from MGOC.

As we approach a new year, it is worth reflecting on the future. We are members of this club to have fun using our MGs and to socialise with like-minded people. The Sunday lunch runs are a primary way of achieving this. You have joined the club to get something in return for being a member, and to participate in the club's activities. But the traffic can't all be one way. We need drivers as well as passengers. Many thanks to those who have already said they'd organise a lunch run, especially John & Bee who do one every year. The dates we have so far are noted in the Events List but there are gaps.

For many years the lunch runs have been organised by a mix of 'ordinary' members and committee members, but recently the tank has almost run dry. It is tempting just to say, "Sod it. If no-one comes forward, then it won't happen". However, this prospect deeply troubles me. Take away the lunch runs and there's not so much left to make club membership worthwhile.

The vacuum of not having a plan in place for January has brought this issue to the fore. In the absence of anything else, once again one of your committees has stepped up to the plate (pun intended). Janis has booked a carvery on 18 January at the Hunting Lodge, Ivybridge where we hold our meetings. There will be a short run.

Going forward, expect runs to previous destinations to be repeated should we be in the same situation again, for example in February, but please make it a New Year resolution to play your part and organise something. To end on a happier note:



Happy MGing!  
*Howard*

To contact our club secretary,  
call +44 7801 055128 or email  
[clubsecretarytvmgoc@gmail.com](mailto:clubsecretarytvmgoc@gmail.com)





## Chairman's Report



As we move toward the Christmas break, I think that we can reflect on a busy and successful year for the club. Membership is strong and we have enjoyed good attendance on monthly runs, and for those of you who have taken the risk and planned a run this year - thank you!

In fact, the only item of genuine concern is the lack of volunteers to actually plan these monthly social gatherings. In my other role with St John Ambulance, I have had briefings that the volunteer sector are worried that there are fewer and fewer British people who are likely to volunteer for things, and apparently if they do volunteer it may not be for very long. The reasons are not entirely clear, but the trend affects first world countries more than others so perhaps we think that we have less time, or perhaps that we are, or feel that we are, more insulated from the society around us. We appear happy to support with money, but not with our time as there is an assumption that others will do it. Now, whether clubs like ours are similarly affected is a moot point, but I hope that those of you who are perhaps on the cusp of doing a run will be able to come forward, as it can be great fun and you will get help!

There are many exciting things to look forward to next year, and of course a particular highlight for many of us will be the mini-break. I remember going on my first one of these with a little trepidation, not certain how it would turn out, but I shouldn't have worried - it was an adventure, clique-free and great fun from start to finish.

So, let me close this brief missive by wishing you all a wonderful Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Warmest Regards

*Simon*



# 2025/26

Upcoming events – for the most up to date and detailed information see:  
[www.tvmgoc.org.uk](http://www.tvmgoc.org.uk)  
 SOME OTHER SHOWS YOU MAY WISH TO ENTER AS AN INDIVIDUAL ARE  
 ALSO LISTED ON OUR WEBSITE

