

Sub-Archive Queensland:

The Official Opening Ceremony was held on June 2. The following is an extract of the remarks I made at the Ceremony. "Some 20 years ago it was agreed that "an irrevocable Trust for charitable purposes be established" and that it be called "The Sir Henry Royce Foundation Australia". It should be recognised here this afternoon that David Vann was a prime mover in this agreement.

The Trust Deed states: "The charitable objects of The Foundation are the advancement of the science and technology of mechanical engineering for public benefit and the advancement of education." It goes on to state that "The collection policy is to collect, document and exhibit any objects whatsoever illustrating or connected with the science of mechanical engineering and especially related to the work of Sir Henry Royce."

Since the establishment of The Foundation there has been a steady growth in donated funds, artefacts and memorabilia that forms the basis of the present collection. The Foundation found support from prestigious organisations such as Museums Victoria and the Australian War Memorial who loaned historic Rolls-Royce aero engines for display. Now here is a challenge, perhaps we can secure the support of the Queensland Museum to display some of their stored items.

As an indication of the confidence placed in The Foundation for the preservation of the Australian heritage of Rolls-Royce, the two ex-Australian Government "royal" Phantom V limousines have been donated to The Foundation by separate donors. One of these vehicles is on display this afternoon.

In 2010, following a very generous donation from Jean Allsep, The Foundation was able to purchase a substantial building at Rowville (an outer suburb of Melbourne) in which The Foundation's principal archival collection is housed. These premises, Bill Allsep House, are named after Jean's late husband, Bill, a long-time, enthusiastic Member of the Victoria Branch of the RROCA.

In 2014, following a very generous donation from Lionel Gell (a long-standing Member of the Victoria Branch of the RROCA), a second property was acquired nearby in Rowville. These premises, the Lionel Gell School of Instruction for Rolls-Royce and Bentley, have been set up with car hoists, benches and workshop facilities specifically to accord with the educational objectives of The Foundation – to promulgate the engineering ethos of Sir Henry Royce and his successors to a wider community. LGSi is used, in part, by the Technical Section of the RROCA Victoria Branch for regular seminars.

The Foundation's archival collection ranges from books, magazines, brochures,

RROCA and Branch historical documentation to service records from Australian Rolls-Royce and Bentley dealers. Further, The Foundation has a collection of over 20,000 photographic images documenting the history of the Club, the cars and the Company in Australia. This is a valuable resource for Club Members and for wider historical research.

The Sub-Archive Queensland is an integral part of The Foundation's activities. It houses historically important archival material that has been donated by classic car enthusiasts in Queensland. Further, we have been able to support the Sub-Archive with duplicate material from Bill Allsep House. Thanks to the generosity of David Vann in allowing the use of these premises and the effort and dedication of Barry Sparks (ably assisted by Anne) the Sub-Archive has come a very long way in a very short time. The Trustees are confident that the Sub-Archive will grow and prosper. It is supported by a dedicated team of volunteers whose efforts we should acknowledge this afternoon.

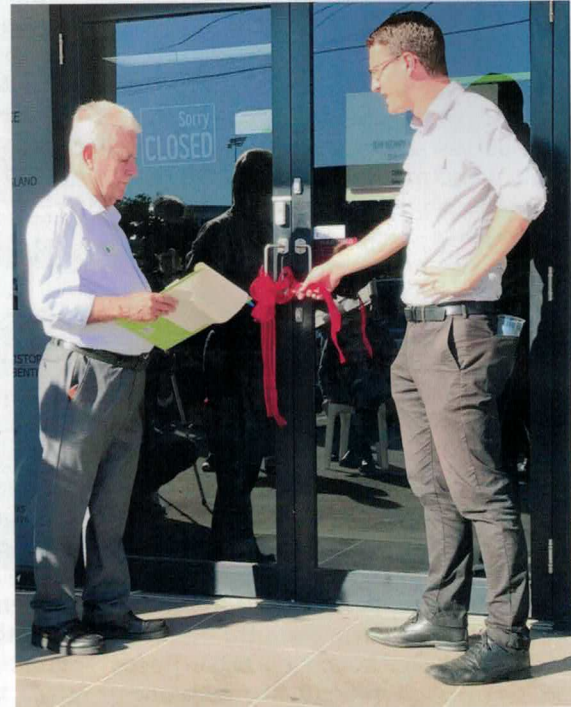
The Sir Henry Royce Foundation Australia is now an important element of the worldwide movement to preserve the historical artefacts and documentation relating to the engineering ethos of Sir Henry Royce, to the Rolls-Royce and Bentley marques and to the aeronautical and automotive history in general. The Foundation's collection includes historically important aircraft engines, ex Australia Government "royal" Phantom Vs and an extensive archive of printed material and photographs, primarily related to Australian topics. The educational objective of The Foundation is served by the collection and the three premises being open to all for visits.

Thank you for joining us this afternoon to celebrate the establishment of the Sub-Archive Queensland, a very important milestone in the development of The Foundation."

Visit to the UK

During a recent private visit to the UK I renewed contact with the Rolls-Royce Heritage Trust (RRHT) and initiated contact with "The People's Mosquito".

The RRHT (www.rolls-royce.com/about/heritage-trust) is part of Rolls-Royce plc and is responsible for the heritage collections relating to the early days of the Company and for the extensive display of Rolls-Royce aero-engines at the Derby campus. The Chief Executive of the RRHT has agreed to make available to The Foundation copies of historic photographs held in the collection. These photographs will be used to enhance the presentation of the archive in Bill Allsep House, The Lionel Gell School of Instruction for Rolls-Royce and Bentley and in Geebung. This relationship with the RRHT is an



above: (l) Queensland Member, Barry Sparks now with the role of Curator of the QLD Sub-Archive Geebung, assists Mr Mark Mellish, local State MP, to open the SHRF Queensland Sub-Archive

indication of the credibility with which The Foundation is held in the wider Rolls-Royce heritage community.

The People's Mosquito (www.peoplesmosquito.org.uk) is a registered UK charity with the sole aim of restoring and returning a DH.98 Mosquito to British skies. Very preliminary (and I must stress "very preliminary") discussions have been held with senior executives of this charity with a view to The Foundation's Rolls-Royce Merlin engine being used in the restoration of this historic aircraft.

Whilst in the UK I took the opportunity to visit The Sir Henry Royce Memorial Foundation (The Hunt House), Rolls-Royce Goodwood and Bentley Crewe.

Donations of material for the "Archive":

Whether for display in the Queensland Sub-Archive or in Bill Allsep House in Victoria, The Foundation welcomes donations of documents, photographs, etc. Please do not dispose of any Rolls-Royce or Bentley "hardware" or printed material. The Foundation is happy to accept all such donations for addition to its collection. All donations are acknowledged by letter and entered into the Register.

Recently, the following people have made donations of a wide variety of interesting material: Andrew Brownell, Brian Harper, Wallace Moorhouse, Rory Poland, Gilbert Ralph and Brian Williams.

Trustees Meeting – Geebung, August 25:

The Trustees meet formally four or five times a year. The next meeting will be held in Queensland on August 25.

Russell Rolls
Chairman of Trustees