



# THE CAPITAL LETTER

Newsletter of the Rolls-Royce Owners' Club of Australia (A.C.T. Branch) Inc.  
Serving the Australian Capital Territory, Goulburn, Wagga Wagga and surrounding areas.



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PO Box 773, Mawson, A.C.T. 2607

**FOR ROLLS-ROYCE AND BENTLEY ENTHUSIASTS**

**September / October 2016**



68SK

1934 Phantom II Kellner saloon

Simon Bibby (U.K.)



# From the Branch President

At our recent AGM, it was pleasing to feel the optimism for the coming year. It is only a little over six months until your Branch hosts the 2017 Federal Rally, and we will bring you regular reports on developments along the way.

There were minimal changes to the Committee, so minimal in fact, that they would be barely preceptible to the naked eye! One would hope that this can be taken that your management team of the Branch is doing a reasonable job.

I have separately prepared a President's Report to the AGM, which will be published in this issue.

We are planning a most interesting outing with historical flavour in October, at a date yet to be finalised, and will notify members of the details as soon as these as possible so that you can all put the date on your calendar.

I read in the Victoria Branch Newsletter, August 2016, of several worrying issues overseas. A Victoria Branch wanderlust on tour in Britain, in 'Gerry's Jottings', writing just after the vote by the U.K. to leave the European Union, reports firstly of proposals to ban diesel-engined cars in Paris. While I have no particular affinity with such cars, it is the first sign that the European Union has in mind placing some pressures on the motorists of Europe. One could read this as just one of many more to come. Another was the possibility of banning all cars of greater than 25 years of age. That is a much more threatening worry for the car enthusiast.

We accept that pollution by motor vehicles is a genuine concern in Europe, as elsewhere, and needs to be urgently addressed, and it is noted that the EU has mandated emissions of noxious oxide to be less than the 100 grams level on all new cars sold by the year 2021, and that the larger engined cars are moving towards the Hybrid system to address this issue.

It is stated too, that we will be subject to paying GST plus duty on spare parts in the sub-\$1,000 bracket from 1st July 2017. One presumes this would not apply to vehicles over a certain age limit, but if you have knowledge on this score, please drop us a line and share this with us.

With the better weather coming, let's hope the sunshine will overcome some of these worries and that it will encourage us all to get our cars out and about.

Take care, and we'll look forward to all meeting up again very soon.

Ian

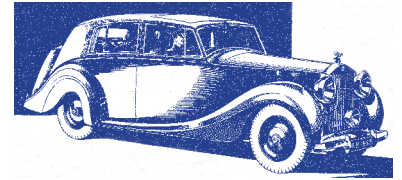


**Opposite page, middle:** The coachbuilder's plate in this photograph was kindly sent to your Editor by Branch member Barbara Fitzedward-Fogarty. Less than four inches long, this charming little plate is that of a coachbuilder not normally associated with Rolls-Royce cars, Mulliners Ltd of Birmingham, though two pre-war Wraiths, WRB66 and WMB67, were bodied by this coachbuilder. Founded in 1792, Mulliners Ltd was not associated in any way with the prolific London coachbuilder H.J. Mulliner & Co., though obviously the persons concerned were distantly related. Mulliners Ltd was acquired by Standard-Triumph in 1958.

**Front Cover picture:** Steve Stuckey sent this shot of 1934 Phantom II saloon 68SK. The coachwork was built by Kellner of Paris, who were located in the Champs-Elysees, no less.

