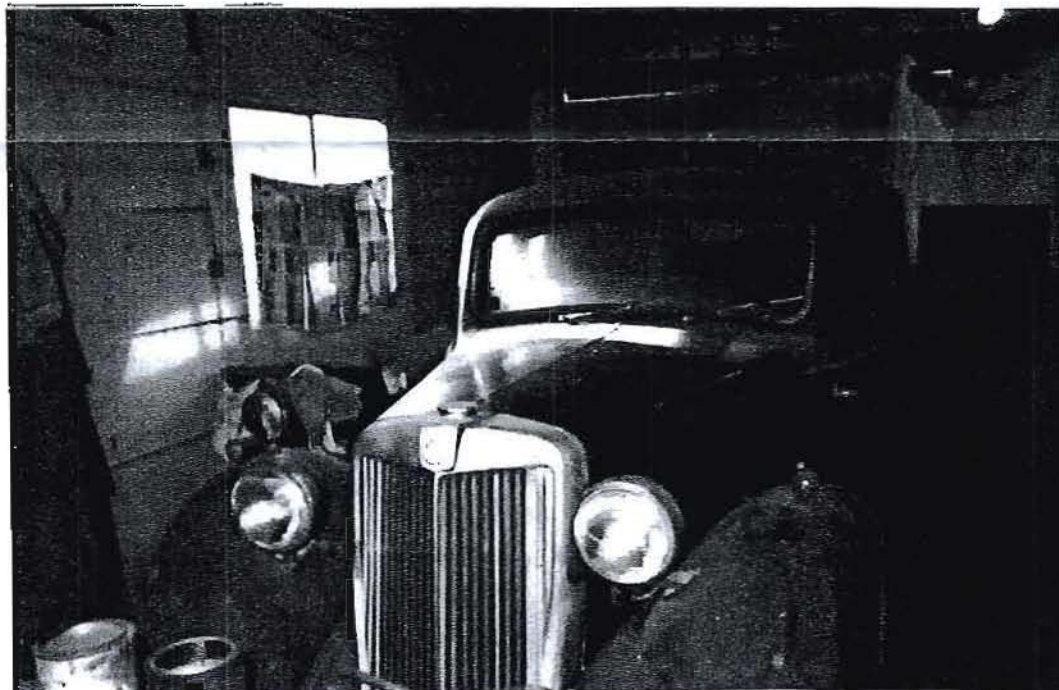


The Classic 'Y'



Issue No.189 December 2005



*** *MERRY CHRISTMAS!* ***



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REGISTER NEWS

Amazingly, they're still out there - undiscovered Y-Types, that is! Featured on the front page of this issue is YB/1058, which has been up on blocks in a garage for the past thirty-five years (thought to be in the Sutton, Surrey, area). It would appear still to have its original engine, XPAG/SC2/17912, though it's a pity that we can't see the number-plate in the photo. Maybe I've become too cynical over the years, but perhaps that was no accident on the part of the photographer! This black car will probably look something akin to a black cat in a coal cellar when this dark photo is reproduced in *TCY*, but the original shows it covered in the dust of ages! YB/1058 had its Guarantee Plate issued on 19th January 1953.

Looking back to Issue No.185 of last April, I gave some news there of "RVW761", which I thought was a YB. Roy Taylor, its current owner, recently wrote to tell me of progress with its restoration, and it turns out that the car is actually Y/5837, a 1950 Y. The Register has it as being ex-Jerry Birkbeck and ex-Mr.Thackrah, the latter of Yorkshire (the confusion is in part down to a duplicated entry). Roy says he is currently sorting out the interior of Y/5837 and likes the smell. Yes, me too! I am also quite partial to the smell of musty old car magazines in cardboard boxes - is there a medical term for that, perhaps? YB/0874 ("UMG253"), which Roy also once owned, was apparently sold some 10 years ago, but we don't seem to know where it is at the moment!

Phil Coates, from [REDACTED] in Derbyshire, writes to say that he hopes to have Y/0361 back on the road by the time you read these words, after 21 years of restoration. That's patience and commitment for you!

