



WINGED MESSENGER

Journal of the Rolls-Royce Owners' Club of Australia - Western Australian Branch
A club for Rolls-Royce and Bentley enthusiasts
April-May-June 2024



2024 Concours & Display
British Car Day
Rolls-Royce News
Bentley News



Committee



Executive Committee

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| PRESIDENT (and Federal Delegate): | Stan Stroud | 0433 913 567 | stan.stroud@yahoo.com.au |
| VICE PRESIDENT: | Gordon Hay | 0499 700 447 | gordon.hay@outlook.com |
| SECRETARY: | Alan Dickson | 08 9246 3295 | alan@dickson.com.au |
| TREASURER: | Richard Murphy | 08 9434 5377 | merf@iinet.net.au |

Committee Members

| | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------|--------------|---------------------------|
| FEDERAL DELEGATE: | Mick Rust | 08 9379 0801 | mjrust@gmail.com |
| SOCIAL DIRECTOR: | Germaine Murphy | 0421 869 277 | germainekoh72@hotmail.com |
| WINGED MESSENGER EDITOR: | Paul Blank | 0407 097 911 | paulb@classicrally.com.au |
| WEBMASTER: | Natalie Blank | 0410 231 444 | hello@natalieblank.com.au |
| TROPHY MASTER: | Dr Peter Mack | 08 9386 3656 | petermack@westnet.com.au |
| COMMITTEE: | Anita Burn | 0416 252 100 | always@iinet.net.au |

Other contacts

Website: www.rrocwa.com **New website now operational**

Membership Application Forms are available from the website.

Join us on Facebook - Rolls-Royce Owners' Club Western Australia

CORRESPONDENCE TO:

Honorary Secretary,
Rolls-Royce Owners' Club of Australia,
Western Australia Branch (Inc),
11 Radstock Street,
Karrinyup WA 6018

The views expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Rolls-Royce Owners' Club of Australia.
Contents are copyright © 2024

Bentley Batur Convertible - One of 16



- Batur Convertible becomes the third coachbuilt Bentley of the modern era, crafted by Mulliner

- An evolution of Bentley's DNA, capturing the essence of open-air Grand Touring in a progressive design born from Batur

- The ultimate expression of curated personalisation and individualism, a canvas for the imagination

- Strictly limited to 16 examples worldwide, the Batur Convertible innovates in colour and materiality never seen before on a production Bentley, inspired by the depths of nature

- Selected clients to co-create something truly unique, engineered and built by the original master craftspeople of bespoke coachbuilding

- Two door, two seat configuration, revealed beneath a beautiful retractable roof

- Batur Convertible offers increased personalisation options, examples of which include the 'airbridge' and Rose Gold interior detailing

- Each example among the last ever Bentleys to use the iconic 750 horsepower W12 engine

- Follows the sold-out two-door Bacalar barchetta and Batur coupe

- Engineering Car #0 (shown above) shines in Vermillion Gloss and Satin paintwork

Did you get your order in before they were sold out?



Welcome to the latest issue of the *Winged Messenger* magazine.

The positive changes we've been making to the club in many areas have never been more evident than at this year's Concours. What a difference a great venue and catered lunch made! And a wonderful array of cars was presented. We were treated to a visit by the Federal President on the day too. A day with perfect weather was the icing on the cake. And the event featured on television news that night. See the report and results in this issue.

And on that strength, we had a record turnout at the British Car Day, also reported on in this magazine.

I do need to say what many club Editors have to repeat frequently, which is a request for original content. We'd all appreciate input from members about Rolls-Royce and Bentley stories as you're able, even if a one-off contribution. I'm happy to assist to 'massage' any material that you would like help with.

- **Paul Blank** - Editor *Winged Messenger*

Calendar 2024

Note not all of these are official club events, but we list all we can to enable members with concessionally licensed vehicles to participate in their cars. Official club events in **BOLD**. Some may need to change. Full details will be emailed to club members. Event announcements will appear on the club's Facebook page as well. Also check the website www.rrocwa.com

JUNE 15

President's Dinner - Celtic Club - see details below

JULY 14

Club Lunch - details to be advised soon

JULY 28

Annual General Meeting - 2.00pm, Jaguar Car Club rooms, Unit 109, 396 Scarborough Beach Rd Osborne Park

AUGUST 18

Special workshop visit - Rosco McGlashan land speed record hero - see his new 1000mph car. Details soon...