Dec	Fri 12	Club Christmas lunch at Yelverton Golf Club (there is no meeting this month)
2026		
Jan	12	Club 2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday meeting at The Hunting Lodge Howard talk on their MG trip to the Pyrenees and Mallorca
	18	Sunday lunch run to The Hunting Lodge – Janis & AN Other
Feb	4	Club 2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday meeting at The Hunting Lodge – Quiz night
		Sunday lunch run – organiser required
	8	International MG and Triumph Spares Day Stoneleigh Park
Mar	1	Register for Fowey on 20 Aug <a href="https://www.foweyclassiccar.com/">https://www.foweyclassiccar.com/</a>
	9	Club 2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday meeting at The Hunting Lodge – club AGM
	20-22	The Practical Classics Classic Car & Restoration Show @ NEC
	16	Sunday lunch run – organised by John & Bee
Apr	13	Club 2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday meeting at The Hunting Lodge Possible Howard talk on The Long and Winding Road (not the Beatles song!)
2-5	TBC	Vintage Vehicle Rally, Rayle Farm. Near Redruth TR16 4QP.
	26	Drive It Day & walking Treasure Hunt organised by Jan & Howard
May	2-4	Launceston Steam Rally & Vintage Rally <a href="https://steamrally.bravesites.com/">https://steamrally.bravesites.com/</a>
	10	More To See Run – Exeter MGOC <a href="https://exetermgoc.com/2026-more-to-see/">https://exetermgoc.com/2026-more-to-see/</a>
	11	Club 2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday meeting at The Hunting Lodge
		Sunday lunch run – organiser required
	20-22	Port Eliot Motor Show <a href="https://www.facebook.com/p/Port-Eliot-Motor-Show-61578798916894/">https://www.facebook.com/p/Port-Eliot-Motor-Show-61578798916894/</a>
June	7	S'ton & New Forest MGOC - New Forest Run start & finish at Exbury Club. <a href="https://www.1009mg.org.uk/new-forest-run-2026/">https://www.1009mg.org.uk/new-forest-run-2026/</a>
	8	Club 2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday meeting at The Hunting Lodge
	16	Cream tea run Janis + Helen
July	4	Totnes Classic Vehicle Show <a href="https://riverdartrotary.co.uk/totnes-classic-vehicle-show-2026/">https://riverdartrotary.co.uk/totnes-classic-vehicle-show-2026/</a>
	5	Cotswold Caper <a href="https://glosmgoc.co.uk/the-cotswold-caper-2026/">https://glosmgoc.co.uk/the-cotswold-caper-2026/</a>
	6	Truro Classic Car Show <a href="https://www.trurobid.co.uk/projects/eventsmarketing/truro-classic-car-show">https://www.trurobid.co.uk/projects/eventsmarketing/truro-classic-car-show</a>
	13	Club 2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday meeting at The Hunting Lodge (clashes with Shrewsbury)
	10 - 12	Club holiday to The Fat Lamb, Kirkby Stephen organised by Howard & Jan
	13 - 15	Club holiday to Albright Hussey Manor, Shrewsbury organised by Howard
	19	Wadebridge Wheels <a href="https://www.wadebridgewheels.co.uk/">https://www.wadebridgewheels.co.uk/</a>
		Sunday lunch run – organiser required
Aug	10	Club 2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday meeting at The Hunting Lodge
	20	Fowey <a href="https://www.foweyclassiccar.com/">https://www.foweyclassiccar.com/</a>
	22-23	RAF Harrowbeer 1940 show <a href="https://www.rafharrowbeer1940s.com/2026-event/">https://www.rafharrowbeer1940s.com/2026-event/</a>
		Sunday lunch run – organised by Janis & Nigel S.
Sept	14	Club 2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday meeting at The Hunting Lodge
		Sunday lunch run – organiser required
October	TBA	John Hunt Tulip Trophy Run – organised by Gavin



## News snippets



### **MG's rise, fall, and rise again: inside the brand's rebirth**

Autocar has a very interesting article about MG's fortunes over the years. Read it here:

<https://www.autocar.co.uk/car-news/features/mgs-rise-fall-and-rise-again-inside-brands-rebirth>

### **Taxing news for classic car lovers**

In case you missed this rare piece of good news, the 2025 Autumn Budget has confirmed that historic/classic cars over 40 years old will remain exempt from VED - so our cherished classics aren't going to be hit with road tax again.

That means UK-registered cars built 40+ years ago keep their 'historic status,' a ruling that protects heritage, supports restoration & preservation, and helps us keep these icons on the road without extra cost.





I know it's months away, but forward planning is essential. It is the turn of Jan and me to organise April's DID. This recent article in Classic Car Weekly spurred me into action. Please read it and then I'll explain:

SPECIAL REPORT

# DRIVE-IT DAY SET TO RAISE £250k

## Club experts hope that more enthusiasts than ever will support its national event and help to raise more money for the Childline charity



Rally plaques for 2026's Drive-It Day are on sale now.

**A** £250,000 charity fundraising barrier is on course to be smashed when a nationwide celebration that brings more than 250k classics out for shows, meets and runs returns next year.

Having celebrated its 20th anniversary earlier this year, National Drive-It Day has now raised a total of £245,350 for charity.

Organised by the Federation of British Historic Vehicle Clubs (FBHVC) the event was originally held to celebrate the Thousand Mile Trial, which took place on 23 April 1900 to prove the viability of the then-new motorcar. Today, it helps to raise awareness and promote the positives of classic vehicles and donates the money that is raised through Drive-It Day events and the sale of event plaques to Childline.

