



Start with a standard Bedford TL 1290. The engine, fuel tank, bumper, front wheel arches etc. are removed. The chassis is shortened by around 1 metre at the rear. Rear spring hangers are moved and new cross members for the trailer hitch and transfer case are added. Power steering is also removed. Chassis is given a protective coat of silver paint.



Paint the cab





Reconditioned 466 cubic inch turbo-charged engine with exhaust brake, 5-speed gearbox and rear axle installed.
Brackets for 350 litre fuel tanks, new rear springs, spare wheel carrier added. New body in the background being prepared.



Body installed onto chassis and secured.



New front springs; and reconditioned and strengthened front axle installed.



Hoop frames for tilt installed. Access holes for cooking equipment lockers cut out at front of tray. Cook tent pole-carrier, rear mud-guards and jerry-can holders welded in place.



All lockers and tanks installed. Primer applied.



Timber floor and seat frames have been fitted. Underfloor locker for tent poles is in place. Mounts for spare springs are welded on each side. The hard front of the passenger compartment has been secured in place sitting on hard rubber mounts. Bill Preston (workshop manager) is standing, and Matt Hollingsworth is on the grinder.



Primary fuel tank, water tank, jerry-can and tool lockers in place.



Locker doors giving access to gas cooker and cooking gear in place. Secondary fuel tank, gas bottle, jerry-can and tool lockers in place. Final coat of paint.



Passenger compartment painted before installing seats and timber lining on seat supports. Tilt fitted over support bars.



Almost complete. New bumper and hawser. Strengthening plate fitted to all EO 4x4 vehicles visible on the front axle. Tables secured in place behind the cab.



The finished truck with its trailer ready to go.



One of the oldest trucks, GUR527T, and the newest truck at the time Q815NTM. GUR527T, affectionately known as Gurty, an M-type, first went on the road around mid-1979. Q815NTM was built in 1992. That's Lionel Kleint in Gurty and Matt Hollingsworth in Q815.