SEPTEMBER 14-15 Weekend away - Collie

SEPTEMBER 8

Classic Car Show - Ascot Racecourse. RROC display

SEPTEMBER TBA

British Cars & Coffee - Burswood

OCTOBER 4-5

Festival of Speed Wanneroo Raceway

OCTOBER 13

Lunch at Elizabethan Village

NOVEMBER 10

Motor Museum of WA Visit & Picnic, Whiteman Park

NOVEMBER TBA

Celebration of the Motorcar

DECEMBER 8

Christmas Lunch

ALSO: First Sunday each Month (not January): Classic Cars & Coffee at UWA



2024 President's Dinner And Prizegiving Ceremony

President's Dinner 2024

It is our pleasure to invite you and your guests to the annual Presidents Dinner of the Rolls Royce Owners Club of Western Australia. This premier event on our social calendar is a night of elegance and celebration, offering an opportunity to acknowledge the winners of the Club's Concours held on 14th April 2024. Enjoy a gourmet three-course menu, featuring a main course served as an alternate drop. A welcome drink will be provided upon arrival, and wine will be supplied for the

meal. Dietary requirements will be catered to, please be sure to fill in the form during your booking. Cost is \$100 per head.

Join us for an unforgettable evening filled with fine dining, excellent company, and the recognition of our Concours winners. Secure your tickets now and be part of this distinguished event. We look forward to celebrating with you. Bookings via Trybooking on: <https://www.trybooking.com/CRZSM>



From the President

Federal Matters

RROCA Limited – Directors' Meeting and AGM 9 May 2024: At the RROCA Limited (Federal) directors' meeting Stan Stroud and Alan Dickson attended electronically. The meeting was held at the Federal Rally in Noosa (QLD).

ISSUE #1: The main topic of discussion was the increased costs of (1) printing and postage of Praeclarvm and Chassis Plate, (2) the expected (once-off) cost of incorporation of the RROCA to become RROCA Limited. In addition, there has been a reduction of companies advertising in Praeclarvm. These factors have caused the RROCA Limited to run at an operating loss of some \$5,000 for the 2023/24 year with some \$40,000 in savings in the bank. The operating loss will be recouped from its Members (the six State and Territory Clubs) over the coming three years. Suggestions were made at the meeting that costs could be minimized by printing Praeclarvm four times per annum instead of the present six issues.

ISSUE #2: The "Future Directions Paper" presented in 2023 by our new Federal President, Louise Matthews. That paper discusses many matters such as (i) what should be the stance of RROCA Limited with respect to climate change because in the future, Rolls-Royce owners may be criticized for driving fuel guzzling cars; (ii) should we have a policy on training mechanics specializing on "proper" motor cars, etc.

Your WA Directors prepared a written response to the RROCA Limited Secretary shortly after receiving Louise's discussion paper in 2023. At this point in time, nothing has been resolved, the matter is ongoing and has not progressed.

Issue #3: Future Federal Rallies: A schedule for future rallies was prepared and approved.

2024 66th Federal Rally at Noosa: This rally was in progress at the time of the Federal AGM. To my knowledge, no one from WA attended the rally.

RROCA Limited – Representatives Meeting at the Federal AGM 9 May 2024: The "representatives" (equivalent to the shareholders and in contrast to the Directors) for WA are Stan Stroud and Mick Rust. Stan Stroud attended carrying Mick Rust's proxy vote. As most of the Directors of RROCA Limited are also their State/Territory representatives, the Representatives Meeting (equivalent to a shareholders

meeting) effectively rubber-stamped the (few) recommendations from the Directors' Meeting.

It is true that not much is happening at the Federal level, but both the Directors' meeting and the Representatives' (Shareholders') meeting are a legal requirements for Incorporated Associations, such as RROCA Limited.

WA "Branch" Matters

2024 Concours: Our WA Club Concours was held on Sunday 14 April 2024 at the Old Observatory in West Perth with a catered sit-down lunch. There was a large turnout of Members and many cars in attendance. It is of note that our Federal President (Louise Matthews, and her husband Neil) flew from Melbourne to attend this Concours. Louise was highly impressed with the beautiful setting and "so close to the City centre," the quality of the Concours cars and the large attendance.

