



News and Record



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Front cover picture

*Strone and Alex
Macpherson's 1914 Silver
Ghosr 27BD with Torpedo
Tourer body by the
BridgwaterMotor Co*



Note:

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EDITORIAL

Silver Goust?

I noted in News & Record 14 that the UK MOT Test requirements had not changed. That was true, but, according to my tester, there has been quite a lot of difficulty in persuading the Vehicle and Operator Standards Agency (VOSA) computer system to recognise some of the historic cars. It now seems that the test cannot proceed unless the vehicle is recognised by the system. In my case, the computer initially did not recognise the chassis number. The tester thought that the computer was expecting the 16 digits or so that make up a modern chassis number! Fortunately, it worked on a second try. Apparently, the system works a bit like a credit card and if you fail three times, you are out. The next problem was that my V5 registration form has no entry under 'Model'. The computer suggested everything from Cloud to Seraph, but not Silver Ghost. The tester decided to type Silver Ghost in the box, but his typing is even worse than mine and he entered Silver *Goust*, then read it back to me as Silver Goat!

This was happily accepted by the computer and duly appeared on the print out at the end of an otherwise uneventful test. Unless I contact the VOSA, it may well be that it stays that way for ever.

However, should I have called her a Silver Ghost at all? Sir Henry's designation of the type and the front cover of the Handbook describe the car as a 40/50 HP Rolls-Royce and maybe we should all be giving that as the Model, despite the common use of Silver Ghost as a description. Any views? If we get it wrong, it may be an unwelcome legacy for future historians.

Skype Me

I have now installed the free Skype software and a microphone on my computer and have been making free phone calls to my son-in-law in Australia. If any member has Skype, particularly overseas, I would be happy to talk to them. Just send me an e-mail (hughesn@AOL.com) and maybe we can get in touch.

Australian Archivist

We offer a warm welcome to Bryan Harper who has accepted appointment as Archivist of the Australian Chapter of the 20-Ghost Club. Bryan hopes to be able to compile a full dossier of good photographs of member's cars. As he rightly says, an Archivist is entirely dependent on the material he receives from the members and so I am entering a plea on his behalf

for the supply of information and pictures and wish him all success in his task. Bryan sent me a picture of his own car – 1923 Silver Ghost LK65 with tourer coachwork by Gazzard – to demonstrate what he considers to be a good definitive picture type: near windscreen post seen but far one obscured - this indicates camera is at right angles. The far door capping should be seen just peeping over the near one to indicate correct up/down camera position. Despite Bryan's humility in saying that his picture was not for publication, I apologise for ignoring his wish and reproduce it as our back cover picture in this edition.

Trophies

As you will see from the report in this edition, the Club has many excellent and historic Trophies for award each year. Apart from the Fergusson-Wood Trophy, which has an upper age limitation, all the trophies are open to all members, from anywhere in the World. Some of the most prestigious awards are based on mileage during the year. The application forms for these go out with the annual subscription renewal forms. Please complete the mileage sections of the forms. Your chances of winning are better than you might think.

NHH

IMPORTANT: CLUB TREASURER

After many years of service to the Club, Tony Dyas is due to retire as Treasurer and, in all fairness to Tony, it is becoming urgent that we find a replacement so as to enable a smooth handover of the accounts. The Treasurer is responsible for the receipt of subscriptions and entry and other fees paid for tours and events. He also provides the annual report and accounts from The 20-Ghost Club Limited. He needs to maintain close liaison with the Editor of 'News and Record' on changes in membership information. While not a trivial task, the role of Treasurer can be very rewarding and is at the heart of Club operations.

If you feel that you might be able to undertake this function, please contact Tim Forrest as soon as possible.

LETTER FROM AUSTRALIA

By Diana Jones

We have been having a busy time with visitors from the UK. The first event was the opening of the Commonwealth Games and we were thrilled to see the Royal Phantom VI come onto the famous Melbourne Cricket Ground with the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh. My husband David is President of the Melbourne Cricket Club so he and I were hoping (like Bill Coburn, Rolls-Royce Club member and caretaker of the car, whose job it was “to get a phantom into the arena”) that the car was the star – it was! Prince Edward, Prime Ministers John Howard and Tony Blair, and a host of VIP's enjoyed attending the Games and presented medals during the two weeks of competition – a great event in the history of this world renowned sports arena.



