Rover 8 Register News

Summer 2024

Dear Rover 8 enthusiast, I hope you have been keeping well, looking after your cars and using them? The 2023 Newsletter was a no-show from me and apologies for that – too much going on is my feeble excuse. However, here is your 2024 offering to let you know that you are part of a very small community of Rover 8 owners - 60 or so known about worldwide. When I sat down to write this Newsletter, I thought where to start? – and then I trawled through my Rover 8 emails and the result is below – thank you all for your contributions. Please continue to send me news on your cars, work you have done, parts you need or are willing to sell and service providers you would recommend who have helped you keep your cars on the road.

In communication

In January this year I was excited to receive an email from Jon Baigent who sent me a couple of Photos of a charming blue Rover 8 based in the South West of Majorca in St Elm. Herbert Weiss, based in Port Andrax owned it for about thirty years but age has caught up with him and Jon is now trying to find a museum for the car, it has a starting motor and apparently is in running order. Too good for a museum I would say !

I wonder what was in the box on the back ? luggage, spares or tools ?

Owners Cars – Paul Lambden

After the last newsletter – Paul Lambden got in touch regarding his very smart 1922 four seat Tourer (pictured below). Paul had owned the car for over 35 years but was

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having some issues with starting and was looking for some help – I believe I suggested a couple of solutions of who to talk to - I hope you have got it going Paul ? By the way – whose was the somewhat tired Rover 8 in the back of the picture – any help anyone?

Needs a bit of Polish

Paul Cooper kindly passed on more Rover 8 photo memories- this time of a Rover 8 that was based in Germany - the picture below seems to indicate that the car has made its way back to the UK based on the Landrover Freelander and the sign in English behind the trailer – if anyone knows any of the history of this car please let me know. What is clear from the photo's is that the car was definitely in need of some TLC !

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Parts Wanted

In our last Newsletter (June 2022) Paul Cooper was looking to build up an engine incorporating a proprietary overhead valve conversion of the type that was available in the 1920s (Nash Conversion) he remains on the look out for any overhead valve conversion parts, irrespective of condition or completeness. Paul also has a good complete wide rear axle that he would be happy to exchange for a narrow version. If anyone has any parts to share with Paul please contact him directly at; bentleyboy_uk@yahoo.co.uk or call 01789 750667

Car rebuilds

Over the last couple of years I have been contacted by various individuals who were working on Rover 8 rebuilds – Willis Wharton, Colin Thomas and Andy Taylor to name three – do let us know how the rebuilds have been going and what challenges and resolution to problems you have found.

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Cars For Sale:

There are currently no Rover 8's forsale on any of the main websites

Petrol Tap

As a quick share, I have been having some problems with my petrol tap, Ray Beech suggested a visit to the Vintage Motorcycle Club's website where he previously purchased a tap - https://vmcc.net for anyone that is interested.

Parts Wanted/Offered

Parts Register – the Editor is trying to put together a list of spare parts which could be offered to other register members if a price can be agreed. If you have any part**s that you are happy to sell or gift, please contact the editor with details. In contrast – if you have a part which you need also let the editor know and we can see if we can match the requirement.**

Technical Help

If anyone is wanting help regarding technical issues on their Rover 8 we can suggest the following contacts.

Ray Beech 01256 763 834, Stuart Keeping 01258 841316 who have kindly volunteered to help answer any queries or questions you may have.