# From the Editor

hjmullinersw@bigpond.com

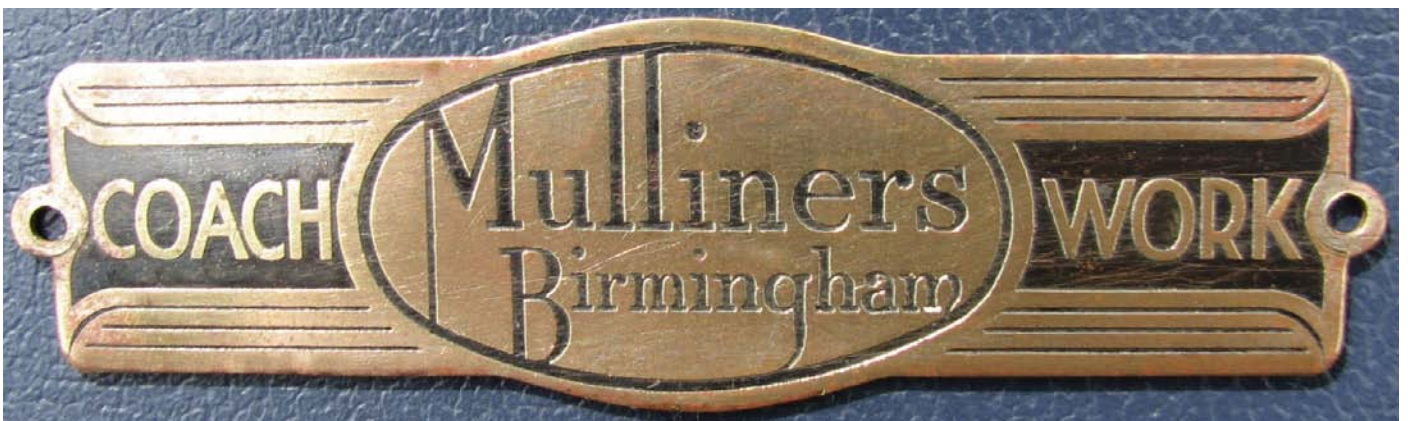


Branch member Phil Sproston has requested that I remind members that if they live in New South Wales and choose to save rather a lot of money each year by opting for Historic registration of their cherished motor car, he (Phil) is one of the two people in our Branch who can sign off on the paperwork that Roads & Maritime Services N.S.W. require. Registrar Ian Dunn is the other. If posting it, please include a self-addressed stamped envelope. Phil may be contacted on 0418 266 631 or [phil2025@gmail.com](mailto:phil2025@gmail.com). Ian's contact details are on the rear page of every edition of *The Capital Letter*.

Senior Vice-President Gos Cory has written to notify us of the death of Fleur Samuels, first wife of Foundation Member the late Paul Samuels. Fleur was herself a vital cog in the wheel when the R.R.O.C. of Australia was formed in 1956.

Steve Stuckey, reporting from the U.K. where he was on holiday, writes that new and very modern Rolls-Royce and Bentley cars are commonplace in London, with Bentleys outnumbering the other marque twenty to one.

*Martin Bennett*



**Below:** Spot the difference! Often when using photographs in *The Capital Letter*, due to shortcomings in the original photography (usually my own!) it becomes desirable to apply some digital manipulation to improve the photographer's work. Here for example is a photograph used in our last edition, taken by the Editor at the Federal Rally in Bendigo, which included an object growing out of Gos Cory's cap which was simply not noticed in the viewfinder when the shutter was pressed. On the right is the version improved for publication.





## Branch Events Calendar

*There is a strong probability that our past long-standing arrangement with the Ainslie Football Club for our monthly meetings and bistro meal get-togethers may be about to be re-established following the extensive refurbishment of the club's facilities. Members will be advised once this has been achieved and our monthly meetings can regain their former familiarity.*

**Saturday December 3rd:** End of Year function at the Poachers Pantry.

**Sunday December 4th:** Terribly British Day in the Treasury Carpark (see below).



## Invitation to Display

Dear Club President

**Please accept this invitation for your club  
to attend and display members' vehicles at the**

**2016**

## **Terribly British Day**

**IN CANBERRA ON 4 DECEMBER.**

The display will be held on the Treasury carpark, Langton Cres, Parkes, and will open to the public from 10.00am to 3.00pm.

Cars should arrive for display by 9am and if driven must be registered.

A \$5 contribution on vehicles entering *Terribly British Day* will be collected by the TBD charity for 2016.

As in previous years, awards will be made by our TBD Guest of Honour for "The vehicle I would most like to take home" and "Best Club Display".

A special feature this year will be a display of Jaguar XK 120, 140 and 150 built between 1949 to 1961.

"Terribly British Day" is hosted by the Jaguar Drivers' Club Canberra and organised by the TBD Organising Committee of clubs for British vehicles and is supported by Shannons Insurance, "NRMA Veteran, Vintage and Classic Vehicle Insurance and Lennox Motors Jaguar Range Rover.