We were delighted to catch up with other VIP's John and Rae Kennedy in Melbourne, and Tony & Viv Dyas during the Federal Rolls-Royce Owners' Club of Australia Rally in Orange, New South Wales.

Other events have included a most enjoyable weekend in Nagambie, Central Victoria in March. Nagambie is the venue for numerous rowing events including world championships.

Another 30-plus members and guests came to the Coonawarra wine area in South Australia in May – pleasant drives around the coast, more visits to wineries and gourmet meals were included in the 3-day visit.

Though only 14 years young, we have started already to collect information about our cars club and events. I am pleased to advise Bryan Harper has been appointed Archivist/Historian – just the right person to take on this interesting position.



Photos:

Top: Tony Dyas, left, with Diana Jones and David Vann

Coming events are a dinner in Sydney on 21st July – John Matheson will be speaking on the Peking to Paris Tour and Annual National Tour October 23-28 to Tumut in the Snowy Mountain area of New South Wales and Eden on the east coast.

Lower: Left to Right: Nanette Ralph, Russell Rolls, Sheila Harper, Bryan Harper, Heather Rolls, David Jones, Gilbert Ralph, Rae Kennedy, Diana Jones, John Kennedy

SPRING LUNCH

22 April 2006

Once again, Strone and Alex Macpherson were kind enough to arrange an excellent Spring Lunch at their home near Old Alresford in Hampshire. After an extremely late spring with many leaden skies, they managed to arrange some of the finest weather we have seen for some time, complemented by an excellent lunch of Champagne, Cottage Pie and Treacle tart.

Stewart Cole very kindly brought his Springfield P1 chassis for us to see progress on restoration. Also, Chris and Helga Frost brought a 'new' car in the form of 1927 20HP GHJ24, now wearing very sporting replica boat-tail or 'Skiff' bodywork by T Dann. This body is intentionally reminiscent of the Schebera-Schapiro skiff body on the 1914 Silver Ghost once owned by Robin Barnard.

Our sincere thanks to Strone and Alex for their generosity in hosting us in their beautiful corner of Hampshire.

NHH



Photos:

*Above: Andrew and Pippa Ayres' 1937
PIII 3BT139 Arthu Mulliner Sports
saloon with division*

*Left: Chris and Helga Frost's 1927
20HP GHJ24 with skiff body by T
Dann*



Jimmy Valentine gives Stewart Cole's 1982 Springfield P1 S197PFP the once-over, with the hep of a glass of bubbly



CHRIS GILLINGS' NEW OLD CAR

Chris e-mailed me from Australia saying "I've just become the proud owner of the 1924 20HP GDK35 ("Lady Jane") that was once owned by Barrie and Margaret. After fifty years it's back in the family (even though the family didn't actually exist at the time). I've been keeping in touch with her most recent owner, Bill Nicholls, for nine years and last week he finally consented to part with her. GDK35 is one of the "founding" cars of the RROC(A) and still carries the ex-Mercedes Maillard body that Barrie put on it." Congratulations Chris. *Picture below.*



MEMORIES OF THE 1960s

Margaret Gillings recently found a set of very small 'snaps' of Rolls-Royce cars which were sent to Barrie Gillings in Australia, probably in the 1960s. She believed that they were taken either by Nigel Hughes or Jeremy Bacon. Well, I know that I did not take them, so they may well be Jeremy's work. They have notes written on the back, which I reproduce here, unedited. Certainly some of the cars are owned by current club members. We apologise for the small size and unreadable number plates, but you may recognise your car

here. There are many more pictures and we may include some more in a future edition. Has anybody an idea as to where the pictures were taken?