Our thanks go out to the Concours organisers (Paul Blank and Natalie Blank), to our Events Captain/Social Director (Germaine Murphy) for organising the sit-down lunch on the verandah of the Old Observatory, and to Ron Magrath (Chief Judge) and his three new judges as well as Mick Rust who assisted with judging. The event was a massive success.

Our thanks also go out to Paul Blank who initially suggested the event location and new format and to Gordon Hay for contacting and organising "press" coverage of the event. The event appeared on television news that evening.

Concours Judges:

Ron Magrath (Chief Judge) has reported that he needed assistance with the judging event due to the volume of work required on the judging day. To that end, we had three volunteers who assist Ron at the 2024 Concours. Our thanks to these members who stepped-up.

Event Safety Management

Over the past 12 months we had no safety issues at any of our Club events, thanks to our Safety Management Plan and the efforts of our past Events Safety Officer, Patrica Turner. Until we appoint a new Safety Officer, Stan Stroud will be responsible for that function.

WA Branch Constitution:

A review of our WA Club Constitution has progressed. The review is required because of structural changes made to the RROCA Federal Deed at the RROCA Federal Council AGM of March 2023, when all of the Branches of the RROCA became separate independent Clubs. The suggested changes will be circulated before our AGM, planned for 28 July 2024, where it be put to the vote.

President's comments

British Car Day

British Car Day at Gingin is an annual event. Rolls-Royce members and non-members enjoy the day and the 19th May 2024 was no exception. Rolls-Royce Owners' Club Members turned up in their numbers to enjoy the vast display of various old and new British cars as well as a picnic lunch and socialise with other proud British car owners.

Somehow you never get tired of attending the annual British Car Day at Gingin because of the enormous variety of British cars. On your way to Gingin, as you turn off the Brand Highway to Gingin, the excitement grows. And as usual, as you reach the railway line at Gingin, you turn right to our Rolls-Royce area.

Our members' and non-members' cars began arriving about 8.30am to find our usual allotted area marked with red tape, as were all of the adjacent car areas similarly delineated, so there was

no encroachment of cars from other clubs "muscling" into "our" allotted area as occurred at the 2023 event. The weather was exceptionally fine and warm, and our attendees set up picnic tables and chairs under the shade-trees.

We had some 26 Rolls-Royces and (post 1931) Bentleys in our area with some 60 attendees. Drove of people walked through looking at the cars. Many comments of admiration were made about the overall presentation of the vehicles such as Richard Joyce's 2006 modern Phantom, Bruce and Jo Morison's beautifully presented 1952 Mark VI Bentley Sedan; but Nathan Clements' 1929 RR Phantom II Open Boat-Tail Tourer stole the show! This car was built by Roger Fry & Sons in 2000 for Mick Rust and was sold to Nathan Clements in 2012. The car is strikingly beautiful and was much admired by our Members and the public. See photos in an article later in this magazine.

Events



Sunday, April 14

How well did our revitalized Concours work out? By all measures, a tremendous success, with such excellent feedback from participants.

The new venue of The Old Observatory in West Perth proved accessible and beautiful, offering great backdrops, lovely lawns and plenty of shade. Well worth Paul Blank suggesting the venue and negotiating with the National Trust for its use.

It also gave us a lovely place to provide lunch on the verandah overlooking the car display. Germaine Murphy had worked wonders with new caterers who were blown away by the whole event, saying if they'd known how classy it all was, they'd have dressed up. Our lunch was sold out.

We had a marvellous turnout of club members and visitors cars - some of those visitors have already applied to join the club as a result of enjoying the day so much. Several of the cars shown had not previously been displayed.

We had the pleasure of the company of Federal President Louise Matthews and her husband Neil. Louise addressed the crowd after lunch (photo, right).

The Concours ran well, with three new Judges learning the ropes over a decent number of cars of all ages, and finished in good time. Chief Judge Ron Magrath addressed everyone present, announcing the results and his retirement from his long-held position. Results of the Concours can be seen elsewhere.

Bentley Perth graciously displayed a new Bentley Continental GT in a striking dark metallic green colour, proudly displayed on the forecourt of the historic building. It was very pleasing to have their support.

The sun shone, our new flags flew, everything ran like clockwork and the result was a day to remember. The National Trust was so pleased that they've invited us back.

We'll let the photos tell the rest of the story.

