

# VW owners LT

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER  
JUNE 2016 VOL 4

CAMPERS NOT CRAMPERS

UNTIL YOU OWN ONE YOU CAN NEVER TRULY UNDERSTAND



- IT'S AN OWNERS CLUB
  - IT'S A SEARCHABLE FORUM
  - IT'S AN ANNUAL SHOW
  - IT'S AN ONLINE 'FLIPPING BOOK' MAGAZINE TOO!!
- IN FACT...
- IT'S EVERYTHING YOU'VE BEEN WAITING FOR
- ...ALL IN ONE PLACE!!

AND IT'S RUN BY CLASSIC LT OWNERS FOR CLASSIC LT OWNERS!!

volt



**CAMPERS NOT CRAMPERS**

**VOLT**

## **FRESH MEAT**

**BY RAISING THE PROFILE  
OF THESE CLASSIC VEHICLES,  
THEY WILL BECOME  
MORE DESIRABLE  
TO A MUCH  
WIDER AUDIENCE  
WHICH WILL IN TURN  
INCREASE THEIR VALUE  
AND MAKE CURRENT OWNERS  
VERY HAPPY!**



The Series 1 LT holds a very special place in motoring history. Not only as a legendary light commercial classic, or for the fact that it is a popular self-build camper platform, but also because it's light is fading with fewer on the road and more appearing at the breakers yard - and inevitably there will one day be no more of these wonderful vehicles. It's our job - yes you and I dear reader - to stave off this time, to keep those dim LT headlights flickering, and to revel in our time and the fact that we were the lucky ones - the last owners and drivers of these classic wagons.

And that's the beauty of VOLT. There's plenty of evidence of this happening all round us. And hopefully after last months' edition of the magazine there are now a few more eyes on our German comrades activity via the VW LT DRIVERS GERMANY Facebook group, but also via the LT Freund forum, and specifically tanks to the amazing info and detail on the German LT wiki - [lt-forum.de/dokuwiki](http://lt-forum.de/dokuwiki) Thanks to Google Translate or Google's Chrome browser (which auto-translates) there's a world more information here to add on top of that contained within the Files section of our VOLT group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/voltowners/files/>)

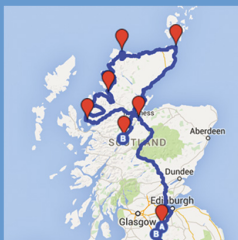
This month we've seen David Boillot's brilliant welding on his LT 4x4's bodywork (<http://vwlt.co.uk/jun1>); Felix Mayer's Porsche engine transplant (<http://vwlt.co.uk/jun2>); Ian McGilvary's newly MOT'd tin top (<http://vwlt.co.uk/jun3>); Jonathan Junior Greaves became a Florida owner; Matt Cheney's camper fit out (<http://vwlt.co.uk/jun4>); Ian Murray's beautiful new paint job (<http://vwlt.co.uk/jun5>).

One other thing while I'm on it - doesn't every month see such an amazing variety of series 1 LT's up for grabs. This month we saw one of the legendary Autovillas come up for sale (the ones with the fold out veranda at the rear. If you missed it take a look at Chris's post here <http://vwlt.co.uk/jun6>. Then there was what has to be one of the finest examples of a 4x4 base vehicle for a camper conversion that I have ever seen - <http://vwlt.co.uk/jun7> and even a tin top low mileage fire truck that again is one sweet ride: <http://vwlt.co.uk/jun8>

So I don't know about you but I've been out in mine a lot this month. For fathers day Lola and I wild camped on the coast of deepest Sussex for Father's Day, and you can read about my tour of Scotland's NC500 in this edition. Enjoy, and see you at a show soon :)

Tim Aldiss





## 1,750 MILE ROUND TRIP - NC500

As a web designer and social media fan one of our illustrious admins Tim spotted the opportunity to design a website for a new charity fundraising push - one close to his heart - a VW camper convoy called VW Route 67 ([vwroute67.co.uk](http://vwroute67.co.uk)). In 2015 the group raised a staggering £6,000 for their chosen charity Crisis, a homelessness charity based in Manchester. The run that year was the classic John O'Groats to Land's End route and saw 32 vans do the full distance joined by several others for parts of the journey. Due to family commitments Tim never made the run.

