

## NAME THAT CAR

Can you identify the MG illustrated below?  
A clue — the date is 1951.



If you said an MGA, go to the back of the grid. This is actually an MG TD special built in January 1951 for that year's Le Mans race. This TD had an especially tuned engine, a higher rear axle ratio and of course the all enveloping special body that gave the car an estimated top speed of 116 mph on the Mulsanne straight.

Unfortunately the engine dropped a valve and holed a piston during the race and so didn't finish. However, the effort convinced the designer of the car Syd Enever (seen in the suit behind the car) of the need for a chassis frame that took full advantage of streamlining by allowing the driver to sit lower in the car. The result, of course, was the MGA, which appeared four years later bearing an uncanny resemblance to this TD special.

Photo and information from an article by Malcolm Green in *Enjoying MG* — used with permission.