The date of next year's Drive-It Day is Sunday, 26 April 2026, and dates until 2030 have already been set and listed on the FBHVC's website, along with details of the new event plaques, which have been re-designed to promote the event further and encourage more sales.

FBHVC secretary, Mel Holley, told CCW: 'Drive-It Day is our national awareness day, which raises awareness of historic vehicles and the reason we raise money is rather

THE  
COVER  
STORY

than just been seen as a bunch of people out having fun, we're actually putting something back in for a good cause. It helps the public to understand what classics are all about.

'Next year will be the 21st year that Drive-It Day has been run and we have held the price for our event plaques because we are conscious of the rising cost of living. We're hoping that more people will buy and display plaques on their vehicles so we don't lose out on the total amount that we're able to donate.

'The artwork for the plaques has changed. Every year the date changes but we had feedback asking if we could make them more distinctive because some don't realise that the dates change on the plaques and once they'd bought one, they could just

keep using it each year. It's a bit like the Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal, the idea being that you buy one every year, rather than using an old one because it keeps supporting the charity.

'We're actually putting something back in for a good cause'

FEDERATION OF BRITISH HISTORIC VEHICLE CLUBS

'We also like people who buy a plate to actually fit it to their car on the day. We have a gallery on our website showing people's vehicles and some don't have a plate fitted so we want to encourage people to make a

strong visual support for the ongoing charitable funding.

'Last year we sold nearly 4000 plaques, which was up on the previous year, the year before that and the year before that.

'Clubs can also pre-order a bulk amount, which they can then sell to their members at local club nights and get together, which saves people having to order their own and we get a little bit more money because we can save on the postage. That saving then goes straight into the Drive-It Day pot'.

'It costs £30,000 to run Childline per day and if we can help or give comfort to even one child who needs assistance then it's well worth it.'

driveitday.co.uk

### 'A HUGE IMPORTANT DAY FOR CLASSICS'

Drive-It Day is a hugely important day for classics. In an age where cars are regarded as polluting, wasteful machines, the classic movement can counter that by showing them in a positive light. What better way to do that than to get out and show the public what they're really like and raising significant funds for a hugely

worthy cause? Displaying a Drive-It Day plaque shows that we're not just out for a jolly – it spreads awareness of the day and shows that something more important is happening. It also gives many people a reason to drive their classic, or a date to aim for to have their car back on the road. An organised event can also help draw

in new club members so if you are planning to hold an event please add details of your club's Drive-It Day to the FBHVC's online map, and just as importantly, buy and display a plaque. It all helps.

JAMES PEENE  
CONTENT EDITOR

Now all this is laudable, and we *should* buy a fresh rally plaque each year (I'm guilty of not doing this as I have an old generic one, but I have always made a donation to Childline instead).

However, given that the whole point of DID is to get out and about, let the public see our vehicles in all their glory and at the same time use the occasion to support Childline, I've long thought that we, and lots of other clubs, have been missing a fundraising trick. According to the above article, the FBHVC say the way we historic vehicle owners can contribute to Childline is through buying a rally plaque. We can also make a personal donation on-line. But surely there is more we could do? There is no additional suggestion that if we put on a display for the public to come and see, we might also



rattle\* tins for cash donations on the day itself. It occurred to me that nationally there might be a huge amount of extra money that could be collected for this excellent cause.

So I sent the above article to the NSPCC, who look after fundraising for Childline, asking if there is more that clubs could do on the day. I was surprised that they were surprised - after all these years no-one else had ever approached them about this regarding DID. They agreed that this nationwide event is indeed a missed opportunity and they'd send me some stuff we can use. Here it is:



As well as the collection boxes, we have flags to wave, lapel badges to sell, and balloons so we can put on a bit of a show. So, what needs to be done to make this happen? Firstly, we need a public place to park up for a few hours where there will be plenty of footfall. It may be possible to use the square in Tavistock again. We'll ask and it's been a few years since we were last there. However, I am very much open to alternative suggestions so please do get back to me on this. Once that's been arranged, Jan and I will devise a run to the venue and some sort of quiz, as our club DID should also include a treasure hunt. It will not include a sit-down lunch as at least some of us will need to remain with the cars to keep an eye on them and interact with the public. In Tavistock for example, there are plenty of cafés and suchlike we could take it in turns to visit. It could be fun!

