



SUFFOLK CENTRE

TIPS AND IDEAS



(Researched and written by Chris Sanderson)

Tyre Problems

I recently suffered problems with one of my caravan tyres due to loss of pressure caused by the tyre carcass/tread deforming (See photos). Due to the fact that the tyre, a Matador 175R14C, was fitted to a rim with a Tyron band, I followed the recommended guidance in the Tyron paperwork and first approached an ATS Euromaster site. As at the time I was staying just west of Cambridge, I visited the ATS branch in Cambridge. No tyre was available off the shelf, the only one on their system being in Scotland which meant at best a few days wait. I then tried National tyres who stated they could get me sorted by the following day and then having left the wheel with them; I was later called to say they couldn't fit the tyre as the wheel had Tyron Bands fitted. Due to an impending move onto the Newmarket rally, I abandoned all further attempts to try and get a new tyre fitted instead accepted the very kind suggestion by John & Hazel Head (who were caravanning with us) that they follow us and I use their spare wheel if needed.

Based on the fact that both tyres were approx five years old, I decided to replace them both. I spoke with Continental Tyres in Birmingham who are the UK point of contact for Matador and I believe also Maxmiler tyres. Wishing to move away from basically "budget/mid range tyres" and opt for a premium tyre specification I was advised that 185/75 R14 van tyres with 8 ply construction would both offer me a higher load rating (102/100) and no or very little difference in rolling diameter.

Having checked with my caravan's insurers that they had no issues re a tyre size /specification change, my choice was to opt for Goodyear Cargo G26 tyres supplied and fitted by Hi Q tyres in Bury St Edmunds. Hi Q are listed by Tyron as a recommended supplier and interestingly on removing the old tyres they found my Tyron bands had been fitted incorrectly. Reassuringly they corrected all as part of the new tyres fitting.

By Chris Sanderson

