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V8 30th Anniversary 2008

A week of activities is planned for June, just ahead of the Club's annual International MG Meeting 2008 at Silverstone. The concept of the anniversary week is a relaxed mix of social and technical events which members can either attend the as a complete programme or pick and choose according to their interests and the time they have available. The events will be a mixture of visits to interesting places like Rousham Park in Oxfordshire and to Cambridge and a river boat trip on the Thames. There will also be more technical events like a V8 Rebuild and a visit to the British Motor Heritage body plant at Witney. There will be a V8 Dinner on the Friday evening at the start of the Silverstone weekend meeting which will have many of the traditional features of some of the memorable V8 Dinners held in the 1980s and of course our last anniversary V8 Dinner in June 2003.

More details of the programme of events will be published on the V8 website as it is developed but at this stage the provisional dates for the V8

30th Anniversary 2008 week is from Sunday 8th to Friday 13th June with the Club's International MG Meeting on Saturday 14th & Sunday 15th June. Overseas members are advised not to commit to travel arrangements until the dates of the Silverstone meeting are confirmed by Club Office.

V8 Curry 2008

The traditional start to the V8 year is the annual curry which will be held on Saturday 23rd February at the Curry Centre, a welcoming restaurant in a distinctive building in the centre of Cambridge. With the MG Show at Stoneleigh is the following day, it should be a good weekend. Advance bookings with the V8 Currymaster, Ian Quarrington, on 07769 564755.

V8 Track Day

Enjoy a day at Castle Combe driving on the circuit with fellow V8 enthusiasts on Monday 8th September 2008. The track days are very well run by MGs On Track and the driving standards of the enthusiasts attending them are very good. Jim Gibson (Flamenco Red 2435) has been "an occasional MGoT track day participant" and says "the MGoT

events I've been to have been very well organised and show great attention to a high standard of track etiquette, so they are generally very good for a beginner". Please book early as there are limited places for the V8 track session - contact Victor Smith.

Road/race RV8 for sale

The "Works" car raced by Team Cowley MG, Flame Red 0326, came up for sale recently on the V8 website. The car was shown at the Frankfurt Motor Show with the bodywork originally finished in Woodcote Green but returned to Cowley and was kept in the Showbay. In 1996 the car was stripped to its component parts and built into a new and unique bodysell on the British Motor Heritage stand at the 1996 Essen Techno Classica Motor Show. At the end of the show the car was presented to the Cowley Plant Director for use by TCMG. It was then raced with many successes between 1996 and 2000. The car is road legal with new catalysts, tax and MOT. All the parts needed to return to race spec are included, plus most of Essen trim, Minilites, a spare painted bodykit, new hood and decals.

Additional material 1

Photo of RV8 Flame Red 0326

Photo attached

Replacement RV8 windscreen glass

Brown & Gammons has a limited quantity of new replacement RV8 windscreens in Pilkington glass. They offer a fitting service and can hold a screen for you.

Additional material 2

Toolkits for the ZT 260 V8

B&G has a limited number of Rover 75 V8 & MG ZT 260 V8 Toolkits genuine MG Rover toolkits which are listed as no longer available. For the purists you need to note that the foam may not be correct for the SE models fitted with Sat Nav equipment or the ZT-T or tourers . B&G only have a small number so this is the last chance to get one.

Mystery of V8 seen near Oslo solved

The MGBGV8 seen by Jonathan and Vibeke Smith on the E18 just south of Oslo in July has been solved by Angus Munro who works in Stavanger. It belongs to Trond Jonassen, and Per Gerdrum before him, in Norway who has registered Brooklands Green 2747.

Additional material 3

How to give your MGB V8 power

Roger Williams has produced a totally new third edition of his authoritative book on MGB V8 conversions. This edition is much larger with 221 pages and a slightly smaller font size compared with 128 pages in the original edition published in 1995. The coverage in the original edition was very good and still provides an excellent guide to planning and carrying out an MGB V8 conversion. The latest edition has a great deal more useful information packed in - for example chapters on the front and rear suspension sets-ups where it covers the Hoyle front and rear suspension upgrades in some detail. Priced at £29.99 it is still very good value for money for an excellent book most V8 enthusiasts will enjoy reading and having as a constant reference source.