

# General Servicing: Repairs, Humour, Tales & Trivia

## NADA Licence Plate Lamp Trivia (Dixon Kenner)

While bored one CORVID imposed afternoon at home, I was working on adding to a spreadsheet to further explore the background to an article. To wit, I was going through 400E, the massive 758 page Lucas Spares Equipment Master Catalogue (1946-60) when I came across an interesting piece of trivia. The rear lamp which illuminated the licence plate. The numbers were not consistent, even though the basic assembly was the same. So what was different? What I had for NADA vehicles was:



1951 NADA (Canada & USA)

1951: Lucas 467-2, or part 53093A/J which has a chrome finish.

1952 - 59: Lucas 467-2, or part 53101E/J which has a black finish.

1960 - ?: Lucas 467-2, or part 53876A, which also has a black finish



1952-59 NADA (Canada & USA only)

Which, is interesting that the 1951, the first year of the North American Dollar Area Rootes-Rovers had a nice shiny chrome licence plate lamp, while subsequent Series Ones had black. Now, what is different between 1960 and 1959? Well, they are identical except for one thing. The base and bulb holder is somehow slightly different enough to warrant its own part number. Could your concours examiner figure this out? No, not without a screwdriver, and probably not them either. Pages K11 - 13 if you are really interested. These Series One part numbers are also reflected for the Land-Rover in Lucas publication 400D (1939-54).

Note, at this time, the rest of world Land-Rovers has the so-called D-lights part 53072, or ST51, with a black finish. This assembly functioned as both a stop lamp and a licence plate lamp. This is what the 1948-50 Land-Rovers that came to Canada had. But because of the centrally mounted licence plate holder, which was also unique to North America, those lamps were not used.



## Remember when?

These badges and pins were last produced by OVLR back in 1998. The grille badges were \$20 (with \$2.60 in postage, for which Communist Post probably charges \$45 now). The pin was \$6, and a key fob was \$8.

While I've not seen any pins in a long time, the grille badges are still seen about. Thanks to Andrew Finlayson for organising this back in the day.