1. GBA72 20/25 1934
Coachwork by Carlton Carriage Co.
Owner: H Frye Bourne
2. Refuelling scene (very expensive!!) 144XJ & 156PY
3. Believed to be one of the first 20/25s. Body by Croall of Edinburgh. Was property of Edinburgh banker last time I saw it but I have heard that it is now in Inverness.
4. You've seen this one before! 144X/Hooper
5. PII 31MW Coachwork by James Young. Owner: C.G. Due (*Duce? Ed*), (Class Winner)
6. Another Croall bodied 20/25 which I covert somewhat. 1932
7. PI 21SC 1926
Coachwork by Barker
Owner: C.S. Phillips (Class Winner)
8. 1939 Wraith WXA78
Coachwork by Hooper
Owner: K.E. Gormly
9. PI 76OR 1929
Coachwork by Park Ward
Owner: W/Cdr Paul Richey





IRISH GEORGIAN PREVIEW

A full report on the Irish Georgian Tour of Gloucestershire on 26-29 May 2006 will feature in the next edition of *News and Record*.

Meanwhile, here are a couple of Colin Hughes' pictures to whet your appetite.

Top: The cars parked at the North Entrance to Badminton House, home of the Duke of Beaufort

Left: John O'Dowd's 1930 Phantom II tourer leaves Upton House, home of Roger Seelig Esq

20-GHOST CLUB TROPHIES 2005

The Alpine Trophy

The Alpine Trophy is one of two cut glass decanters given by Archduke Leopold Salvator of Austria as prizes in the 1913 Alpine trials. It is awarded to the owner of the car with the highest mileage according to age in the previous year. This time, it was awarded to Don Meyer with SG 52MA for covering some 7000 miles including 2500 miles of mountain work on the West Coast RROC/Bentley Tour.

The Woodmansee Trophy

The Woodmansee Trophy incorporates the very last of the Silver Lady mascots cast by Charles and Jo Sykes in 1939. If a Silver Ghost wins the Alpine Trophy, it is awarded to the owner of the Silver Ghost with the second highest mileage in the previous year. It was awarded to John and Kay Marsh for a mileage of 6250 with their 1923 Silver Ghost Shooting Brake 107EM.

The Harding Rolls Trophy

Originally won by C.S.Rolls, this trophy is awarded to the member who has in the opinion of the Committee produced the most notable performance with his car. It went to John Kennedy for his re-enactment of the 1905 Isle of Man TT in which the car put up the same performance on the course as it did in 1905.

The Stanley Sears Trophy

Presented by Stanley Sears in 1962 when he was President of the Club and awarded to the member giving the most meritorious service to the Club. It was awarded to Tony Dyas, Club Treasurer, for his many years of service including the oversight of the transition of the Club to a Limited Liability Company.

The Fred and Joan Watson Trophy

Presented to the Club by Fred and Joan Watson in 1981 to be awarded for the best large Horsepower car in the Club Concours D'Etat, it was won by Nigel Hughes for his 1925 Silver Ghost Barker Tourer 120EU.

The Messervy Trophy

Presented to the Club by Roney Messervy of the Rolls-Royce Hythe Road Repair Depot in 1954, the Small Horsepower Trophy is awarded for the best Small Horsepower car in the Annual Concours D'Etat. It was awarded to Bernard Crowley for his 1938 Wraith WXA107 Broughamde Ville by Park Ward.

The Ladies Trophy

Presented by Bess and Susan Taylor in 1989 for the car judged to be most attractive in the opinion of the ladies at the Annual Concours d'Etat, it was awarded to Bernard Eccleston for his 1933 20/25 Freestone and Webb Coupe GSY42.

The Small Horsepower Trophy

Presented to the Club in 1997, a Rolls-Royce mascot and piston awarded to the owner of the small HP car covering the greatest distance in the year and won by David else for a mileage of 6726 including a journey from Guernsey to Norway, Germany and France.

The Fergusson-Wood trophy

Presented by Harry Fergusson-Wood and awarded to the member under 35 who has regularly taken part in Club events, this year went to Meriel O'Dowd who, among other things, drove her father's PII on the Irish Georgian Tour.

The Fergusson-Wood photographic Trophy

Awarded for the best photograph published in 'News and Record', to Colin Hughes for his coverage of the Annual Concours.

The Phoenix Trophy

Awarded for the best restoration, this trophy went to David McPhee for restoration of 1122 'Quicksilver', the oldest surviving Ghost in Australia.

The Brian Wootton Trophy

Presented by Jo Wootton in 2003 in memory of her husband the late Brian Wootton, the trophy is awarded to the member giving most assistance to others during the year. This year it went to David Robson for extracting Roger Morrison's 1914 Ghost which had slid backwards from a car park and down a bank during the Irish Tour.