DID is on Sunday 26 April. Please make a note of the date and I sincerely hope as many of you as possible will want to take part and help out for obvious reasons. Thanks in advance.

\*Simon tells me it's actually illegal to cause annoyance to the public by rattling collecting tins! We must just hold them quietly and not pester the public.

*Howard*





## Sunday Lunch Run to the Burrator Inn

The weather forecast wasn't too promising - heavy rain was expected later in the day, but luckily the morning turned out to be reasonably dry. Quite a few members did bring their precious MGs out to play, but others felt that the forecast was too dire to risk them being soaked and covered in mud - and needless to say, I didn't see anyone with their top down.



We met at the Dartmoor Diner for a coffee and a chat prior to leaving at about 10.30. It was a very scenic run. We turned off the A386 towards Clearbrook, eventually working our way to Burrator reservoir. The visibility was good enough to see the water, but it all looked quite dark and gloomy with low, grey clouds looming overhead.

I do love to see all the autumn colours, all the lovely gold, orange & red leaves on the trees and on the road. The gorse was coming out as well, looking very jolly in places.

We had a little hold-up while travelling round Burrator when a herd of sheep decided that they had to change position and completely blocked the road. During the run we also passed some very attractive horses. One of them appeared to be a 'heavy horse' and had all the 'feathers' above its hooves.



The top of Dartmoor looked very moody with the cloud on top, & the visibility deteriorated slightly, but you could still enjoy the views and the beauty of the area that we are so lucky to live near.





*Maddie on the misty moor. Zoé was fast asleep in her child seat.*

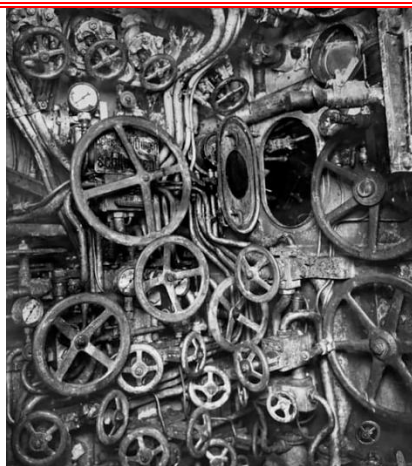
As Neil and I pulled into the Burrator Inn it started to rain. We got our drinks and chatted for a few minutes with Maddie and baby Zoé whose navigating skills are excellent!

We didn't have to wait too long for our lunch. Neil and I had roast beef, which was very tender and tasty, with a good selection of vegetables, very enjoyable. It was a great run and lunch, very well organised by Jill and Andy. Many thanks to them both for reminding us how lucky we are to have all this beauty on our doorstep.

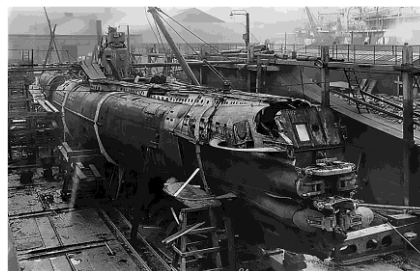
*Pam & Neil*



**Of course he and the car  
can get down the chimney.  
That's what the magic dust  
is for!**



This is part of a German U-Boat 110 after it was salvaged from the British coast during the First World War. It sits in a dry dock in Wallsend, Tyne and Wear.



Received entries	From
<i>George!! Did you have to make the central heating so complicated?</i>	John I.
<i>The big one bottom right adjusts the wiper blade speed.</i>	Howard
<b><i>"It's a simple system wheely" - says the engineer.</i></b>	<b>Maddie</b>
<i>"Just imagine the wiring loom behind that lot!"</i>	Tony S.
<i>Gavin was pleased that he wasn't selected for diesel electric submarines!</i>	Gavin
<i>Starting early MGs was a complicated procedure.</i>	John I.
<i>Righty tightly, lefty loosely.</i>	Howard
<i>Now you know why the wheels on the bus don't go round and round!!</i>	Tony S.
<i>Which one flushes the toilet?</i>	Howard
<i>I have applied for this new job as they told me it was wheely good and would open a lot of doors for me.</i>	John I.
<i>That 'Wheely' is a wheelhouse.</i>	Maddie
<i>Now where's that clock I put away to repair?</i>	Nick P.
<i>Why NOT to consider a Jag V12 engine swap?</i>	Andrew H
<i>Despite many previous modifications to the bulkhead of Eric's 'TD' to cure the heater matrix leak, there was one glaring omission!</i>	Nigel S.
<i>The first machine made to pump up the MGs suspension was wheely complex.</i>	Simon
<i>I wheely don't have a clue.</i>	Janis
<i>The wheels of industry all gone to .....</i>	Richard M.
<i>Wheelie!</i>	Jill
<i>Now that's what I call a wheely bin.</i>	John N.
<i>"You can't miss it, it's the round one, but whatever you do, don't open the hatch!"</i>	Ed

