

Wheels and Tyres

Wheels are of cast light alloy, combining high strength with light weight. Wheels with tyres fitted are dynamically balanced at the AC works and should not be changed round. Unbalanced tyres wear rapidly, adversely affect handling and are in every way dangerous. It is essential that wheels and tyres be rebalanced when new tyres are fitted.

When wheels are replaced after removal, tighten the retaining nuts alternately (1 3 5 2 4) using even pressure – but do not over-stress.

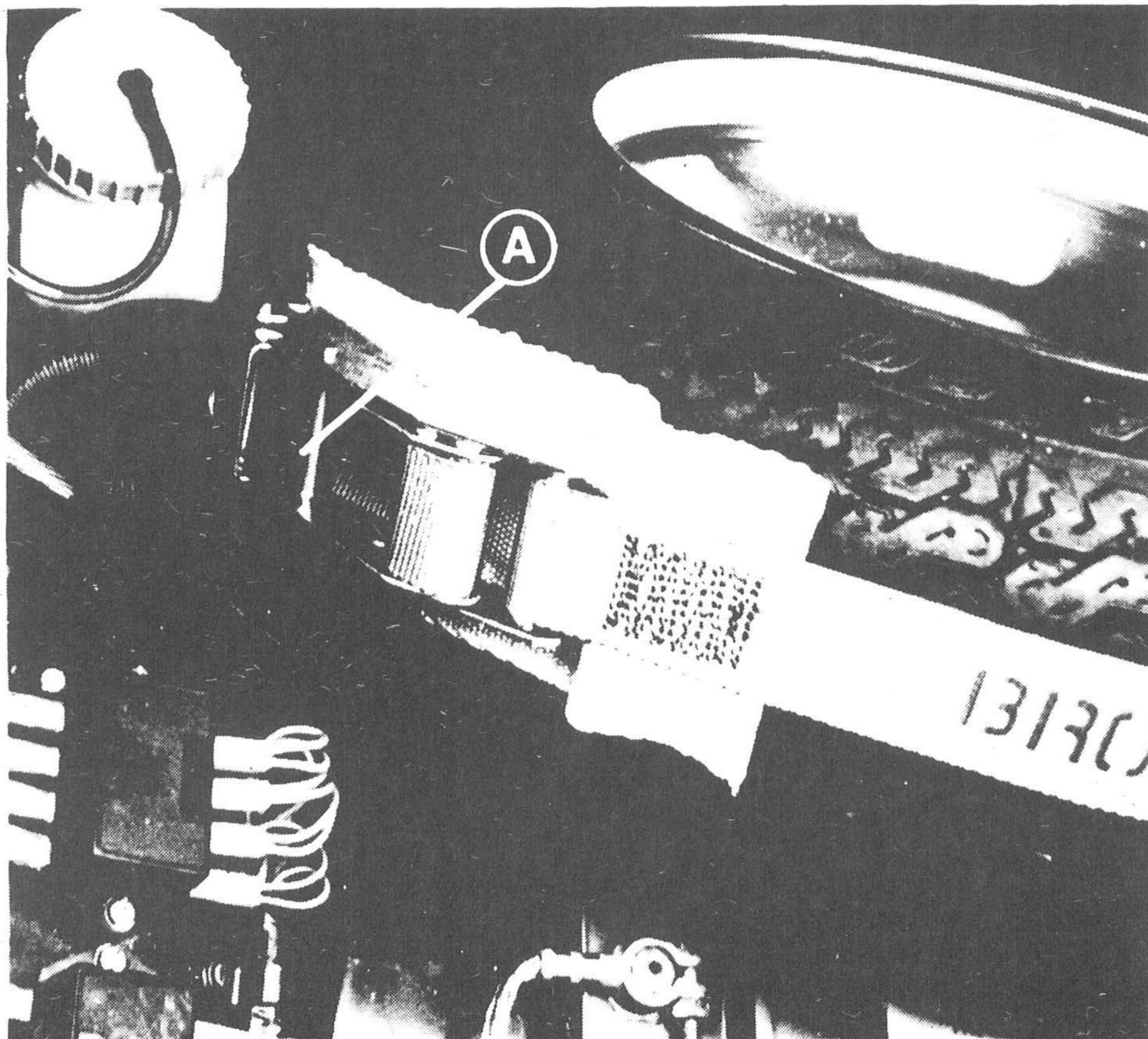


Fig 37

Only tyres of the recommended high speed specification may be used. Departure from the specified type and size is highly dangerous.

Tyre pressures must be checked frequently, gauge readings being taken when the tyres are cold. Some loss of pressure is inevitable, but should not exceed 2 lb/in² (0.14 kN/m²) per week. If the loss is greater, the cause must be rectified. Both over- and under-inflation cause uneven tyre wear and poor handling, under-inflation being the more dangerous and damaging.

All tyres must be inspected regularly for wear and defects, especially cuts and damage to tyre walls. Stones should be removed from treads, especially flints and other sharp-edged materials. Grease and oil should be wiped off with a rag moistened with petrol.

Valve caps not only exclude dirt, but are an integral part of the valve system, forming a seal against pressure leakage. Screw on finger-tight, renewing if the seal inside the cap is worn. Always carry a spare set of valve inserts and valve caps with the tool kit. Whenever tyres are renewed, renew the valves also.

NOTE. A deflated front tyre may not immediately collapse from the rim, but is indicated by erratic steering that must never be ignored.

Spare Wheel. The spare wheel is stowed in the front compartment, where it occupies an inclined position above the battery. It is securely held by a tension strap, and a safety device prevents accidental opening of the release. To free, the cross bar below the lever 'A' (Fig 37) must be pushed down to clear the retaining slots, whereupon the lever can be lifted and the strap released.