**For further information please contact:  
Graham GITTINS on 0419 249 109  
or email: [gittins@inet.net.au](mailto:gittins@inet.net.au)**

The TBD Organising Committee acknowledges the support of our sponsors, whose generosity enables the mounting of the Day and prizes for the award winners. We thank our sponsors for their continued support and ask that should you require any of the services offered by the sponsors that you contact them first.

# SHOWING THE FLAG

## Coast-to-Coast American Tour of Rolls-Royce and Bentley Cars

**T**HE British Government's Export drive instigated by Sir Stafford Cripps on an unprecedented scale, has called upon the British Motor Industry to earn for Great Britain as many dollars as possible, in order to repay America for the many goods which Britain imports.

Outstanding in this drive is the part that can be played by Rolls-Royce and Bentley cars. To make doubly sure that Britain is offering in the Rolls-Royce car what discerning and informed American motorists now require, Mr. J. E. Scott, the Sales Manager of the Rolls-Royce Car Division, last year conducted a market research in a tour of American cities to find out what the American expected in his post-war car.

Some deliveries have already been made, but it has now been decided that more intensive selling is indicated to implement the new export policy. Rolls-Royce have therefore planned a comprehensive tour of the United States, with seven cars, each an outstanding example of the luxury coachwork that has made British coachbuilders internationally famous for two centuries. The craftsmen who built the bodies of the Rolls-Royce and Bentley cars which America is to see, have worked day and night, and throughout all week-ends, to get these cars completed by the time Rolls-Royce demanded. There was no question of a five-day week for them—only pride in their finished handiwork.

The itinerary for the American Journey begins in New York, where the cars will be exhibited in the magnificent setting of the Astor Gallery of the Waldorf Astoria Hotel. Thereafter they take the road for Boston, Philadelphia, Washington, Pittsburg, Cleveland, Chicago, St. Paul, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Dallas, Texas, Palm Beach, Miami, and thence back to New York—a total of some 20,000 miles to be covered by a hundred thousand dollars worth of motorcars.

The cars will be displayed in the principal hotel, or in some cases, where suitable, in the dealers' showrooms, and at the conclusion of each exhibition cars will remain for some days for the purpose of trials and demonstrations to the Press and prospective customers, after which they will continue to the next city.

The driving team will be led by the Sales Manager. With him goes Group Captain Vautier, Overseas Representative of Rolls-Royce, who began his acquaintance with the Company in 1917.

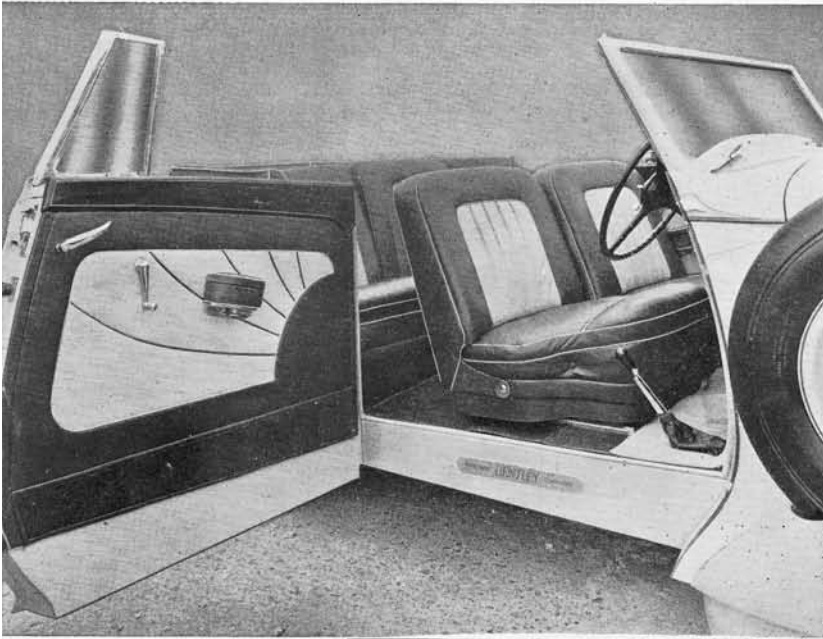
The cars left England in the "Mauretania" yesterday, and it is expected that this export drive in America will occupy some 16 weeks.



