

# CHUKKERS AND CLASSICS DAY

James Pitt

The cold and damp spring we experienced this year has resulted in all too few opportunities for MG owners to experience open top motoring and show off their pride and joys. However just such an occasion arose in mid May, when the Ham Polo Club welcomed MG drivers to their Chukkers and Classics day. The club is set in 21 acres, close to Richmond, and its well manicured polo fields provided the perfect backdrop

for MG owners to proudly display their cars. The MGs at the event were organised by my MGC owning actor Jon Glover, best known for his 1940s upper crust character Mr Cholmondley-Warner in the Harry Enfield television shows. Jon was also on hand to start the afternoon's polo matches, by throwing in the ball for the first chukka. In the addition to the MGs driven their by their owners, Jeremy Rogers from Surrey

Sports and Classics had brought along a pair of 'before and after' MGBs. The fully restored "after" MGB, belonging to Dr David Marriott, certainly attracted many admiring glances from the polo club members who were asked to vote for their favourite car. Another car drawing attention was Barry Sidery-Smith's famous 1965 Le Mans MGB. By coincidence, one of the MG owners there was Martyn Phillis who was the signal man for the original BMC Team at Le Mans in 1964 and 1965. His job had been to sit out on the far side of the circuit with a field telephone and relay information back to the main pits. Whilst the MG owners enjoyed their lunch on the terrace of the clubhouse, they had a perfect view of the action unfolding before them on the polo field. It was a highly enjoyable afternoon and the MG owners were certainly made to feel very welcome by the polo club and its members for this unique occasion.



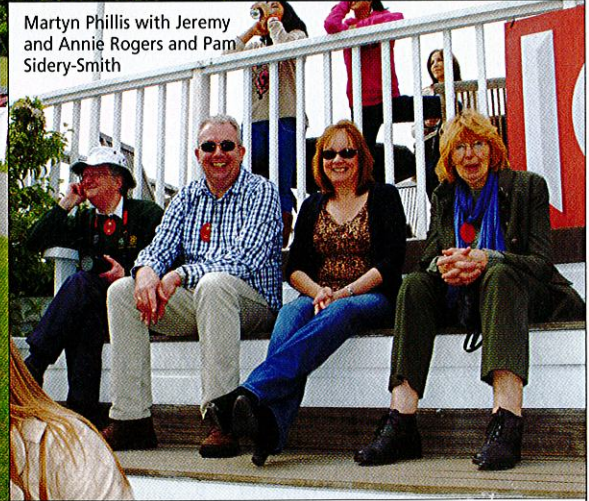
Actor Jon Glover starts the first chukka at Ham Polo Club



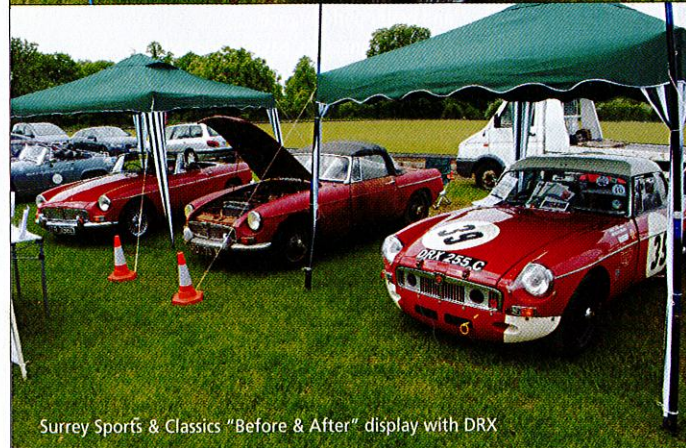
... plenty of excitement



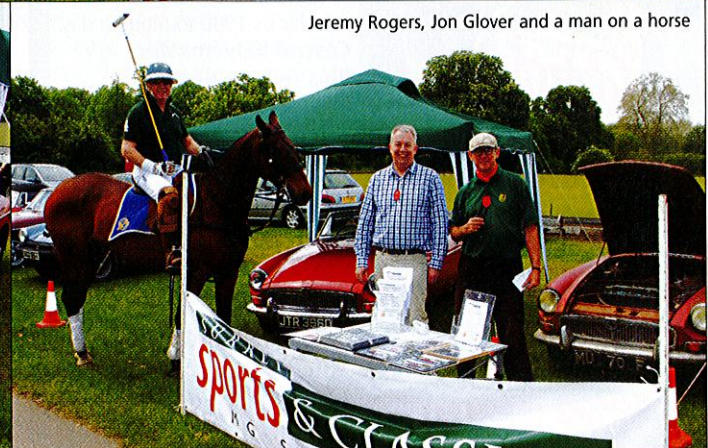
Fine selection of MGs on display



Martyn Phillis with Jeremy and Annie Rogers and Pam Sidery-Smith



Surrey Sports & Classics "Before & After" display with DRX



Jeremy Rogers, Jon Glover and a man on a horse