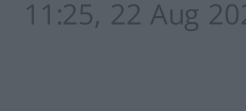


News > Liverpool News > Everton

We've been inside green van that 'never moves' and now we know what it's for

The bright green van has been parked in the same spot for a decade but no-one knew whose it was or why it was there, until now



NEWS By **Andy Durrant** and **Sydney Shaw**

11:25, 22 Aug 2024 |



A green van which has been a mystery to residents in Montgomery Way, off West Derby Road in Liverpool, for years (Image: Liverpool ECHO)

The mystery of a green van that has become something of a local landmark has been solved at last. For years locals and passers-by have been wondering who the van belongs to and why it appears to never move from its parked position on Montgomery Way, just off **West Derby** Road in Everton.

Some say that the transit van, which has solar panels on the roof, has been parked in its location for 10 plus years, and Google Maps has pictured the van in the very same spot right back to 2015. **One neighbour told the Liverpool ECHO** the van was a "nuisance" while others confirmed it had "been there for years" but they "didn't know a thing about it."

A workman laying broadband cables in the area **told the ECHO**: "I've been driving past here for about ten years, and I've always wondered what it was for. I've noticed the solar panels on top, and it's strange."

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One woman, who has lived in Montgomery Way for many years, said: "I don't know anything about it, occasionally I've seen people around it, but I know very little else." Another neighbour told the ECHO: "It's a pain, it's taking up [parking] spaces. I don't know what it is."

The mystery of the green van has been solved. It belongs to Ian Bell, an ex-serviceman and dog lover.

He has three dogs, Lottie, a white West Highland terrier, and westipoos Lola and Lexie, and is hoping to turn his love of dogs into a career as a mobile dog groomer, using his green van.

Ian, who has lived in Montgomery Way for around 10 years, told us the story behind his van and in particular the solar panels on the roof. He said: "The van is an ex-college campus van from down south and it had that many faults with it they just decided to sell it off and scrap it."

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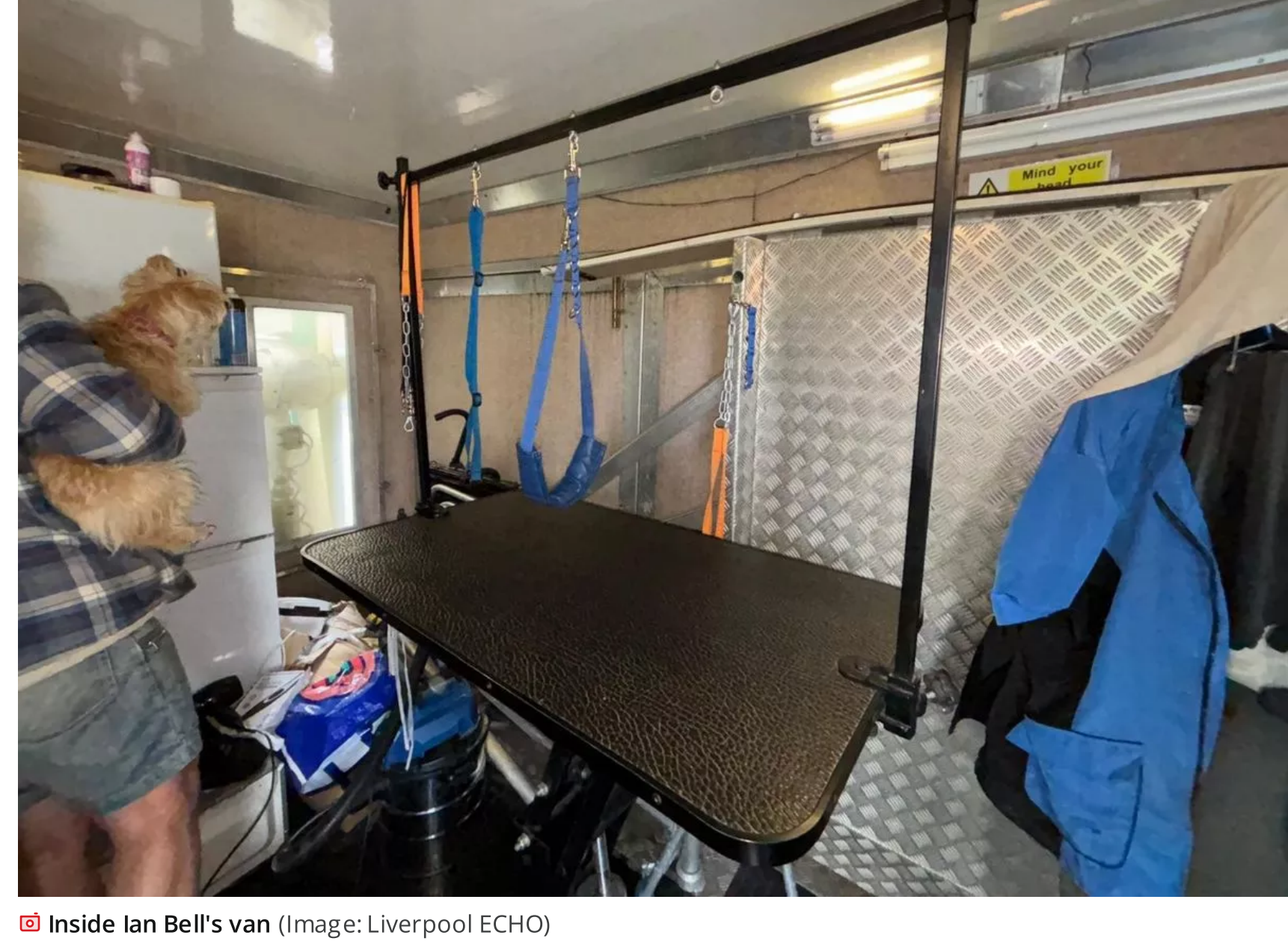
Ian Bell owns a green van which has been a mystery to residents in Montgomery Way, off West Derby Road in Liverpool, for years (Image: Liverpool ECHO)

