British Leyland chose 1975 as the year to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the MG marque. This was based on the foundation year of 1925, which was the introduction of the “Old Number One”, which is considered the first real MG Sports car. British Leyland celebrated the occasion by offering two unique products in 1975.

**MGB GT – Jubilee Model**

Abingdon produced a limited number of MGB GT models painted in a special British Racing Green color accented with Gold Stripes with the special insignia consisting of the familiar MG octagon surrounded with the dates 1925-1975 and accented with a wreath motif. Other special options included black & gold alloy wheels, special steering wheel and standard overdrive transmission. Each car was fitted with its own special engraved dashboard plaque indicating the production number of the car. All badging on the front nose and rear deck were gold & silver vs. the regular silver & black finish. Production was limited to approximately 751 models and made for the market in England only. The production was limited to 750, but one additional car was manufactured to replace a car destroyed in the production of a television commercial.

**50th Anniversary Badging – LHD North American Exports**

In addition to the MGB GT limited production Jubilee editions, Abingdon also produced special emblems to celebrate the 50th Anniversary in 1975. The special emblems were only applied to Left Hand Drive North American Export models.

**The special badging consisted of the following:**

1. Gold & MG Octagon metal badge on the nose of the front rubber bumper (instead of the usual silver & black).
2. Gold & MG Octagon metal badge on boot lid (instead of the usual silver & black).
3. Silver & Black 50th Anniversary Badge on the far right corner of the dashboard. It is the same exact design as found on the Gold Stripes on the MGB GT Jubilee models in England. It contains the MG Octagon, 1925-1975 lettering and wreath surround. Authentic factory badges are thin metal and some vehicle’s which had damaged ones, may have been replaced by owners using a sticker replica.
4. The steering wheel horn hub has a MG octagon surrounded in gold color background vs. the original production color of a red background.

The special edition badging was applied only to MGBs manufactured from June 1975 to December 1975. Production number 380866 was the first 1975 model to sport the special anniversary badging. The production model with the 50th Anniversary badging was the 1976 model 394677. Since the anniversary badging is production date specific and not model year specific; only late model ’75 MGs and early ’76 cars were produced with these unique emblems. Also a part of the restoration of my 1976 MG, my research of old MG books and magazines discovered that Abingdon workers did not always properly install the gold & black emblems on the export vehicles. In fact many of the Anniversary editions made their way to the United States sporting the incorrect but familiar silver and black emblems on the front bumper and boot lid.

**Picture of 50th Anniversary Front Bumper Badge**

**Picture of 50th Anniversary Rear Boot Badge**
Picture of 50th Anniversary Dashboard Badge

Picture of 50th Anniversary Steering Wheel