

## Donation of 1967 Phantom V – 5VF155

In January 1968 the Australian Government took delivery of two 1967 Phantom V limousines – 5VF155 and 5VF159. Both cars had identical specifications and were a special order for use by visiting royalty, heads of state and the Governor-General. In 1993, along with other Federal Government-owned Rolls-Royces, these two cars were put up for sale by tender. The reason given for the sale was “the need for greater security, which these older vehicles could not provide”.

The upshot of this sale was that 5VF159 came into the ownership of NSW Members John Matheson and Jeanne Eve with 5VF155 coming into the ownership of Victorian Member Ian Tonkin.

John and Jeanne were enthusiastic owners of 5VF159, driving it across the Nullarbor to a Federal Rally in WA and subsequently taking it on the Peking to Paris Motor Challenge. In 2000, John and Jeanne donated the car to The Foundation. Since that time it has been a regular attendee at both Federal Rallies and NSW Branch events and is an outstanding “ambassador” for The Foundation.

I am delighted to announce that Ian Tonkin has initiated the process to donate 5VF155 to The Foundation. Ian has been a long-time Member of the Victoria Branch and has been a regular attendee at Branch events with the car. Ian now believes it is time for a “new life” for 5VF155 and has decided that The Foundation is the ideal “custodian” of such an historic vehicle. The formal documentation required under The Protection of Movable Cultural Heritage Act 1986 and the Australian Taxation Office has been lodged. When these authorities have signed off on the donation, formal ownership of 5VF155 will pass to The Foundation. In the interim, 5VF155 is under the care of The Foundation.

The Trustees wish to acknowledge



publicly this generous donation by Ian. It is an indication of confidence in The Foundation as the logical “custodian” of historic Australian Rolls-Royce and Bentley cars and associated memorabilia.

It will be a memorable occasion when legal ownership of 5VF155 passes to The Foundation. 5VF155 and 5VF159 are identical “sister” cars, having been ordered as purpose-built royal transport. There will be few other pairs of royal cars under single ownership anywhere in the world.

### Trustees Meeting

The Trustees will meet, this time in Melbourne, over the weekend of February 4 and February 5. The Saturday meeting will be held at Bill Allsep House and will follow a normal agenda considering such matters as Foundation finances, the “Archive” and the activities of the “Archive” volunteers, participation in Motorclassica 2017, progress with “refreshing” the website, etc. The Sunday meeting will be a workshop, focusing on the future direction and strategy of The Foundation. There will be a formal report on the outcome of this workshop at the forthcoming Canberra Federal Rally.

### Consultative Committee

The formal channel of communication between the RROCA Branches and The Foundation is the Consultative Committee. This Committee will meet again at the 2017 Federal Rally, immediately after the RROCA Federal Council Meeting. Any Member is welcome to make input to The Foundation via their Branch President.

### Registered Charity Tick

The Foundation is a reportable entity under the Federal Government’s Registered Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC). The ACNC was established to regulate the charity sector and to ensure that appropriate governance standards are maintained by all tax-exempt charity organisations. Greater trust can be placed in organisations that are registered with and regulated by the ACNC. To assist with the identification of registered charities, the Federal Government has introduced the “Registered Charity Tick”. This is a symbol that registered charities can use to show that they are transparent, accountable and meet the ACNC’s governance

**left: The 1967 Phantom V (5VF155) MPW Limousine recently donated to the SHRF on display at the 2016, Bendigo Federal Rally.**

standards and reporting requirements.

I am please to report that The Foundation’s 2016 Annual Information Statement has been lodged with the ACNC. As a consequence, The Foundation is entitled to use the “Registered Charity Tick” to show that its governance and financial processes meet the exacting requirements of the Government’s regulations.

### Donations of material for the “Archive”

The Foundation “Archive” is an important repository for all historical documentation relating to the RROCA, the Club Branches, and Rolls-Royce and Bentley in Australia. Gilbert Ralph (Honourary Archivist) and his team of volunteers meet at Bill Allsep House every second Monday to manage the “Archive”.

Since the last edition of “Praeclarvm” there have been further donations of material to the “Archive”. The following people made donations of a wide variety of interesting documentation: Tim Dean, Fergus Nutt and David Marshall-Martin.

If you have books, photographs or any material of historical interest relating to matters Rolls-Royce or Bentley please give consideration to donating them to The Foundation.

Late last year, Gilbert and his team of volunteers conducted a detailed stocktake check of material in the “Archive”. This check confirmed that there are 36,484 items of historical importance in the “Archive”. This is an indication of the strength of The Foundation in documenting and preserving the Rolls-Royce and Bentley heritage in Australia. (An item is defined as a separately identifiable thing such as a book, a magazine, a photograph, a picture, a drawing, a model or any individual object. Magazines bound into a volume are taken as one item whereas all images are regarded as separate items.)

Members are referred to The Foundation’s website – [www.roycefoundation.com.au](http://www.roycefoundation.com.au) - where there is a listing of most of the items in the collection.

### Foundation Website

In the last issue of “Praeclarvm” I announced that Roger Thiedeman had volunteered his services to assist with the “refresh” of The Foundation’s website. Roger has started this process and will continue to review and update website pages, as required, through 2017. If you come across information that is incorrect or out-of-date or links that are broken, please let me know.

**Russell Rolls**  
Chairman Of Trustees