

# **Sir Henry Royce Foundation - Announcement**

## **Opening of the Lionel Gell School of Instruction for Rolls-Royce and Bentley Owners**

March 2014

The Sir Henry Royce Foundation officially opened its newest acquisition on 28 March 2014: the Lionel Gell School of Instruction for Rolls-Royce and Bentley Owners. This was made possible by a significant donation from Victorian Member, Lionel Gell, to assist in the training and education of both Club members and the general public in the philosophies of Henry Royce.

The recently renovated factory houses four hoists, one of which is fully moveable, tools and ancillary maintenance equipment, an office with computer to allow storage of manuals and other information, a kitchen and washing facilities for service rags, etc, as well as a toilet and shower facility to allow hard-working persons to clean up before returning home.

It is planned that the Victorian Branch Technical Section will make full use of the facility as the SHRF begins to introduce training sessions for apprentices and other interested groups.

Those interested are invited to visit this site in Rowville, as well as Bill Allsep House just around the corner, when next in Melbourne.

At the opening the generous donation by Lionel was acknowledged by the Foundation and the Victoria Branch with a function of great significance to the SHRF and the Victoria Branch.

Read the full story of the opening as written by the Praeclarum Editor on the following pages.

The Sir Henry Royce Foundation officially opened its newest acquisition on March 29th. The Lionel Gell School of Instruction for Rolls-Royce and Bentley Owners. This was made possible by a significant donation from Victorian Member, Lionel Gell, to assist in the training and education of both Club members and the general public in the philosophies of Henry Royce that the Club acknowledges on the front of every edition of *Præclarvm*.

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It is planned that the Victorian Branch Technical Section will make full use of the facility as the SHRF begins to introduce training sessions for apprentices and other interested groups. All Club members are invited to visit this site, 3 Neutron Place, Rowville, and Bill Allsep House, just round the corner, when next in Melbourne.

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The following is the edited highlights of Russell Rolls, Charinamn of Trustees, opening address at the Lionel Gell School of Instruction:

On such an important day for the Foundation, I think it is important to reflect on the journey so far.

The Sir Henry Royce Foundation was established over 15 years ago at the initiative of the Rolls-Royce Owners' Club of Australia. It is a charitable foundation, controlled by Federal Government taxation legislation governing the operation of such foundations. As a consequence, and subject to onerous corporate governance policies and procedures, donations to The Foundation are tax deductible.

The Deed of Trust governing The Foundation's operations states, amongst other aims, that it will seek to promote the engineering ideals of Sir Henry Royce and will engage in educational activities in furtherance of this aim.

So, The Foundation has amassed a significant collection of Rolls-Royce and Bentley "hardware" and technical and historical documentation. For example, The Foundation's collections contains:

- An ex-Federal Government Phantom V Limousine, Chassis No 5VF159. The Phantom V is under the custodianship of the NSW Branch. The Foundation is committed to ensure that the Phantom V attends all Federal Rallies.
- Two Australian-built Silver Ghost bodies
- A Rolls-Royce Merlin aircraft engine
- An Australian-built Rolls-Royce Avon jet engine
- A Rolls-Royce "C" Series diesel engine

Perhaps just as important as The Foundation's own collection

# The Sir Henry Royce Foundation OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE LIONEL GELL SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION FOR ROLLS-ROYCE & BENTLEY OWNERS

Saturday, March 29th, 2014  
Report and photos by Vic m...



above: Vic m... Gell, stands p... the SHRF Sch... that bears his



left: SHRF CH... Trustees cong... thanks Lionel... opening, whi... Chairman of... Committee lo...

right: 3 ph... top: the kit... laundry wi...

centre: the



left and above: the 4 cars presently in aerial residence at standing on lift hoists to give room underneath for other a... I-R: 1925 Rolls-Royce Phantom, 56MC: 1936 Rolls-Royce 2... GBK58: 1950, Bentley Mk VI, B111JN: and 1952, Bentley B128NZ

# Royce Foundation THE LIONEL GELL SCHOOL OF ROYCE AND BENTLEY OWNERS

March 29, 2014  
News by your Editor



Member, Lionel Gell, proudly before the School of Instruction in his name

Chairman of Trustees congratulates Lionel Gell at the opening of the Noel Baker, the LGSI building on

Photos of the interior: Kitchen/meeting room/with toilet and shower room behind

The office area with computer and storage area for servicing information and manuals  
bottom: the 4th movable lift that can be positioned as required to lift vehicles being worked on or for training

below right: Chairman of Trustees for the SHRF Russell Rolls (at left of photo) welcomes members to the opening of the LGSI



the LGSI activities on 20/25, MKVI,



is the fact that we have been "accredited" by Museum Victoria who have loaned The Foundation an early Rolls-Royce "Eagle" aircraft engine and a Rolls-Royce "Derwent" jet engine from their collection. Also, the Australian War Memorial has a Rolls-Royce "Merlin" engine on permanent loan to The Foundation.

With respect to The Foundation's historical documentation, under the auspices of Honorary Archivist Gilbert Ralph, we have a significant collection of Rolls-Royce and Bentley memorabilia, including:

- A complete set of "Praeclarvm" the RROCA bi-monthly magazine
- A complete set of Victoria Branch "Newsletters"
- A near complete set of the Rolls-Royce Enthusiasts' Club "Bulletin"
- The Rolls-Royce and Bentley Service Records from York Motors, the former NSW Rolls-Royce and Bentley dealer.
- Important and irreplaceable documentation, scrapbooks, etc. relating to James Radley, the famous Rolls-Royce Silver Ghost driver in the 1912, 1913 and 1914 Alpine Trials and an early aviation pioneer.

Following the generous support of Jean Allsep, the Foundation was able to purchase Bill Allsep House to house the Foundation's collections and to provide a "home" for the Victoria Branch of the Club.

An important part of the Victoria Branch's annual calendar is the activities of the Technical Section. This Section focuses on the educational aspects of our hobby – giving Members a broader understanding of the care and maintenance requirement associated with our great cars. Lionel Gell has been an enthusiastic supporter and participant in the Section's activities.

The Foundation plays a broader role in the automotive industry in Victoria by providing a \$1,000 prize annually to the "Apprentice of the Year" at the Kangan TAFE Automotive Centre of Excellence – an important educational initiative for the Foundation.

Lionel Gell has a passion to ensure that the ideals of Sir Henry Royce are passed on to future generations. So, you can see that Lionel's passion and the broader aims of The Foundation are "in sync".

Following the generous support of Lionel, The Foundation has been able to purchase this building and under the watchful eyes of both Peter Jordan-Hill and Lionel, we have been able to establish the fantastic facility we see before us.

The LGSI will be operated under the auspices of the Victoria Branch. It will be used as the "home" of the Branch's Technical Section and will be used as the base for an educational outreach programme to spread the ideals of Sir Henry Royce to the wider community, concentrating on younger people.

With the establishment of LGSI, The Sir Henry Royce Foundation is a major force in the classic and historic car movement nationally and arguably internationally.

Russell Rolls - Chairman of Trustees