Thanks to:

Event Co-ordinator - Paul Blank

Catering - Germaine Murphy

Equipment - Richard Murphy

Assistance - Natalie Blank, Gordon Hay, Peter Mack, Anita Burn, the Judging team

CONCOURS 2024







BRITISH CAR DAY

By Patrica and Murray Turner

Photos: Anita Burn, Steve Sugden, Kevin Salter, Gordon Hay



Sunday, May 19 2024 - Gingin



If you have never attended the annual British Car Day in Gingin you are missing a top event and should put it on your bucket list for next year.

You don't have to be a vintage car enthusiast to enjoy this family-friendly day. The venue is excellent and Gingin Shire deserves credit for the preparation and care of the park and surrounds, including a well-maintained children's playground.

We arrived at 9.30 after a pleasant one-hour drive from the city and were immediately greeted by Club President Stan Stroud who directed us to park our car adjacent to other Rolls-Royces whose owners had arrived earlier and who were already chatting in the morning sun. Jan Stroud, who had arrived with Stan prior to sun-up to check our area was properly cordoned off and in good location, greeted us bearing a large flagon of what appeared to be red wine in her hand, but turned out to be local olive oil she had purchased at one of the stalls. We joked, suggesting the wine should be sufficient to see her through the day.

Then we set up a picnic table and chairs under the trees, together with other Club members and their guests.

Dominating our view from the top of the park was a splendid array of British cars from Standards, Austins, Triumphs, Hillmans, Land Rovers, Morris, Ford Prefects right through to the luxury marques such as the Rolls-Royces, Jaguars, Bentleys and more. During the day we wandered through the various displays and chatted with the car owners.

On the lower side, the grounds ran down to the river bank, complete with a charming old water wheel. Across the road was a display of Austin A40s, which attracted the attention of even the non-enthusiast. For decades the Austin A40 and derivatives were so commonly seen on streets in the British-speaking world, that many visitors were able to share stories of past experiences with them.



Did you know... The British Car Day was originally created by our club?



Moving on from there were the Rileys and all the British sports cars you have ever seen, owned or perhaps ridden around in.

One only had to stop and take a close look at almost any group of cars and there was a good chance you would hear a story of one car's rescue from a wrecker's yard, another that had been around the world and may also have carried royalty or another that had been called to duty to convey the wounded during the War. Another may have spent its life with a farmer and his family. From so many different origins, the cars were here, scrubbed up and polished for everyone to appreciate and enjoy.

The event was well-supported by Gingin local and surrounding areas with rows of tents displaying all kinds of handicrafts as well as local produce for tasting and sale. Visitors could either enjoy a home-prepared picnic or satisfy their palates from vans selling foods ranging from German Bratwurst and Sauerkraut, to Hot Beef Rolls, Burgers and Lebanese Avgolomeni. There were coffee and soft drink vans a-plenty to service the crowds.



We arrived home with a basket containing Lancelin Wildflower Honey, a large jar of pickled onions and several jars of jams and chutneys. In all, a most satisfying day with our favourite car and like-minded people.

Twenty five cars were in our club display. Put it on your calendar for next May!





ULTRA PERFORMANCE V8 HYBRID SUCCEEDS W12 AS BENTLEY'S PINNACLE POWERTRAIN

- Bentley's future to be led by new Ultra Performance Hybrid powertrain
- Combines new, incredibly powerful combustion engine with advanced hybrid technology
- A seamless fusion of electric luxury with supercar performance
- More than 750 PS combined output, with 50 mile (80 km) electric range
- Engine sound released, previewing new character

(Crewe, 8 May 2024) Bentley's future is being brought another step closer with the announcement that its iconic W12 engine will be succeeded by an all-new, performance-focused V8 hybrid powertrain. Producing the highest power output ever offered in a Bentley, the new powertrain will also be the most dynamic, most responsive and most efficient system in Bentley's history, befitting a new generation of daily supercars.

Christened the Ultra Performance Hybrid, the new powertrain follows Bentley's long-standing tradition of supplementing class-leading combustion engines with technology to increase performance. Supercharging in the 1920s was the early forebear to the use of turbocharging from the 1980s to present day. From this summer, Bentley goes one step further – bringing even more performance through 'electrocharging' – using a potent hybrid system to create what will be the most advanced and most powerful powertrain in Bentley's 105-year history. The new system builds on Bentley's existing hybrid powertrains, but goes even further in the level of performance and efficiency it brings



Above: A photo of a disguised new Continental GT with the new powertrain, under test

– with more than 750 horsepower and a 50 mile (80km) electric-only range. That represents at least 91 horsepower more than the W12 engine previously offered in the Flying Spur and GT W12 Speed derivatives.

