

A Delve into the Archives - from Peter Watts

Sometime in the 1970s, a few years after I got my 1939 Roadster, my father told me he



had seen a similar-looking old car beside a house in Selsdon, Surrey, (at the time I was living near Banstead, and my parents were in Croydon).

The car turned out to be another pre-war Roadster. It had been outside for some considerable time and was sitting under some trees in about 18 inches of leaf mould, and as a result the sections of the wheels nearest the ground and the bottoms of the chassis rails had rusted away, as had much of the rest.

There were some parts that were useable, and I have some of them on my car, and I still have the boot lid, the bulkhead, the axles, steering box and engine. It wasn't as useful as it might have been, as there were quite a lot of parts that weren't original - the door handles, rear lights and headlights are obvious from the attached pictures, but it had also been converted to hydraulic brakes and 4-speed gearbox. I didn't get any documentation with it, and I can't remember the registration number (nor can I read it in the pictures), but I do have the body plates, which give the chassis number as J27767R, and the body number as 770R.

In the pictures, I am the handsome



one in the short-sleeved shirt, and 739 HLB is the 1964 MGB I owned for about 8 years.

The chap in the dark jumper is Chris Woods, a Roadster-owning ASCO member who died towards the end of last year. (His nephew, Ken, has taken on Chris's car and has just joined the club.)

The other chap is a friend who has also died - we live in sobering times!

Peter.