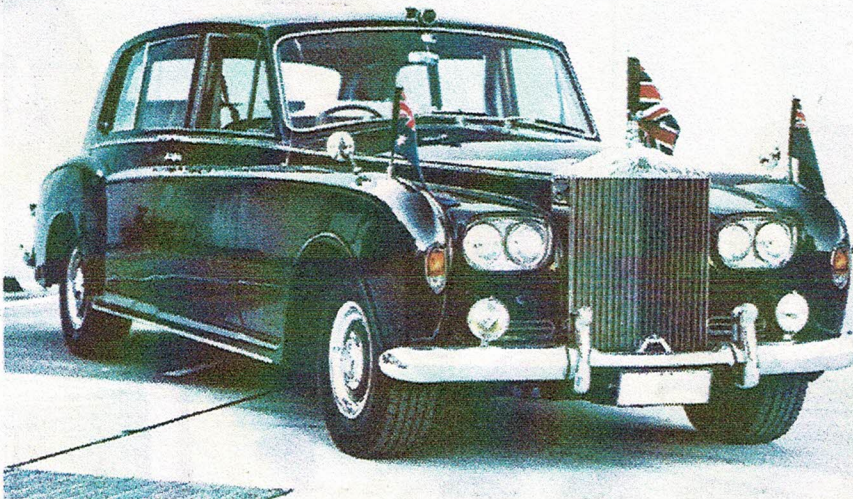


Collection houses magnificence in Rolls-Royce engineering



The 1967 Phantom Rolls-Royce which is part of the Sir Henry Royce Collection housed in Lysaght St, Coolum. The Collection is open for public viewing on the first Saturday of each month from 7-10am and features some 30 prestige British cars. Photo: Travis Macfarlane

VANESSA BACON-HALL EDITOR

BEHIND an unassuming door within the industrial estate in Quanda Park houses one of the most stunning collections of British prestige cars – mostly Rolls-Royce, and for one Saturday each month, the public are welcome to view the collection for just a mere gold coin donation – and this Saturday October 5 the collection will be open for public viewing.

Entering into the ‘Sir Henry Royce Collection’ affords one a view of polished chrome as far as the eye can see, immaculate interiors, paint work on panels that is of the finest craftsmanship and a chance to admire fine mechanical engineering.

Collection owner and Rolls-Royce enthusiast Frank Carroll explained that the collection

located in Coolum was part of the larger ‘Sir Henry Royce Foundation’.

“I’m a trustee of the Sir Henry Royce Foundation which is a charity established to encourage and teach young people in mechanical engineering excellence – we don’t do any teaching, however we sponsor apprentices and we give bursaries, and there are four archive locations across the east coast of Australia of which, this is one.”

The archive location in Coolum houses the 22 cars owned by Frank and also features a guest collection of around eight to ten other cars donated by those wishing to show their cars.

“I bought the land here and put the building up so that the collection could be accessible and we open once a month and also have private viewings for car groups a couple of times a month.”

Asked why the double Rs stood out so much to the keen car enthusiast, Frank explained that it is the quality of the engineering that really sold him on Rolls-Royce when he bought his first in 2010.

“Whilst they might be the highest priced cars, they are just unbelievably beautiful machines – the more you know about them, the more you appreciate them and they are beautiful to drive.”

The favourite within his collection – a 2007 Phantom with a brand new price tag of just over \$1 million, Frank stated it was “magic” to drive.

“This is one of only twenty in the world done to the Phantom pearl bespoke collection recipe... it has a champagne fridge under the seat and is very powerful, with a V12, 6.75 silent engine which was specially designed by BMW for this series.”

The craftsmanship and quality is undeniable and standing near these fine pieces of work is nothing short of breathtaking – luxury on the grandest scale which is intrinsically built into the collection’s oldest car, a 1927 Rolls-Royce which just happens to have its own cocktail cabinet!

With no expense spared, the fit out of the archive cost just over \$2 million and was completed in October last year and also features Bentleys, Austins, MGs and the crowning Rolls-Royce – a 1967 Phantom which one would commonly associate with royalty.

The archive is open from 7-10am on the first Saturday of each month at 52 Lysaght Street, Coolum.