Spares for Sale

Differential carrier bearings, TA, TB, TC, TD, TF, marked "7207", new, £16 pair; Braided s/s fuel pipes, 11" long, ends are BSP to BSP, £10 pair; Braided s/s fuel pipes, 8½" long, ends are BSP to carb' banjo, £10 pair; 5 litres of Castrol D140 gear oil, new, £12; 2 x one-gallon cans of Castrol XXL40, new, £12 ea.; Y-Type rear seat central arm-rest complete with mounting brackets, red leather, £10; Lucas headlamp glass lenses complete with chrome rim, TA, TB, TC, v.g.c., £25 pair; Headlamp reducer chrome rims, 8.625" down to 7". £8 pair; 9-post regulator/control box, marked "RF96/2", 12v., £5; Brass grease gun, "Enols Autoram", £15; Brass Pyrene "One Quart" fire extinguisher, £10; Stirrup-type tyre inflator pump (needs a hose and valve), £6; Set of four Lucas 78107A suppressors in their boxes, £24; Runbaken H.T. Oil Coil (has glass body), 12v., £25. Contact: Colin Biles, [REDACTED], Wiltshire, [REDACTED]. Tel: [REDACTED]. Postage/carriage is extra. *(Not sure how much of this is specifically applicable to Y-Types, but Colin also has many other T-Type and J2 parts for sale which are not listed here. The Runbaken Oil Coil was always a favourite of mine! - JGL.)*

Literature for Sale

Immaculate YB Workshop Manual. Contact: Tom Green, tel: [REDACTED]

And now, more from Dave Lawrence of South Africa on Y-Type originality...

(a). There is some evidence to suggest that some very early production Y Saloons used rear "D" lamps that had the body secured in the closed position by a clip, rather than the chrome-plated screw. The first issue of the factory-supplied car Handbook refers to a fixing clip, while all subsequent issues of the Handbook, and all issues of the Workshop Manual seen by the author, refer to a fixing screw. Very little detail on these rear lamps is given in any Handbook or Manual, and the only pictures of them appear in the YB Handbook.

A few cars, including Y/0364, have been seen with rear "D" lamps that are secured by fixing clips, and in the case of Y/0364 at least, these are thought to be the original lamps for the car. However, an earlier car, Y/0330, had lamps that are secured by fixing screws, and these are also thought to be original for the car. More research on this aspect is required.

(b). With reference to the photograph of a rear "D" lamp on the left-hand side of Page 116 in the book*, it is now known that very early Y Saloons were fitted with lamps that had the interior divider fitted at an angle, rather than vertically as seen in the photograph. Why and when the angled divider was changed for a vertical divider is not known, but it is thought to be very early in production, and probably approximately August 1947.

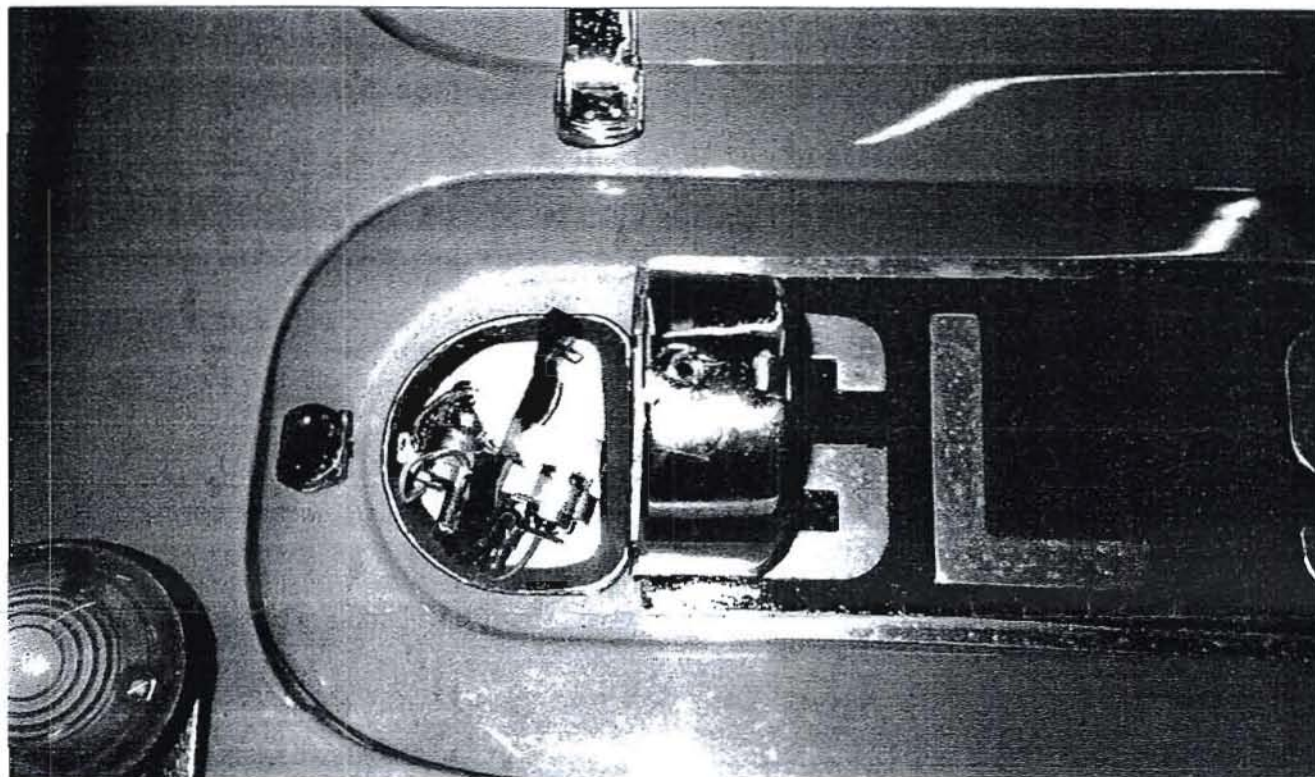
Four cars, Y/0330, Y/0361, Y/0363 and Y/0364 have been noted with the "D" lamps with angled dividers.

