Ultimate Motoring Magazine



The Tiest Day Of June 2008.

The Newstorian of the USAN Owners this (UK)

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## GraUMM's Bit.

Hello again to start with sorry this Newsletter is late but I wanted to include the Welsh Week-End Report and on top of that I have had a lot of work turn up at home to do.

As you may have gathered I have added a few more to my collection, the latest of these is

a Green G-Reg Normal Aspirated ALTER II station Wagon.

• Up till now all the ALTER's I had on the road were Turbo Versions. There is quite a contrast between driving the Turbo and Non Turbo versions.

Once you get the Turbo in to the power band it accelerates quickly up to and beyond the legal limits!!

The Non Turbo version doesn't have so much a power band but more of a busker outside the Station.

Acceleration with the Non Turbo is a more leisurely affair.

I have been doing some fuel economy comparisons between the two types of vehicles with some big differences.

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Daniel came past on his way to work for a chat saying that he would be finished early and would see me later.

I spent my time enjoying the sunshine and a visit to the local shops till Daniel came back later that after noon.

Some time between Five & Six Daniel said was that 'Ernie' as he could hear the approach of a familiar Diesel Engine.

But to our sup rise what came through the gate was a white left hand drive ALTER with a green caravan.

It was Club Member Richard Williams all the way down from Shropshire.

Not being nasty but Richard was the last person I expected to see this week-end as Richard had his lower left leg removed back in September and these things take a long time to grow back.

After Richard had sited his caravan he explained to us that with Super Human Effort on his own and on one leg and a pair of crutches he had reassembled his Transfer Case that he had dismantled before his operation and made a hand operated clutch for his ALTER.

Richard thanks all those who phoned with ideas and suggestions.

Richard explained that his ALTER being left hand drive it has the TRANSCAT gear box and cable clutch, This has a rocker arm on the side of the gear box for the clutch and it was this that he adapted with an upright hand brake lever to operate the clutch and with a bit of practise and help from his new left foot he is able to drive.

Richard is now looking for some kind of Servo Assistance to reduce the weight of the Clutch.

I think Richard's is the first UMM to be registered as a disabled Vehicle. After a long chat with Richard, Daniel went home for his tea and met us later in another house of liquid refreshment.

Around Ten that evening my Phone rang, It was Club Member Ernie Darby saying that he was immobile on the Severn Bridge with a blown water hose and he had called for a Very Nice Man.

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Around Four - Thirty the following morning Ernie arrived at our camp site on the back of a recovery vehicle with his caravan in tow.

Saturday was a cold and changeable day, By mid morning we all climbed in to my Station Wagon for a shopping trip in to Swansea.

first on the agenda was a bottom radiator hose for Ernie and luckily was able to match it at a small 4x4 parts factors.

After this I wanted to visit the local branch of Machine Mart as I had a shopping list.

With all the shopping done we came back to Mumbles for Dinner in a little Cafe on the sea front.

Back at base we all settled down to do our own thing as they say. Ernie & Daniel went off up to Daniel's work shop to attempt to fit the new bottom hose.

With the hose fitted water was added and it was found that a heater hose had failed with the heat as well.

The heater was by-passed as a get you home measure and every thing tested, No leeks, Job Done.

As the afternoon became the evening the sacrificial pyre was lit and offerings made to the gods, And what was left we ate.

After the smoke had cleared and all the food was gone we all departed to the local hostelry to end the evening with some more liquid refreshment.

Continued after Centre Spread.

#### CENTRE SPREAD.

I have been going through all the photos I have to try and find something interesting for the Centre Spread.

In the end this is the best I could find.

This is a recent Photo of the front of my Normal Aspirated Station Wagon showing the Round Head Lamps complete with Chrome Rims.

This is the result of the article in the last Newsletter.

I am still struggling for good photos to use.

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## The MAY WELSH WEEK-END Continued.

Sunday dawned, Not as cold as Saturday and warming up slowly.

Ernie said can we move his caravan as he keeps falling out of bed when he turns over in the night as it was where it was left by the Recovery Vehicle and was not level.

This was soon done.

Mid morning every body was again gathered together for breakfast down to a different sea front Cafe in Mumbles this time followed by some shopping in the local co-op.

Then once more back to our base camp for another lazy day.

That evening again there was burnt offerings for tea followed by a liquid evening.

Monday, Packing up day.

The day started bright but a bit chilly and it took a while for the caravan awning to dry after the overnight dew fall.

By about Nine Richard was on his way and by about Ten we were heading for the Sainsbury's Filling Station in Swansea for more of the essential fluid then on towards the M4 and a steady drive home. Stopped at Cardiff Gate Services again then the long home.

## A Nomination.

I would like to nominate Richard Williams as Club Man of the Year for the very fact of overcoming first the problem of having his lower left leg removed.

And then putting all this effort in to rebuilding his UMM, Doing the conversion and afterwards driving a Hundred and Fifty Miles to attend this Club Event.

This is more than club Members living a fraction of that distance away are prepared to do.

Well Done Richard and Thank You for all your hard work and effort.

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## CLUB STANDS & Other Events.

The K M Motoring Pageant.
The Hop Farm, Paddock Wood, Kent.
Friday 1st, Saturday 2nd & Sunday 3rd July.

this is the BIG event of the year for every one in the South of England to meet and talk UMM-Talk all day long.

I will be arriving some time after Lunch on Friday to set up the Club Stand and start answering all your questions??

For those that haven't been before and would like to book in for the week-end with FREE Camping I have a few booking forms if you send me an S.A.E.