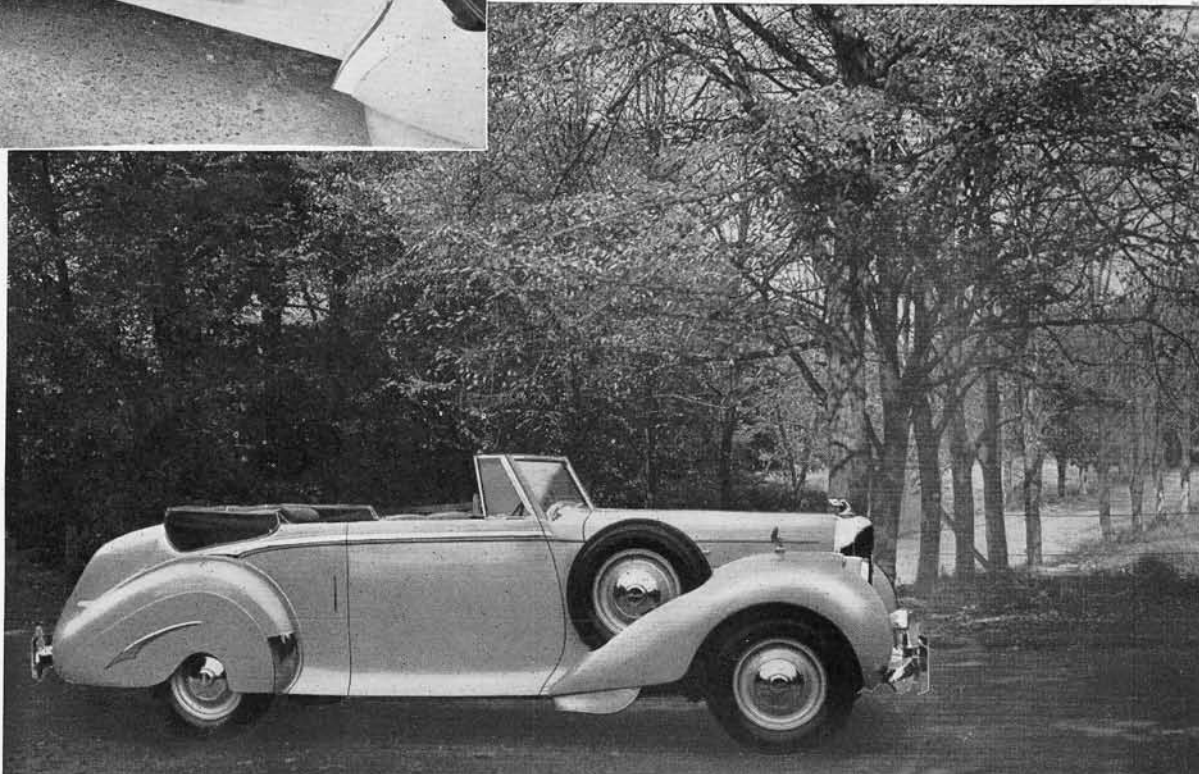




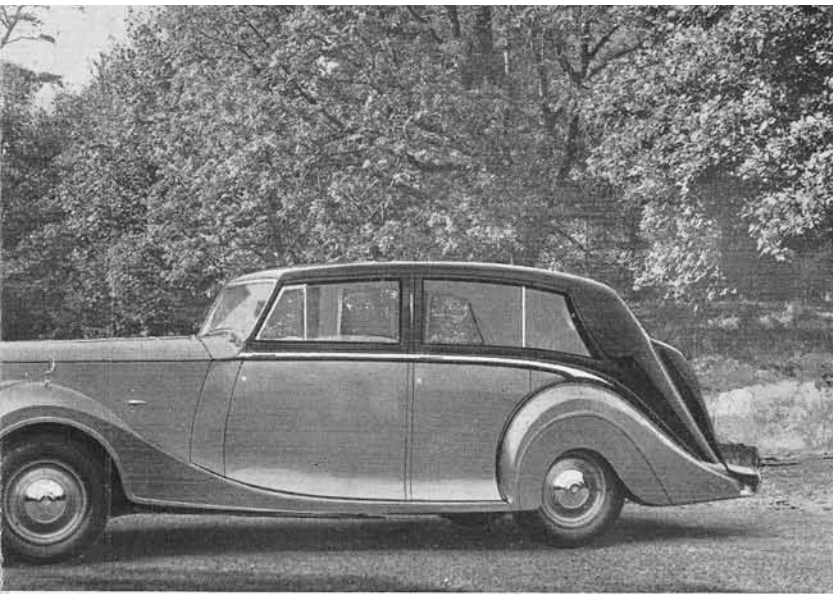
This Touring Saloon by H. J. Mulliner on the Rolls-Royce is finished in a colour scheme of two shades of polychromatic blue with maroon leather upholstery piped with grey.



