

My Experience of Selling MG's

Last Saturday was a very sad day for the Simpson household as we saw two of our MGs being driven away by new owners. Two out of the three of our MG's that were kindly advertised on your Club Website.

It was with deep regret as we have all loved and cherished these MGs and they have given us good service.

Even though we had 6 MG's I did not want to sell any of them. With my garaging already bulging, my driveway looked like an offsite Gatwick Airport car park. However, I learnt a lot from the exercise that may help others in the future.



Two of the cars were entry level. Those being a mid range priced MGB GT and an 04 registered Cat D TF. Both cars were honest and had a lot of work done to them by the Bennell/Simpson team who are rapidly becoming MG experts. The B had all the MGB of the age mechanical problems – mainly fuel and ignition related sorted but required some minor bodywork around the back end.

However, the TF was ready to rock and roll with most things like tyres, brakes,, exhausts etc renewed but most importantly the head gasket and cambelt had been done. A 15 year old car set up for the next couple of years at least. Exceedingly cheap motoring. The third was an exceptionally rare TF that very few recognise was ever made.



I dipped my toe in the water with local MGOC websites and got a small but comfortable response. No problem as I had pinned my hopes on the MGOC national magazine. I had to wait a couple of months before they published prior to a Bank

Holiday that I thought was a prime time. I got some interest but not a lot of serious interest. I was disappointed until I sat and thought – who reads this magazine? The answer is MG owners – People who already have MG's and would only peruse the ads to see how their car are doing pricewise or people who are interested in upgrading their MG ownership.

So being a poor impoverished pensioner I went for the free ads. Car & Classic and Gumtree but was distraught to find that Gumtree only allows one ad before charging. With a deep intake of breathe I invested not a lot in two additional ads.

The first weekend was disappointing but am not sure how long it took them to put ads on the web. The second week was great with good response. Some asked for further details and I had a couple of visits mainly for the BGT. One wanted a Webasto sun roof and the other wanted no sunroof but mine has a silly factory fitted tilting thing installed by the factory in an attempt to get rid of post production stock.

It all came together last weekend. A guy looked at my B and then looked at ano and came back to say it took him 30 seconds to make up his mind. He is similar age to me who as a hobby buys cars, works on them, keeps some a few ,others forever but most importantly has a son in law who is in the car bodywork repair business. A guy E Mailed me about the TF. E Mails can be deceiving. Thought he was a waster. He turned up – used to have an MX5 prior to divorce – wanted ano MX5 but could not afford a decent one and was blown away by TF performance.

So both were sold to non MG disciples but on the basis of being good honest cars. Moral to this story is go outside the wonderful world of MG unless you have a recognisable upgrade car.

Meanwhile I wait for people including those MG disciples to recognise the individualism and worth of Monogram TF's as I have resolved my pressing garaging problems - see you around next year in her. She is still for sale.

