

MG & Morris

Martin Woods recently wrote to us:

"I bought two pieces of Carlton Ware recently on Ebay. They are a model of an MG - Old number 1 and a model of a Bull Nose Morris. The seller bought them as Limited Edition pieces from British Leyland in about 1977 when he was Managing Director of the Austin/Morris/M.G. distributorship in Liverpool. (Voss Motors / Dutton-Forsshaw). As an MG Car Club & MG Owners Club member I'd like to find out more info on these pieces. For example, how many were made of these two models? What was the original retail price? Were they only available to British Leyland employees? I've seen another grey version of the Bull Nose Morris car on Ebay but it didn't have the British Leyland logos on it and the colour was different - it was grey. Any information you might be able to provide would be most useful."

Carlton Ware first made the MG No 1 for BL in 1974. The MG No 1 was, we understand, made in a limited edition of 2500 with 1000 allocated to USA dealers in 1974 and then the other 1500 were offered to Austin & Morris dealers in 1975 at a cost of £5 + VAT direct from BL in Longbridge.

The Bull Nose Morris was first made for BMC in the 1960's and as far as we know these were not in a limited edition, these were in a grey body colour. The "text" was changed and the colour was changed to yellow in the 1970's when it was produced for BL.

Martin replied: "Many thanks for the info on the Carlton Ware Models of MG Old number 1 and the Bullnose morris. Attached is an MG press picture of the actual



Shape 3132 - MG No 1 for BL



Shape 3132 - MG No 1 for BL



Shape 2477 - Grey Bull-Nose for BMC



Shape 2477 - Yellow Bull-Nose for BL

car. The car is still around today and can be seen at major MG events. I believe it is resident at the British Motor Heritage museum at Gaydon, Warwickshire.”

“I have also enclosed a picture of a real Bull Nose Morris taken on New years Day 2007 at the annual classic car gathering at the Pheonix Pub at Hartley Witney, Hampshire on the A30.”



Shape 2477 - Yellow Bull-Nose for BL

“The Bull Nose Morris was the forerunner to the MG marque. As an MG & British car fan and also an antiques and model collector it's nice to be able to combine the two hobbies. I didn't know that such a model existed until I came across it by chance on Ebay. Once I'd acquired the models I just wanted to find out more about them - how rare were they? How many were produced? Colour variations? Other car models etc. My wife is also a big collector of old Dinky and matchbox cars. So adding a couple more models to the household wasn't a problem. These are the first china car models I've bought - but now I've got them I'll be looking to acquire the grey Bullnose Morris to complete the set. Did CW make any other British car models?”



Cecil Kimber in 1925 at the wheel of the first real MG Sports Car - "The Old Number One"

BMF 4752 1162

"The Old Number One"

You can find some history of MG on the following web sites:

<http://www.mgcars.org.uk/news/news128.html>

<http://www.mgcc.co.uk/Pages/About/History.htm>

carltonware.com newsletter



Bull Nose Morris

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