

Nissan Figaro Owners Club

# Figgyworld

QUARTERLY MAGAZINE

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SCOTLAND

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The Figaro Shop, Broadway, Rich's Sidings, Didcot OX11 8AG  
 Free phone: 0800 917 3119  
 Mobile: +44 (0)7515 284917 Tel: +44 (0)1235 812511

**Book Now** for a full service and get a free set of Custom floor mats, plus a model Figaro.

#### Full service includes

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- Strip off brakes and inspect, adjust as required
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*'Treating Your Figaro With  
 The Love It Deserves'*

Retail price is  
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Mats available in  
 Black, grey  
 and beige.

# MESSAGE FROM KEVIN

EDITOR: Kevin Fagan EMAIL: [sales@figarownersclub.com](mailto:sales@figarownersclub.com)

## Welcome to *figgyworld* our fresh new Quarterly Magazine from the Figaro Owners Club

After months of planning, editing and re-editing here it is! I really cannot wait for the feedback from everyone (good or bad) and more importantly your contributions to future editions - Our June edition deadline is 10th May.

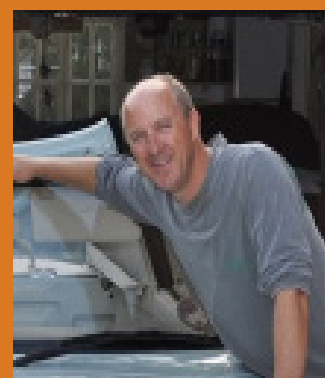
The purpose of *Figgyworld* is threefold, one; to provide you with useful knowledge which will save you money and help you keep your car on the road, two; to remind you just how gorgeous these little cars are by seeing them in full colour and stunning locations and three; to raise our game and 'professionalise' our information by providing it all in a easy-to-read and funky new design. The Nissan Figaro is such a special little car and strange as

it sounds we almost all have a 'duty of care' to enjoy it, look after it and of course show it off when we can! Thanks to contributions from *Toby Brooks, Simon Smith, Ken Graham, Chris Towers, Ruth Costello & John Cooper* the content is both varied and rich too. And with much needed additions such as the 'Events Calendar', 'Suppliers Directory' & 'Member Discount Codes' at last you can find everything in one place.

Now to the exciting stuff and next month sees our first event of the year which kicks off at the superb **Ace Cafe London**. The meet takes place on **Saturday 11th April 2015**. Last year the day attracted 70+ cars and over 150 people. We

have a number of trade stands so you can pick up some useful bits and bobs. Everyone's invited and if you've never been it's well worth the drive and I almost forgot the bacon sarnie's are to die for :) You never know you could win a trophy or one of our great raffle prizes on the day.

Last weekend I spent the whole day in my garage (with a small heater for company) working on the *Club Car* in preparation for the *Ace Cafe*. The job this time was exchanging the badly corroded door mirror stalks and handles for some re-chromed new shiny ones (Courtesy of The Figaro Shop). Like anything you've never done before the task took me an age to do.



Knowledge is everything and after wrestling with a 10mm wrench spanner and many expletives the job was complete and I'm pleased to say looks superb. And that's what attracts me to the car it's an ongoing project with no end date, but more about this in our April Newsletter...

Roof down and warm days. Catch you next Month.

Kevin

*PS: Thanks so much to Julie Janes for the encouragement & help in putting Figgyworld together xx*

**NEXT EDITION - JUNE 2015  
DEADLINE 10TH MAY!**

## Club Websites

Published by Figaro Owners Club, 58 Earl Howe Road, Holmer Green, High Wycombe, Bucks, HP15 6QT, ENGLAND.

### Figaro Owners Club

Extensive information for current and future owners including events, gallery, products & services etc.  
[www.figarownersclub.com](http://www.figarownersclub.com)

### Technical Forum

Over 20,000 technical and ownership posts including technical manuals, guides & information A-Z ownership issues etc.  
[www.figarownersclubforum.com](http://www.figarownersclubforum.com)

### Buyers Guide

Comprehensive Online publication to inspecting, test driving and buying the Nissan Figaro.  
[www.nissanfigarobuyersguide.com](http://www.nissanfigarobuyersguide.com)

### Figaro Trader

100% dedicated website for buying and selling Nissan Figaro Cars, Parts & Accessories. Sell your car from £10 or a Part/Accessory for just £5.  
[www.figarotrader.co.uk](http://www.figarotrader.co.uk)

### Figaro Store

Our club shop includes Figaro Owners Club T-Shirts, mugs, stickers and more. In addition it features the latest Nissan Figaro Apparel & Accessories? Choose from a wide variety of our official Nissan Figaro clothing for both Men, Women, Children and even Pets!  
[www.cafepress.com/thefigastore](http://www.cafepress.com/thefigastore)



FOLLOW US ON  
twitter

# THE PERFECT WEDDING CAR



**THE FIGARO IS IN HIGH DEMAND  
FOR THOSE SPECIAL OCCASIONS**



We currently list 4 members who hire their cars but need more! If you're interested then contact us.

### Julie Janes - Purple Figaro

At your service for Weddings, Proms or Special Occasions. Originally our wedding car, he (Mr Plum) is now looking forward to going the extra "s..mile" for special days, proms and events. The wicker hamper will be filled with flowers, along with a dash display and vintage ribbon on the wing mirrors. Gleaming purple paintwork offers the photographic opportunity for some arty reflection shots.

