

A WORD (OR TWO) OF WARNING.

One of our members was unfortunate to have a mishap which resulted in a damaged radiator, so was unable to drive home.

Having an accident on the M1 can cause a headache in more than one way. When your 82 miles from home, ring your breakdown provider (in this case the R.A.C.) and discover that your not covered for accident recovery, only breakdown problems, (please read the small print) but they will get you home at your expense. When your stood on the hard shoulder, which is not the most friendly places to be, with huge wagons rumbling only a few yards away from you, along side your damaged classic, the last thing you think of is how much is it going to cost - just, "I wish I was at home with a hot cup of tea". You have to agree, because you don't know anyone else to help or turn to.

Along comes the recovery truck and puts your car on a pair of wheels and tow bar, and off you go, heading for home. Two days pass, and the account lands on your door mat in the morning post. you meed smelling salts and aspirin when you read the bill - listed below.

Callout to members car	£140.00
Milage @ £1.40 per ml. 82.3	£115.22
Specialist charges !x winching and 1x skates	£138.00
Total	£393.22
Plus Vat @ 20%	£ 78.64
Full total	£471.86

That equates to in the region of £2.85 per ml. return. Hopefully our friend will be reimbursed by his insurance co. as he is fully covered - had he been third party, that's a big lump of money to find. So, what can one do if you find yourself in a similar position ? Check with your breakdown provider and your insurance company. There is a recovery firm that operates from Leeds, and are classic car friendly, who charge around £1.30 a mile. In this case it would have cost no more than £140.00. When I have his full details, I will post them on our site.

Derek