Witimate Motoring Magazine



The Tast Day Of February 2008

The Newsfortin of the Whit Courses Data (MR)

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GraUMM's Bit.

Well here goes 2005 and I thank all those who sent Christmas cards.

I hope this year we are going to do better than 2004. We only just made 67 Members by the end of the year. In previous years we have had around 80 Members. So far this year we have 41 including 2 New Members.

I am looking for ways of promoting the Club and getting and keeping Members.

I know that most of you are grateful for the Club and support it with your continued membership and by attending some club events.

I try to give something back to those who put in a lot effort. In the form of a years free membership as a little reward.

It's the ungrateful ones that we have to target (no not shoot them) The ones that only join for a year just for the basic information.

Or the ones that phone me up because they want to sell there vehicle. Wanting some thing for themselves but not wanting to support the Club.

I may start asking for money from non-members to advertise there vehicles, A least it may bring some money in.

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The CLUB take no responsibility for misuse or mishaps, Page 1. It's the Lost Thousand or so owners out there that don't even know there is a Club that we have to try and find ways of contacting.

I have given Brian at COUNTRY VEHICLES a hand full of membership forms and these are bringing a slow trickle of new members.

But what else is there.

If any one wants membership forms to carry I will send some out.

I had even thought of putting a Bounty on new members.

(no not a free chocolate bar)

A reward for any one capturing one.

At present we have a listing in 4x4 Mart & O R & 4 Wheel Drive Mags. There are also links on the Internet that have a Membership Form or my Phone Number and contact details.

Having the Club Stand at several large shows during the year does help to bring in the odd member and help raise awareness of the Club.

But as most of the missing thousand or so out there possibly never read the motoring press or know how to use the Internet so how do we make them aware of the Club and it's benefits.

Any one with any ideas or are in a position to help promote the Club let me know and we can take it from there.

News.

I have spoken to Brian Granger at COUNTRY VEHICLES. He tells me that Parts are coming through from Portugal so give him a call and if he hasn't got what you want then he should be able to get it in a reasonable space of time unlike Cotswold.

Wanted.

Club Member Richard Williams is looking for Ideas or Drawings to convert his ALTER to a Hand Operated Clutch after his recent operation.

His ALTER is fitted with a TRANSCAT Gear Box with a cable operated clutch.

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Moving On.

I hope you are all looking forward to the end of May for the Welsh Week-End.

This to be held again on the Spring Bank Holiday week-end of:-Friday 27th, Saturday 28th & Sunday 29th, Packing up on Monday 30th. I will be traveling down on the Friday as usual so there's no excuse not to come early.

I will put the full details in the April Newsletter.

Moving On Again.

The next Club Event will be at the Hop Farm, Paddock Wood on :-

Friday 1st, Saturday 2nd & Sunday 3rd of July.

Entry forms for those going for the first time are available from me at the Club address.

And remember it's free camping for the week-end and a great show.

I will put a more complete list of shows in the April Newsletter.

ELECTRICAL & OTHER COMPONENTS.

Well here's something for the New Year.

I have been going through the VEHICLE WIRING PRODUCTS

Catalogue and I have found these items that could be used as replacement parts when Restoring, Repairing or Maintaining a UMM.

There are numerous other things in the Catalogue that I have found invaluable when putting right the work of others or doing general repairs.

All prices are Excluding V.A.T. and Postage. Orders over £100.00 Post Free. For a Catalogue Phone 0115-9305454.

These are Vehicle Wiring Product Refferance Numbers Only.

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Reference Number

AMB 001 Exhaust Mount Bobbins. £0.91. Each. - £7.60. For 10 These can be used to replace the Rubber mounts under the Air Cleaner or the Inter-Cooler.

B 982 5/16 UNF Nuts. £0.15. Each. - £1.00. For 10 To fit Exhaust Bobbins. 2 required each.

B 544 3/8 UNF x 24 tpi Female 3 Way Brake Pipe Connector.

Replacement for TRANSCAT & ALTER Rear Axle Connector. £5.92.

Use with NEW Pipe Nuts B 574.

B 574 3/8 UNF x 24 tpi Male Brake Pipe Nut. £0.25. Each. Replacement Brake Pipe Nuts for ALTER II. £5.25. For 25.

B 694 3/8 UNF x 24 tpi Short Male Brake Pipe Nut. £0.47.Each Replacement Brake Pipe Nuts for TRANSCAT & ALTER. £9.80. For 25.