Email: [juliejanes@fastmail.fm](mailto:juliejanes@fastmail.fm)  
 Phone: 01767 627702  
 Website: [www.facebook.com/purplefigaro](http://www.facebook.com/purplefigaro)



### Keep Calm & Marry On – Figaro Retro Wedding Car Hire

If you've fallen in love with these cute little cars, we have two Beautiful Blue Nissan Figaros available to hire. We are fully insured for weddings & proms & can provide this service tailored to your requirements.

Phone: 01425 476831  
 Website: [www.facebook.com/FigaroWeddingCar?fref=ts](http://www.facebook.com/FigaroWeddingCar?fref=ts)

### Vinnie's Vintage Vehicles

"Amaya" ('night rain') is our beautiful aqua blue convertible Figaro. She's available to hire in the South Hants area for £275 with all the trimmings including personalised bunting. We also have a Figaro green VW Campervan (Sleepy Jean). Vinnie's Vintage Vehicles.

Email: [hello@vinniesvintagehire.co.uk](mailto:hello@vinniesvintagehire.co.uk)  
 Phone: 02393 231073.  
 Website: [www.vinniesvintagehire.co.uk](http://www.vinniesvintagehire.co.uk)

### RetroHire

Retrohire has been hiring self drive Figaros for 4 years now and have done over 200 Hires including 50 wedding Hires. Currently we have 3 hire figaros so at least one is usually available and we usually have one separate one under our try before you buy scheme. We are based in either North London or Brixham in Devon and the cars subject to availability and a £ 50 Devon excess can be hired from either Location.

We can deliver and Collect from only £ 25 in London and aim to keep our prices as low as possible so Figaros can be hired for the weekend , upto 60 hours hire, for as little as £ 160.

Email: [alex@retroandclassiccarrhire.co.uk](mailto:alex@retroandclassiccarrhire.co.uk)  
 Phone: 07586 458823  
 Website: [www.retrohire.co.uk](http://www.retrohire.co.uk)

# GETTING READY FOR SCOTLAND

WITH JUST 3 MONTHS TO GO EXCITEMENT IS GROWING...

## Ken Graham talks to *Figgyworld* about plans so far

I hope that you are 'Getting Ready for Scotland' because, Scotland is indeed 'Getting ready for YOU!!

Route planning, map studying, route re-planning, car park measuring, coffee tasting, toilet checking, tourist spot visiting and donation seeking - All in a day's (or a bit more than one day's) work for a Figaro Owners' Club Rally Planner! Studying the map doesn't always have the desired outcome.



*This picture was taken when, after I followed a delightful looking C road with passing places on the 2015 map, the ideal start to day two of the rally. The road, not more than a mile or two from our first hotel, was to lead us on the first leg of our journey north.*

I then discovered that the road had been permanently closed with two sets of barriers recently concreted in to the road surface. When I fed this information back to Kevin, he seemed more disappointed that we would miss out on the experience of 32+ Figaros reversing along a single-track road than anything else!! But, worry not, a new starting point for day two has already been identified!

However, back to the first day of the rally. I was delighted when I approached the people at Scottish Canals who run the Falkirk Wheel, our first stop on the Tuesday. Our schedule meant we would be too early for a 'sail' on the wheel as the first sailing is at 10.40am. Following a simple request they kindly agreed to do a special 'Figaro Club' sailing at 9.50am at a substantially reduced price (much lower than their normal reduced group rate!). They will even open the entire centre early at 9.30am, just for us!! And there's a fantastic parking area, which has already been reserved for the Figs! We'll be in touch nearer the time to check how many want to go on the wheel - we need a minimum of 20 people and the Wheel can take 90, more than enough for all of us, (even I'll be shocked if we have 45 Figs on the rally!).

There's loads of information on the Club website events page, including a link to my article for the New Year newsletter, so I don't want to be repeating that stuff here. Suffice to say I have lived in Scotland all of my (21+!!) years and even I am getting excited at the prospect of our Figgys winding their way up and down some of the beautiful Scottish Glens! So, Get Ready for Scotland!.....and what better way than to get an early 'taster' of Killiecrankie before day 2, courtesy of The Corries in 1975.

Watch Video - <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=iIsDdOGjMm0>

There are a few 'classic' cars in the video sequence on the road, and look out for the 3-wheeler! Possibly we could have a quiz at the final dinner with prizes for who can name the most cars....?? Or maybe not!! Well, I'm off for another trial run to find road closures, tight bends and car parks before you and your Figgys descend on Scotland!

See you all in June!! Ken

## 32 CARS ALREADY REGISTERED!

Join the rally now simply register below

<http://www.figarownersclub.com/events/scotland-figaro-rally-2015/>



**"THE FALKIRK WHEEL  
OUR FIRST STOP ON THE  
TUESDAY. WE HAVE A  
SPECIAL 'FIGARO CLUB'  
SAILING AT 09.50"**



# COVER STORY INTERVIEW

Long standing member Ruth Costello talks to *Figgyworld*

## GET YOUR FIGARO ON OUR FRONT COVER!

We invite all our members to spill the beans and tell us why you are head-over-heels in love with your Figaro. What attracted you to the car in the first place, have you carried out any upgrades or been anywhere interesting?

I'd never really been that interested in cars, they got me from A to B and that was that but I was curious about the Figaro so when my mum passed away and I was able to replace my beaten up old Renault, I thought why not? I first saw "Betty 2" when she had just arrived over from Japan and was in need of a little TLC! When I saw her after she'd had her makeover, wow, it was amazing. Five years on and I can't imagine ever being without her.