This year thanks to clever marketing by the Scottish tourist board, the NC500 Scottish highlands coast road grabbed the attention of the founder of the original idea, Paul Aspin. The idea inspired 38 people to sign up with a small deposit via the Facebook page ([facebook.com/groups/vwroute67](https://facebook.com/groups/vwroute67)) and over the weekend of the 28th May various VW campers descended on the agreed meeting point - Volksfling at Biggar showground up in Lanarkshire - and this year Tim was delighted to be able to join in the fun in his Westfalia Florida LT28.

Before the drive even started there were some delights at the showground. The Volksfling weekend is quite legendary in northern circles and there were many varied vans in attendance. For us VOLT afficiendos there was a mint looking SWB white tin top panel van in the show and shine field (which sold for £3k just a few weeks later), an Altus SWB camper, and the legendary gold 4x4 LT camper converted by Ian McGilvery & Synchronauts. Much fun ensued as the group got to know each other.

On the Sunday morning after a brief line up in the top field the 24 wagons that made it to this point rolled out. Or at least all but one - a T3 Synchro which didn't even make it over the line! The convoy wound on up into Edinburgh, stopping for LPG for some, before crossing the Forth bridge and heading on up to Inverness. The weather changed passed the Cairngorms but thankfully was blissful for our first evening and for our trip up the western coast over the following days.

Some of the vans kept in touch via CB which had a nice reassurance to it - if anyone up front spotted a hazard (sheep on the road was a typical example) they could let those further back know. We mostly travelled in small groups but there were sections where the whole team followed tag teaming, convoy-style. The Applecross pass was a highlight from a drivers point of view, but all the way up the west coast was just one endless stunning vista after another on increasingly quieter single track roads.

Tim's LT was a trooper. Recently serviced before departure it cruised quite happily up to Biggar from Brighton in a stint broken by one overnight stop at Newark. The hills saw gearing down to 2nd quite often and over the pass the van spent at least 5 minutes crawling in 1st but pulling strongly up the hairpins.

It's a brilliant drive which can't be recommended enough. We have such beautiful landscape right on our doorstep - literally just a drive away. There was only one other LT en route - Dawn 'VW Diary' Hooleys, so come on and join us on the adventures next year!

Watch Tim's video here for all the action: [goo.gl/jfk0M4](http://goo.gl/jfk0M4)







## STORY IN PICS: AARON CAMPIAN'S SLAMMED VAN



Aaron's van made the headlines when he was placed right at the entrance to this years Volksworld show in Surrey, and rightly so - it's a unique piece of work, and this month we are lucky enough to learn a little more about how the main man lowered his van!

1. These are the rear tubs, folded along either edge then shrunk and stretched into formed shapes.

2. inside the van chopping out the old tubs

3. A pic with new wheels on transit custom 16, bolt right on.

4. Gauge pod and stereo, front left & right both rears and then tank pressure + a bunch of switches for lights and bits. I had to cut a chunk of dash to get this to sit in.

5. A stock vs dropped shot while we had another LT at the shop.

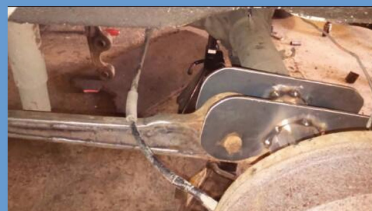
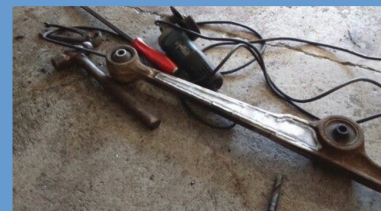
6, 7, 8, 9, 10. Rear chassis strengthening, put back in twice what I cut out. All eventually fully welded and bolted through original chassis

11 and 12 are the plate bag mounts for the rear, on the bench then loosely in place on the axle alongside the td5 radius arms that I shortened 11 inches

13. The underside on original full drop, this later turned out to be not enough!!

14. The last one is the junk yard tank, of which I have another to going so it will have more lifts and drops before it needs a refill! And above that is the td5 radius arms on a bench all welded up.

