

'66 Ruby Red Survivor Beetle "Ouch"

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'66 Isle of Wight – Ruby Red Survivor Vandalism or Art?

Originally shipped to the Isle of Wight, my '66 Ruby Red, original RHD Beetle, had never been welded or modified... well up until I got it.

With the term Barn Find now outnumbering the number of barns in the UK, we are always a little dubious when reading such buzz words as "survivor", "totally original" and "unmolested". After a typical night of fantasy scrolling through a popular auction website, we stumbled across a very Matt Red '66 beetle, being a personal favourite model year (due to ball joint front end but all early panels) of ours this particular car had an extremely unique story, whilst residing in Bognor Regis at the time it had spent the majority of its life from new on the Isle of Wight, a tiny island off the south coast of the UK at its widest point 22 miles in radius.

If you're a bit of a number plates expert you may recognise it being an Isle of Wight registration which remains on the car, alongside the rather unique B-Pillar parking light which was factory fitted as at the time (see below image) it was a requirement to be left on at all times in the evening. I can imagine this didn't catch on as the 6 volt electrics were always a little hit and miss.

This brings us on to the most obviously strange element.. the paint splatters and Ouch.

So the story behind this according to the owner loosely was a botched attempt at covering up an attack from a disgruntled ex-partner on the car following a not so faithful husband. The attack involved the usual classics of paint stripper, scratching keys across the panels and our little favourite the "Ouch" text on the rear engine lid and the left over paint splattered across the whole rear of the car. It's funny how as the years have gone by the rather artistically placed text and the meaning of the Ouch text has become the car's identity rather than something to cover up and hide.

Following the arrival of Ouch into our fleet, it became the platform for our first generation bolt on air ride kit back in 2014, which reached worldwide acclaim for a simplistic install and solid reliability. Ouch ran this 1st version system throughout the lifespan of gen-I before being superseded in 2020 with the development of the second generation revolution air ride system which brought a whole host of further improvements with increased range and drop with the provision for the factory heating to be re-instated among other elements.

Ouch will remain with the team here at Limebug as truly unmolested platform to continue to

develop our products and lines off.

OE34-16

Find out more on this product!

NOSTALGIA

RE-IMAGINED

Using the VW Factory Lubin L456 Red to bring together the contoured and scalloped faces of the fully forged OE34-16 Centres sinking into the Stainless Surrounds. A stunning twist on a classic wheel wearing the huge Cargo 16" Rubber in open face form and twinned with stainless fixtures throughout.

Front 1.5" Lip Radinox 34 Bolt BBS 5" Barrel Aluminium 34 Bolt BBS

Rear (Pictured) 3" Lip Radinox 34 Bolt BBS 5" Barrel Aluminium 34 Bolt BBS

1200CC ORIGINAL AIRCOOLED VW MOTOR

Subtle Modernisation

Having suffered from a leaking carb for many years, Ouch's oil had run excessively lean for so long the big end / main bearings and piston rings had succumb leaving the only option of a full rebuild.

Having started the strip down process and knowing that the original motor would be returning to the car, we took the opportunity to look at what possible upgrades could be added whilst leaving as much visually alone as possible.

The first most obvious steps were the Carburettor and Ignition system, receiving electronic ignition and a carb. The original Solex had excessive play in throttle arm bushes causing air to get drawn into the engine. On top of this the new carb features an inline filter in the head of the carb preventing grit/ rust or other contaminants from reaching the bowl of the carb.

The electronic ignition brought the benefits of modern reliability and service less running.

The last more subtle upgrade was the transformation of the electrical system from 6 volt to 12 volt, with a 12 volt dynamo style generator and direct mounted 12 volt regulator to mimic the original 6 volt unit. This with a fresh coat of satin black completed the top end overhaul of the motor

- Solex Carb 30/31 PICT-1 OE Quality Complete Carburetor
- 12 Volt Regulator
- 034 Vacuum Advance Distributor

- 12 Volt Dynamo

Solex Carb 30/31 PICT-1 OE Quality Complete Carburetor

Find out more on this product!

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