I think what I love most is that wherever you go in a Figaro, from the shops to the seaside, you find yourself smiling at people's reactions. From the children pointing as you drive past in the "toy car" to the gentleman I overheard proudly telling his friend that he used to drive "one of those" back in the 50s...umh...

My little girl loves driving with the top down, looking up at the sky and begging me to go through the tree tunnels and screaming with excitement when we do! My husband enjoys "scaring" Betty 2 by driving her faster than I usually do although, apparently, she likes it?! And my sister wants one in pink (I'm a traditionalist when it comes to the colour) despite the fact she can't drive and has no intention of ever learning to.

It's great to be part of the Figaro gang too, be that on a rally or just the manic waving and grinning when you pass another Figaro on the road. I can't imagine driving anything else! Guess I must be a car person after all, given the right car of course.

FROM THE CHILDREN POINTING AS YOU DRIVE PAST IN THE "TOY CAR" TO THE GENTLEMAN I OVERHEARD PROUDLY TELL HIS FRIEND THAT HE USED TO DRIVE "ONE OF THOSE" BACK IN THE 50s... umh



Ruth, Megan & Kevin with Betty 2



IT'S GREAT  
TO BE PART  
OF THE  
FIGARO  
GANG TOO,  
BE THAT ON  
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JUST THE  
MANIC  
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GRINNING  
WHEN YOU  
PASS  
ANOTHER  
FIGARO ON  
THE ROAD.



### Insight

Car Name: *Betty 2*  
Colour: *Emerald Green*  
Picture: *Ruth Costello*  
Location: *Rye, East Sussex, England.*

# EVENTS CALENDAR

BOOK ONLINE at [www.figarownersclub.com/page/events](http://www.figarownersclub.com/page/events)

## APRIL 11TH ACE CAFE LONDON

Figaro Owners Club first event of the year kicks off at the superb Ace Cafe London. Last year we had over 70 cars attend. If you've never been before it's well worth the drive!

ENTRY COST: FREE



## APRIL 25TH BRIGHTON INCARNATION

Calling all Petrolheads! On Saturday 25th April 2015, from 10am – 6pm, Brighton's famous seafront road, Madeira Drive will again host the UK's finest on four wheels.

ENTRY COST: FREE

## APRIL 26TH DRIVE IT DAY

The club has been invited to attend this event at The Heritage Motor Centre, Gaydon, Warwickshire.

ENTRY COST: FREE

## MAY 3RD/4TH/5TH DONINGTON HISTORIC FESTIVAL

With close-fought racing every day, over 400 historic racing cars

spanning seven decades, historic rally car and karting action and a 'living motoring museum' created by dozens of car clubs displays – plus a host of other attractions – exhilaration and entertainment is guaranteed, whether you buy a ticket for one, two or all three days! On each day of the Festival gates open at 07.30am and the circuit activity starts at 9.10am, finishing at around 6.30pm.

ENTRY COST:

£20\*\* Saturday, Sunday or Monday – 1 day ticket – £20 Two for One Offer

£32\*\* Saturday, Sunday or Monday – 2 day ticket – £32 Two for One Offer

£45\*\* Saturday, Sunday or Monday – 3 day ticket – £45 Two for One Offer

## MAY 17TH HERTS AUTO SHOW

Our club have been invited to display our cars at this prestigious event. The show is themed on anything with an engine which means that it should tick the boxes for the paying public and also makes the event interesting for other exhibitors.

ENTRY COST: FREE



## featured event



JUNE 14TH - SHUTTLEWORTH OLD WARDEN FIGARO MEET

## AEROPLANES & GARDENS MEET

Explore the hangars, smell the engine oil, see the engineers at work and then return on an event day to be captivated by these incredible aircraft in flight, taking off from our traditional grass runway. Also discover the Swiss Garden which truly deserves the title of 'hidden gem' and a great bonus.

PRICE: £10 pp Hanges + £6 for optional Swiss Gardens

MORE INFORMATION: [www.figarownersclub.com/events/shuttleworth-old-warden-2015/](http://www.figarownersclub.com/events/shuttleworth-old-warden-2015/)

## JUNE 1ST - 5TH SCOTLAND FIGARO RALLY

Join us for our biggest adventure yet when the club will be travelling to the north of the UK to explore the wild roads, castles and wonders of bonnie Scotland.

ENTRY COST: £318 PP

## JUNE 7TH CHERISHED VEHICLE SHOW

The Lions Club of Chippenham are hosting a Cherished Vehicles Show near Castle Combe race track in Wiltshire to raise money for Lions Charity work.

ENTRY COST: FREE

## JUNE 14TH SHUTTLEWORTH OLD WARDEN MEET

Join us at Shuttleworth Old Warden Aerodrome and discover a truly awe-inspiring collection of historic aircraft and vehicles dating from the first half of the 20th century.

ENTRY COST: £10 PP/£6 PP

## JUNE 20TH - 21ST BATH FESTIVAL OF MOTORING

Last year the event welcomed over 350 exhibitors and in excess of 6,000 visitors through the gate. Our club have been invited

to display our cars at this event. As exhibitors our entry will be free but donations towards the charity will be sought but not demanded.

**ENTRY COST: DONATION**

### JUNE 20TH - 21TH TYNTESFIELD CLASSIC CAR SHOW

The club have been invited to attend this wonderful event located at the spectacular Victorian Gothic Revival house of Tyntesfield with gardens and parkland based just outside Bristol. ONLY 10 SPACES AVAILABLE.

