

Denis Woodford's Resto Pt III

Back in the May-June 2020 issue of *Minor Torque*, a story of the bodywork repair (read 'complete ground-up restoration') on Denis Woodford's car was run. Then, in the Jan-Feb 2021 issue, the story of the seat refurbishment appeared.

Here is a brief reminder of that first story: So what's the time frame for finishing the Morrie, Denis? "I dunno! It depends on if this coronavirus finishes, so it could be sooner rather than later - I'm working on the car every day instead of two days a week previously."

And what is Denis thinking of a name for his new car? "'Corona Lady' is a possibility, only because of the extra time I have had to work on the car!" If there is a club award for restoration of the year (or 'Best Coronavirus Resto'), I know who I'd be voting for.

Denis' car was registered at the end of February and its trip to Wellington Caves in early March was its first major outing - and didn't it attract attention!

Next up was the engine rebuild. The old engine looked a bit tatty in the pristine engine bay at Wellington so it was the obvious next step.

Here is a run-down of 'action' from Denis... "We have just been to Blayney and back to run the motor in and no problems." But later, in an email to John Ballard:

G'day John, got the motor in and got 2 carby needles from Brian Condon; a BX1 and a S. The S needle seems to be the best.

I took the car for run and the timing cover seal was spinning oil all around. The 803 motor made a mini timing cover so I got a new gasket and rubber seal and put it on.

I started it the next day and after a bit of a rev it started missing. After investigating, number 2 had no compression. I took off the rocker cover and found number 2 exhaust valve was at 45 degrees! The top of the valve had broken but luckily the valve sat on the edge

of the cylinder. All the valves were pulled out and I lapped them, put in new seals and head gasket.

All going well now!

Denis Woodford

From this...



+



...to this!

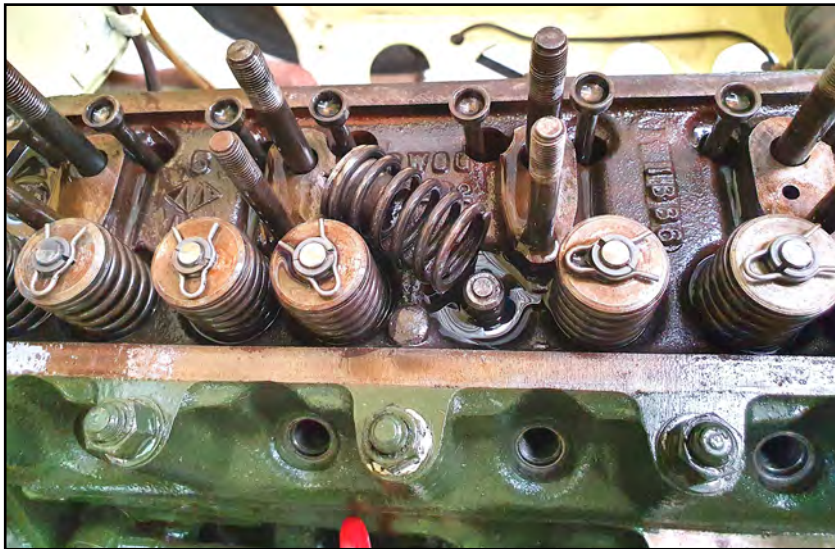




The day the car was finished and...



The day the car was registered.



The broken exhaust valve. Denis was lucky he wasn't up for a piston replacement, too.

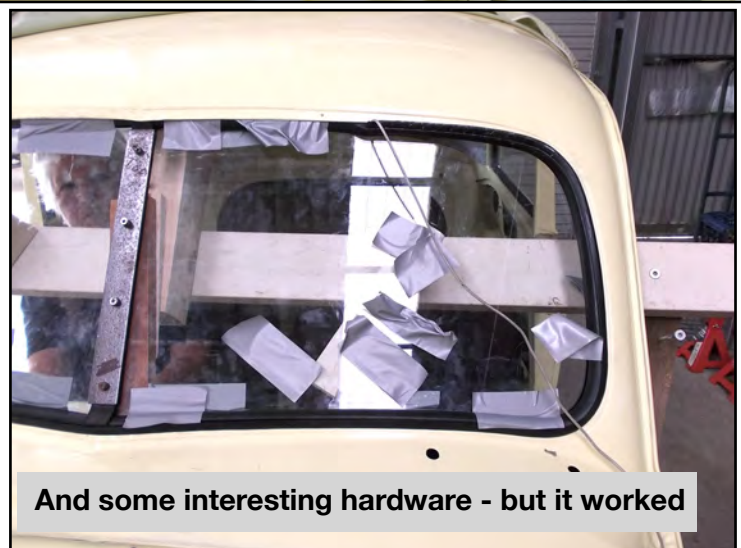


Wellington Caves in early March and Denis' resto attracted a lot of attention - and very positive comments!





Denis enlisted professional help for the windscreen



And some interesting hardware - but it worked