One couple who spoke to the ECHO said they had thought at one point it might have been a burger van. They said: "We've no idea what it's for. Maybe something to do with energy? I did think it might be a breakfast or a burger van, but no, so I couldn't tell you [what it is used for]."

However, the 'mystery' of the green van 'landmark' has now been solved. The van belongs to Ian Bell, an ex-serviceman and dog lover.

He has three dogs, Lottie, a white West Highland terrier, and westipoos Lola and Lexie, and is hoping to turn his love of dogs into a career as a mobile dog groomer, using his green van.

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Inside Ian Bell's van (Image: Liverpool ECHO)

"So, it came on the market, and I came across it. I've learnt to rebuild wind-turbines which I've now done, and it's got one built in. I also sorted all the electrics on the solar panels."

Ian said the van has 150W solar panels on its roof which he is hoping to upgrade in the future to 450W panels and inside his 'dog grooming' business idea is in full swing.

A dog bath and grooming table are set up inside as well as a generator which will power it all once the business, which Ian has called Dog Wizard is up and running.



Ian Bell owns a green van which has been a mystery to residents in Montgomery Way, off West Derby Road in Liverpool, for years (Image: Liverpool ECHO)

Ian added: "I put myself onto a course with a lady called Claire Hyde down in south Wales. I've completed all that to learn all my skills to be a dog groomer, and now I've just got to get myself all sorted."

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However as to when the van may actually be 'open for business' as a dog groomers, Ian said: "I've stopped putting a deadline on things. I'm not very time-aware, but it's just a case of keep going, keep trying and never giving up."

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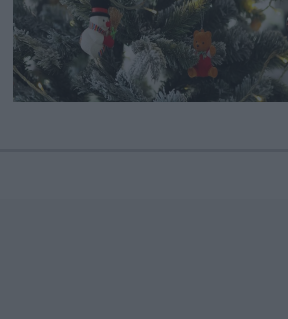
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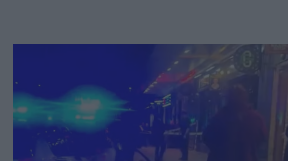
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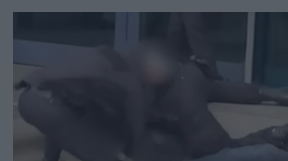
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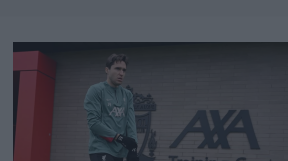
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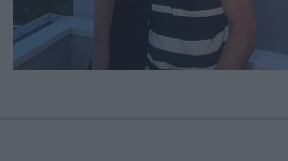
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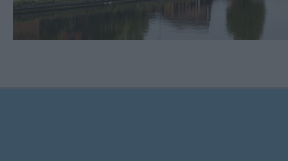
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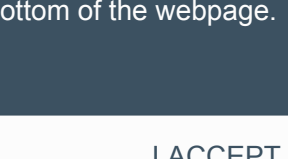
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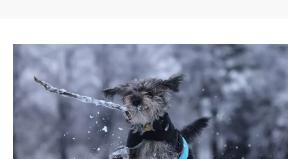
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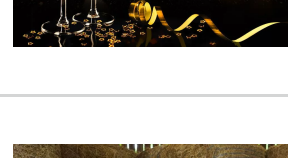
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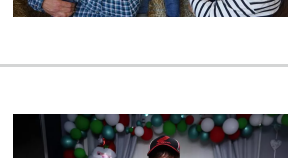
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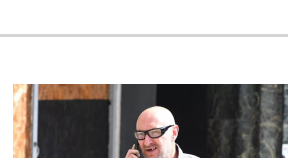
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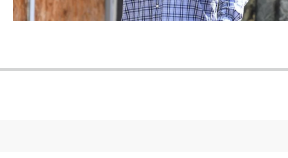
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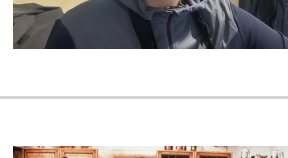
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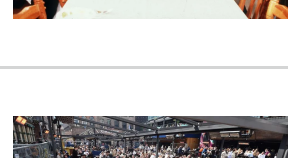
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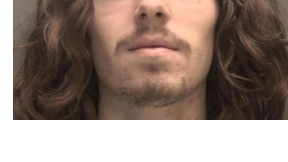
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