

Introducing a TA called ‘Muffin’:

Originally I joined the NG Owners Club, when I purchased (during the Coronavirus Lockdown), what was described as an essentially unused NG TA kit. When I went to collect the kit post Lockdown there were certain aspects that I didn't like. As I had paid for it sight unseen the seller agreed to refund my money. This left me without an NG TA to build but to counter any withdrawal symptoms I had already purchased Emma (my TD), to use during the build.

Various aspects of my John Hoyle TD appeal to me more than the original TA so I decided to abandon my search for a near concours TA and buy an abandoned TA so I could carry out a full restoration and incorporate some desirable features from Emma.

Following a contact in response to my amended advert I purchased an early partly dismantled NG TA, again sight unseen. I knew at the outset that the car would need a lot of work. Tom's Dad, another Tom, (recommended by Mark Sadler), delivered it on 03 June 2021. The initial look over confirmed the need for a full restoration.

Unfortunately there are lots of bits missing, including seats and interior trim, as happens with most restoration projects that are later abandoned. As a result I am now looking for another abandoned or unfinished original Nick Green MGB based TA to provide the missing parts and a source of spare parts for the future.

The body doesn't appear to be too bad but I hate working with fibreglass and if any nasties reveal themselves when it's stripped out I intend to seek out a specialist fibreglass man. I shall get rid of most of the existing holes in the horizontal and vertical faces of the front bulkhead by the application of 2mm thick lightly embossed aluminium checker plate and re-cut the holes and apertures etc. where I want them.

Muffin by the way is a boy and he won't be in the more popular red, green, white, black or blue etc. paintwork schemes. At the moment it is planned that the body will be in RAL 9001 Cream or RAL 1014 Ivory with a RAL 8017 Chocolate Brown radiator cowl and mudguards. Not a popular colour, nor everyone's cup of tea I'm sure, but I saw an MG TD in those colours years ago and it looked magnificent. Muffin will have painted wire wheels but I have yet to decide on a colour.

We all have our little foibles when building or restoring old cars, or kit cars. My personal 'Bling' includes the dashboard, wiring, lights and steering wheel. I shall throw away the old loom and build my own. The dashboard will be engine turned aluminium and all switches will be new. The instruments will be sent off to a specialist to be calibrated and fitted with new cream faces and, if I can source them, brass bezels. I can't wait to get started. "In fact who do I think I'm kidding I've already started!"

The photos show muffin being delivered by Tom; as soon as Margaret saw it she said lets call it 'Noddy' not a bad idea I suppose but yellow and red paintwork doesn't appeal!



