

Feature Cars:

Doug Sherman - 1964

Doug Sherman loved MGs from the time he was seven and the local pharmacist had a new TC that Doug helped to wash. But he didn't get his first MG, the 1964 MGB featured, until he was 40, in 1979.

He bought the car as "a box of bits". "It was only 15 years old at that stage, but it had had a fairly hard life. I think it's had about 15 owners, and it was just due for a total restoration."

"It was very original, it hadn't been cut about or knocked around, it was just tired. So I did that and I've owned it ever since."

Teaching at Gordon Technical College in Geelong, Doug was able to have the car painted and the engine rebuilt by the school's apprentices, which worked as a good training project for them.

He drove the car to work daily for around 20 years before disaster struck. "Six months before I retired I had a front-on accident down here in Torquay Rd and wrote the car



off, so it was a case of have to. It was getting close to needing a cosmetic tidy up, but it turned out to be a total tidy up. A complete new front section on the car. Engine and gearbox out, of course. New bonnet, bumper bars, mudguard, lower subframe assembly and total respray. Re-carpeted right through. So, once again a total restore."

The car has a MkII engine, which it came with when Doug bought it, is carpeted throughout, and there are modern inertia-reel seatbelts, but is otherwise as original as Doug could make it.

Active in the Geelong MG Car Club since



buying his B, Doug also owns an MGTC – another complete restoration that took some 20 years – and is the club's Tour Director.

"The MGB is my favorite, because it's so adaptable", Doug explains. "Good boot space, 1800cc motor, comfortable seats, it's good on the open road and I just think it's an excellent car for touring."

Peter Cribb - 1972



When the Lancia that Peter Cribb had already arranged to buy was written off only days before he picked it up, he began to consider an MGB might be nice. "When I first started university, a mate of mine had a blue MGB, a MkI, and when he severely damaged it he bought a black one. I always had this in the back of my mind, so I thought, well, why not?"

After looking at quite a few cars and talking with members of the Geelong MG Car Club about what to look for, Peter came across the featured 1972 facelift model for sale in Avenel, north of Seymour. "We came to an agreement and I took the train up and picked the car up. Obviously I'd test ridden it and everything else by this stage and taken umpteen photographs."



"It had the original floorpans and they weren't rusted. The rear around the boot didn't have any rust in it. There was a little bit of rust in both front guards that I've still got to do, but there's none in the sills, inner or outer, it appears. I thought if I buy a car that has got a sound body, that's the way to start."

He drove the car back to Melbourne without any issues and began to freshen it up. He's fitted new carpet, with sound deadening material underneath, had the seats re-covered and fitted late model seatbelt supports, but the car is otherwise as he bought it 18 months ago.

"Any car with the top down has appeal. I love the road holding. I love that when you go into a corner you pull it in and it feels like it's actually on rails. Then there's that classic MG Burble."

