



RV8 cooling problem traced to a small crack in the neck of the expansion tank

RV8 cooling problem traced to a small crack in the neck of the plastic expansion tank. Chris Yates had been following a recent thread on the V8 Bulletin Board about RV8 overheating possibly caused by a loss of coolant and has sent in this note of his experience with another cause of coolant loss. He said he was fortunate to learn something about the header tank (or expansion tank) from Steve Newton who had been examining his RV8. Chris had reported it was losing coolant and when the

car went into Clive Wheatley's workshops, Steve examined the car and found the expansion tank was losing fluid. This was because, over time, the pressure cap had been over tightened creating a hardly discernable hole at the mouth of the expansion tank. You can see the horizontal mark in the photo on the neck of the tank. This crack was just enough to create the conditions for a reduced pressure on the cooling system and the loss of coolant.

Steve said he had seen this problem on an RV8 before and although it is not a common problem he suggests that if any RV8 owner experiences overheating and coolant loss, it is well worth making a very close inspection of the neck of the expansion tank to see if this problem is there.

Chris was able to source another expansion tank on eBay and fitted it to his RV8 which cured the coolant loss problem.

Seat belt repair

Wear on seatbelts can be an MOT failure, so what can you do if you need to repair or replace a worn or damaged seatbelt? Andrew Jeyarajah recently saw his RV8 fail its MOT because the driver's seat belt was

excessively frayed along the edge. As replacement parts were not available from the specialist parts suppliers, he contacted a company suggested by fellow member Jonathan Buckley, called Quickfit Seat Belt Service in Stanmore in Middlesex (northwest London). www.quickfitsbs.com They offer a seat belt refurbishment service.

Andrew found they could help and better still it seemed they had worked on MG V8 seatbelts before. So he sent his seat belts to Quickfits and a week later he reported that "I got my belts back from Quickfit s and they were a near perfect colour match as Pavel at Quickfits was able to make a successful swap of the old webbing for the new webbing." Andrew indicated the cost was about £70 in total and added "the only thing I would have done differently is to ask them to change the 'black stud' on the seat belt to a beige one which I guess they could have taken off the old seat belt. This is a very minor detail though". Pavel at Quickfits suggested that for an extra £20 each he would change the belt reel and replace the covers, but Andrew noted "I never got round to taking him up on that".

For more information on these items see our "more" webpage at:

www.v8register.net/more.htm