

NZ TRIPLE – M REGISTER



Section 1. Introduction.

The NZ Triple-M Register documents the history of MG Midgets, Magnettes and Magna (hence 'Triple-M') sportscars produced between 1929 and 1936. Midgets are powered by single overhead cam, four cylinder motors and the Magnettes and Magnas by six-cylinder overhead cam motors. The blue car above is an MG C Type Midget (1931), the green car a K Type Special, (a 1933 Magnette).

The Register is just that – a Register of the Triple-M cars that are in NZ or have an NZ history. As a result, although this website is hosted by MG Car Club, which is much appreciated, membership of MGCC or, indeed, membership of any other car club is not a Register pre-requirement. The Register simply tries to keep a record of all the Triple-M cars in NZ – including some which have a long NZ history but subsequently been exported, and documents as much of each of these cars' history as can be verified.

The Register is now on a website accessed via MGCC (Auckland Centre) :

[www.mgclub.org.nz/Information/MG Registers/ Triple-M](http://www.mgclub.org.nz/Information/MG%20Registers/Triple-M) or
www.mgtriple-m.nz

The Register is summarised in the table which follows and you can access any section of the Register by clicking on the link(s) in the left hand column of the table (against the model "Type").

NOTE: Sections will be individually updated each quarter, where there are changes

Acknowledgement

Production numbers and much historical information has been copied from the (UK) Triple-M Register

Introduction Last Updated 30th August, 2018

Model Type	Year Produced	Number produced	Description	Number identified and still in NZ
C Type Midgets	1931- 1932	44		1
			Primarily race cars, some sold in supercharged form	
D Type Midgets	1931 -1932	250		1
		213	4 seater open tourer	
		37	5 seater, closed	
F Types Magnas	1931 - 1932	1250		8
F1		565	Open, 4 seater	
		370	Salonette	
F2		40	Open 2 seater	
F3		67	4 seater	
		20	Salonette	
		188	Chassis Only	
J Types - Midgets	1932 - 1934	2494		20
J1		262	open, 4 seater cars	
		117	Salonette	
J2		2061	2 seater, open cars	
J3		22	As J2, but supercharged	
J4		9	Supercharged race cars	
		23	Chassis Only	
K Types - Magnettes	1932 - 1935	460		2
K1		97	4 seater Tourers	
		74	Saloon	
K2		20	open 2 seater	
K3		33	Short wheel base, 2 seater, race car	
KN		201	Saloon tourer	
		35	Chassis Only	
L Types Magnas	1933 - 1934	576		7
L1		258	4 seater tourer	
		97	Saloon	

		100	Continental Coupe	
L2		90	2 seater	
		31	Chassis Only	
M Types Midgets	1929 - 1932	3235		11?
		2,329	2 seater, fabric body	
		493	fabric body, Coupe	
		273	2 seater, metal bodywork	
		37	metal body, Coupe	
		21	12/12 Replicas	
		82	Chassis Only	
N Types Magnettes	1934 -1935	738		6
NA		176	2 seater	
		234	4 seater	
		16	Allingham Coupe	
		1	Saloon	
		6	Airline Coupe	
NB		98	2 seater	
		148	4 seater	
ND		24	2 seater	
NE		7	race car	
		28	Chassis Only	
NB				
P Types Midgets	1935 - 1936	2,500		26
PA		1396	2 seater	
		498	4 seater	
		28	Airline Coupes	
PB		408	2 seater,	
		99	4 seater	
		14	Airline Coupe	
Chassis only		57		
Q Types Midgets	1934	8	Race car	0
R types Midgets	1935	10	Race car	1

[Maintaining and enhancing the NZ Register](#)

Owners are encouraged to amend/correct or update the Register as regards their Triple-M MG at any time. Any changes should be forwarded to geoffbroadhead01@gmail.com. Ideally the Register would like to see a photo of each car both in its early days and in more recent times, but obviously this is not possible for many cars as so many photos and so much history has already been lost.

If you have a picture of an old MG once owned by someone in your family, and would like to know if the car is known to the Register, then please forward a copy of the photo and any details you have. We can then check if we know the car and what has happened to it in the meantime.

[Owners' Privacy](#)

The Register's policy is to identify each car's Owner by name and region, e.g. J Jones, Waikato, but to not display any contact details. Owners can access contact details of other Owners they wish to liaise with via the Triple-M Registrar. Where requested by an Owner, no details of Ownership are shown on the website.