Silver-grey with grey and red leather upholstery is the finish of this Drophead Four-some Coupé by Park Ward on a 4½-litre Mark VI Bentley chassis.



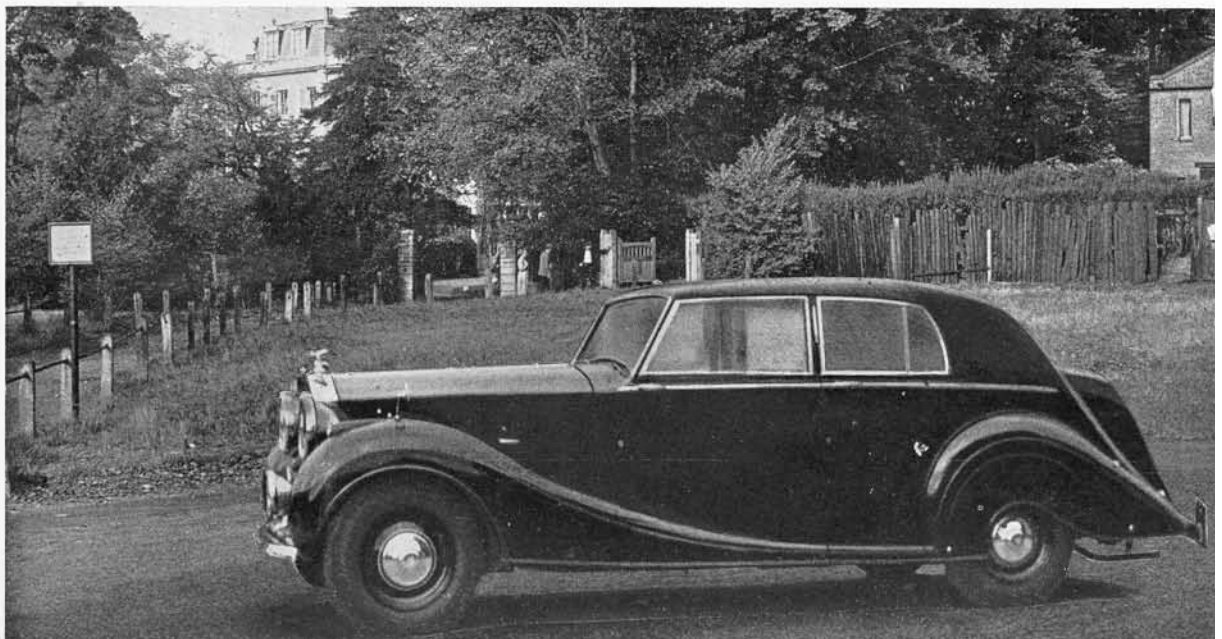




Both body and chassis of the 4-door Sports Saloon on the left emanate from the Bentley works. The colour scheme is two-tone green with grey upholstery also piped in green. Top centre is a Rolls-Royce Touring Limousine by Hooper and Co., Ltd., in metallic blue and black.



On the right is a 4-door Sports Saloon in maroon with biscuit upholstery by James Young, Ltd., on a Silver Wraith chassis.

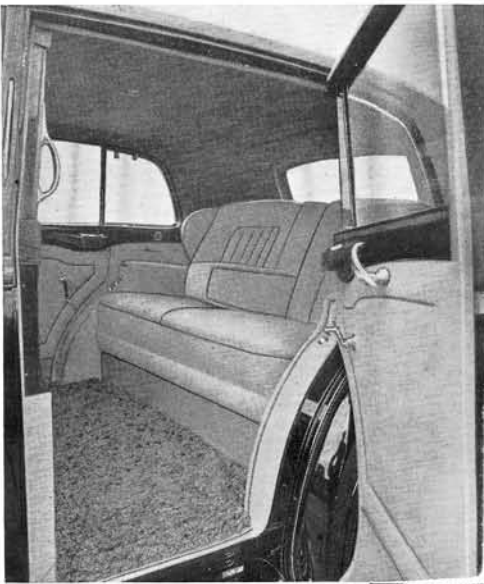




October 15, 1947.