"I should have taken more pics, but when you only have a ramp for a weekend, being a metalwork paparazzi is the last thing I wanna do!!! "





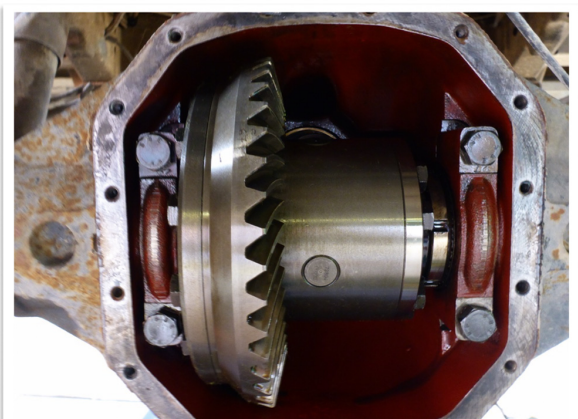
# ***PEOPLE AND THEIR MACHINES...***

## ***Ray Perry & The Frankenwagen***



“Is that jacked up mate?”, “Is that ex Army?”, “Who put that VW badge on?”  
These are some of the questions I’ve had on garage forecourts.

Owning a 4x4 LT does attract a lot of interest and it being quite distinctive has been very fortuitous. Whilst on a surfing trip in Bude, we lost our camera and a local rock climbing group who found it, were able to track us down on Facebook as someone recognised us. Also in Skye, I was reunited with my lost bank card because someone had seen our van.



Apart from the shovel, bull bars, waffle boards and 33” tyres, what makes this different to a 2wd LT? It is normally 2wd driven by the rear axle with a selectable 4wd using a transfer case. It has front and rear diff locks and leaf sprung suspension front and rear. There is also a low range selector which gives 5 extra gears.

The axles were made by an Italian company, Hurth, and this is the achilles heel for these vans. Whether it’s poor maintenance, bad design or hard use, I’m not sure.

We had seen ours for sale in Austria and asked our friend Mike from busman.be to take a look and see what he thought. After a few long chats with the owner and some emailed photos, we hatched a plan. This was our own ‘by any means’ adventure. We hopped on a train to Southend and booked a flight on a tiny plane to meet Mike at Antwerp to pick up our transit plates. We’d previously given Mike the money to hand over to the owner, but because we’d decided to collect it in person, we were expecting Mike to hand it back when we met him. Imagine the look on our faces when Mike said “I’ve already paid them..... last week”!

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**VÖHT**





"It'll be fine, no problem" he said and dropped us at the train station.

The owner, Christian wasn't answering his phone!  
So We had a restless night in a hotel in Brussels worrying that he'd done a runner with our cash.  
In the morning we started our long journey to Austria, with our fingers crossed.

Finally we arrived at our destination and got a taxi to the address we were given and there it was, all was fine and what a relief that was.

We strapped the transit plates on, kicked the tyres and started the 680 mile shakedown drive with silly grins and Raybans.

Christian was very lucky and was able to spend the previous 12 months full time travelling with his family and the van.  
The van has seen all the Balkan states, Morocco, Algeria, Oman, Iran, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, Greece and Syria.



Welcome home 'The Frankenwagen'- a new MOT and some paperwork out of the way, we were camping.  
First thing to fix was the noisy rear axle, this proved to be quite expensive and required a crown and pinion, new set of bearings and some specially made items as some parts are no longer available from VW.

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**VW**





Recent adventures have been an 1,800 mile road trip to Skye via North Wales and the lakes, numerous weekends including a muddy encounter at Salisbury plain, surfing trips and a 1500 mile drive to Denmark with Martin to raid some parts from another LT 4x4 we'd bought together. Martin took us on an obligatory off road blast along the sands on the island of Romo, testing the low range box for the first time, this was fantastic fun.

