

A Dozen Rolls-Royce Owners in South Australia in 1926
“L. Hughes, Lee Lodge, Strangways Terrace, North Adelaide”
1921 Silver Ghost, chassis 143AG, H J Mulliner (UK) Tourer

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“Rolls-Royce Owners – Twelve in State” was the heading in an article in the Adelaide newspaper ‘News’, which was published from 1923 to 1954.

This item appeared in the 26 January 1926 edition and continued: “There are 12 owners of Rolls-Royce cars in this State so far as can be ascertained from records. On account of this rather small number casual observers usually look twice if they happen to see a Rolls-Royce purring along. Among those who are stated to own one of these cars, which are regarded as the aristocrats of the road so far as the British automobile industry is concerned are Messrs T. E. Barr Smith, Glen Osmond: T. Tait, Oaklands: C. H. Angas, Angaston: G. Milne, Brougham Place, North Adelaide: J. M. Reid, Victoria Avenue, Unley Park: J. P. Lewis, Nelyambo Station, Wilcannia: Napier Birks, Park Terrace, Parkside: Mesdames W. T. Mortlock, Martindale Hall, Mintaro: L. Hughes, Lee Lodge, Strangways Terrace, North Adelaide: M Symons, Walkerville: T.R. Scarfe, Eden Park, Marryatville: and Miss M. F. Simms, Moseley Street, Glenelg.

L Hughes was Elizabeth (Lizzie) Stevenson (1871-1957) born at Nailsworth, South Australia. She married Arthur Nicholas Hughes (1856-1919), pastoralist, in 1913.

Arthur died at their home, ‘Lee Lodge’, Strangways Terrace, North Adelaide. His estate in 1919 was valued at £99,430 equivalent to about 65 new Rolls-Royce Silver Ghost limousines. ‘Lee Lodge’ was sold in June 1924, “By direction of Mrs A N Hughes, who has purchased ‘St Margaret’s’, Brougham Place.”

***Below:** Lizzie Hughes placed this advertisement for the sale of ‘Lee Lodge’, Strangways Terrace, North Adelaide in May 1924. She had purchased ‘St Margaret’s’ in Brougham Place. [‘The Mail’, 31 May, 1924.]*



By direction of
MRS. A. N. HUGHES,
who has purchased
“St. Margaret’s,” Brougham place.

**“Lee Lodge”
Strangways Terrace
North Adelaide**

This comfortable Single-storey Residence
occupies one of the
**FINEST RESIDENTIAL POSITIONS
IN ADELAIDE.**
and stands in spacious grounds, having
the magnificent terrace frontage of 103 ft.
There are 11 Rooms, and conveniences
include a newly installed hotwater service.
If remodelled the property could be
made into one of the most attractive
Homes in North Adelaide.

**FINE TENNIS LAWN.
GARAGE FOR 3 CARS.
IMMEDIATE POSSESSION.**



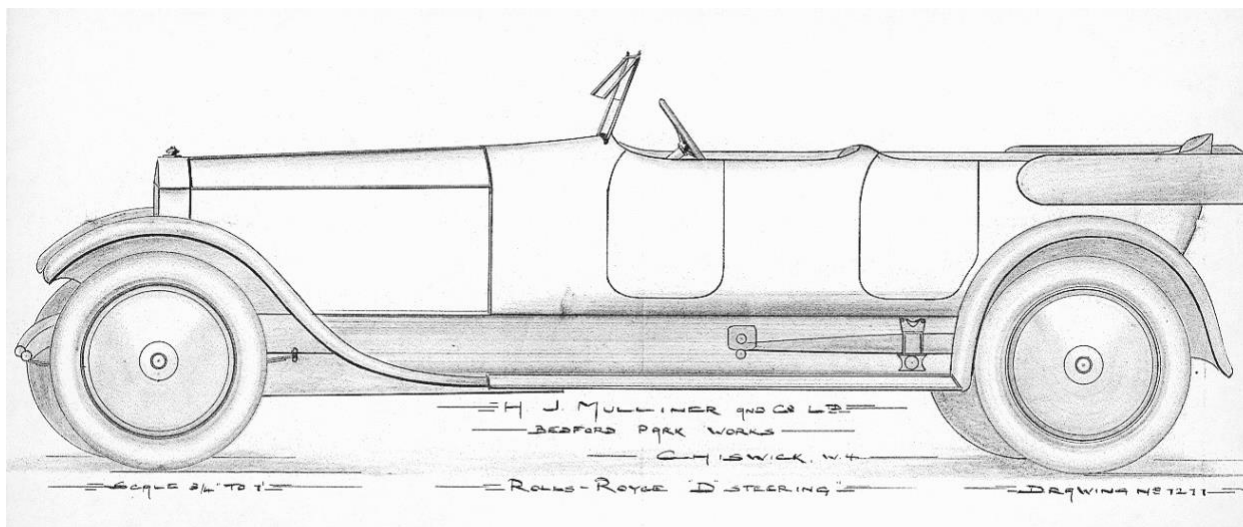
Above: 'St Margaret's', built in 1890, is shown on the right-hand corner in this photograph from 1904, looking north from Brougham Place. Margaret Street is on the left-hand side of 'St Margaret's'. A bicycle and horse and cart are on the other side of the road. [State library of South Australia.]



