

Lagondaforum: going for MOT

Re: going for MOT

Written by David at Nov 30, 2020 6:05 pm

The most likely source was rainwater accumulating under the fuel filler flap, which is horizontal at the left side by the rear screen, and getting into the tank through a poor seal on the filler neck. Sadly I had to drive it in quite heavy rain to be prep'd for the MOT. The tanks and balance pipe have cleaned up very well so new ones are not needed. Interesting, I'd thought the balance pipe was all rubber, but it's steel with rubber hoses about 6 inches long at each end to join to the tanks. These were very perished and there was a lot of rubber residue in the tank bottoms. Fortunately they were still petrol-proof but only just

The balance pipe also has a tank drain tap in it, but this turned out to be bunged up with rubber residue, so the tanks had to be drained via the pump

We've had to buy quite a lot of this particular rubber petrol-proof pipe, as it's not got an AML part number of course, so if any other Rapide owners read this and want some as a spare, please get in touch. And I recommend you check yours

We're also changing the rubber hose from filler neck to left tank, but fortunately this larger diameter is available by the centimetre

With the tanks out, the whole area will be cleaned and represerved, and we'll try to make the fuel filler flap more water resistant. I suspect when built there was a rubber gasket of some sort but long gone as part of the bare metal respray in 2001 if not before

Re: going for MOT

Written by David at Dec 09, 2020 5:47 pm

Another 38 hours to rectify the fuel system after getting water in it, plus all new perishables like fuel hoses and tank fixing straps, plus some re-engineering for better safety. Plus complete reworking of the under bonnet vacuum arrangements to prevent the engine stalling under heavy braking. It was an interesting experience to lose power with the car in motion in Drive, gearbox lock up! MOT passed with no advisories, having spent some time resolving headlight gremlins and defective wiring under the dash

Re: going for MOT

Written by David at Apr 19, 2021 3:08 pm

Started the car today for the first time in 4 months, fresh petrol and air in tyres, then spent 3 hours driving round in the glorious weather. Took some pictures but can't upload them!