The WOODCOTE RALLY.
Woodcote. Nr Reading.

Just off the A4074 Reading, Oxford Road. 9th & 10th July.

This is a very good local event that I have attended many times over the years and this year I hope to exhibit my Garden Tractor Collection.

The August Welsh Week-End.
Pennard on the Gower Peninsula. Swansea. South Wales.

This is planed to coincide with the Gower Show where we spend most of Sunday Afternoon witch is Normally the first Sunday in August the 7th. I will know nearer the time.

The LITTLEWICK SHOW.
Littlewick Green. Maidenhead. Berkshire.
August Bank Holiday Monday 29th.

I will be attending this show again this year with either the Garden Tractor Collection or the Bubble Car.

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# The NATIONAL MICRO-CAR RALLY, 2005.

Friday 2nd, Saturday 3rd & Sunday 4th September.

Southwell Race Course. Nr Newark. Nottinghamshire.

I hope to have my Bubble Car engine rebuilt and back on the road for this event and hoping for good weather as I will be in a tent.

The 4x4 SHOW.

Saturday 24th & Sunday 25th September.

Stoneleigh Park. Warwickshire.

Nr Coventry.

this is a New Event with a lot going on and hopefully better organised than the last 4x4 Show.

I have applied for a Club Stand with space for 4 vehicles at this Event and we are accepted now I have One Week-End Family Camping Pass worth £60 to give away.

More updates nearer the time and what you have to do to get your Oily Hands on the Free Ticket.

# An E-Mail from the Highlands.

Transcat D568CSF

Graham - this for the mag., if you think readers will like it.

Destined for scrap, but because of its rarity here in Scotland, too good to scrap. One and only owner, a Highland estate, where it would have served to pull staff, logs, ploughs, stalled tractors and generally rough it over all terrain - and it shows, with bashed bumpers and panels, and all unimportant auxiliaries - flashers, lights etc long gone. The steel-bodied pickup came to me via that well-known Scottish collector, Alan Miller, then Alex Lindsay, one of our leading Land Rover specialists, at whose garage it continued its long lay-up in the open for some more years.

Late Feb I took the UMM to my friend Mike Kenny, who is one of Edinburgh's ace paint spray men and borrowed a space in his garage. This was to be my 2007 project, as there are far too many others waiting for

All products and services are only CLUB recommendations and not always genuine UMM Parts. The CLUB take no responsibility for misuse or mishaps. Page 10. completion (not UMMs). However Mike seems to have got excited about it and he's put me to it and the job is well underway. JUST ABOUT EVERYTHING. Broken springs, an engine robbed of parts, dented panels, no hand brake, the lot. And quite a lot of rust in the seams. Chassis is sound and upper body good. I find that the grossly inaccessible engine stands clear when the bulkhead and floor panels are removed - a relatively quick job, but when it goes together I'll build it so it comes out faster, and with the air cleaner and fuel pump sited well clear of the engine. I'm hunting for parts, so if you have any, or can advise on interchangeability,

The Chassis no is TW 4A 11 DOL 000 25038.

In the meantime, a short note on my son's Station Wagon. He's thoroughly enjoying it and has started on his off road career - took it into the Pennines on a skiing trip. Lots of the usual small electrical problems but the continuing trouble is with the alternator belt-keeps snapping although we have correct belt and pulleys appear to be in line. Alternator runs free too. Any solutions?

Anyhow, all for now. No doubt the misery will deepen when I get the Transcat running, with all the easy bits done - then axle, clutch, and bearing deficiencies will strike-I'll keep you posted.

From Gregor Robertson.

# GraUMM's Words of Wisdom.

First of all this is a late model TRANSCAT and will have the 2\*5 Engine. This engine you can acquire from an early 90's L D V 400 Van.

Or if you are lucky you may find a late 80's Ford Granada with this engine and if you are really lucky it may have a Turbo.

Don't bother with the engine from the Ford Sierra from the same years as this is only a 2\*3 the same as the Peugeot 504 Pick Up.

You will have to save the flywheel and clutch from the original engine. And don't forget the water pump, Timing cover and engine mounts.

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The alternator (but not the Ford one) and vacuum pump can be used. Don't try replacing the radiator if it's leaking get it rebuilt.

For all the electrical components see February's Newsletter.

All the bearings are readily available from most bearing dealers. Cables can be made by Speedy Cables if you have a pattern. And I recommend 750 x 16 tyres but only with the 2\*5 engine.

# VEHICLES & Items For Sale and Wanted.

## CLUB SALES.

#### PUBLICATIONS.

The ALTERNATIVE PARTS GUIDE. Version II	£2.00
Drivers Hand Book. TRANSCAT. Reproduction.	£6.00
Drivers Hand Book. ALTER II. Beige Trim. Reproduction.	£7.00
Drivers Hand Book. ALTER II. Grey Trim. Reproduction.	£8.00
Work Shop Manual. TRANSCAT. Reproduction.	£35.00

#### CLOTHING.

Knitted Woollen Jumper in Silver-Grey with Small UMM Logo in Blue. (1) £30.00 Knitted Woollen Jumper in Beige with Large Multi-Colour UMM Logo. (1) £30.00 Knitted Woollen Jumper in White with Large multi-Colour UMM Logo. (1) £30.00 Other Colours can be ordered.

All Publication & Clothing Prices include Postage.

## MORE!! New Members.

Karl Kayser. 41 Lansdowne Close. Calne. Wiltshire. SN 11 9 DS

Gregor Davey. 30 Gosling Avenue. Great Offley. Hertfordshire. SG 53 ER

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