

Scuttle fuel tank tap.

I (Roly Alcock) recently had difficulty in identifying the thread type and size on my Chummy scuttle fuel tank tap.



Eddie Loader explained to me about the size and probable history of the thread sizes.

The small diameter thread is 1/8 BSP (British Standard Pipe).

The larger size is 1/4 BSP, this has an internal tapered seat to accommodate a flexible or non-flexible pipe connection. Another difference between the threads is the 1/8 BSP. Can be a tapered thread, but the 1/4 BSP is usually parallel.

It's easy to service this design of valve as follows:

- 1: remove split pin washer & spring.
- 2: remove tapered internal shaft.
- 3: using fine grinding paste, gently lap using alternative directions.
- 4: finish the lapping with Brasso or Ticut or similar.
- 5: lubricate shaft and reassemble.

This servicing should now restore the valve and prevent any further petrol leaks.

The sizing of BSP is lost in the mists of time, but to fully understand you have to remember this method of measurement originates from the time when most pipework was thick walled steel, and the bore of the pipe dictated the size ie: 1/8 BSP = 1/8 nominal bore.

Eddie

My response was:-

A wonderful arcane measurement that we cheerfully exported all round the world!