

**V8****VICTOR SMITH**

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### Beautiful V8 Roadster for sale

Just as thoughts turn to the approach of Spring and better weather, news of an exceptional V8 Roadster for sale. The conversion was completed in 2006 with parts from a donor MGBGTV8 and uses a new Heritage shell finished in Primrose. The engine bay adopts the twin SU layout of the Factory V8. See the V8 website for more details of this exceptional example.

### Shell V-Power now contains some ethanol

In the last Newsletter from the Federation of British Historic Vehicle Clubs (FBHVC) published in December 2009 it was stated that Shell V-Power petrol was guaranteed not to contain ethanol. With that reassurance many V8 enthusiasts chose to

use that fuel, despite the higher cost. However the FBHVC has recently reported on its website they have now learned that this is no longer the case and we understand from that report that a statement from Shell says: "Shell, like many other fuel suppliers, has begun blending ethanol into some Unleaded grades, including Shell V-Power at Stanlow, to comply with the legal obligations of the RTFO". (Renewable Transport Fuel Obligation).

Fuels containing above 5% ethanol need to be labelled, but fuels below that level can be sold unmarked. With 5% ethanol fuels, the main problems reported by FBHVC members concern fuel tanks. Some types of sealing compounds react adversely to the presence of ethanol in the petrol, resulting in sticky deposits being washed through into

the fuel system. There are sealing compounds on the market which are compatible with petrol containing ethanol. It should be possible to re-seal any affected tank with a compatible product, after thorough cleaning to remove all traces of the non-compatible material. Ethanol can affect the metals used in our fuel systems, but companies should be adding inhibitors to their fuel. The FBHVC say concerns about ethanol are being pursued further by their team. It's certainly a serious concern for MG enthusiasts with classic MG models.

### V8 Picnic in the Park

Ken Clayton is arranging a visit to Calke Abbey and Park, a National Trust property, with an informal picnic followed by a tour of the house and gardens on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2010. Calke is near Ticknall in Derbyshire. For further booking details see the online Rolling V8 Calendar and for bookings contact Ken on 07973 899056.

### Classics in the Walled Garden

Ian Quarrington and John Bolt enjoy this popular, relaxed and enjoyable event organized by classic car enthusiast Peter Madden. It is held in the walled garden on the Luton Hoo estate on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2010 from 4pm. For further details see the online Rolling V8 Calendar and for bookings contact Ian on 07769 856101.

### V8 Cambridgeshire Tour 2010

The next V8 Tour is over the long weekend Friday 10<sup>th</sup> to Monday 13<sup>th</sup> September with a programme of visits to Fenland attractions and an ancient Cambridge college. The base will be the Holiday Inn at Cambridge. Further details of the event, booking arrangements and location maps are available on the Rolling V8 Calendar on the V8 website or you can contact David Allen on 01778 343235.