

## AL-KO BRAKING SYSTEM ADJUSTMENT

1. Ensure the towing shaft with coupling head is pulled FULLY FORWARD. (Fig. 1).
2. Release the handbrake to the FULLY OFF position. If the handbrake will not go down the whole way because of the fairing or any other obstruction; then the fairing must be cut away and/or the obstruction removed to achieve this desired position. It will not be possible to set up the braking system properly when the handbrake is not in the FULLY OFF position. (Fig. 1).
3. Jack up one side of the caravan, using the AL-KO Side Lift Jack System. (see Jack Operating Instructions).
4. Remove the inner plastic bung from the backplate to expose the "starwheel" adjuster access. (Figs. 1 & 2).
5. ALWAYS rotating the road wheel in the forward direction - NEVER backwards; adjust the starwheel with a suitable screwdriver, in the direction of the arrow embossed on the backplate until there is resistance in the wheel rotation. (Fig. 2).
6. Slacken off the starwheel adjuster until the road wheel turns freely in the FORWARD direction. (Fig. 2).
7. Check the adjustment at the end of the brake cable where it is secured to the abutment (bracket), welded to the centre of the axle. When the inner cable is pulled out it should extend between 5 and 8 mm. (Fig. 3). (On tandem axles a double abutment (bracket) is fitted to the front axle ONLY).
8. Repeat for other wheel or wheels.
9. On tandem axles the brake cables from the rear axle should pass over this axle and cross over each other, before being connected to the abutment (bracket) on the front axle.
10. Ensure the balance bar (compensator) is being pulled evenly (Figs.1 & 3). Excessive movement to this bar (double on tandem axles) would indicate possible incorrect adjustment (if appropriate, repeat step No. 7 - Fig. 3).
11. Check the brake rod support bracket, (fixed to the floor) IS supporting the brake rod evenly. The brake rod MUST ALWAYS run straight, NEVER bent or curved under any fittings. On tandem axles, using the double balance bar, a brake rod support tube (Part No. 228827) MUST ALWAYS be fitted on the end of the brake rod, passing through the centre aperture on the abutment.
12. Remove the slack in the brake rod by adjusting the long ball nut, rear of the balance bar, ensuring the overrun lever makes contact with the end of the towing shaft. Note! Over adjustment to the long ball nut (Fig. 3/Item 2) could induce movement of the inner brake cable, reducing the effective clearance of the brake shoes. If the overrun lever will not make contact, it is possible the two lock nuts, forward of the spring cylinder, are incorrectly adjusted. Loosen the nuts and adjust brake rod as above (Figs. 1 & 3).

13. Adjust the two locking nuts, forward of the spring cylinder (Fig. 1), (on some chassis a single Nyloc nut is used) to give 1 mm of clearance on the spring cylinder. This cylinder (the energy store for the handbrake operation) must be able to rotate ONLY, not slide on the brake rod. (Fig. 3). (If the overrun assembly is fitted with a gas strut handbrake then no spring cylinder is fitted - therefore ignore this paragraph).

14. CORRECT ADJUSTMENT of the linkage is checked by operating the handbrake lever so that when the second or third tooth is engaged, a slight braking force is felt on the road wheels.

15. OVER ADJUSTMENT of either the wheel brakes or linkages, will result in difficult reversing causing the wheels to "lock-up".

16. When parking, the handbrake lever MUST ALWAYS be engaged into the fully upright position (90°). This is to compress the spring within the spring cylinder and thereby create an energy store which will automatically engage the brakes further should the caravan move. If difficulty is experienced in this operation, try easing the caravan backwards with one hand while engaging the handbrake fully with the other. This manoeuvre should not be attempted on a rearwards facing slope. In this case wheel chocks should be used combined with the handbrake. See page 12/13 for all handbrake operations.

17. Finally, if the road wheels have been removed, re-tighten using a calibrated Torque Wrench to 88 Nm (65 lbs/ft) - on all M12 wheel bolts - in sequence, i.e. North, South, East, West **NOT** clock or anti-clockwise (refers to steel rims only). Remember to over-tighten is just as dangerous as to under-tighten, as this can distort the wheel rims. Avoid the use of power wrenches.