As Bentley's iconic 6.0-litre twin turbo W12 engine heads towards retirement this summer, with 105,000 engines built over the last two decades, the new Ultra Performance Hybrid will take on the mantle as Bentley's leading powertrain, establishing the new family of Bentleys it will power as the world's best electrified luxury performance vehicles. While developing more power than the W12 and four-figure torque over a wider plateau, the Ultra Performance Hybrid will also deliver a WLTP drive cycle CO₂ figure of under 50g/km.

The character of the new engine is also previewed today, with the release of an engine sound clip that reveals an exquisite combination of cross-plane bass with a free-revving growl. This represents one end of the audio spectrum offered by the powertrain; the

polar opposite to the absolute silence the system will offer in electric mode.

More details on Bentley's new electrified powertrain, which will drive the next phase of its Bentley's Beyond 100 journey and deliver the promise of every car in the range being available as a hybrid, will be released over the coming weeks. Meanwhile, customers can continue to enjoy the final few remaining examples of Bentley's W12 and non-hybrid V8 engines, available through Bentley's global retailer network.



Rolls-Royce News



ROLLS-ROYCE PRESENTS CULLINAN SERIES II: A BOLD EVOLUTION OF THE WORLD'S PRE-EMINENT SUPER-LUXURY SUV

Cullinan built a new legacy for Rolls-Royce Motor Cars, shaped in collaboration with a bold and uncompromising generation of super-luxury consumers. Cullinan Series II evolves and builds on this motor car's place in the brand, proving once more that the future of this marque will be shaped in partnership with its clients and characterised by exquisite contemporary crafts.

Rolls-Royce presents Cullinan Series II: a bold evolution of the world's pre-eminent super-luxury SUV

- Integrates advanced digital interface, SPIRIT, and private members app, Whispers
- New Clock Cabinet vitrine incorporates Spirit of Ecstasy figurine into Cullinan's interior
- Interior palette includes new botanical materials and modern craft techniques Duality Twill seating incorporates 2.2 million stitches and up to 11 miles of thread
- New Placed Perforation seat pattern inspired by clouds over the Home of Rolls-Royce and comprises up to 107,000 individual perforations
- Cullinan Series II directly responds to changing codes of luxury and client use cases
- Cullinan remains the most requested Rolls-Royce within the marque's product portfolio

What that means, is Rolls-Royce has taken the opportunity to update the company's biggest selling model. Stylistically it's had some tweaks at both ends, aiming to give some extra character and move the Cullinan away from the "London Cab" looks comparisons. Dynamic new alloy wheels help modernize the look.

Technical updates, more luxury and customization possibilities are hallmarks of the revised Cullinan. There's even a little Spirit of Ecstasy figurine inside now, for the first time in a Rolls-Royce, on the dashboard under the clock.





Neil McLean
Automotives



Hello to all fellow-members of the Rolls-Royce Owners Club

We at Neil McLean Automotives would like to offer our specialist services to all owners of these fine motorcars.

We specialise in all post-war proper motorcars and are the only Licensed, registered private workshop in Western Australia that can offer expertise to service and maintain a fine motorcar to the standard a discerning owner would expect.

We carry a vast range of spares on the premises and are happy to discuss servicing, repairs and restoration for all models.

Having been established here in WA for more than 30 years we are confident we can meet all of your requirements. Please call to discuss how we may assist.

Bev and Neil McLean
NEIL McLEAN MAIME, Minst RE

Neil McLean Automotives ABN 84574547421

15 Elliott Street, Midvale, 6056

License MRB 7209

Tel: (08) 9250 1400

Email: nma@iinet.net.au

Wanting to sell your Rolls-Royce or Bentley?

Club member Paul Blank offers a unique brokerage service which can take the hassle out of selling - and help achieve realistic, good prices. Here are some which have been sold through his brokerage:



Request Paul's "Guide for Sellers" information by email.

MD 28143

Paul Blank Classic Car Broker

0407 097 911

paulb@classicrally.com.au

www.paulblank.com.au

Items of Interest



Above: This photo was taken by club member Jeremy Greene when in Kyoto, Japan recently. While clearly it's not actually a Rolls-Royce, Jeremy mentioned how Rolls-Royce so keenly guarded its name and image, though for years, people have taken advantage of it with such products...

