

UNDER THE BONNET BY TIN-TIN

Having flogged the clutch and gearbox thing pretty hard in the last two Issues, it must be time to turn to something else. Before I do however, a pearl of wisdom from Brian Wilkinson on how to treat your gearbox and this after one of our enthusiastic members managed to knash up his reverse gear. Incidentally, I heard this box 'in its deathbed' and wouldn't have believed that making that noise it could actually propel the car backwards, but it did! However after replacement Brian advised the owner to "always engage first gear before engaging reverse". Now I haven't quite worked this out but assume this must be a 'cog calming exercise'. These single rail gearboxes are certainly different!

Now lets get on to something else. For those of you with long memories, you may recall that great character David "Bunty" Scott-Moncrief, who with modest finances could not indulge his passion for fine cars, and so entered the motor trade as he put it "out of self defence". He described himself as a "Purveyor of horseless carriages to the Nobility and Gentry". This marvellous phrase I have never forgotten, so it was with joy I came upon another and new to me, "The Complete Automobilist". I wrote to them and received in return a Catalogue, and oh what fun it is. I don't recommend it for your bedside book, for you will never get to sleep, for it is full of those hard to get parts, many of which I thought were no longer manufactured. Although they have a return of post service, the emporium is open five days a week at 35 Main Street, Baston, Peterborough. Tel 0788 560312. Ideal for ideas for presents. I shall go as soon as I get the chance, but meantime do get the catalogue!

It was Phillip Wainman who showed me his restoration work on his upholstery when we met at Old Warden, and suggested I get in touch with 'Woolies'. The effect was superb so I obtained their Catalogue as well. I was expecting to receive a learned treatise on leather restoration work, which in fact I did. But this Catalogue contains much more, tools, carpets, extrusions and parts and much more. I suggest you obtain a copy, it may help you solve a few problems and certainly provide ideas for improvements. I and C Woolstenholmes Ltd, off Blenheim Way, Northfields Industrial Estate, Market Deeping, Peterborough. Tel 0778 347347.

One of our members tells me he has recently found and now owns a Bugatti Type 35 engine. Should there be anyone out there who has a Bugatti Type 35 with a Ford 8 engine, please let me know and I will make the intrductions!

MODELS BY JOHN.

No not the willowy ones in Coco's little black dress, but as in miniature. Wouldn't it be nice to have a model of your own car, to admire within your home on a cold winter's night, when the motorhouse is best left alone and the kindest way to treat your real car is to let her slumber in peace. Now I am no expert in this field, but it is a pretty safe bet that no commercial kit or production model of either marque of TF 1700, exists. So if your ambition is a one inch to one foot accurate in every respect model of your own car, then you must have recourse to a professional model maker.