



V8

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Historic stumble across an aluminium Buick V8 engine

It was only by chance that during a visit to the US that Rover managing director Bill Martin-Hurst stumbled over a V8 engine lying on a workshop floor. His interest in the engine led to the V8 engine being crated up and sent over to Rover in the UK. But there was a concern that Rover would never get permission to use it from GM. But Martin-Hurst persisted and it was finally agreed.

The engine was then installed in a Rover 2000 body with little modification and Martin-Hurst drove it down to a Rover board meeting in London. Without telling the chief engineer Spen King what it was, he asked him to drive the car back. King

climbed in, started up and then switched off again and said "What have we here William?"

Rover developed the engine for production and use in the UK and since its UK debut in 1967 it has been installed in a wide range of vehicles from Rover saloons, Land Rover vehicles and sports cars like Morgans, TVRs and MGs.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of Rover's UK launch of the V8 engine. A three day event – Roverfest 2017 – is being held by the Joint Rover Clubs at Wroxall Abbey in Warwickshire over the long weekend 11th to 13th August.

See more on this fascinating tale of how the V8 engine came to Rover and the Roverfest 2017 event on our "More" webpage.



MGLive! 2017

In the week running up to the Club's annual MGLive! event at Silverstone over the weekend 17th & 18th June we have a programme of events from the Wednesday. Full details are available on the "More" webpage on the V8 Website. Over the weekend at MGLive! we will have our usual V8 Marquee with free refreshments and seating

where you can meet up and chat with fellow members. This year the V8 Marquee will be larger as we will have an RV8 25th Anniversary display. The V8 AGM will be held there on Sunday at 12.00pm. Our marquee location has changed this year, so see our "More" webpage for the revised layout of the central area at Silverstone at: www.v8register.net/more.htm