



23 June 2000

AFTER talking about it for a long time here it is. The Peugeot Worm Drive Register. For all Peugeots, 404 or earlier. In 1988 when the 03 Register started the 203 was 40 years old. In 2000 the 404 will be 40 years old so it is a good time to change. In 1988 most 203s were well worn. In 2000 there are many beautifully restored 203s and 403s. I believe that the Register has engendered a sense of pride in 203s and 403s, and sourcing of parts has encouraged restorations. We hope to do the same for 404s. I doubt if we will try to get all your facts into a database like we did for the 203s and 403s. Getting the facts from owners and updating solds and buys is an impossible task.

We will contact you and keep you up to date through "The Worm Review" which, we hope, will be more than a worm's eye view. There is a gap in our coverage. PCCNSW owners won't get a chance to read about the worms. There has been a stand off for some years on NSW changes to words as written. It would be to the advantage of worms if NSW worm owners could read what we have to say. If North and South Korea can shake hands anything is possible.

Have you met Paul Watson? Only a young lad. Proud owner of a 403 and a 404. Paul will be working with me on the Worm Register.

NEW C1 gearbox top

There is a brand new (still with the Peugeot part label on it) C1 gearbox top for sale in New Zealand. The C1 gearbox was fitted to 203 Peugeots up until the end of 1954 when the 203C and the C2 gearbox hit the road. Emails to Brian Winks pnp@clear.net.nz or ring GRM.

Endless Screw

I thought I would do a bit of research into Peugeot's use of the worm drive. There are excellent Peugeot publications "La Production Peugeot" covering ALL Peugeots from 1889. Line drawings and outline specifications for every model are listed. Browsing through these books I found the word "vis" appearing under the "Pont AR" or back axle specification. "Vis" = "screw" so that makes sense. Further looking revealed that "Vis" is an abbreviation for worm as in worm drive. In full "worm" as in worm drive is "Vis sans fin" which can be crudely translated as "Screw without end" or an "Endless screw".

French Dinky again

I continue to be amazed at the prices that French Dinky model cars bring, considering how crude the modelling is. But even more amazing is the bidding on an empty cardboard box for a French Dinky 404 model. 11 bids up to Aus\$72.00 and still going!

403 Front Blinker Lenses

Yeah, they are still available from Europe, but that's not what I am writing about. Observant lot that you are, you noticed that the 403 on the front cover of Torque, rallying in Kenya and one of the 403s in a bumper to bumper shot in another club magazine had different blinker lenses. The Torque cover picture had one of each. My explanation is that all the pictures of 403 cabriolets that I have seen have different deep parallel sided front blinker lenses. I can't find them in the spare parts book but the pictures show them. Does anyone know any more?

Old Rubber

Our proposal to reproduce the 2 sets of rubber blocks that mount the late 403 and all 404 windscreen wiper motors has had a good response. There are 3 blocks of each type. One type is a cube and the other is a cylinder. There are 3 of each in a car. The originals were in a soft red rubber (of pencil eraser consistency). Soft rubber perishes. Our original proposal was for the rubbers to be reproduced by a firm who will produce "one off" rubber part for you. The rubber would not be red and it would not be soft. As there has been so much interest we will talk to bigger firms with a view to getting a part nearer to the original. We will also talk to the overseas clubs.

Only one 403 owner seems to want the rubber blocks that isolate the 403 bumpers from the mudguards. The reproduction of these parts is on hold.

And now for the big one! We can get reproduction 203 carbie to oil bath air cleaner hoses made. In oil/petrol resistant rubber. Probably to sell at \$130.00. We need orders for 20. Let us know. Finland and New Zealand are interested.

New Rubber

New door and boot seal rubbers for the 404 are still available through Peugeot. Regan's in Melbourne have them in stock. It helps the part department, especially at newer dealers who may have never seen a 404, to know the Peugeot Part numbers.



Peugeot utes can take it

This picture of an overloaded ute in Africa went round the Peugeot internet world. At first most people took it to be a 504 ute but closer looking showed that it wasn't. We all know that Peugeot utes can take it as these two photos show.

Round the World in 80 days via Istanbul and Peking

Not on the internet? Go to your library and log on to www.carnet.co.uk/rallyoffice.

Over 100 older cars entered a 3 stage world rally. Some entered to Istanbul, some entered as far as Peking and some entered the "Round the world in 80 days" rally. As I write the "RTW in 80 days" entrants are driving from Anchorage to New York. The Pacific and

Atlantic legs are in huge Russian transport planes. The last leg is from Marakesh to Paris. Three Peugeots entered. The 203 Station Wagon finished, as entered, at Peking. The 1962 404 sedan and the 1965 404 Coupé are still driving with little time lost and hoping to make Paris in the 80 days.

The press are usually totally "ho hum" in reporting such car events. This one was a bit different at the start and there was a press feeding frenzy. A Silver Ghost Rolls Royce was entered but at the start line on Tower Bridge only the owner driver was in the car. The relief driver had rung in with a temporary health problem. "Catch you at Dover" he said. "No start" said the Rally officials. "You need 2 on board at the start", says the rules. Addressing the crowd the driver asked "Anyone want a drive in a Roller?". A youngish lady leapt forward expecting a mile or two ride. She was still on board in Italy, frantically trying to buy "knickers and tee shirts" at the all too brief stops. The press loved it. Graham Wallis should try something like this at the start of the Redex re run in 2003.



Peugeot starters in the London to Peking and Round the World in 80 Days Rally.

The Worm Drive Register is for all worm drive Peugeots in Australia. It reproduces some parts and knows who has parts. It reprints manuals. It keeps in contacts with older Peugeots overseas.

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