B H L 4700 7 inch Free Standing Headlamp Each. £93.01.

This is a similar Headlamp to the originals fitted to the TRANSCAT.

Twin Filament bulb & Side light. Black Finnish.

CHL 4700 Also available in Chrome Finnish Each. £95.44.

L S L 015 Clear Side Lamp. £4.93. (Replace 5 watt Bulb with 21 watt Bulb to use as Reversing Lamp.)

L S L 025 Red, Rear Stop & Tail Lamp. £4.93.

L S L 035 Amber Rear Indicator. £4.93.

These are Land-Rover Type lamps and can be used as replacements for ALTER Tail Lamps when mounted on a suitable piece of plate.

L W L 005 Red, Rear Fog Lamp. £12.66. I think this was the original Fog Lamp fitted to TRANSCAT's. Can be used single or as a pair on the ALTER II using the mounting holes either side of the rear number plate.

R C T 450 Red, Rear Stop, Tail & Indicator Lamp. £4.07. This lamp will replace the original Tail Lamps fitted in the TRANSCAT rear bumper.

This type of lamp is available from Trailer Centers for the same price. (Re-drill holes in back of lamp to match holes in bracket and ignore or blank out number plate light window.)

RCT 776 Number Plate Lamp. Black Plastic Finnish. £4.87.

RCT 777 Number Plate Lamp. Chromed Plastic Finnish. £5.06.

Replacement for TRANSCAT Number Plate Lamp.

T 773 Ignition / Starter Switch. £11.67.
This Switch can be used in the TRANSCAT after some one has smashed the original Column Switch under the Dashboard.
Mount in the Dashboard inplace of Lighter Plug or in center panel inplace of Blocked Filter Light.

325400 Indicator Stalk Switch. £13.71.

This Switch can be used to replace the Citroen 2CV Indicator Switch on the TRANSCAT Steering Column.

33634 Ford Type Side Repeater Lamps. £3.05.
32mm square lamp that can be fitted to TRANSCAT's and ALTER.
You will have to file out the hole to accept them.

0887 Reflector or 'W' Clips. (Pack of 4) £0.84.

Used to retain Lamp Unit in to TRANSCAT Headlamp Outer Rim.

 76806
 Amber, Front Indicator Lamp.
 £14.34.

 76799
 Mounting Plate.
 £1.53.

 01252
 2-Way Connector.
 £1.26.

This is an 100mm diameter Lamp that could be used on the front of either TRANSCAT or ALTER as a replacement for the original Indicator Lamps. There are Red & Clear Lamps in this Pattern but they can not be used on the back of the ALTER as they are too big.

nUMMber Twelve, And There's More.

With it M. O. T. ed and in use I started getting what sounded like Diff Chatter from the Back Axle and this was more so with the trailer on.

With the back end jacked up and suitably supported the wheels came off, The Half Shaft's pulled out and the Diff Popped out the casing. The Diff was then striped down and the L. S. D. Clutch Packs inspected. On the first look there appeared to be nothing wrong with them so I started to look else were for the noise.

The Transfer Case was then removed and opened up for a look.

Apart from a small amount of stretch in the Chain every thing looked O.K..

So I went back to the Diff for another look.

After a close look at the Clutch Springs I found that one of the dished springs had several small cracks radiating in from the edge. With the spring replaced with one I had spare every thing was reassembled.

On the road even with the trailer on there was no more noise from the axle.

Before I got it some one had fitted a pair of Rubber-Light Tail Lights on the back leaving the old units in place so I cut some aluminum chequer plate to the size of the original lamp units then drilled them to take Land-Rover Type Lamps.

These were then fitted back on the body using the rubber gasket as a seal. I then rewired the back end using a Rubber-Light Junction Box mounted behind the rear number plate and discarding the extra lights.

As this vehicle is becoming my little work horse and trailer tug on the front I needed a push coupling for maneuvering my big trailer so this was made from two short lengths of 2" x 4" angle iron as drop bars and a 3 foot length of 3" x 1 ½" box section.

The front bumper was removed along with what was left of the bull bar. The holes in the end of the chassis were then drilled out to 14mm and then tapped to take a 16mm bolt.

In side the bumper what was left of the 'S' stiffeners for the bolts were removed and the holes drilled out.

These were replaced with 2" spacer blocks on reassembly.

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With the bumper, spacers, bull bar and drop bars inplace the $3" \times 1 \frac{1}{2}"$ box section was then fitted inside the drop bars and level with the top edge of the bull bar lower bar.

