

## President's Patois - Normal - from John Horne

**Author:** Vogues, Gazelles and holes.

**Lector:** I beg your pardon

**Author:** Well, I hope it will draw attention to the breather holes to be found in the back axles of these cars. You may remember in the last issue of MASCOT an article covering this subject on cars of the thirties, which brings me to our discussion at the Swan, Lyndhurst, where a gathering of the brains trust meets at our Natter and Noggin to discuss such matters.

**Lector:** Brains trust? What on earth is that when its at home?

**Author:** Well, all of us who meet there have been restoring Singers and many other types of car for many years, and the combined knowledge of us all can deal with

almost any problem you may care to mention. Some are still involved in motoring competitions, and a few are non members, but all are welcome here.

Whilst there I brought up the subject of these breather holes with one of our members who is in the process of major rebuild with his Vogue. He was saying he was reading through his workshop manual very carefully when he spotted a reference to there being such a hole in the axle of his car which was quite easy to miss. He went on to say it took a lot of scraping until he saw a little black dot which he prodded to find it was the blocked breather, which is in much the same position as described in the last issue of the Magazine. He went on to say that when you think about it, as the oil heats up when driving air also heats up and expands, and if the hole is covered by only light dirt, the blows out the hole clean.

**Lector:** How ingenious, but how was it blocked like he says and having to prod it clean?

**Author:** Strange as it seems, two things can happen. If the car is standing around for some time the mud hardens. Also at some time in the past someone has painted the axle and painted over the hole. I have come across this problem in the past and it needs a lot of scraping and working with a wire brush to find it. As to the size of the hole it's approximately 2 mm diameter.

**Lector:** Good heavens that is small.

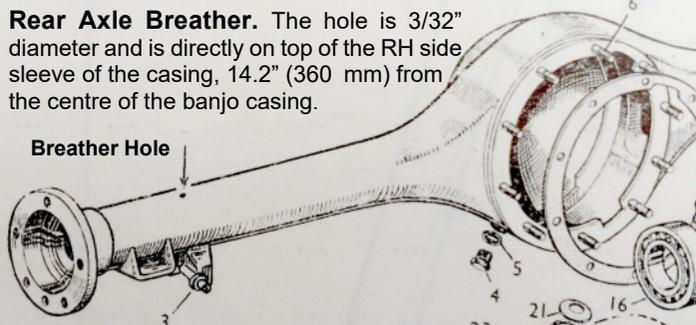
**Author:** Well, it's big enough to relieve the pressure and save the oil being forced past the seals and onto the brakes.

**Lector:** So cleaning that tiny hole could save some Singer Owners a whole lot of trouble?

**Author:** I would go as far as saying that any time spent in locating and cleaning out these holes will be repaid handsomely over the remaining life of the car. So many thanks to John Cook in Bournemouth for providing the picture and information from the Vogue Manual.

**Rear Axle Breather.** The hole is 3/32" diameter and is directly on top of the RH side sleeve of the casing, 14.2" (360 mm) from the centre of the banjo casing.

Breather Hole



**John.**