**ENTRY COST: FREE**



### JULY 3RD/4TH/5TH FIGFEST 2015

A fun weekend for anyone who owns a Figaro. Includes optional overnight camping, convoy driving, treasure hunt, fancy dress, dancing and buckets of laughs and fun with other owners. It really is a fantastic weekend away!

**Friday Night** – 3 bands in the clubhouse, group BBQ – bring your own BBQ and food, get to know each other.

**Saturday** – Car treasure hunt in afternoon, bands start in afternoon in fig field and clubhouse

**Saturday Night** – Fancy Dress and Band

**Sunday** – Convoy to Yarmouth, Raffles, Prizes for Best Cars, People of the weekend, Pub Meal in the Evening for those of you who stay with us and go home on the Sunday.

**ENTRY COST: SMALL CHARGE TO COVER RAFFLE**

### JULY 18TH NISSAN BRAND DAY

The club is again invited to attend this FREE ENTRY exclusive Nissan event. We have 5 car spaces available which will have a great day with all the 'Nissan' crowd – they were a well organised, friendly team.

**ENTRY COST: FREE**

### JULY 31TH-AUGUST 2ND CARFEST NORTH

The club will be exhibiting 5 Figaros at CarFest North which is a 3 day festival of Music, Food and Cars.

**ENTRY COST: £156 CAR + 2 x 3 DAY ADULT TICKETS/ LIMITED AVAILABILITY!**

### AUGUST 28TH-30TH CARFEST SOUTH

The club will be exhibiting 5 Figaros at CarFest North which is a 3 day festival of Music, Food and Cars.

**ENTRY COST: SOLD OUT**

### AUGUST 28TH-30TH WINGS & WHEELS DUNSFOLD PARK 2015

Our club have been invited to display our cars at this prestigious event which is firmly established as one of the UK's most popular family days out, Dunsfold Wings & Wheels will be



returning to the historic setting of Dunsfold Aerodrome (home of BBC's Top Gear), Guildford, Surrey. The Show had an outstanding variety of dynamic aviation and motoring displays, iconic cars, shopping and arena attractions.

**ENTRY COST: TBA**

### SEPTEMBER 20TH SURREY CLASSIC VEHICLE GATHERING 2015

Fancy a fantastic day out with other Figaro owners and classic car enthusiasts? This event is great and there's loads to do for children & all the family. Bring your own picnic, or visit the Café.

**ENTRY COST: FREE**

## WHY NOT SEND US YOUR EVENT/ RALLY/MEET IDEA?

Not an event near you? We're always looking for Venue and Rally ideas so if you feel you would like to help organise one then simply complete our form and we will add it to this list of events!

**Submit Here**

<http://www.figarownersclub.com/event-submission-form/>



**Auto Jap Spares - Your specialist Nissan Figaro Parts Supplier**

# MEMBERS GALLERY



**DUBRAVKA  
VANDEPEER**

**LOCATION**  
South downs near  
Steyning, Brighton,  
England.

**PHOTOGRAPHER**  
Steve Vandeppeer



## BRIGITTE CARO

LOCATION  
Windmill at Windesheimer, Zwolle,  
Netherlands.

PHOTOGRAPHER  
Brigitte Caro

## HENRICK KROMANN

LOCATION  
Vaerlose, Denmark.

PHOTOGRAPHER  
Peter Clausen / MotorClassic



## GET YOUR FIGARO PUBLISHED HERE!

We're always on the look out for those special pictures so submit yours and get your car in print and online

Submit Here

[www.figarownersclub.com/page/send-pictures/](http://www.figarownersclub.com/page/send-pictures/)



