

# REGISTER UPDATES

## V8

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### Exceptional V8 at auction

George Wilder reports that an exceptional Factory MGBGT V8, Harvest Gold 0788, was up for auction at Brightwells on Wednesday 23rd September 2009. The catalogue says the car has covered only 9,900 miles during the last 35 years and it has apparently been kept garaged and stored under blankets and barely ever exposed to the elements. Apart from a new stainless steel exhaust fitted in 2003 and new batteries in 1999, the car appears to be wholly original and unrestored. In June of this year it was given a full service and granted a fresh MOT and the whole car was Supaguard treated inside and out. It is said to drive perfectly and certainly fired up instantly and sounded magnificent when Brightwells tried it on the occasion of their visit to take the photos for their catalogue. Brightwells' catalogue had a guide price of £11,500 to £13,000 so we will report the outcome of the auction of this rare V8 next month.

### V8 to Marrakech and back!

Tom Williams contacted the V8 Webmaster around Christmas time about getting his MGBGT V8 back on the road. Well it seems the exercise was not one of simply getting it back on the road but also one of setting off on the road on an extraordinary journey with his father. Tom's V8 is Damask 0558 which he and his father serviced and updated mechanically during the early Summer last year in order to drive it from their house in Effingham in Surrey to Marrakech in north Africa! Well the good news is they got there and back again.

### Converting the RV8 headlights for use in Mainland Europe

Peter Garton from Germany provides a useful note for LHD RV8 enthusiasts. RV8 reimports from Japan have the headlamps fitted which are suitable for the UK - the Japanese also drive on the left! So they will need changing if you keep your RV8 in Mainland Europe or another country where they drive on the righthand side of the road. The parts you will need to change are the headlamp lens and the reflector unit. These parts were originally fitted to the Porsche 911 but since you can no longer obtain them from Porsche, it will be a relief for RV8 enthusiasts to know that they are available directly from any Bosch dealer. The Bosch part numbers are - Reflector unit - Bosch part number: 1 305 314 928 190mm diameter and the Headlight lens - Bosch part number: 1 305 614 005 190 mm

diameter colourless. The adjustment mechanism does not have to be changed and can be used on the new reflector. Since the job necessitates quite a bit of front end dismantling, my advice is to let the Bosch service people do the job in its entirety since the light will have to be readjusted properly anyway.

### Selling a V8 - what a story!

Alan Turner received five enquires to his advert for his V8, Damask 0663, on the V8 website from Ireland, Belgium, Germany and two from England but in the end an extraordinary chance encounter found a German buyer! Alan says "I suppose I can say it is sold subject to completion". But what was that extraordinary story?

Well a fellow member of the Torbay Old Wheels Club had a Morris Minor with a "For Sale" notice parked in his drive. The traffic passing his drive was so heavy it was solid, when the German family on holiday in the area crawled passed in their car, saw the car and called in. Whilst they were discussing the Morris Minor, a comment from the German that he also wanted a MG soon resulted in Alan's phone ringing and he then made a quick trip across the Ring Road to Torquay. On arrival Alan says "I saw his eyes light up and a broad smile on his face and . . . Well to cut a tale short, the German bought the Morris Minor 1000, my MGBGT V8 and an Isetta bubble car which my friend also had. It seems it is a good time for the Euro based buyers!"