[About Triple-M cars.](#)

Triple-M cars were produced at the Abingdon factory in small numbers. A total of ~11,500 Triple-M cars were produced in the 6-7 year production period. These small sports cars enjoyed enormous success in motorsport competitions throughout Europe when they were new and also in countries they were exported to, such as Australia. If you look at the entry list of the Australian Grand Prix races from the mid 1930s until the early years after WW2, you will see that MG and Bugatti between them made up the vast majority of entries.

The world-wide Triple-M Register was started by MGCC (UK) in the mid 1960s to track the ownership of these cars, document their history and assist owners maintain their cars. Triple-M cars are still used competitively in the UK these days, but many New Zealand owned cars are under restoration or simply being stored. Either way, many of the NZ owned Triple-M cars are seldom seen on the road.

The New Zealand Register for Triple-M cars was started ~2008/9 because there was no record of the Triple-M cars in NZ and, inevitably, the UK records were not up to date. The New Zealand Triple-M Register has now captured most, but perhaps not all, the Triple-M cars in the country, and as much of each car's history as can be verified, plus previous owners where known. Enormous assistance in developing the NZ Triple-M Register from the outset was given by Matthew Magilton, from the Pre War MG Register in Australia (who have a wonderful data base and website), and the Triple M Register in UK.

Some MMM cars were exported new from UK to Australia as rolling chassis, with the bodywork etc. added locally.

[The UK Triple M Register/Registrars.](#)

Many NZ owned Triple-M cars are also recorded on the UK register so the NZ Triple-M Register freely exchanges information with the Triple-M Registrars in UK: we benefit from their access to the Factory build records and we can assist them in keeping track on the Triple M cars in New Zealand.

We follow the Triple-M Register (UK) definitions for Triple- cars – of what is eligible to be accepted as a Triple-M car and also their clear distinction between a Triple-M 'Replica' or a Triple-M 'Special', as defined below.

What is a Triple-M car, what is a 'Special' and what is a 'Replica'?

The Triple-M UK 'guidelines' are set out below. These are the guidelines we, in NZ, adopt.

"How the Register describes cars that are not built to their original specification."

This guidance will be used by the officials of the Register in response to enquiries, or in commenting upon issues, regarding the proper description of specials and non-standard cars constructed on Triple-M chassis.

- 4.1 The Register does not recognize the description 'Replica' when applied to any Triple-M car other than the factory produced M 12/12 Replicas.*
- 4.2 A car built in the style of one car but on the chassis of another will be described as the chassis type on which it is built. For example, a C-type copy built on a D-type chassis will be described as a D type. Likewise, a car built in the style of a J4 on a J2 chassis will be described as a J2. The same applies to a car built in the style of a Q-type, K3 or NE;*
- 4.3 A Triple-M car fitted with a non-standard Triple-M engine (for the model) will be described as such. A J2 chassis fitted with a PB engine will be described as a J2-PB. Furthermore if the engine is supercharged it will be described as J2-PB/s;*
- 4.4 The Register is not opposed to the term 'special' if a car is fitted with a non-standard body (for chassis), but it will be described as the chassis type on which it is built. For example, a single seat body fitted on an N type chassis will be described as an N type special;*
- 4.5 The Register does not recognize a car described as J2/J4 or K1/K3 or P/Q etc. as it implies that some main parts of the car are genuine J4, K3 or Q type etc. when they are not;*
- 4. In former years it was common practice for constructors or designers to incorporate their name in the description of a special, e.g. Bellevue Special, Turner MG. Some specials were given names by their owners, e.g. 'Bongazoo'. The Register has no objection to these descriptions still being used".*

Disclaimer

The enthusiasts who maintain the Register of Triple-M cars in NZ endeavour to verify what is documented in the Register, however neither those working on maintaining this Register, nor the MG Car Club Auckland Centre Incorporated, accept any responsibility for the accuracy of the information in the Register. The information in the Register is provided by the owners and from Registrars' private research (including both Australian and UK sourced data). The information in the Register is made freely available on an "all care, no responsibility basis". Any decisions to buy or sell a Triple-M MG should be based entirely on the user's own judgment and personal research, and not on the basis of any information in the Register. Use of the Register by any person is conditional on acceptance of this disclaimer.

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