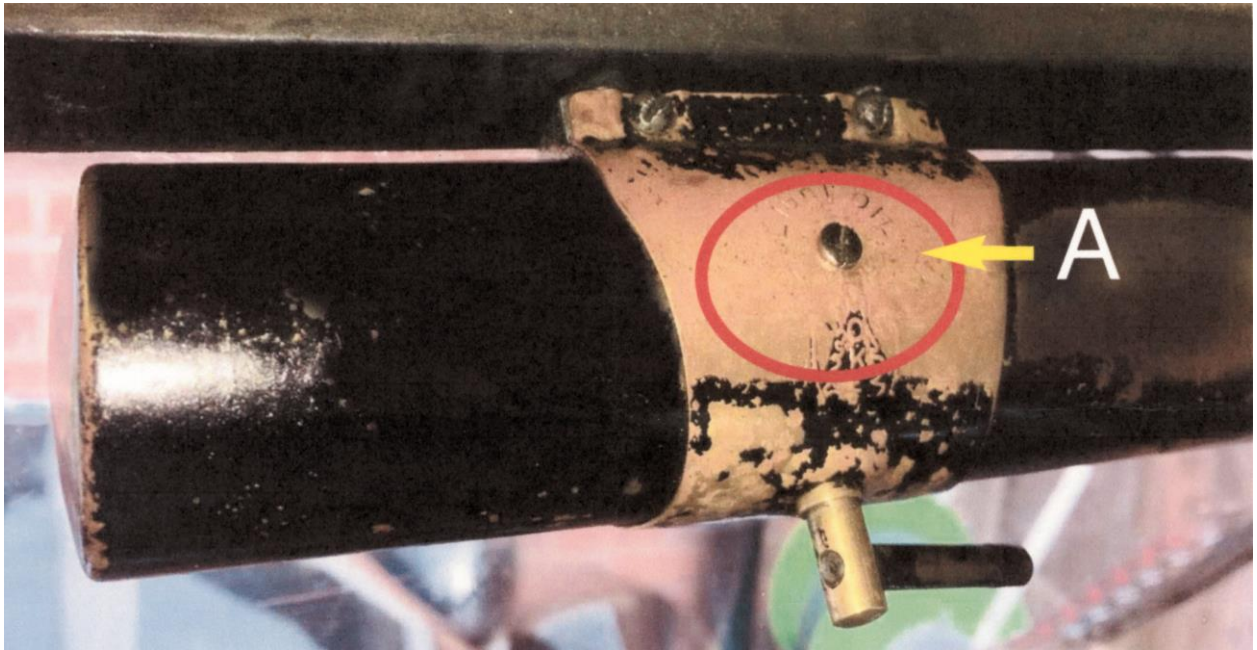


VINTAGE VACUUM WIPERS

Or a bad case of the WWDs



Not in any way intended to teach my grandmother how to suck eggs (she never liked them anyway), I had a problem with mine a few years back which left me suffering from the dreaded WWD...Windscreen Wiper Droop.

The solution of course was to flood the barrel of the wiper with oil, hanging a plastic bag underneath to catch the drops, thereby lubricating the internal leather washers. This was fine for twenty five years then the leather washers decided - enough was enough - so I attempted to replace them myself. Oh dear...I bought replacement

washers from a firm in Norfolk - disaster they were hand cut and simply didn't fit, so an emergency call went out to Don Breakspear the Vintage Wiper guru who promptly threw away my handiwork and £50 later returned my wiper in perfect condition – with new washers, a new inlet pipe, and new centre cup ready for another few thousand miles of clear visibility.

However, an interesting addition to this story occurred last week. It actually rained while out in my Seven. I turned the knurled knob and lo and behold the wipers kept wiping (just about) while I was chugging along (and accelerating) instead of just working while sitting at traffic lights. On closer inspection I saw that Don had fitted

a small screw (exhibit A) into the oil hole, thus presumably completing the Vacuum. It had never occurred to me before so if anyone less has the same problems as me, Don is the man and a small screw is the answer!

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