Register of Cars

In last couple of years Newsletter I posted the message below

Currently there are about 60 cars known to the register of which we have 40 with 'known details' – not a great survival rate given the thousands produced! Eleven of the cars are abroad, mostly New Zealand and Australia but also the US and Continental Europe. 32 of the cars are 2 Seaters of which 3 have Dickeys (please let me know if you have a Dickey in

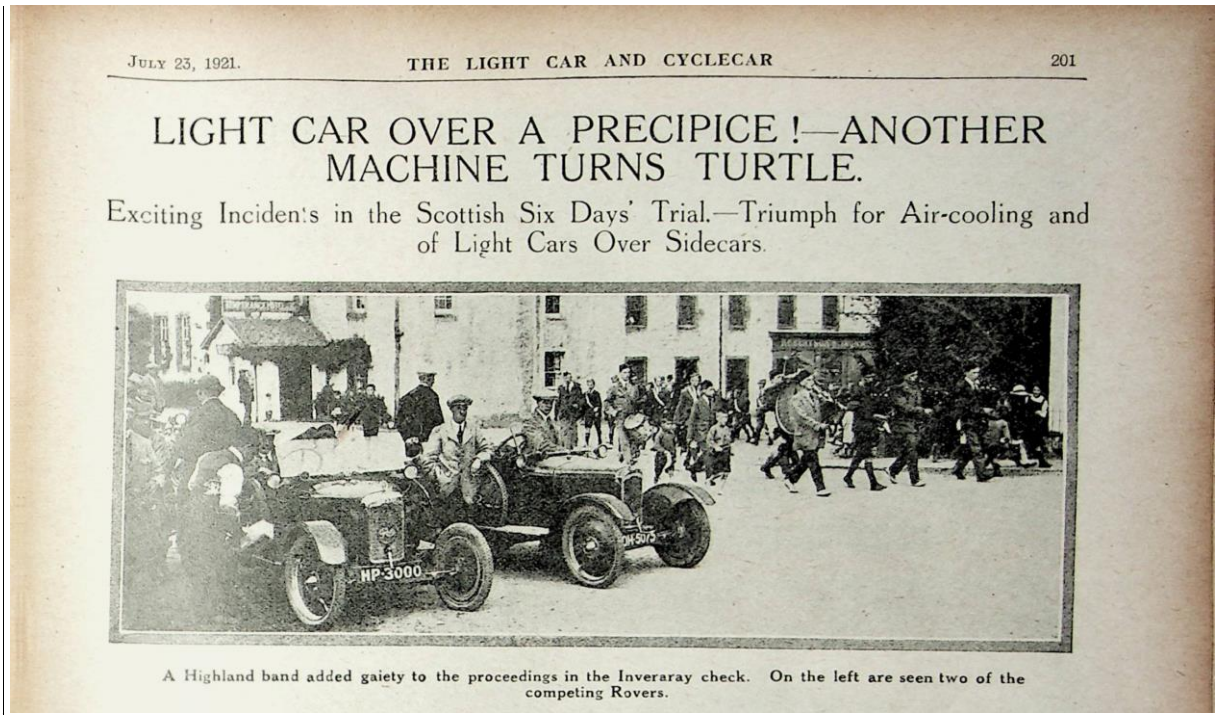
your 2 Seater). 10 of the cars are 4 seater Tourers, 4 chummys, 3 F.H.C. 2 Vans and the rest type unkown. In terms of models I am attempting to update the register so if you come across a Rover 8 in hidden away parts let us know. We are also attempting to contact everyone on the register to get updated details and email addresses. (N.B. Repeat of last years message)

Website

For those that don't know we actually have a Rover 8 website. I set this up a few years ago – edited it once or twice but due to work commitments haven't done anything since. If anyone fancies taking on the role of updating it please let me know.

http://rover8register.com/

From the Archives



JULY 23, 1921. THE LIGHT CAR AND CYCLECAR 201

LIGHT CAR OVER A PRECIPICE !—ANOTHER MACHINE TURNS TURTLE.

Exciting Incidents in the Scottish Six Days' Trial.—Triumph for Air-cooling and of Light Cars Over Sidecars.

A Highland band added gaiety to the proceedings in the Inveraray check. On the left are seen two of the competing Rovers.

The above photo is from a copy of the Light Car and Cyclecar magazine – it pictures 2 out of 6 Rovers that took part in a 900 mile Scottish Six Day Trial - five finished and four received gold medals. My only experience trialing my Rover was an attempt on 2 hills on the Welsh weekend after which we retired having performanced so poorly on them – however that was before the engine was rebuilt !

