

# YOUR TECHNICAL SECTION STARTS HERE

Welcome to the technical section. First up is *Helpline*, where our team of experts solve your car problems. The latest chapter in our Triumph GT6 resto starts on p78 and don't forget we are giving this car away in one of our biggest competitions yet, but you do

have to be in it to win it. This is your last chance to enter via the mag. Next, Weekend Workshop (p82) focuses on fuel injection. Then, on p87, there's a One-Hour 'Oddjob' Workshop (we had to carry on the Bond theme somehow!), where we delve into the problem of points...

## DIFFICULTY RATING



One spanner: basic  
Two spanners: easy  
Three spanners: moderate  
Four spanners: tricky  
Five spanners: hard

# Readers' Helpline

Bangs, rattles, squeaks, leaks and vibrations. Got a problem? We can help you fix it

## GOT A PROBLEM WITH YOUR CLASSIC?

If you've got a query, contact us here at *Practical Classics* by...

PHONE: 0870 2110203

(calls cost just 10p a minute).

Overseas callers please dial

+44 (0)1733 468538

Mondays ONLY, between

2pm and 5pm.

FAX: 01733 468397. Send your

question on a single sheet of paper (including your full name and address, plus the year, make and model of your classic).

WRITE TO: *Practical Classics*

Helpline, Media House, Lynch Wood, Peterborough, PE2 6EA. Include your full name and address.

EMAIL: [practicalclassichelpline@emap.com](mailto:practicalclassichelpline@emap.com) – please don't use any other email address.

*Practical Classics* receives hundreds of questions each month and makes every effort to reply to them individually. If we don't respond to your letter, fax or email directly, or if we are unable to answer your question on the *Helpline* phone service, we guarantee to print your question and our answer in a future issue of *Practical Classics*.

## Out with my Land Rover's rusty floor

**Q** I am looking at replacing the boot floor on a Land Rover and was wondering if you could offer any advice before I start? I assume it is better to remove the fuel tank rather than leave it in place.  
John Bowlzer Livingston, Scotland

**A** With any major metal replacement project access is key. Anything that looks like it'll be in the way should be removed and flammable items shifted. When you feel you have created enough space, mark out the areas of offending metal – don't be tempted to cut out the floor to suit the repair panel – but leave as much original metal as possible. Next take a 'dry run' at the job by offering up your angle grinder, chisel or nibbler where you plan to cut and make sure you can operate in that area. Once you've cut out the bad metal offer up the repair panel and cut to suit. Now weld it in. Be sure the metal is clean, then run inch-long (2.5cm) tack welds to hold the panel in place. Then weld a four-inch (10cm) section of the repair panel in place before switching to the opposite side to keep distortion down. Also have a fire extinguisher handy at all times.

## Does nobody stock green engine paint?

**Q** Having removed the engine from my Traction

L15 I would now like to give it a makeover. Unfortunately, I'm stuck because no one seems to stock dark green engine paint. Is it still possible to buy this and if so from where?  
Ken Rimell, via email

**A** Frost Restoration Techniques (01706 758258 [www.frost.co.uk](http://www.frost.co.uk)) stocks three shades of green engine paint priced at £18 per 473ml. Both MOWOG and Ford greens would match your requirements.

## SPOTLIGHT ON SAFETY

### Belting up in the back of a Triumph

**Q** I drive a 1970 Triumph Vitesse convertible and as a family we nip about in it whenever we can. My three- and four-year-old boys certainly enjoy their trips out but at the moment they are only held in with lap belts. Obviously there is a safety issue here and I was wondering if I can fit proper inertia seatbelts in the rear so

that their child seats can be used? Also can you suggest a reputable company which can supply and fit rear seatbelts?  
Matt Vernon, Derby

**A** The Quickfit SBS in Stanmore, Middlesex, can fit rear seatbelts to virtually any car. Give them a call on 020 8206 0101 and you'll be happily belted up in no time.

