

News of V8 enthusiasts in Norway



A Norwegian **Halvor Asland** reports there is an active group of V8 enthusiasts south of Oslo so when Victor Smith is next over there in early February, we plan to meet up for a V8 Gathering. Halvor has a 1977 MGB Roadster in Teal Blue which he has up on stands ready for a V8 conversion using a TVR 500 engine and a T5 gearbox and **Hans Petter Øverby** is converting his Black 1978 MGB Roadster with a Rover V8 transplant. Halvor says "it has taken some time to all the right bits together" but he has been helped a great deal by Geoff Richmond who had done a similar conversion. Geoff had been introduced to Halvor by the Geoff King V8 enthusiast with well prepared V8 Roadster in Scotland.

Halvor and Hans Petter both came over to England in October to attend the European Conference at Club Office at Abingdon as the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Norwegian centre of the MG Car Club. On the way they visited Angus Munro in Norfolk so Hans Petter could collect the RV8 rear axle Angus had offered for sale on the V8 website. Using Angus Munro's trailer they went on to collect many V8 conversion parts from Clive Wheatley near Bridgnorth, and then on to Competition Transmission Services in Markyate near Luton to pick up Halvor's reconditioned T5 gearbox and his Quaife LSD equipped Scorpio differential for his Hoyle IRS. They also collected Hans Petter's reconditioned LT77 gearbox and visited John Eales (JE Development) for some Rover V8 engine parts.



On the journey back to Norway on the ferry from Harwich to Esbjerg in Denmark, Halvor stumbled across **Jan Amby**, a Danish MG enthusiast who was bringing his newly acquired Black MGB V8 Roadster (Black 4501) home to Denmark.



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Halvor and Hans Petter (right) removing the engine from Hans Petter's 1978 MGB

Halvor has a collection of classic cars - two MGAs, three Zs, a 1967 MGBGT, 1977 MGB Roadster, a 2003 TF, a 1971 TR6 and a 1977 Allegro. He also had a Factory MGBGTV8 (Harvest Gold 0333) which is now in Norway as he sold it to another classic car enthusiast; **Rolf Lindholm** in Slemmestad / Røyken.

Halvor says "Rolf is a complete classic car nut! He's got something like twenty classic cars, including a Rolls Royce, Bentleys, Jaguars, a Lynx Jaguar Eanter, MGs, Triumphs, a Daimler Limo, Rovers and a Range Rover. The picture is of the lucky owner after our Classic car Tour 2009 when we took the MGBGTV8 from my friend Richard 'Dick Griffiths' workshop in Odiham (RMG Coachworks – an MG bodywork specialist) and over to Norway".

In the late 1990s Halvor lived in Hartley Wintney in Hampshire but surprisingly never spotted the two Sunday lunchtime V8 Gatherings at the Shoulder of Mutton at the small village of Hazeley Heath to the north. As he plans to be in the UK to join the "Classic Car Tour 2011" in April he hopes to join the V8 Register lunch in April at the Shoulder of Mutton.

Another V8 enthusiast in the area is **Trond Jonassen** in Drammen with a Factory MGBGTV8 (Brooklands Green 2747). The car was previously owned by Per Gerdrum in Norway. (See next page)



Rolf Lindholm with Harvest Gold 0333 (ORY147 M)



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Trond Jonassen with his Factory MGBGT V8, Brooklands Green 2747.



Black MGBGT V8 owned by Erik Habberstad at Vollen



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Halvor is an offshore construction manager on the large Troll A gas platform (almost 500 metres high!) in the North Sea, which means he has a two weeks on and four weeks off rotation. This gives him ample opportunity to work on his cars. Set alongside a well known landmark in Paris, the size of this structure is huge.