

## Classic car market a great time to buy

Richard Barnett, Markets Editor with Classic Car Weekly (CCW), feels it's been a realistic year with softening prices that tell us that buyers are considering more carefully how much they spend and it's not what it was a couple of years ago. He feels that means sellers need to adjust too. He notes "it's good to see the modern classics segment is firming up" and he thinks 2026 will be positive across all ages and conditions now prices have reached more realistic levels.

As we near the start of the New Year 2026 there are signs the UK classic car market is feeling more confident. Many MG Car Club members who were at the annual NEC Classic Car Show in November could see it was close to full capacity every day and many felt there was a noticeable sense of enjoyment for classic car enthusiasts there at what is a major annual event.

Many traders had not been happy with the sense of negativity they had felt had fallen on the classic car market this year, not least from the prolonged uncertainties created by the lengthy run-up to the Autumn Budget and the endless Budget leaks. Comments seen from leading people in the classic car auction sector indicate

the sales rates have been good in 2025, particularly for well-presented cars with a good maintenance history. In many cases prices have eased back from a year ago and value seeking enthusiasts have seen an opportunity to buy now.

CCW auction analyst Richard Hudson-Evans has said "the good news is the number of people who are selling a classic car – in a time when disposable income is being squeezed and people are being taxed heavily – are becoming outnumbered by those prepared to buy a classic car to enjoy rather than simply as an investment.

There are also signs of generational changes in what is seen to be a desirable classic with some older classics losing value while modern classics like "hot-hatches" from the 1980s and 1990s continuing to gain interest and sales".

## Classic car auction activity

The weekly issues of Classic Car Weekly have regular reviews of upcoming auctions and then the results. One example was in a November issue which reported on five auctions held in October 2025 by H& Classics, Charterhouse, Brightwells, SWVA and Bonhams. The CCW summary of each auction result is below.



The **average prices**, including buyer's commission, of the classic cars sold at these auctions varied from SWVA at £5,323 to Bonhams at £89,457. As the cars at auction with Bonhams were at significantly higher prices than the other four auctions, our analysis chart (above right) has removed the data from the Bonhams sale and focused on the **H&H Classics** auction where **an impressive 73% of the cars listed for auction were sold** with an average price of cars sold of **£14,362** including buyer's commission. That's closer to the price levels for MGBGTV8s typically ranging from £14,000 to £20,000. By the end of the H&H Classics auction **117 cars were sold**, an encouraging 73% of the 160 cars listed there for sale. See our updated MGBGTV8 price guide released in early November 2025. [Link](#)

The H&H Classics auction was held at the Pavilion Gardens at Buxton in Derbyshire on 15th October 2025. There were no MGV8s included in the auction listing but several TR4s & 5s and a couple of Triumph Stags were auctioned. You can see the auction results at [Link](#)