

Revver Trevor



If you have a classic or historic car lurking in the corner of your garage, make sure you have it properly insured against accident, fire or theft – it could well be worth more than you think and hard to replace if you had to. Agreeing the value of a collectors car, be it an MG Midget or Maserati 250 - Trevor has valued both – has always been a bone of contention but it has become much easier now that Trevor McIlroy has been appointed to the task of valuing classic and historic cars throughout Ireland. Working with well respected classic and historic car insurers like Autoline Trevor will visit and inspect each car individually and give an accurate value. The days of getting your classic car valued unseen by someone from a motor club are fading fast.

Trevor has combined a career in the motor insurance industry with a lifelong motor sport passion and now works for a number of insurance companies that sell classic car policies throughout Ireland. A car has only to be more than 12 years old to become a classic but obviously values can vary massively. A Mini or an Escort with a proven motor sport history will be worth more than an identical one without, and if a famous name like Hopkirk, Clark, Waldegard or Makinen has driven it

then it becomes even more valuable and harder to replace. One of Trevor's recent assignments was valuing the very impressive TOC Utilities car collection in Dungiven belonging to Seamus and Gerard O'Connell. As regular readers will know, the O'Connell's have a superb collection of concours spec Fords ranging from low mileage road cars to state of the art works replicas.

Trevor has a long history in the motor trade and is a member of the Institute of the Motor Industry and a Member of the Institute of Automotive Engineers and Assessors and started out working with the RE Hamilton Ford team in the early seventies. The RE Hamilton team had an ex Roger Clark Mark One Escort that was crewed by Adrian Boyd and Beatty Crawford and it wasn't too long before Trevor decided to make his competition debut. It wasn't in an ex works Ford but in his mother's Austin Allegro on the 1975 Craigantlet Hillclimb. Trevor was only 21 years old at the time and the following year he competed on the Circuit of Ireland in an Escort Mexico. Trevor then got a job as an insurance assessor and engineer working for some of the biggest names in insurance.

After rallying for a number of years a friend persuaded him to try autotesting and in 1983 he was awarded Best

Beginner at his first attempt. Since then Trevor has competed in many autotests, hillclimbs and sprints in a variety of cars. He owns three 1275cc MG Midgets, a '72, '73 and '74, round wheel arch models, one is a classic rally car painted green while a lightweight sprint car is painted in Renaultsport yellow. The third is kept as a spare car and he also has a 1958 Austin A35 rally car that was used on the Circuit of Ireland Rally.

Trevor also owns a Sebring Sprite Coupe, XXC 818. This car was originally owned by Gary White who owned the Frogeye Spares Company and he transported the car out to his house in Portugal where he planned to restore it along with a number of other cars. Unfortunately during the rebuild Gary was diagnosed with cancer and towed all his cars back to London, one by one. Sadly Gary died in 2010 and Trevor, who knew the car, bought the Sprite and finished the rebuild and XXC made its debut at the Cultra hillclimb last month.

