

## Time to cut my ties with the Imp Club

Sam Cottingham, St Albans, Hertfordshire

I sold my trusty Commer Imp Van (PMK 55E) last autumn, through this splendid magazine, to an active member of the club who I know will use it more than I was and hopefully get as much pleasure out of it as I did.

Just before it went to its new home, two mates and I toured around Warwickshire for a week – pub to pub – and it performed perfectly, unlike the three occupants!

As an ex-Commer apprentice and while working in export sales in the mid-'sixties, I bought my first Imp – an ex-Rootes company car OXE 733F – which never, ever, let me down and even attracted my future wife (photo, above). The Imp was eventually replaced by a new company car (Singer Gazelle).



Years later when my daughter reached 17 she was presented with her own Imp – a Commer Imp Van TTJ 749H – which she loved and it never, ever, let her down. Despite all the rust (it came from the seaside) it held together even when she rolled it and wrote it off a few years later.

Then came PMK 55E in the mid-'nineties which I bought as a wreck from a Croydon breakers yard. Over a few months it was slowly stripped to a rolling shell then restored to its original colour

and rebuilt. Once on the road that too never, ever, let me down and I hope and trust that its new owner experiences similar reliability!

Very best wishes to the Imp Club for a fantastic future, thank you for *Impressions*, a great magazine, and for keeping the Imp alive.

**The excellent headroom of the Imp Van was easily able to accommodate daughter Ruth's bouffant!**

*Photo: Sam Cottingham*





Sam Cottingham (right) with two mates on an Imp Van pub crawl!  
*Photo supplied by Sam Cottingham*



Sam's Van was present at last year's 50th birthday bash at Coventry's Museum of Transport  
*Photo: Grahame Pearson*