

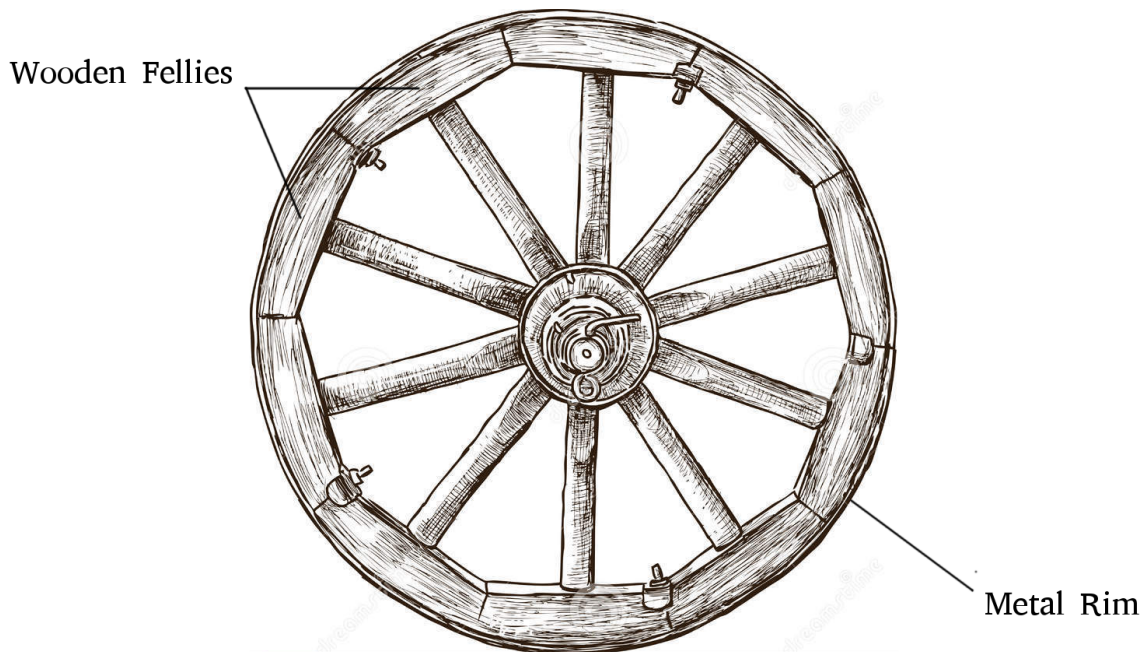
## Contingency Claim | *Veteran Vehicle Motor Club (Team Bo')*

### Who are we?

We look after the mascot of the engineering guild, Bo', a 1902 James and Browne car. Bo' is kept in good shape by weekly maintenance and we carefully plan long term repairs, however on this occasion we are faced with a problem so immediate we require external support.

### What happened?

We recently discovered play in Bo's rear wheels. We dismantled them to investigate and found that most of the screws that hold the metal rim to the wooden fellies had sheared (snapped). The wheels are largely original and so over the course of over 100 years have been repeatedly expanding and contracting causing it to loosen. Whilst this problem has been a long time coming it is unfortunately only now that it has been made apparent.



With the wheels in this state it is unsafe to use them and so we are out of action.

### We tried to fix it ourselves...

Before asking the MechEng Senior Tutor Dr. Crofton for advice on expert repair, we attempted to repair the wheel on our own. We tried to rotate the rim to see if we could insert some new, wider screws in place but this ended with nothing but a bent clamp. We then considered drilling new holes but came to the conclusion that the wheel was sufficiently damaged that introducing new holes without attempting a comprehensive fix would only have delayed the inevitable, and might have caused a failure while driving.

## Sounds expensive...

We sent them the wheels to Croford Coachbuilders for evaluation and they confirmed that they were in dire need of repair. The work that they have quoted us for involves completely dismantling the wheels, inserting a shim (essentially padding) between the rim and the fellies and reassembling them. This is work that we have neither the equipment nor the expertise to do ourselves.

The type of wheel is very old, and the number of companies able to undertake such a repair extremely limited. Croford Coachbuilders are expert wheelwrights and specialise in restoring old carriages - a tiny business world-wide. We have chosen them due to their reputation for reliability, in particular they fix carriages for the Queen of England, and have previously done work on wheels of a veteran car owned by an associate of Dr. Crofton.

Doing the job right will hopefully mean the repairs will give us good service for years and possibly decades to come.

The total cost for the repairs is £915 + VAT = **£1098**

## Our finances...

We have some money allocated for maintenance, but this repair work is vastly beyond what we planned for. Since this unexpected cost is required for the continued running of the VVMC, we ask that the RCC approve this as a valid contingency claim for forwarding to CSB. We currently have £118 left of the original Grant allocation.

In the past large expenditure such as this was funded through the Motor Club Reserve, however this has since been discontinued. The Union has a new policy to support all of the club's maintenance costs however and so we feel this is the appropriate way to apply for funding.

## The future...

The problem was more likely to occur in the rear wheels because these are the wheels that taking both the driving and braking load. We realise however that this problem will likely surface in the front two wheels in the not too distant future. Having just missed out on being able to budget to do similar, preventative, work on the front wheels we will be monitoring them closely and budgeting for next time around.

### **Proposal:**

**To award the Veteran Vehicle Motor Club £1098 from contingency to fund crucial repairs to Bo'.**