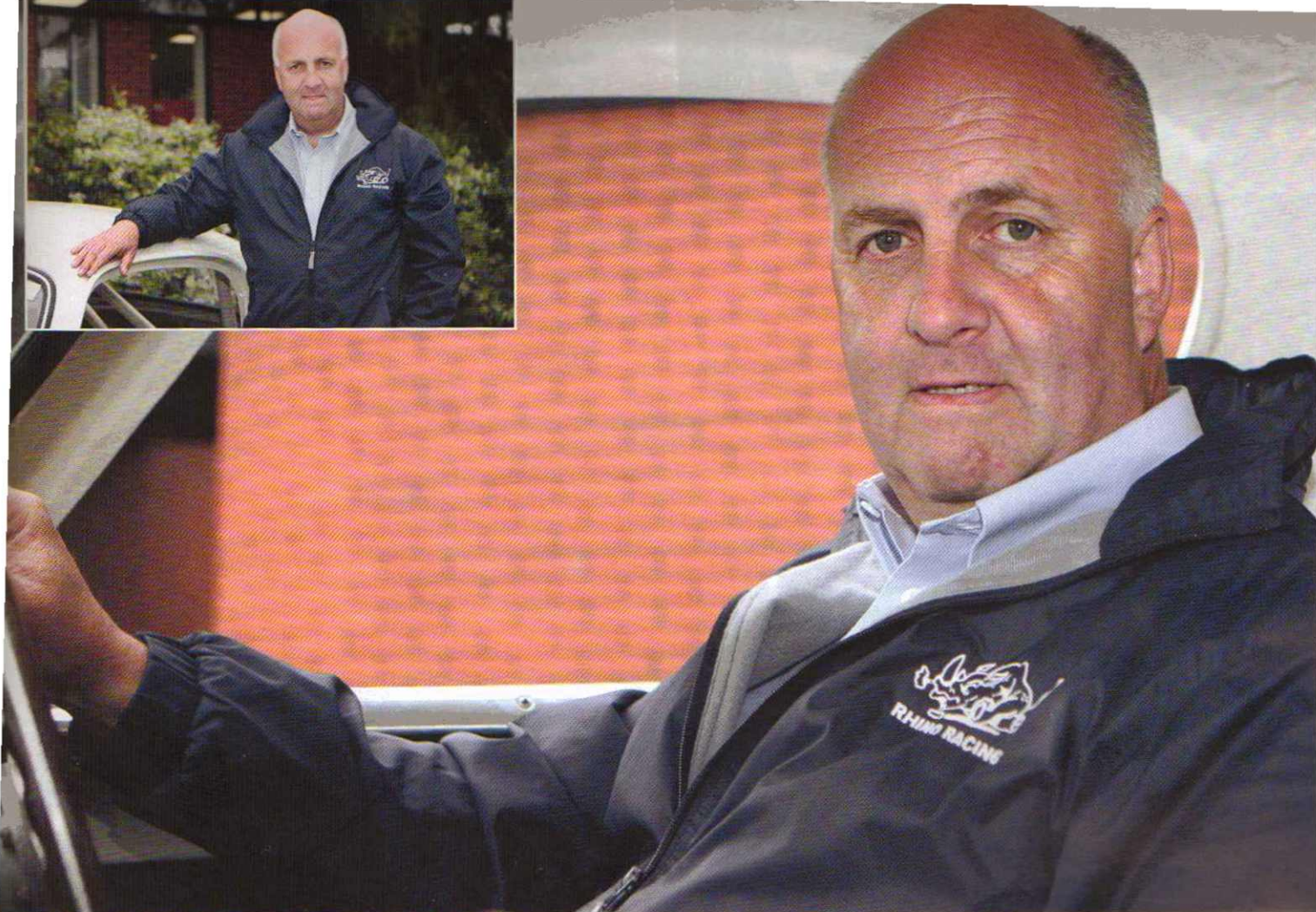
Trevor's Sprite has a fully rebuilt 1275cc Midget engine bored to 1380cc with a fast road A6 Kent cam, extractor manifold and a '45 Weber, driving through a rebuilt and strengthened 1275 gearbox. The timing of the rebuild is great as the Midget celebrated its 50th anniversary this year and Trevor brought

his Sprite to Midget 50 at Burghley House in Lincolnshire and Midget Live at Silverstone during the month of June. The love of motor sport runs in the McIlroy family as his sister Fel is one of the most active Clerks-of-the Course in Northern Ireland and looks after race meetings at Kirkistown and also the Cultra hillclimb.

Trevor can be contacted via his company, TS McIlroy Assessing on 028 9070 4357, mobile 07711 797 986 or by email, tsmcilroy@gmail.com

Pamela Doherty, Personal Lines Manager, Autoline Insurance Group, Coleraine values Trevor's expertise highly. "Having an expert with Trevor's experience and enthusiasm for classic vehicles is an invaluable asset for Autoline. Each car may need to be inspected from many different perspectives to enable us to provide the most accurate and competitive insurance quote and cover from a range of insurers who cover classic vehicles. We know that when the valuation comes from Trevor it has been provided with careful consideration for its true value to the owner."

By Pat Burns
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HISTORIC & CLASSIC CAR VALUER



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