



Back axle surprise

Peter Nixon is restoring an MGB Roadster with a V8 conversion and on checking a second hand V8 back axle before installation he was surprised by what he found. He noticed a broken piece of a bronze thrust washer from the planet gears lying in the oil - not what one wants to see. Using a screwdriver he could move the planet gears by about a millimetre on the pinion shaft, so obviously this called for new thrust washers to be fitted. As the remains of the planet gear thrust

washers had signs of wear, there would also be wear in the sun gearing thrust washers, and this wear would produce a noticeable clunk from the rear on moving away.

On draining the hypoid oil, four further pieces of the two planet thrust washers were found. On stripping down the brake hubs to be able to get at the drive shaft to free off the sun gears, a further piece of a planet thrust washer was found embedded in the left side outer oil seal, having worked its way through the

differential half shaft bearing, along the axle tube, through the wheel bearing into left side oil seal, effectively destroying the oil seal. He checked the bearings, they seemed fine.

Re-assembling the differential gearing with the planet gear thrust washers to eliminate the wear in the sun gears required a 40 thou and a 48 thou bronze thrust washer to be fitted. See the full note on the "More" page.

"Touring" fuel tank

Moss offer a "long range" touring fuel tank for £96 and says "this tank has a 13.3 gallon capacity and is compatible with the standard tank sender. The Touring tank features include internal baffling for better fuel control and a bottom mount low-profile drain plug for easy service and cleaning. It's made from Terne coated steel to help prevent internal corrosion, with exterior black paint for OE style looks."

With increasing ethanol levels in motor fuel the absorption of moisture during a lay-up can increase the risk of corrosion inside the tank so the coating is welcome. The additional capacity of 1.3 gallons (10.8%) could produce a useful additional range of between 35 and 39 miles for an MGV8 averaging 27/30 mpg. See our "More" webpage for the full note.

Webasto sunroof

Chris Bound reports he found from a quick search on the internet that the well-known Webasto sunroof installations service provider "R&S Coachbuilds" has ceased trading and that the "Trimming Centre" in Lewes in Sussex is now the sole distributor of Tudor Webasto coachbuilt sunroofs worldwide. On their website they also offer a repair service for the Britax Weathersheild sunroofs.

See our "More" webpage at www.v8register.net/more.htm