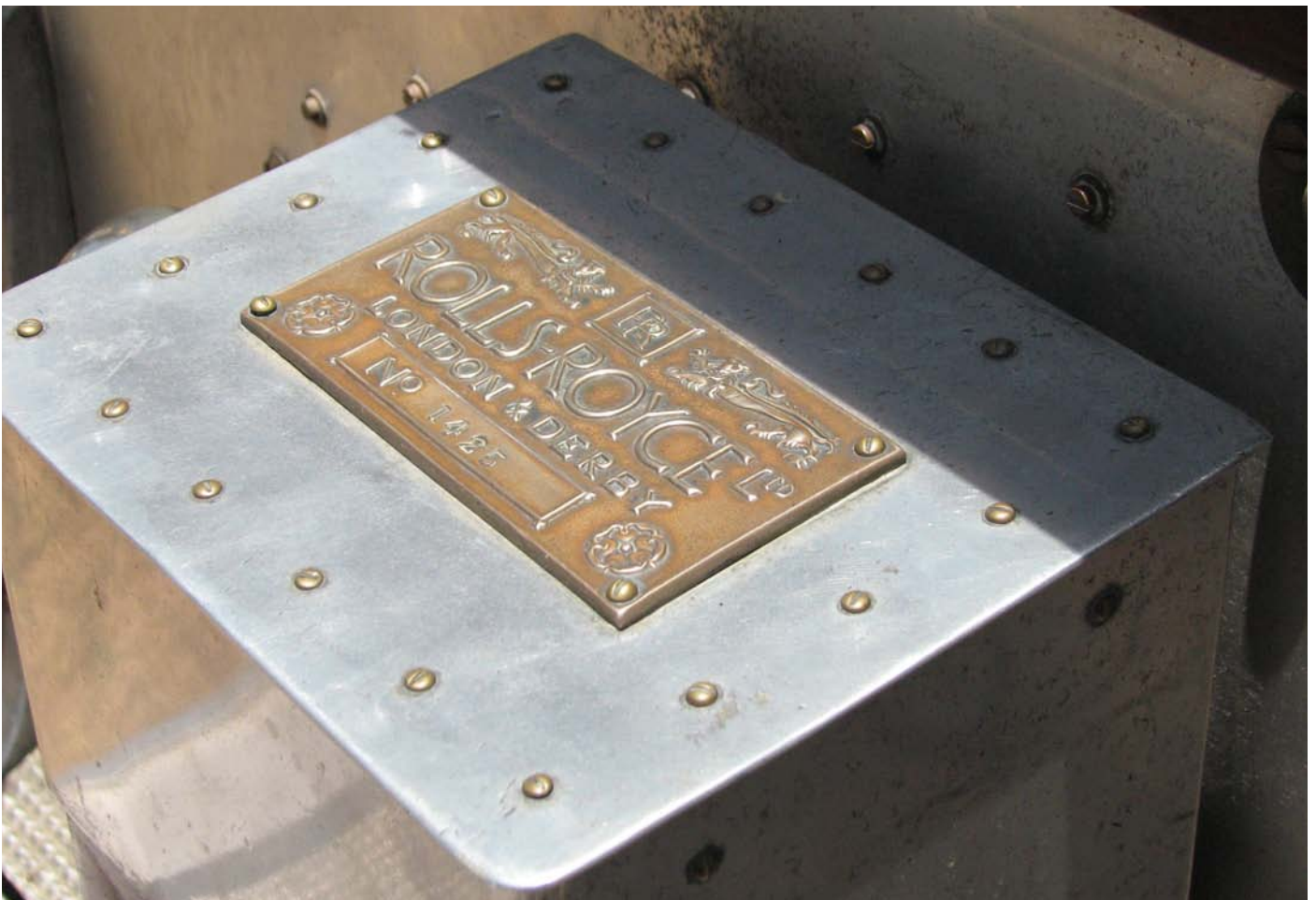
Elegance with a slight transatlantic flavour is the keynote of the Bentley 2-door Sedan Coupé by Gurney Nutting, above. The colour scheme is dark green with bright red leather upholstery.