(c). On very early Y Saloons, the inboard clear lens of the "D" lamp, for illuminating the numberplate, was made of glass, and not plastic. Plastic lenses were substituted later in production, but the date of their introduction is not known.

Two cars, Y/0330 and Y/0361, have been noted with "D" lamps that have glass numberplate illumination lenses and these lamps are thought to be the originals from the cars.

cont'd...

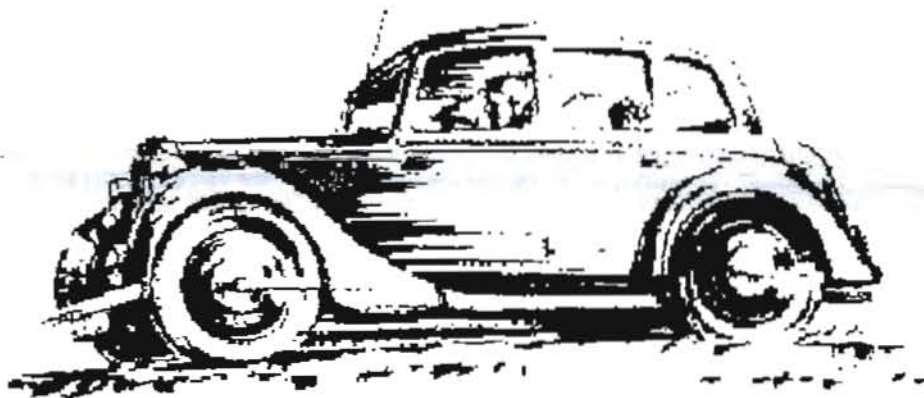
** Let There Be Ys*



Compare this picture, of Y/0330, with the one on the left-hand side of Page 116 in the book. Although of the same design, the internal divider is fitted at an angle on the "D" Lamps of very early cars. Note that the Lamp on the right-hand side of the car was fitted the other way round, so the light bulbs would be pointing downwards, as was also the case with the later Lamps with the vertical divider. The dished part in the divider was provided to accommodate the large light bulbs normally used in this position.

** Let There Be Ys*

to be continued...



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Phil Coates contributed the diagrams and details which appear on the following page to Dave's researches...

NEAR SIDE

REVERSE
LIGHT
BULB



METAL PLATE DISHED
FOR LARGER BULBS

TAIL LIGHT
BULB

METAL DIVIDING
PLATE

OFF SIDE

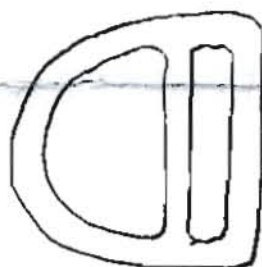
TAIL LIGHT
BULB



METAL DIVIDING
PLATE

STOP LIGHT
BULB

VIEW ON INSIDE OF 'D' LAMPS FROM REAR



CLEAR GLASS MOTTLED
AT REAR - THE 'D'

SHAPE HAS VERTICAL
FLUTES ON OUTSIDE OF GLASS



RED GLASS MOTTLED
AT REAR - THE 'D' SHAPE
HAS VERTICAL FLUTES ON
OUTSIDE OF GLASS.

Single piece of glass covers both openings

DETAILS OF 'D' LAMP GLASSES

THE GLASS ON BOTH SIDES FOR LIGHT ONTO NUMBER
PLATE IS CLEAR ON BOTH SIDES

WIRING DIAGRAM IN WORKSHOP MANUAL SHOWS TAIL
LIGHTS ON BOTH SIDES - I ASSUME BOTH WOULD BE RED

AS THE GLASS ON THE NEAR SIDE 'D' LAMP IS
CLEAR I THINK THAT THE SMALLER SECTION WOULD
HAVE BEEN PAINTED RED ON THE INSIDE

LAYOUT OF 'D' LAMPS ON CAR NO Y0361

Phil R. Coates