

**V8****VICTOR SMITH**

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### **V8 Autumn Tour 2011**

The Norton Park Hotel at Sutton Scotney east of Winchester was an ideal base for the annual V8 tour with a programme of events which took quiet routes through Hampshire, Berkshire and the eastern edge of Wiltshire. On Saturday one route went via Inkpen Beacon, a northern fronting bastion of the Berkshire Downs, once seen as the only "mountain" that topped 1,000ft in south eastern England. But it now seems this high

point is in fact "only" 975ft but the landscape around Inkpen offers dramatic views of sweeping hills and big skies – truly wonderful on the fine day the V8 party were there. In the distance is Combe Gibet, originally erected in 1676 – with Pete Teager's V8 on the chalk track. On Sunday the V8 tour group had a full day of visits at the Portsmouth Dockyards parked up alongside HMS Victory and Monday a visit to Salisbury Cathedral. The tour organisers

were Bob and Carolyn Owen.

### **NEC Classic Car Show**

The NEC Classic Car Show on 11th, 12th and 13th of November is a popular event for MG enthusiasts and a convenient place for V8 enthusiasts to meet up is at the large MG Car Club stand. Ian Quarrington, V8 Secretary, will be there over all three days as a Club Executive Committee member together with the hard working staff from Club Office, so do drop by and meet Julian White and the enthusiastic team. They will be pleased to see you.

### **V8 Curry Evening**

A curry evening is a popular annual start to the season for V8 enthusiasts and is held on the Saturday evening before the Stoneleigh MG Show the following day. So this year the curry evening is on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2012. The restaurant will be confirmed next month but will be in Northamptonshire not too far from Stoneleigh.

### **African Odyssey for Chris Vernon**

Chris Vernon, a V8 member, driving his Midget "Dorothy" to South Africa with Roy Laycock in his Midget, "Bridget" made a brief report on reaching Jordon highlighting a scary route through Syria – "yesterday had a bit of hairy ride through Syria all in one day. We are now in Jordan for a couple of days before going to Egypt. With fuel at 60p litre even a V8 would be OK here - except for the heat!"