Above: A present-day photograph of 'St Margaret's', 24 Brougham Place, North Adelaide. [realestate.com.au]

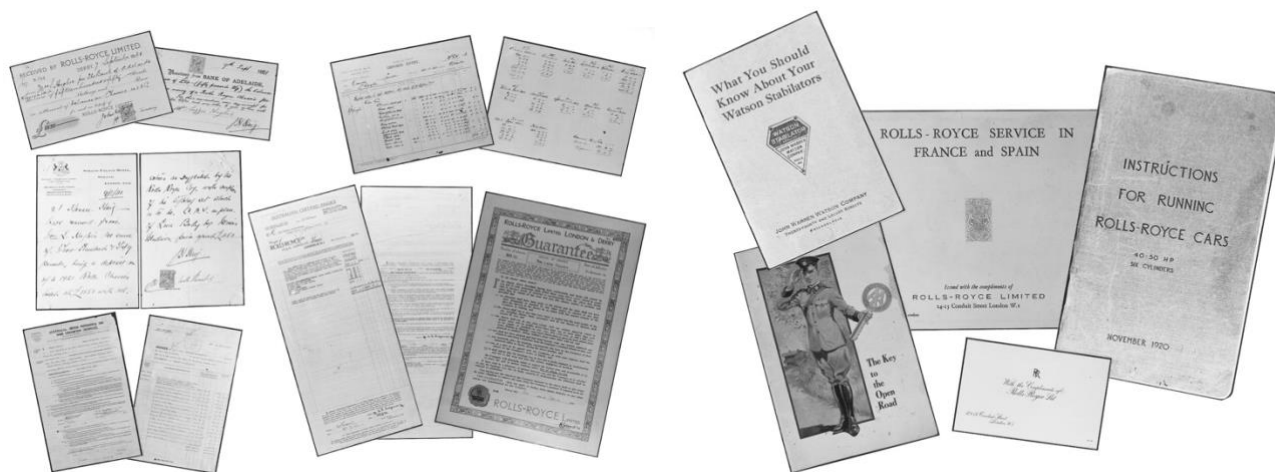
It was the custom of the press at this time to report in detail on society weddings. This was the case when Lizzie Hughes married Dr Robert Whitson Telford in July 1926. The Adelaide newspaper, 'The Mail', reported that when the bride walked down the aisle of Christ Church at North Adelaide she, "wore a frock of helio georgette heavily beaded in crystal, with purple velvet hat to tone, and carried a bouquet of mauve sweet peas and violets." The reception was held at 'St Margaret's', Brougham Place. Amongst the guests were the Mortlocks of 'Martindale Hall' renown, though now Rosina Mortlock lived nearby at 'Meldreth Hall', also in Brougham Place. Rosina was accompanied at the reception by her sister-

in law, Mary, and son, Jack. 'The Mail' concluded its description, "The bride left in a frock of green kasha cloth (a soft fabric of wool and goat's hair), with grey fur collar and hat to tone." "Dr and Mrs Telford will reside in Ballarat", added the Mildura 'Sunraysia Daily'.



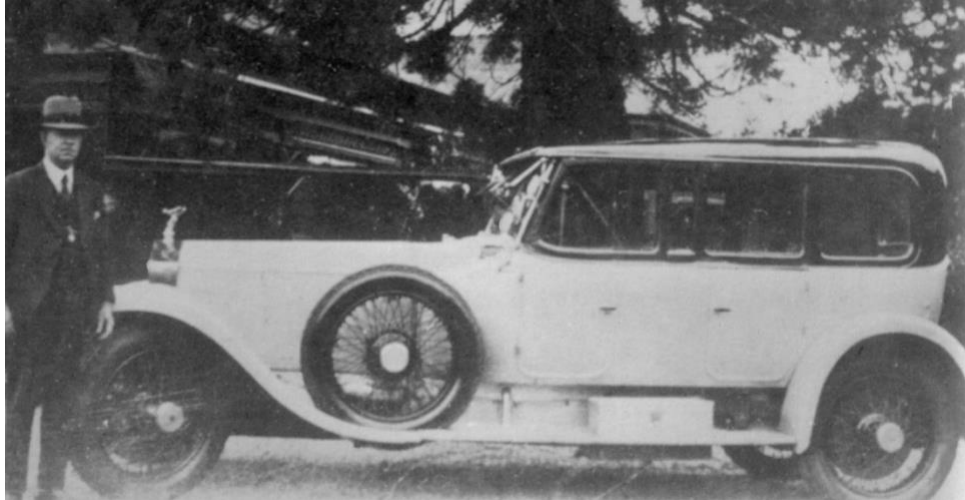
Above: The H J Mulliner pencil drawing of 1921 Silver Ghost 143AG sent to Lizzie Hughes. [Courtesy of John Wagstaff.]

