

It ain't necessarily so!

When the electrics started to play up I put it down to the fact that the heater matrix was weeping. However, although this was true and the matrix did need attention the real culprit was something else.

Under the front coming lurks the windscreen washer piping and this has a "Y" piece which apparently incorporates a one way valve. This was the cause of the problem. Every time the washers were used a leak caused the fuses and the relays to receive a liberal quantity of washer fluid causing the connectors to corrode.

Any water dripping off the fuse box would run down the dashboard under tray and would therefore not be noticed.

The easiest way to check for this fault is to remove the undertray and feed your partner under the dash face up. Press the washers several times and then slide your partner out. Now compare the colour of their face with the colour of the contents of the washer bottle. If the colour matches then give them a roll of tape and slide them back again!

David Parkin

A spanner in the works

Just in case there is another member who has not found this problem!

When working on the rear near side of the engine within the engine bay, anything small which you might drop will immediately find its way into the clutch and flywheel housing. The shape of the block and surrounding equipment at this point forms a funnel into the hole in the top of the housing.

The day before the Three Counties Run and three days before the Zulu I dropped a 10mm socket and universal coupler whilst trying to stop an oil leak from the fuel pump. (That's another problem, does anyone have a "solution"?)

Fortunately by removing the small access plate on the rear offside of the housing I was able to remove the items I had dropped, plus debris from previous owners which I found on the small ledge at the back.

It's not possible to refix the access plate properly but you can manage the bottom and half way up each side.

When I try to stop the oil leak again I stuff some rag down there first.

Rob Bream