Coming back from this, we found all 4 shock absorbers were totalled and the only option available off the shelf are some from Trailmaster. These might be fine for a lighter 2wd, but are on the limit on our 4 ton beast. We may have to go to 'Fox' for some custom ones at some point as the rebound damping on the trailmasters is poor.

We still need to put the Anti-roll bars on from the parts van and install the new bushes, we bought up the last remaining ones from VW Classics.

Other mods in the pipeline are fitting the Mefro wheels that Martin had in his secret stash, a roof rack extension and a new heater outlet in the shower room.

We also made the long trip to Brickwerks for a cam belt swap as we didn't know when it was last changed and Simon tweaked the pump for some more horses.

The other bonus for 4x4 owners is that work can be done underneath without the need for a jack.

As well as the suspension work, we were able to swap out the clutch, rear crank oil seal and spigot bearing with it sitting on all 4 wheels.



**CAMPERS NOT CRAMPERS**





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## VW LT WORD SEARCH !

L T G U M A E K T Y J F M P G G P V V U H C K  
I A O V E R V A N D J L S T O X K R Y P H K V  
X D N A L E D I E H M R V U N L C W Y K Z V G  
C L E O S R I Y L N K P I R U H V I D J N X N  
W F I V I U X A G L A T S J V O B N K J G D Z  
H P Y E O T N D I B A K J G E S I K L L Q S C  
B B P Z V N A D K L R R S O N V O C I Z S N Q  
N F C G F E M N I T A E D R T U R B V N Z D I  
R D A V W V H A R U M F G V U V O E W L V U H  
S O M P W D C R V E O O T N R M V Y J Q E E K  
K R P A R A A E W E T P M S E M O H O T U A B  
D N E M M O O T E F N N B S E L L R N S A H D  
Y I R P Z T C S I P V T I G L W L H Y T W R V  
J E E A M U Z O N X Q E U S S N N A M S E I N  
X R V S O A P F S L R E G R E B F O H C S I B  
D R E B N N C Y B H M N N N A M R A K C T I B  
W O O D L A N D E R E P E E L S O T U A C R R  
Y E S X O S G Y R A C Y A D I L O H B O O R M  
F T E C A T H A G O D A L H P F A B R N U F C  
G B P E B A R I B A N M B O P R E I M O N S V  
M M O N U H D E D X P B Y I C R M Z K M T Q M  
X K K X K M L E Q A P W P L T V Z A Z A R O T  
U A D G W O J E M T A T C X Q V H G G D Y O M

DORNIER  
KARMANN  
CATHAGO  
AUTOSLEEPER  
REIMO  
NORDCAMPER  
LAIKA HOLIDAYCAR  
CAMPEREVE  
REISEMOBIL  
AUTOHOMES  
BISCHOFBERGER  
AVENTURA  
NUVENTURE  
COACHMAN  
WOODLANDER  
WESTCOUNTRY  
TECA  
VOLL  
FOSTERANDDAY  
WESTFALIA  
NIESMANN  
VILLARD  
TABBERT  
OVERVAN  
ITALIACAMPER  
LIPP  
ELSI  
MOTORHOMESINTERNATIONAL  
HEIDELAND  
BARIBAN  
AUTOADVENTURER  
CHALLENGER  
PAMPAS  
YOUNGS  
DEVON  
WEINSBERG  
SYRO  
NOMAD





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***THANKS FOR READING!***

## ***MERCHANDISE***

***VOLT T-SHIRTS!***

***Various colours and sizes***



***£12.50 delivered with a free sticker!***

***Order from the pinned post on the VOLT Facebook page now!***

***For desktop wallpaper and screen savers visit [vwlt.co.uk/media](http://vwlt.co.uk/media)***

## ***EVENTS***

***Camper Jam, Weston Park, Shropshire, July 1st***

***- ensure you book with VOLT club camping***

***Whitenoise, Euston Park in Thetford, Norfolk, August 4th***

***- VOLT club camping***

***VOLT Annual General Event (South), Mellow Farm Dockenfield, Farnham 19th August***

***Don't forget to visit the swapmeet to buy and sell your LT goodies***