

MGBGTV8 distributor – explanation of direction of rotation

In a previous V8NOTE it was pointed out that the references to the direction of rotation of the distributor in the MGBGTV8 Supplement

to the Workshop Manual were **incorrectly stated as anticlockwise**. In correspondence between Victor Smith and Jim Livingstone Victor thought that V8 owners might appreciate a more detailed explanation of the distributor drive.

Jim explains there are no ready illustrations of this drive train so the illustration alongside was prepared from images in the V8 Manual Supplement and a photograph of a V8 distributor. The key feature is the skew gear on the camshaft which determines the direction of rotation of the distributor shaft. Clockwise rotation of the camshaft skew gear results in a thrust force parallel to its axis and in a direction away from the engine. The resultant reaction from the mating skew gear on the distributor causes it to rotate anticlockwise when viewed from below. This in turn is a **clockwise rotation when viewed from above**.

