



### Fitting an oil thermostat to an MGBV8

Ralph Coulson from Somerset installed a full-flow oil thermostat to his V8 Roadster conversion two years ago and believes it's a worthwhile modification. It made sense not to pass cold oil through the oil cooler before the sump oil reached working temperature.

He used a Mocal thermostat with male threaded unions, 1/2" BSP (Moss type TT29602). This necessitated new braided hoses which were made up to Ralph's specification by a local hydraulic hose supply company. The oil-cooling radiator fitted to his car is 9 row and under-slung in 'Rubber Bumper' fashion. To complete the installation five hoses were required and their lengths apply to installations with an underslung oil cooler. The hose lengths and designations are:

'A'	7 1/2"	Oil filter to thermostat
'B'	12 3/8"	Thermostat to engine
'C'	10 1/2"	Thermostat to cooler
'D'	11"	Engine to oil filter
'E'	22 1/8"	Thermostat to cooler

Fitting is straightforward with the thermostat positioned just behind the grille, see photograph above left, and supported by the two braided hoses. The thermostat is very light and the braided hoses are quite capable of supporting it. Finally Ralph fitted an oil temperature gauge, with the sensor at the oil filter. When the engine is fully warmed, 90deg C is maintained under all conditions.

So far the installation has been tested by two long motorway trips from Somerset to Scotland, two runs on the rolling road at MGLive! meetings at Silverstone and an MGOT track day at Castle Combe. So any

fears he may have had about oil starvation have been safely 'put to bed'.

### RV8 sump gasket

Although a sealant was used to seal the RV8 sump at the Factory, Steve Newton at Clive Wheatley mgv8parts has found it is much better to have a fibre composite sump gasket with just a smear of grease to hold it in place as you tighten up the sump. If there are any signs of uneven mating of the surfaces then you can use a smear of silicone sealer, but do use it sparingly. There are also cork and rubber sump gaskets but the cork gasket can get brittle over time and the rubber one can soften over time with the heating and cooling cycling. Clive added "if the rubber gasket is tightened too much, then it can spread which can lead to an oil leak."

### V8 Curry 2011

This month we have the annual V8 Curry Night on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> at 6.45pm for 7.00pm prompt at the Royal Bengal in Northampton. The Curry Night has been a tradition of the V8 Register from its formation in 1978 and is usually held in early February and starts the programme of V8 Gatherings for the year! All bookings need to be made with Tony Lake, V8 Currymaster for 2011, using the booking form you can download from the V8 website or by contacting Tony at [tonylake134@o2.co.uk](mailto:tonylake134@o2.co.uk) or on 01604 589104. There will be a set party menu offering a selection of mixed dishes at a special price of £20.00.

As driving to unfamiliar places on a cold February evening can be a challenge, there is a full set of location maps on the V8 website or you can see a good quality map by going to the online Streetmap service by just typing in the postcode for the restaurant which is NN1 1NS. Why not stay overnight in or near Northampton and attend the Stoneleigh MG Show the following day, Sunday 20th February 2011? The date for the V8 Curry Night has been chosen to enable members to link both events.