



# REGISTERS

V8

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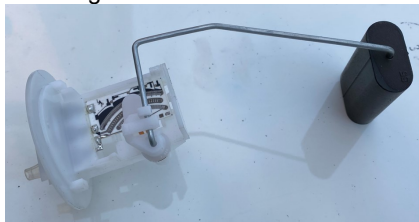
## Fuel tank sender unit for a 1974 MGBGT V8

Ian Ailes (Glacier White, 1561) recently contacted the V8 Register with his experiences concerning the faulty sender unit on his 1974 MGBGT V8. Ian's tale will resonate with other V8 owners, as he takes up the story. "Like most V8 owners, my fuel gauge had been playing up. The cause was a worn-out sender unit. I found a 'new old stock' (NOS) one at Beaulieu although it didn't work initially. Once dismantled it



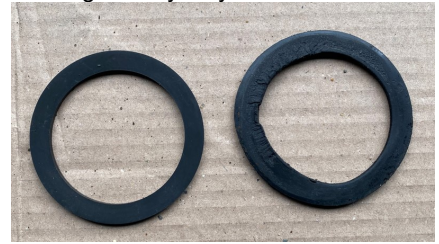
became clear that the pick-up arm had been bent on original assembly and so it was a case of carefully straightening

it out to get it working. Looking at the old one, I could see the pick-up contact had worn completely through the metal so that the arm would have been catching on the windings, to give false readings. It was probably caught and dislodged by petrol washing around in the tank. I didn't need to repair the old unit but it occurred to me that the hole could be soldered up, or the arm from a new unit could be used to repair the old unit. I believe the new units have fewer windings so this probably gives less accurate readings. It can be worth carefully cleaning the windings with 2000 grade wet and dry or wire wool to give a better reading. A modern alternative is available but the earth tab is too big and needs to be modified.



One important point is that the rubber seal to the tank was badly affected by E5 petrol as the photo shows. It's also worth replacing the seal with an Ethanol resistant one, if available. The sealing ring shown was only 5 years old! Dismantling the gauge or the

voltage stabiliser is not usually required and is generally only a last resort.



They can easily be tested on the car by shorting out the wires or using a spare sender. If the stabiliser is faulty, the gauge will under read or over read." Ian hopes this note will help other V8 owners to resolve their fuel gauge faults and inaccuracies.



## V8 Register events in 2025

Just a brief reminder of our forthcoming V8 Curry evening this month and the V8 Dales Tour in June. Further details can be found on our 'More' page at [www.v8register.net/more.htm](http://www.v8register.net/more.htm)