FIG Number Plates from  
£150 +VAT + Transfer Fee

FIG 6778

FIG 4000

FIG 5834

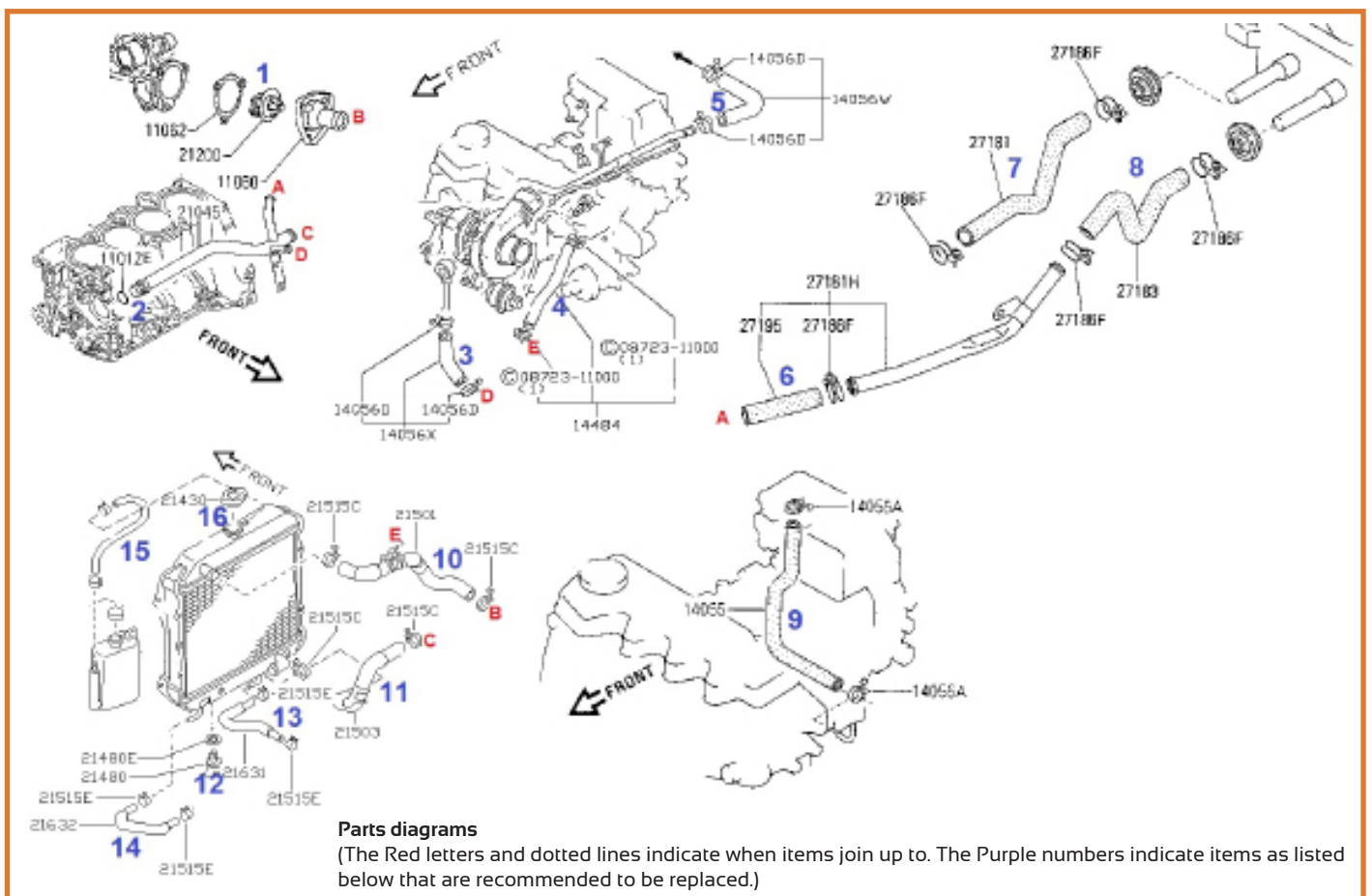
FIG 19

02866 387124  
[www.speedyreg.co.uk](http://www.speedyreg.co.uk)

# OWNER WORKSHOP

## Coolant System and Hoses Information

CONTRIBUTOR: SIMON SMITH (FORUM TECHNICAL GURU & GLOBAL MODERATOR)



### THE FIGARO'S ARE OVER 23 YEARS OLD NOW, WITH AGE BRINGS THE LIKELIHOOD OF PARTS FAILURE IF NOT PROPERLY MAINTAINED.

A common failure are the hoses in the coolant system. With age these can crack and then split allowing engine coolant to be lost. When coolant is lost the engine temperature can't be maintained and will continue to raise uncontrolled. If the car is driven further in this state the results can be catastrophic to the engine.

Damage will normally be to the top of engine called the head which can warp or crack with the extreme heat, this will then need removing and pressure testing and if not cracked it will normally require skimming which is a machining processes to remove a layer of metal to create a completely flat surface again. Refitting will need an new Figaro specific head gasket. However further areas of damage can occur and

should be properly checked; the pistons and rings can melt and in turn damage the cylinders. Therefore overheating can result in a very expensive repair or worse result in a replacement engine being required.

The cooling system performance can be impaired over time by becoming blocked. It is recommended the full system especially the radiator be fully flushed both ways. The cooling system is around 4 litres. It is recommended to use a 50% mix of 50% mixture of ethylene glycol antifreeze with distilled water. Antifreeze comes in different colours normally determine its life eg: 2 or 5 years. Waterless coolant is also available, however this is normally only used on high performance cars.

The Nissan hoses are standard and not silicon. The standard shaped hoses can be replaced with standard silicon ones, however I've not seen a full set of silicon ones.

It is recommend replacing old hose clips with good quality "Jubilee" type clips to reduce the likelihood of any failure. Although I haven't specifically listed the water pump, it is recommended that this be replaced at the same time as all the cam-belt and associated parts.

A list of parts suppliers is here:

<http://figarownersclubforum.com/thread/4397/figaro-parts-suppliers-list>

Parts prices may vary, availability as detailed below. Some Figaro parts suppliers have a set available.

## Parts (Prices ~ March 2015)

### 1) 21200: Thermostat

PN: 2120005B00

The Figaro thermostat is marked and set as 82°C, be careful when buying as the Micra K10 had two types of thermostat a summer and winter 82°C and 88°C respectively. Nissan Dealer: £15.85 \ Non genuine: -£13

### 1) 11062: Thermostat Gasket

PN: A106219B00 (was 1106201B01) - Nissan Dealer: £5.11 \ Non genuine: -£3

### 2) 11012E: O ring seal

(for metal pipe to water pump housing) PN: 210492J200 (was 2104601B00) - Nissan Dealer: £3.49. I found after replacing all the hoses this started to leak from this, perhaps I disturbed it. I found the seal fell apart and was crumbly, so worth replacing at the same time as draining the system and doing the hoses. Is fiddly to get to though.

### 3) 14056X: Turbo Exit water hose

PN: 1405517B02 N.L.A.  
Use generic 45 degree 13mm internal diameter x 100mm long  
EG: www.siliconhoses.com Item A45-13 (Black): £9.00.