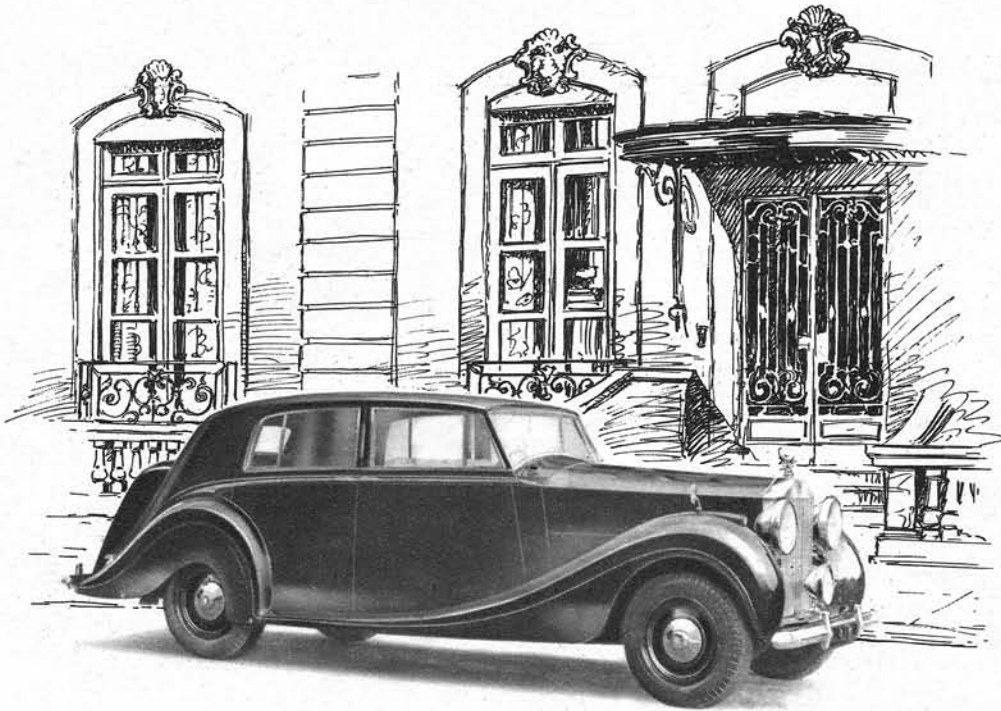
This Rolls-Royce Silver Wraith Sedan, finished in midnight blue with fawn cloth and beige leather upholstery, is by H. J. Mulliner and Co., Ltd.