**IMPORTANT** - The torque settings should be rechecked after 50 Km. Wheel bolts should **NEVER** be lubricated

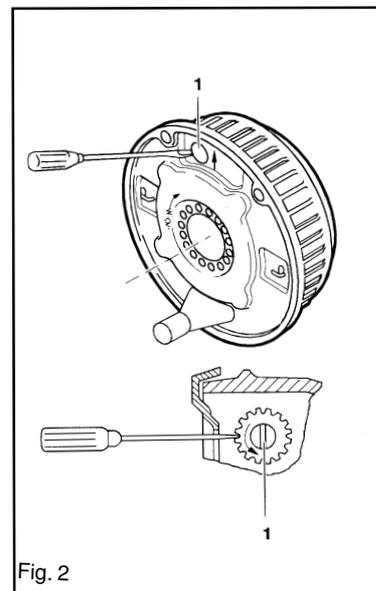


Fig. 2

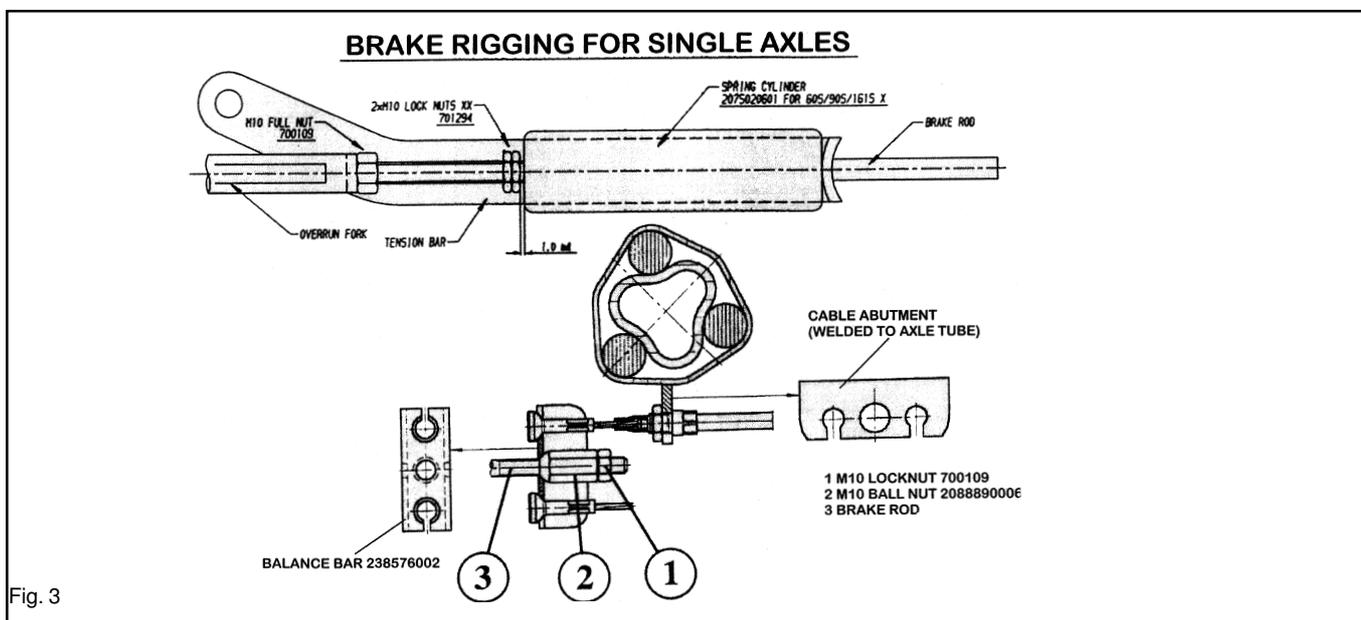


Fig. 3