### 4) 14484: Balance water hose

PN: 1405517B04 N.L.A.  
Use generic straight hose 4mm internal diameter x 215mm long.

### 5) 14056W: Plenum Top water hose

PN: 1405517B03 N.L.A.  
Use generic 90 degree right angle 13mm internal diameter x 160mm long

EG: www.siliconhoses.com Item A90-13 (Black): £9.00

### 6) 27195: Outlet water hose,

(joiner between metal hoses of water pump and heater pipe feed)  
PN: 92430F3100 (was 9250001B00) N.L.A.  
Use generic straight 16mm internal diameter x 75mm long.

### 7) 27181: Front heater water hose

PN: 9240001B00 - Nissan Dealer: £40.36  
Available as a set of both heater hoses 7&8 for £35 here: [www.ebay.co.uk/itm/231487334937?](http://www.ebay.co.uk/itm/231487334937?)  
*NOTE: If trying a generic straight you may need a longer hose to avoid a kink. 16mm internal x 300mm long*

### 8) 27183: Front heater water hose 2

PN: 9241001B00 - Nissan Dealer: £36.90 Available as a set of both heater hoses 7&8 for £35 here: [www.ebay.co.uk/itm/231487334937?](http://www.ebay.co.uk/itm/231487334937?)  
*NOTE: If trying a generic straight you may need a longer hose to avoid a kink. 16mm internal x 260mm long*

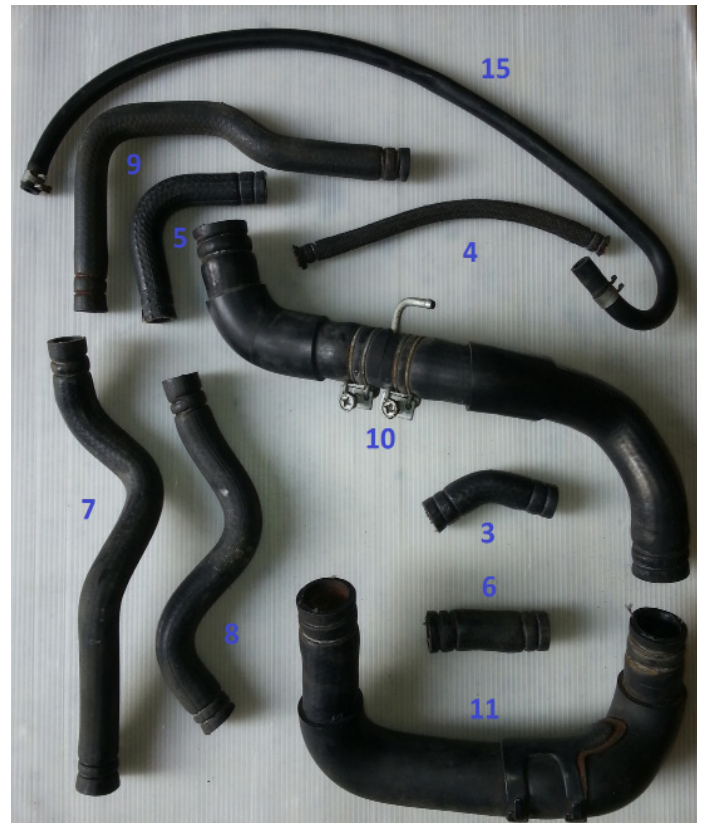
### 9) 14055: Plenum Base water hose

PN: 1405517B10 N.L.A.  
Silicon reproduction available at [www.gjnorthall.com](http://www.gjnorthall.com): £38.80  
Odd shape, at back of engine between inlet manifold pipes.

### 10) 21501: Top Radiator water Hose

PN: 2150117B03 - Nissan Dealer: £28.80. Comes with the middle metal feed to the balance (E) pipe 4.

### 11) 21503: Bottom Radiator water



### Hose

PN: 2150317B01 - Nissan Dealer: £35.44. Has a metal and plastic strap to protect from chafing on the metal radiator.

### 12) 21480: Radiator Water drain cock

PN: 21480R0100 - Nissan Dealer: £3.60. These can get brittle and snap

### 12) 21480E: packing drain washer[/b]

PN: 2148118000 - Nissan Dealer: £0.89

13) 21631: Oil hose 1 \*\* (between and radiator bottom oil cooler)  
PN: 2163203B71 (was 2163117B10) - Nissan Dealer: £55.75 (3 week backorder)

*\*\*NOTE: This is an oil hose and not part of cooling system, have just listed it for awareness and is not normally replaced.*

14) 21632: Oil hose 2 \*\* (between and radiator bottom oil cooler)  
PN: 2163217B11 (was 2163217B10) - Nissan Dealer: £54.65 (3 week backorder)

*\*\*NOTE: This is an oil hose and not part of cooling system, have just listed it for awareness and is*

*not normally replaced.*

### 15) NA: Radiator top to Expansion bottle water hose

Only available as part of the expansion bottle set (21510: tank assembly reserve PN: 2171017B10)  
*NOTE: As it has got curve so you may need a longer hose to avoid a kink if using a generic hose. Use generic straight hose 8mm internal diameter x 650mm long*

### 16) 21430: Radiator cap

PN: 2143089907 - Nissan Dealer: £13.07 \ Non genuine: -£6

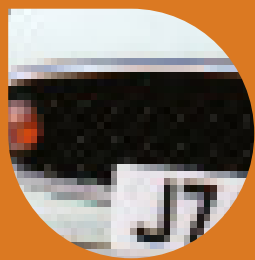
### Water Pump

PN: 2101019BY5 (was 2101019B25) - Nissan Dealer: £41.41 \ Non genuine: -£22.00

Read more: <http://figarownersclubforum.com/thread/4856/coolant-system-hoses-information#ixzz3Qjrhru8p>

### NEXT EDITION

Rocker securing kit - Is your Fig going off it's rocker!!