Lizzie Hughes took delivery of 1921 Silver Ghost, chassis 143AG, in London in September 1921 and set out on a tour of Europe. The polished aluminium tourer by H J Mulliner was driven by her chauffeur Casson. Silver Ghost 143AG was shipped to South Australia in March 1922. It was registered 1451 on 1 May 1922 with the Strangways Terrace address. It was also used in Ballarat when the Telfords lived there. A California hard top with sliding windows was fitted in the 1930s. It was laid up in 1939 during the World War II years and remained in storage until Lizzie Telford's death in 1957. Purchased at auction by A J Groves it was recommissioned at the Adelaide Rolls-Royce agency. It was acquired by SA Branch member, Charles Wright in 1960 and has remained with Club members: R Andrew Brownell (VIC) in the early 1980s; David Heuzenroeder (SA) in 1991; and, John Wagstaff (QLD) in 1996.



Left above: The paperwork that accompanied Lizzie Hughes's purchase of 143AG enhances the time-capsule qualities of this Rolls-Royce Silver Ghost. [Courtesy of John Wagstaff.]

Right above: Amongst the literature provided for the running and maintenance of 143AG was information about the Rolls-Royce Service facilities in France and Spain for the trip Lizzie Hughes was planning. [Courtesy of John Wagstaff.]

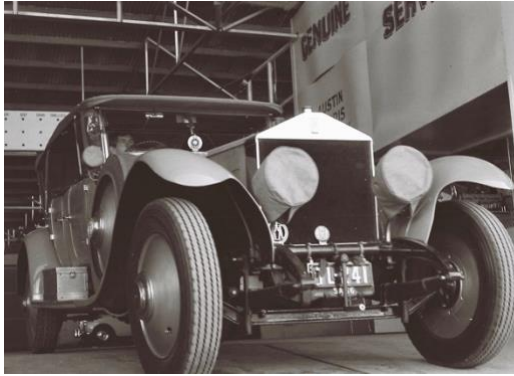


Above: Silver Ghost 143AG with its later California hard top added to the H J Mulliner tourer. Ian Irwin noted in 'Silver Ghosts of Australia and New Zealand Cameo Histories of the Post-War Cars', "Lizzie Telford found the original body too chilly and the California hard top too rattly." [Courtesy of Ian Irwin.]

Silver Ghost 143AG was returned to its original tourer coachwork by Charles Wright and it was the Overall Winner at the 1965 Federal Rally at Mildura. It again was the Overall Winner at the 1989 Broken Hill Federal Rally this time during Andrew Brownell's ownership.



Above: The California hard top was removed by Charles Wright and 143AG was returned to its original H J Mulliner tourer coachwork. Pictured here with Charles on the trip back to Adelaide from the 1972 Southport Federal Rally. Charles was made an Honorary Life Member of the RROCA in 1978. [Courtesy of the South Australia Branch Charles Wright Collection, via David Forward.]



Left: Silver Ghost 143AG emerging from a garage at the 1965 Mildura Federal Rally to take part in the Concours d'Élegance. It was awarded the prestigious Overall Winner trophy. [Photograph by Fred J English.]

Below: The Le Mans start event at the gymkhana at the 1965 Mildura Federal Rally. From left to right Silver Ghosts 143AG, 1914 chassis 40YB with a Waring Bros V-screen tourer from a 1913 Mercedes, 1924 chassis 46AU with a Fleetwood two-seater from a 1930 Cadillac and 1923 chassis 20HG, a John Stamp cabriolet. [Photograph by Fred J English.]



Below: Silver Ghost 143AG pictured here at the 1989 Broken Hill Federal Rally. It was awarded the Overall Winner trophy this time during Andrew Brownell's ownership. [Front cover of the October 1989 edition of 'Præclarvm'.]

