

NAMGAR Drive Your MGA Day Report

May 4th was NAMGAR's Drive Your MGA Day, a day designated for all MGA owners to get their cars out for a drive and enjoy the company of other MGA owners. Our club invites other MG owners (and other British car owners) to join the club as well as participate in our events. This year the goal was to drive to Kimball Farm in Jaffrey, NH to have lunch and/or ice cream and then to meet up with another British car owner who lives in Jaffrey for a tour of his barn and cars. Only club member Ned Sparrow met up with me at my house to do the drive together. We left shortly after 11 am and drove on the back roads to Jaffrey and as we pulled into the parking lot at Kimball Farm John Elwood drove in with his 2002 MG F. I had never seen one in person, so, it was interesting to see one close up. It is really a nice looking modern MG and the leather interior and walnut accents are definitely MG. We had a nice lunch and then proceeded to follow John to his house and barn. The barn is huge, any British car owner's dream! It is an old cow barn and the previous owner was also a car tinkerer, so, it was perfect for John and all of his British cars. If you think I have a lot of cars, look at the pictures. I drove my blue MGA roadster and Ned has his yellow MGB. All the other cars in the pictures are John's! He gave us a tour of the shop and lift area as well as a description of each car he has. He really likes the Jaguar 12 cylinder cars and has a number of them. He also has MG Magnettes and MGBs, an MG 1100, and I am probably forgetting to mention some others. He asked me to drive his MG Arnolt as he did not think it was performing as it should with the rebuilt engine. I had first seen this car at the Kimber Festival last year for the 100 years of MG celebration. We hopped in and I drove it up the road a piece and I thought it was performing just fine. It turns out that he was not used to the MG T series MG 1250cc motor and was not revving the engine high enough before shifting. These engines really need to keep their RPMs up in order to maintain peak torque. I have mentioned this to MGA owners as well. The B Series engines don't need quite as high an RPM, but if one wants to accelerate the engines perform best above 3000 RPM. After the tour Ned and I departed and drove back toward my house and Ned split off part way back where it was easiest for him to go back home. We had nice weather and it was a beautiful drive and great to have the MGs out. Thank you John for giving us a tour of your barn and cars!

John met us in the MGF



John's collection including MG Magnettes with the stylish "Farina" bodies



John really likes V12 Jags:



John's Barn and "home away from home"



The visit included a test drive of the MG Arnolt