**And the winner chosen blindly by Jan P. is Maddie!**  
**Well done! She will choose next month's winning caption.**

**What's he reading?**  
**Please send your entries by the end of the month**  
**and title your email**  
**Caption Competition to:**  
[clubsecretaryvmgoc@gmail.com](mailto:clubsecretaryvmgoc@gmail.com)







**MG Car Club  
Hunter  
Region**

*The Australian  
Twelve Days of Christmas*

On the first day of Christmas my  
true love gave to me

A Bright Red MG TC

On the second day of Christmas my  
true love gave to me

Twin SU Carbs  
And a Bright Red MG TC

On the third day of Christmas my  
true love gave to me

Three Knockoff Hubs  
Twin SU Carbs  
And a Bright Red MG TC

On the fourth day of Christmas my  
true love gave to me

Four HT Leads  
Three Knockoff Hubs  
Twin SU Carbs  
And a Bright Red MG TC

On the fifth day of Christmas my  
true love gave to me

*Five Wire Wheels*  
Four HT Leads  
Three Knockoff Hubs  
Twin SU Carbs  
And a Bright Red MG TC

On the sixth day of Christmas my  
true love gave to me

Six Stainless Brake Pipes  
*Five Wire Wheels*  
Four HT Leads  
Three Knockoff Hubs  
Twin SU Carbs  
And a Bright Red MG TC

On the seventh day of Christmas  
my true love gave to me

Seven Rubber O-Rings  
Six Stainless Brake Pipes  
*Five Wire Wheels*  
Four HT Leads  
Three Knockoff Hubs  
Twin SU Carbs  
And a Bright Red MG TC

On the eighth day of Christmas my  
true love gave to me

Eight Brand New Tappets  
Seven Rubber O-Rings  
Six Stainless Brake Pipes  
*Five Wire Wheels*  
Four HT Leads  
Three Knockoff Hubs  
Twin SU Carbs  
And a Bright Red MG TC

On the ninth day of Christmas my  
true love gave to me

Nine Pints of Oil  
Eight Brand New Tappets  
Seven Rubber O-Rings  
Six Stainless Brake Pipes  
*Five Wire Wheels*  
Four HT Leads  
Three Knockoff Hubs  
Twin SU Carbs  
And a Bright Red MG TC

On the tenth day of Christmas my  
true love gave to me

Ten Rolls of Duct Tape  
Nine Pints of Oil  
Eight Brand New Tappets  
Seven Rubber O-Rings  
Six Stainless Brake Pipes  
*Five Wire Wheels*  
Four HT Leads  
Three Knockoff Hubs  
Twin SU Carbs  
And a Bright Red MG TC

On the eleventh day of Christmas  
my true love gave to me

Eleven Bills for Payment  
Ten Rolls of Duct Tape  
Nine Pints of Oil  
Eight Brand New Tappets  
Seven Rubber O-Rings  
Six Stainless Brake Pipes  
*Five Wire Wheels*  
Four HT Leads  
Three Knockoff Hubs  
Twin SU Carbs  
And a Bright Red MG TC

On the twelfth day of Christmas my  
true love gave to me

Twelve Yards of Vinyl  
Eleven Bills for Payment  
Ten Rolls of Duct Tape  
Nine Pints of Oil  
Eight Brand New Tappets  
Seven Rubber O-Rings  
Six Stainless Brake Pipes  
*Five Wire Wheels*  
Four HT Leads  
Three Knockoff Hubs  
Twin SU Carbs  
And a Bright Red MG TC



**Merry MG  
Christmas  
Everyone!**