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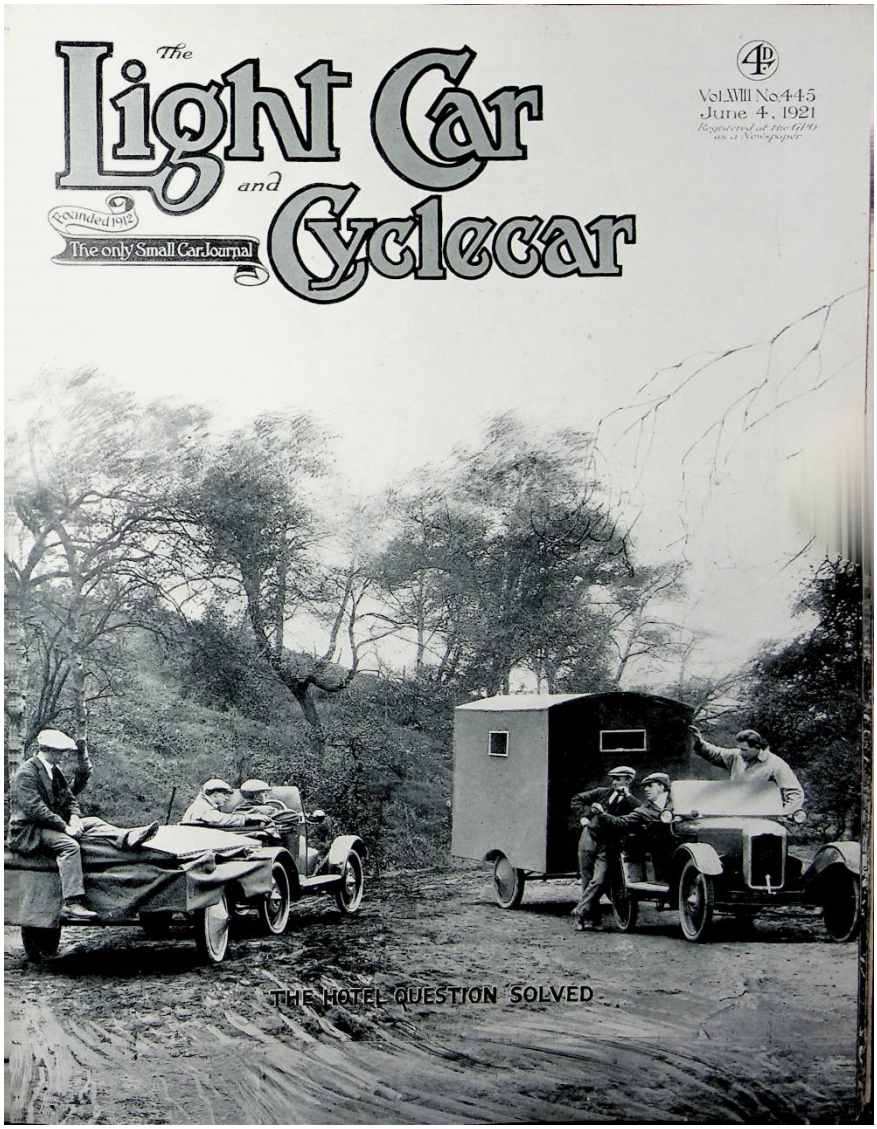
And Finally

Paul Cooper sent me this wonderful picture from a 1921 Light Car magazine of two towing Rover 8's I hope they didn't plan to go up any hills – despite the previous report on The Scottish Trial !



New Registrar ?

If anyone is interested in taking on the registrar role please let me know – I would love to devote more time to things Rover 8 but too many other conflicting commitments so I would be happy to pass on the role to someone who is interested - please get in touch if that's you !

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