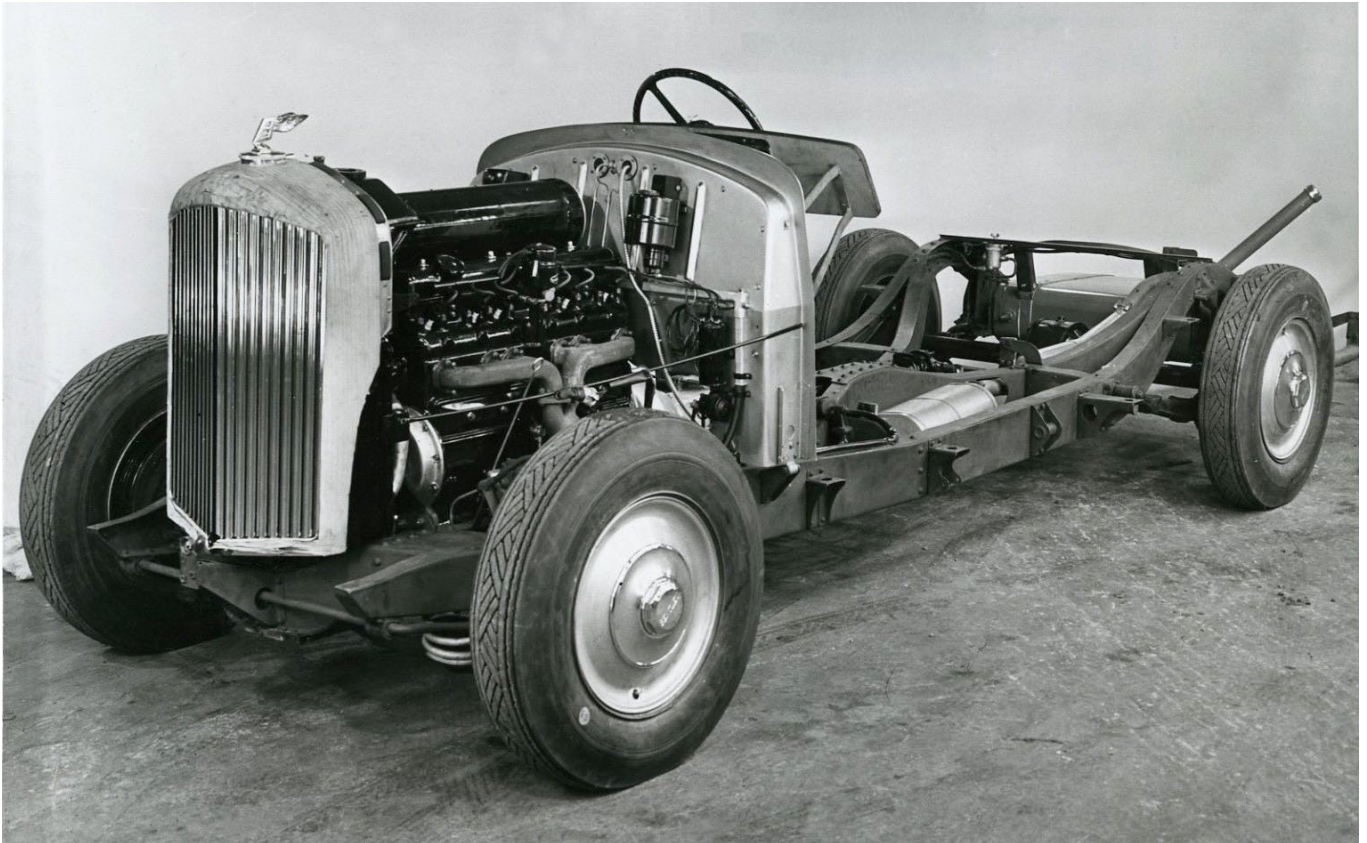
# JACK OLDING

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*This is a very early Bentley Mk VI chassis ready for either its Standard Steel Saloon body to be fitted or to be transported to one of the coachbuilders. Some 20% of Mk VIs had special coachwork. Note the protective tape on the chromework of the radiator shell.*

SUPER - CLASSIC - PRESTIGE



HERE AT SCP CAR SERVICES WE SPECIALISE IN SERVICING, REPAIRING AND RECOMMENDING A VARIETY OF SUPER, CLASSIC AND PRESTIGE MARQUES. WE ARE A FAMILY RUN BUSINESS THAT IS JOINTLY OWNED BY HEATHER AND DEREK WATT, WE AIM TO BECOME THE NAME TRUSTED AND RECOMMENDED BY MEMBERS AND ENTHUSIASTS ALIKE. AS CLUB MEMBERS OURSELVES WE HAVE A GENUINE INTEREST AND PASSION ABOUT PRESERVING THESE CARS. ALREADY MAINTAINING SEVERAL CLUB MEMBERS' CARS WE ARE LOOKING TO EXPAND ON THIS. WE ARE HAPPY TO COME TO A VEHICLE'S LOCATION TO CARRY OUT WORK IF REQUIRED AT NO ADDITIONAL COST. OUR BRAND NEW DIAGNOSTIC EQUIPMENT ALSO ALLOWS US TO WORK ON MORE MODERN MODELS. WE ARE BASED IN NORTH BELCONNEN AND LOOK FORWARD TO MEETING WITH YOU SOON.





## Tailpiece . . .



*A brace of H.J. Mulliner, Park Ward's handsome two-door saloons. The example on the left is a rare 1966 Bentley T Series, SBH1973 owned by Brian Williams (Vic.) while that on the right is 1973 Corniche CRH15449 owned by Troy Sartori (Vic.). The cars were photographed by the Editor at the 2016 Federal Rally in Bendigo.*

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