COMING EVENTS

2006

UK

Wednesday 19 July- Annual Concours d'Etat

Location Blenheim Palace, Woodstock, Oxfordshire
Contact: Brian Palmer 01162 862417

Sunday 13 Aug 2006 - Fawley Hill

A visit to Fawley Hill, the home of Bill McAlpine. Bill has his own standard gauge steam railway and it will be a 'Steam Day', with limited public access.

Contact: Andy Butcher, 01386 701757 e-mail: Silverghost@ukonline.co.uk

Sunday 15 October – Autumn Lunch

Contact: Brian Palmer 01162 862417

AUSTRALIA

Friday 21 July – Sydney

John Matheson talks about the Peking to Paris Tour

23-28 October – Annual National Tour

This year, the tour goes to Tumut in the Snowy Mountain area of New South Wales and to Eden on the East Coast.

2007 Silver Ghost Centenary

Please fill in your application form enclosed with this edition

Welcome to New Members

Richard and Emily Buckingham, 707 Weaver Street,
Larchmont, New York 10538
Tel: 914 834 5422 E-Mail Richard@t-b-f.org

1914 SG 26GB Replica Tourer
1922 SG 42YG H J Mulliner Tourer

Albert and Monique Eberhard, Rua Calhariz, Villa Florencia,
Monte Estoril P-2765-402 Portugal
Tel: 00351 21 4681256 E-Mail: alberteberhard@yahoo.com

1926 SSG S348RL Brewster Stratford Coupe

Jean-Pierre and Alexandra Mueller, Alte Landstr. 415
Maennedorf CH-8708 Switzerland
Tel: 41-(0)44 926 5728, E-Mail jpm@baubit.ch

1928 20HP GKM22 Barker Cabriolet

Frances O'Dowd 5 Wilmore Street, Much Wenlock, TF13 6HR
Tel: 01952 728805

Richard and Tina Pascoe, Woodhall, 9 Court Drive,
Shillingford, Wallingford, Oxfordshire, OX10 7ER
Tel: 01865 858747 E-Mail: rtpascoe@cytanet.com.cy

1926 20HP GCK3 Windovers Tourer

And a special welcome back to :

Maggie Newman, 110 Martinique Avenue, Tampa, Florida
33606-4049

Tel: 813 254 2879 E-Mail: mnewman2@tampabay.rr.com

1911 SG 1644E Replica Tourer
1911 SG 1725 Replica Landaulet
1929 PII 130XJ Replica Roadster
1935 PII 26UK H J Mulliner Sedan de Ville

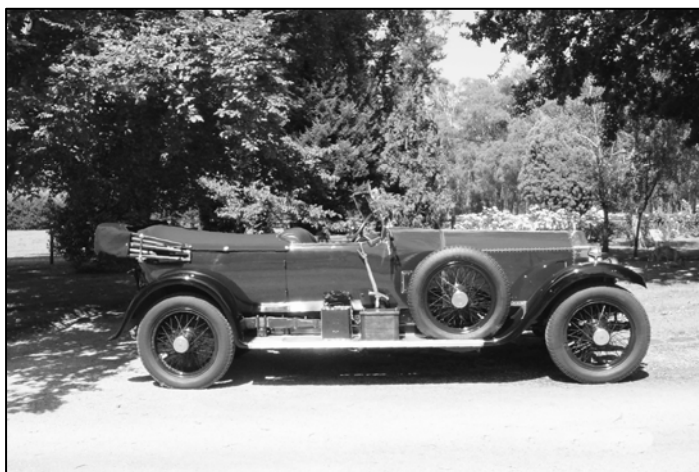
For Sale from The Club Shop

Ties £15.00
Nickel or Chrome Car Badges £ 25.00
Contact: Andy Butcher 01386 701757.

Alpine '93 Videos £20.00 Back numbers of Record and
News and Record £2.50 ea. Contact: Tim Forrest 01428
684208

Back Cover Picture

Bryan Harper's 1923 Silver Ghost LK65 with tourer coachwork
by Gazzard



An Apology

My apologies to Derek and Jenny Johnson for failing to provide a caption to their 1926 20HP Hooper Saloon GCK78 at the bottom of the '20 HP Page' in Issue 15.

NHH