**“THE FIGARO NEVER MISSED A BEAT ON THE WHOLE EVENT. IT RAN BEAUTIFULLY. IT STILL GETS USED REGULARLY AND HAS JUST HAD A NEW ROOF FITTED”**



# ROCKING AT ROCKINGHAM

## Figaro competing on a National Classic Car Rally - Tour Britannia in 2009

### Club Member Chris Towers talks to *Figgyworld*

My wife and I bought this Figaro as a present for our elder daughter in 2005. It had just been imported by a company in North Yorkshire. When she got married and moved abroad, she wanted to sell the car so we bought the car back from her – the only car I have bought twice in my life. It then got used by my wife on sunny days.

My main hobby is restoring and rallying classic cars. Consequently I look after this car myself – even have a car lift in my workshop to make things a lot easier.

In 2009, a friend I do quite a few classic car rallies with, Tom Callanan, asked if I fancied doing the Tour Britannia with him in a 1967 Vauxhall Viva GT that he had just acquired. The Tour Britannia is an event that takes all competitors around race tracks and stately homes over a

Silverstone Race Circuit and finish in Harrogate. Tom, living in Dublin, had to bring the Viva over on a trailer to the start. He had arranged for some friends to transport his tow car and trailer to Harrogate. Because I had to get myself to and from the event by car, I thought it would make sense to get my car transported from the start to the finish as well so I decided to take the Figaro as it was the smallest car I had that would fit on his trailer.

The first circuits on the event were the Silverstone Race Track and the new (then) Porsche Test Track. Sadly, the Viva's engine blew up on the Porsche Test Track. We got towed back to the pits then put the car on the trailer and drove back to the overnight hotel in the Figaro, where we parked it alongside all the other competitors.

These events are not cheap to do, and we didn't really want to do

a new set of rally plates and stickers and put them on the car – they didn't actually know what a Figaro was. So, on the next morning Tom drove the car to the start control, with me as co-driver, to everyone's absolute amazement! Following a run round the tracks of Cornbury Park, we then set off to Rockingham Speed Circuit. The marshals at Rockingham all cheered when we started buzzing round there in the company of all the other fast competitors. Tom and I had smiles on our faces all the way round – we just couldn't believe we were actually doing it.

We then went to other venues such as Belvoir Castle and Cadwell Park. At the end of the Figaro's first day out, all our fellow competitors dragged us into the bar to exchange stories of us hairing round with them during the day especially when we had the roof down for most of the time.

The last day took us to places like Olivers Mount in Scarborough, Castle Howard and finally Harewood Hill Climb near Harrogate. At the Finish and the Awards Presentation, we found out we had actually won our class, but had to be excluded because the organisers now realised what a Figaro was, and decided it was too young for the class they had put us in! Still the applause and cheers made it all worthwhile. The Figaro never missed a beat on the whole event. It ran beautifully. It still gets used regularly and has just had a new roof from European Trimming as the old one was beginning to shrink at the sides. Otherwise, it has only needed normal service related items like suspension bushes, brakes pads and shoes, oil, filters, plugs, belts, etc.

Lovely car! Chris

## WE WANT YOUR STORIES

If you've been somewhere special in your Figaro then why not get in touch. We need great pics and some words on your adventure and who knows, you could be featured in our next edition!

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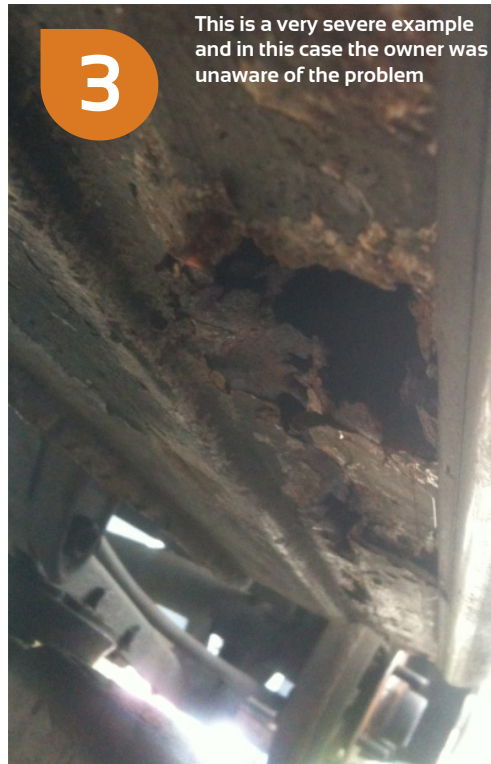
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three day period. Sounded like great fun as we would be competing against Porsches, Astons, Jags, Ferraris, etc.

The event was to start at

just give up and go home, so over a beer or two in the bar, I came up with this crazy idea of continuing to do the event in the Figaro. We managed to convince the organisers of this, so got a





# FIGARO MASTERCLASS

CONTRIBUTOR: [Toby Brookes](#) EMAIL: [info@thefigaroishop.co.uk](mailto:info@thefigaroishop.co.uk)

## EXPERT TOBY BROOKS TALKS TO *FIGGYWORLD* ABOUT RUST!

When the Owners Club asked me to write an article using a case study from our workshops I wanted to describe something that many owners don't see, even when the work is carried out on their own 'Fig'.