Two holes were drilled each side through the angle iron and box section to bolt it all together using 16mm bolts.

The top bolt on the left hand side along with a parallel hole drilled through the box section for the left hand tow ball.

Two holes were then drilled through the center of the box section for the center tow ball.

Any one interested in having one of these Tow-Bars fitted I will work out a price and bring the Bar and most of the tools with me to the May Welsh Week-End so that it may be fitted and tested there.

CENTER SPREAD.

Here is a photo sent in by Club Member Richard Williams from Shropshire.

This is Richard's well maintained but slightly battered Left Hand Drive ALTER that was originally purchased in Portugal as a temporary vehicle and now some 15 / 16 years later he can't bear to part with it.

Richard who is an Exceptional Vehicle Technician!! and Retired Pan-European H G V Class 'I' Driver.

Richard and his Wife Jean (Who took the Photo) have done many thousands of miles to and from Spain and Portugal with never a major disaster.

Richard tells me this picture was taken recently at a rest area near a reservoir in Spain.

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LETTERS.

Here is a letter I received just before Christmas from new member Gregor Robertson in Edinburgh.

Dear Graham.

You can publish this if you like!

When I saw my first UMM Which I bought from Alan Miller.

I fell totally in love with the vehicle - and this after messing around with all sorts of classics and commercials for the last 40 years.

It's the car Iv been waiting for all my life.

Then my son felt the same and he's relieved me of it.

I know the feeling, My eldest son thinks all my vehicles that are on the road are fair game, (GraUMM)

He loves it too.

well then you and I spoke on the dog and bone and I felt I d discovered a soul-mate, Pity your a chap!

then I joined the club and read your Newsletters, <u>Best laugh</u> Iv had in years! Truly.

I'm so happy to be totally in the Nut House - sorry I mean in the company of such distinguished and idiosyncratic <u>and</u> discerning engineers / mechanics. Having read every word I am now rushing out to examine my steering box mounts and joints.

Having been around everything else and fixed most things. don't like the sound of these clutch mechanisms in the rear axle. Ill order a Workshop Manual.

As my son and his car, The 121 - 3 door Station Wagon (Non Turbo) live in Sunderland Ill just have to find another 121 Station Wagon.

But ill have to sell some of my other cars first (about 13 / 14 / 15 of them, including FX 4 taxi's Triumph Renown, Standard Vanguard (I'm jealous I want one) Wolseley 12/48 ect ect) and a Bedford Tipper Lorry.

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A Speedy Reminder.

I have just replaced the Speedo Cable on one of my fleet and I thought it was time I reiterated the best route for the Cable.

The original route for the Cable runs down along the right hand side behind the heat shield (Turbo Model) to the front of the Transfer Box, across and under the front of the Transfer Box and a tight curve to the speedo drive on the back of the Transfer Box.

This tight curve is were the Cable will brake as with use the Cable will heat up cracking the outer covering and allowing water and rust in.

The better route for the Cable is down the right hand side behind the first part of the heat shield then across the back of the engine (Supporting the cable from the right hand heater hose with a cable tie) over the top of the Gear Box to the left hand chassis rail securing it to the fuel line brackets and a gentle curve to the speedo drive.

This will remove any stress from the Cable and extend it's life.

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MEMBERSHIP List for 2004.

BERKSHIRE.

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Phone - 0118-941-5327

BRISTOL.

Martin Hall

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Nick Heath. Phone - 01844-292081 6 Aylesbury Road, Cuddington, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, HP 18, 0 BD

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Richard Williams. Phone 01691-690629

1 Revells Close. Dudleston Heath. Ellesmere. Shropshire. SY 12 9 ND

Brian Cope. Phone. 01952-550459.

'Kutty Rock Cottage' Ellerton Road, Hinstock, Market Draton, TF 9 2 NN

SOMERSET.

Oliver Frost Phone 01458-830909

The Flat. Breach Farm. Glastonbury Road. West Pennard. Glastonbury. somerset. BA 6 8 NM

Jim Panton. Phone 01823-601206

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Colin Boyce.

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'Bunces' Blackboys. East Sussex. TN 22 5 JA

John Stredwick

Phone. 01435-812771.

'Hollytrees' Grove Hill. Hellingly. Hailsham. East Sussex. BN 27-4 HG

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David Drain.

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Peter Brady.

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Derek Parker Consterdine

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