

The Story of MGB Roadster NMT 543

The MGB model was launched on 20th September 1962 and made its debut at the Earls Court Motor Show on 17th October; production having started after the July summer holiday factory closedown.

NMT 543 was delivered to its first owner, Thornton Baker & Co., Lee House, London Wall, EC2 on February 1st 1963 and, therefore, is a very early model. A bright red "company car", with optional extra wire wheels, for a very lucky person!

After just two years, on 9th February 1965, Mrs Pamela G Field became the, no doubt, very proud 2nd owner. She kept it until 1970, when on the 15th June 1970, my husband to be purchased it. It was his daily driver until about 1975/1976. We also used it for holidays in France before one of which in 1973 the area behind the passenger seat was modified to accommodate a child seat for our daughter Claire! The car has only two previous owners although this was almost three. When Claire was about 5 years old she negotiated to purchase it from her father for 11.5 p, all the pocket money she had. However, no contract was signed! To this day, Claire has a special relationship with "her" car.

Eventually, as Claire was growing older, it became impractical for regular use and it became his hobby and he used to enjoy maintaining and looking after it.

For a number of years it had very little use but was maintained in a usable condition until the year 2000 when he decided it was time to restore it to its former glory. He did a potential cost analysis, expecting to spend c£2000 including a respray, (see attached) and started the work. He removed the bumpers, having had a quote for rechroming them. He also stated some work on the car electrics. Sadly, after a sudden short illness, Brian passed away.

NMT remained in the garage, along with the remains of my first Mk1 Mini, until recently. I hoped my daughter would be able to take on the project but living in London with a young family makes that impossible, so the time has come for NMT to pass to a new owner who, hopefully, will be able to undertake the restoration.

More details about NMT 543

- Shows on DVLA website on its original registration number.
- Colour: Red – Tartan Red I believe
- Gearbox: Standard 4 speed. Overdrive was not an option until January 1963.
- Research indicates 1963 production started at car number 4550 this one is 2467.
- Included with car:
 - Red tonneau cover – believed to be original
 - Tatty hood – believed to be original
 - Hood frame
 - Spare Wheel
 - Keys for all locks
 - Original Print Drivers' Handbook
 - Original Spare Wheel Centre Retaining Bolt

Jean Maxwell

April 2021

MAXWELL ASSOCIATES

Chartered Architects

Clarendon House, 10-12 Clarendon Road, Southsea, Hants. PO5 2EE
Telephone 0705-862734 Facsimile 0705-818062

M.G.B. COST ANALYSIS

RE-SPRAY	£ 500.00
REPAIRS TO ELECTRICS	£ 150.00 (SAY)
HOOD	£ 211.50
5 NEW TYRES	£ 200.00
RE-CHROME BUMPERS & OVER RIDERS + OTHER BITS	£ 200.00 (SAY)
NEW WINDSCREEN (AS RAC MEMBER)	£ 167.00 - FITTED
EXHAUST	£ 150.00
5 NEW TYRES + 4 INNER TUBES	£ 191.00
BEAD BLAST WHEELS	£ 150.00

£ 1913 (2000.00 SAY)