I decided it would be good for owners to know what went on when their car has this 'open heart surgery'. Although its not the most glamorous diagnosis, there is no denying the fact that some Figgys do suffer with rust! One of the hardest areas for us to describe, and to warrant the cost of repair, is rust on the sills.

Figaro sills are formed in complicated shapes, the layers of box sections press together in order to create the strongest structural integrity. On convertibles especially this is very important.

When an owner comes to us with their cherished Figaro, looking for restoration or paintwork, they nearly always leave with a huge smile, sometimes even tears. That's a great part of our job. The slightly disappointing thing from our point of view is that with sills which have been restored the car still looks the same, runs the same, it may on the surface seem that the MoT and invoice are the main achievements!

So I hope this article will encourage you to see the beauty in all restoration, even the barely visible parts.

With this in mind I hope to outline what we go through in order to make a sill repair in the correct way. These cases often begin with the Figgy owner bringing their car in for restoration, or perhaps the car is here already having failed an MoT on structural corrosion.

Once we have discovered that the sill is rusted our first task is to remove all the chrome trim; we need access. In severe cases we also need to remove the door.

**Image 1 - You can see in the image the car before the chrome is stripped, this is the sill. It runs front to back and is the area you see when the door is open however its usually the out of sight areas which corrode.**



sill for inspection



has been removed its time the start  
of the inner heel plate



Next step is to cut and fit the inner sill



We always try to spot weld the new sill in. This is how the originals were done and we want to replace it to a factory finish



7



8

This thick black tar is applied to protect the sill from stone chips and rust



9

The new sill being prepared for painting



10

Finished and re assembled ready for the customer!

Image 2 - Once the chrome is stripped the car can be fully assessed

Image 3 - You can see what nasty surprises are often lurking!

Image 4 - The first step to the sill repair is always to cut away the outer skin and inspect, sometimes its just this layer but in most cases it's more. In the images we are using the car needed 4 layers - the inner heel plate, part of the floor, the inner sill, and the outer sill. The inner sill helps to create the strength.

Image 5 - Here is the new sill taking shape, carefully cutting and spot welding this in place takes a lot of man hours.

Image 6 - Here is a sill repair panel before its cut up, the idea is to trim it to match the rusty area.

Image 7 - The metalwork has to be ground smooth, treated, stone chip protected and then painted.

Image 8 - The new sill is stone chip protected and then cavity waxed

Image 9 - You can see here whilst the sill is prepared for paint, it has already been stone chipped giving it the textured finish. A well crafted sill should look straight as though it has never been repaired. This sill will last for 10+ years.

Image 10 - Once complete there should be no trace of repair, the car is structurally sound and ready to enjoy again...{

I'm more than happy to give any advice on the skills or parts required to carry out this job, thanks for reading...

NEXT EDITION

Toby looks at the preparation and process involved in painting the Figaro



# THE WORLD ACCORDING TO BEEP BEEP

**JOHN COOPER: Figaro nut and all round good egg lets his car 'Beep beep' talk to Figgyworld about the importance of daily checks**

Being a Figaro comes with a multitude of daily challenges. Notwithstanding I'm getting on, having an owner that likes to push me to my limits adds more than my fair share of pressures.

Don't get me wrong. I love to go fast, otherwise why have a turbocharger? But I am a classic. I need looking after. Driving 40 miles straight on the motorway in excess of 4500 RPM doesn't just happen without knowing that everything that needs checking has been checked.

My oil is dipped, topped up if necessary. Brake and steering fluids are checked. Don't forget the washer bottle either. It doesn't help the engine, but it is part of a routine that should become a habit. The more time you spend under the bonnet, the less time a mechanic will have to.

Take the coolant for example. It's checked, but rarely topped up. But it's not just any coolant. It's Evans waterless coolant. That's right, there is no water in my engine.

Think of the engine as a big pressure cooker. You run the engine, it gets hot. When the water reaches boiling point, it turns to steam. That increases the volume, in turn increasing the pressures in the engine. Specifically, hoses and other components.

And because there is no water, there is no corrosion. That helps protect all of the parts like the radiator and water pump because there is no corrosion build-up.

It's not for everyone, but everyone should take that extra bit of time to make those checks. In case you were wondering, the tyre pressures are

**"THINK OF THE ENGINE AS A BIG PRESSURE COOKER. YOU RUN THE ENGINE, IT GETS HOT. WHEN THE WATER REACHES BOILING POINT, IT TURNS TO STEAM"**

rarely checked. That's because there is no air in them. Mine are full of nitrogen. I'll tell you about that next time.

Happy motoring, and be safe out there!

Beep Beep



Spot the steam from the engine? John's steed in all its glory

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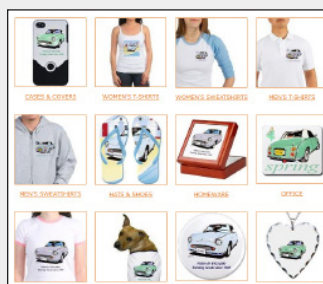
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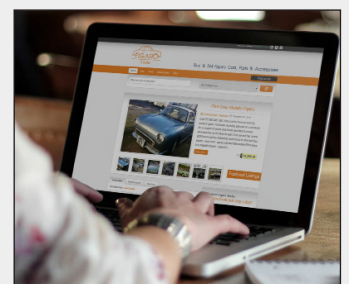
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