

Cataloguing done, Gilbert signs off

Historic service records are now sorted

Gilbert Ralph, our very long-time volunteer and past Archivist at Bill Allsep House, has taken final retirement. However, Gilbert was not prepared to rest until he had completed cataloguing the thousands of service records of York Motors (NSW), United Motors/Vin Kean (SA) and Kellow-Falkiner (Victoria). With this task behind him, Gilbert has finally hung up his spurs.

We are very grateful for the years of dedicated work he devoted to the SHRF Archives and acknowledge his role as a dynamo of enthusiasm and good will. The SHRF is hopeful that one day we may be able to access similar service records from WA and Queensland.

Work continues at the Archives with a new computer system recently installed and gradually records are being backed-up in the cloud for safety, for easier access and as a precursor to eventual digitisation. Should you have technical books or factory sheets relating to the build and operations of Rolls-Royce and Bentley cars, the SHRF would be most grateful for any donated copies.

One of the ultimate goals of the SHRF is to preserve technical and build data so it will be available for future generations wanting to service and restore their vehicles. This is probably the most significant contribution the SHRF can make to the long-term preservation of Rolls-Royce and Bentley heritage in Australia, and we aim to build a significant

repository of technical information for the use of current and future custodians. We welcome any materials that will support that goal.

To assist develop this goal, the SHRF has become a full member of the Australian Museums and Galleries Association both to better publicise its work and also so that we may learn how better to conserve and promote the artefacts and archives of the Foundation.

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HISTORICAL STORIES

Meanwhile, David Neely, our Historical Consultant, has been diligently researching and writing about our cars and has produced a series of highly informative articles for you to read. These can be found on the website along with excellent articles by Steve Stuckey and other contributors at henryroycefoundation.com/articles.

I do urge you to read and enjoy these and to consider writing your own contribution. There are many stories to be told and as space on the web is almost

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unlimited, we encourage you to submit your own research or story to chair@henryroycefoundation.com.

PHANTOMS IN THE BUSH

Phantoms in the Bush is a spring tour to Tamworth, 7-11 September, organised by Michael Jeanes (NSW). The convoy from Sydney will be led by the SHRF Phantom V 5VF159. If you would like to join in please email Michael at mdj1152@gmail.com for a booking form and further details.

Remember, our cars are made to be driven and benefit more from use than from storage. Let's drive!

THE COOLUM PHANTOM

The Phantom V 5VF155 that is currently on display at the SHRF Coolum Showrooms has had thousands of admirers in July. It appeared first by invitation as a special display at the inaugural Noosa Concours, where it was much commented upon for both its engineering and cultural heritage, and then again at the RROCA (QLD) Concours, where over 200 members of the general public were able to meet a truly iconic motor vehicle. Frank Carroll (QLD) reports that the Phantom was very much the centre of attention.

Please do contact us if you want to discuss the work of the SHRF or would like to support our drive for technical information. Don't forget, there are books of great interest for sale on the SHRF website. ■

1. An SHRF Phantom V will return to Tamworth in September, having conveyed Queen Elizabeth II through the NSW town in 1977
2. Honorary Archivist Gilbert Ralph has finally taken full retirement after completing the huge task of cataloguing service records



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