STEWART ENGINEERING

***THE* SUNBEAM SPECIALISTS**

Data Sheet No. 4

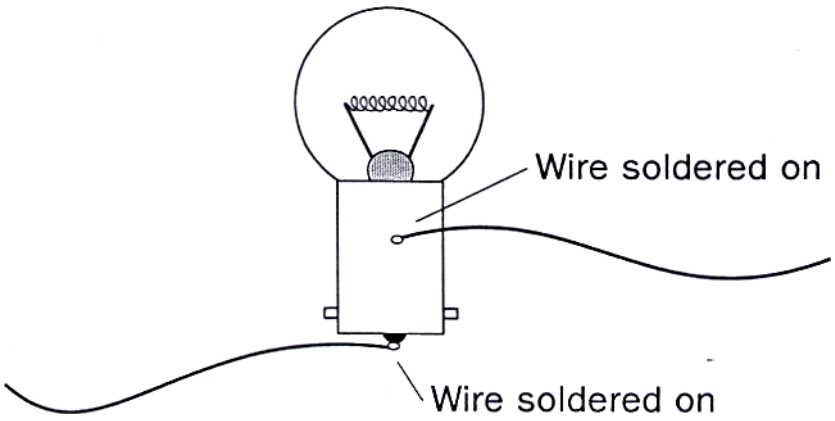
Subject: Fault-finding - No spark at plugs

Date: June 1992

NO SPARK AT PLUGS... no discharge on ammeter when ignition on

Take the wire off the side of the distributor body, and with the ignition switched **on,** flash the wire to earth (anywhere on the gearbox will do). *IF IT FLASHES,* the fault is in the distributor. The usual cause being the points are not closing. Check points thoroughly, clean, and make sure they actually open and close squarely. *IF IT DOES NOT FLASH,* remove the wire from the **IG** terminal on the ignition switch inside the control box **(IG** terminal is the large one in the middle) and connect it to A terminal on the ignition switch.
Now check again whether the wire from the side of the distributor flashes to earth. *IF IT DOES FLASH,* then the fault lies inside the ignition switch ... and another switch is the only answer here. *IF IT DOES NOT SHOW A FLASH,* then the fault lies in the coil or the wiring to or from the coil.
With the ignition switched off, reconnect the wire from A back into A, and remove the wire from the SW or + side of the coil, switch the ignition on and flash this coil wire to earth (make sure it is a good earth). *IF IT DOES FLASH,* switch off and reconnect it, *IF IT DOES NOT FLASH,* there is a break in the wire. Fit a new section of wire from **IG** on ignition switch to SW side of coil.
If it *DID* flash, and you've reconnected it, remove the wire from the **CB** or - side of the coil. Take a short length, 2 feet or so, of loose wire, hold one end of it to the **CB** side of the coil, and with the ignition switched on, flash the other end of the wire to earth. *IF IT DOES NOT FLASH,* the coil is useless. *IF IT DOES FLASH,* switch off, and reconnect the **CB** wire.
Switch the ignition on, and test the LT wire from the side of the distributor against earth again, as in the first test. *IF IT STILL DOES NOT FLASH,* then the wire from **CB** on the coil to the distributor body is broken, and needs renewing.

None of these tests can give you a shock. A small testing light can be made quite easily, which can be used instead of flashing the wires to earth, and gives a more positive result. Connect a length of insulated wire to each of the two sides of a 6 V 3 W (or 6 W) bulb, or to a suitable old bulb holder. One end of wire is held to the wire to be tested, and the other wire is held against earth. If there is power there the bulb will light up which is easier to see than a wire flashing against earth.



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