



Royal College of Science Motor Club

Contingency Claim RCS Motor Club December 2013 – Towing Costs

On Saturday 17 August, Jezebel (the 1916 Fire Engine) had been asked to attend Hanwell Community Centre's Open Day and she was booked as to attend. Due to the nature of the law regarding the insurance and driving of the vehicle, no charge or formal contract can be drawn up with anyone who asks the club to attend any event save that for fuel which the centre had agreed to cover.

On route to the venue, Jezebel lost power and stalled at the middle of a busy junction in the Notting Hill area. With the kind assistance from a couple of police officers, Jezebel was pushed out of the middle of the road and just past the junction so she no longer presented a major obstacle to traffic flow.

Despite sustained efforts in attempts to diagnose and fix the problem – which was identified as being the magneto (the device which provides the sparks to ignite the fuel) – a roadside repair or temporary bodge capable of getting her back to Campus was not possible.

This issue was highly unexpected as Jezebel had just completed a long trip to, and back from, a Fire Appliance Show in Odiham without issue; in addition Jezebel was due to complete a trip to the Isle of Wight the following week at a distance only attempted when there is no know issue which might cause an incident.

After the attempts at starting Jezebel failed – what little ignition was possible caused dangerous backfiring – Jezebel had to be towed home. Due to her weight (just under 4 tons) no normal breakdown service will attend so a vehicle from a local garage was required to tow Jezebel home at a cost of £200+VAT.

We are now running on a different magneto which we created using parts we reconditioned having acquired the component parts over a number of years. This 'new' magneto has successfully been used for all Jezebel's commitments since its installation including taking Jezebel to the Isle of Wight and going along to support the London to Brighton Run. The faulty magneto has been serviced (including replacing the bearing and re-magnetising the coil) and is currently being carried as a spare in case of another incident – typically magneto work for long periods without incident (easily more than five years) so we do not expect to have any issues with this part in the foreseeable future.

Due to the highly unexpected and unbudgeted cost of getting Jezebel towed, we would like the cost of the recovery of £200 to be refunded as a contingency claim.

Mr. Stephen Ball
Chairman of the Royal College of Science Motor Club



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RCS Motor Club
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INVOICE

Invoice No. **29575**
Account No. RCS001
Order Ref.
Invoice Date. 17/08/2013
Payment Method. Card
Date of Work. 17/08/2013

Registration	Make & Model	Chassis Number	Engine CC	Mileage
LP8389	FIRE ENGINE			

Labour Description	Qty	Unit Price	Price
RECOVER FIRE ENGINE FROM NOTTING HILL TO IMPERIAL COLLEGE, SOUTH KENSINGTON	1	200.00	200.00

Labour Sub Total 200.00

Parts Description	Part No	Qty	Unit Price	Price
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By CARD
PAID IN FULL
17/08/13

Net Subtotal	200.00
VAT at 20%	40.00
Sub Total	240.00
Receipt	-240.00
Balance Due	0.00