In fact this car has behind its grille, a modern Daihatsu Midget, a small Kei Car commercial vehicle, with a tiny 660cc engine. Here's an image of a standard Midget, below.



This 1958 Bentley S1 with controversial Hooper coachwork belonged to cartoonist Paul Rigby, a founding member of our club in Western Australia and one-time President. What old photos do you have which could be shared in these pages?

Below: Western Australian Governor's Bentley, 1950s.



Below: An advertisement from Premier Motors from 1967, showing a Bentley S3 Continental - a very special car for Perth in the '60s. Can any member tell us what happened to this glamorous car?

PREMIER MOTORS PTY. LTD.
989-1011 Hay St.
FIRST WITH THE LATEST



1967 American Car of the Year "Mercury Cougar." Brand New. White with black leather interior. Wood panelled fascia and steering wheel. All extras including power brakes, power steering, radio, mag. wheels, vinyl top, concealed headlights etc.
P.O.A.



1967 Buick "G.S. 400" in Champagne Gold with black leather trim. Refrigerated air-conditioning, all luxuries already fitted. Brand New. Straight off the boat!
P.O.A.



Current model Bentley "S3 Continental Sports Saloon" in iridescent Claret with beige leather upholstery and Persian lambs wool carpet. Refrigerated air-conditioning, power brakes, power steering, electrically operated windows and radio antenna. The last word in regal luxury.
P.O.A.

Enquiries:
Vernon Hubbard
General Manager
PREMIER MOTORS
Pty. Limited
21-5511
After Hours 87 4402



Concours Results



Congratulations to all our award winners from the 2024 Concours d'Elegance. Special thanks to the team of Judges, led by Ron Magrath and to our Trophy Master Peter Mack. Here are details of the winners.

Class 3

Ian McAllister GLB27
20/25 1934 Martin & King coupe CECELIA

Class 4

Kevin Salter GMP70
25/30 1937 Hooper sports saloon 1937 RR

Class 8

Michael Jardine SZD291
1961 Silver Cloud II DORSET 1

Class 9

Stan Stroud SRH25643
1976 Silver Shadow I 7 FP 797

Class 10

Alan Dickson AND6783
1983 Silver Spur. 1 AG 1838

Class 11

Richard Joyce AAX01078
1998 Silver Seraph DERBY

Class 12

Richard Joyce SCA1S8006
2006 Phantom VII RJ8

Class 13

Brayden Bentley BGA66484
2010 Bentley Continental Supersports 1FAY 605



Class A Outright Winner

Ian McAllister GLB27
20/25 1934 Martin & King coupe. CECELIA

Class B Ladies choice

Ian McAllister GLB27
20/25 1934 Martin & King coupe. CECELIA

Class C Show and Shine

Ron Magrath SRH34034
1978 Silver Shadow II KM 24394

Class D Age & Authenticity

Malcolm Richardson 18MY
1932 Phantom II --

Class E Touring Trophy

Stefan Frodsham ANF12471
1985 Silver Spur 1 LF 732

Class F Best Bentley

Brayden Bentley BGA66484
2010 Bentley Continental Supersports 1FAY 605



Awards including our fabulous new trophies, will be presented at the President's Dinner in June.

Avro Lancaster

Courtesy Peter Mack



Above: The ill-fated Avro Manchester formed the basis of the much more successful Lancaster (below), which remains a well-recognized World War Two aircraft today.



Rolls-Royce has a long history in aircraft engines...

Early during the pre-war build-up of its strength by the RAF, 1937 was a strange year; a quantum improvement in the performance of fighter/interceptors transformed the world of airpower. Aircraft that had looked perfectly acceptable just three of four years earlier (The record-breaking Bristol Blenheim, the Gloster Gladiator...) suddenly looked utterly obsolete. New planes were urgently ordered fresh off the drawing board. Improved engines lay at the heart of the transformation; strangely, Rolls-Royce produced the engine that powered a number of German prototypes - including the Messerschmitt ME109 and its initial rival from Heinkel.

But it was another Rolls-Royce engine that lay at the heart of change, the Rolls-Royce "Vulture" engine. Initially promising, it was beset with problems, with a worrying tendency to overheat, seize and spontaneously burst into flames. It powered the Avro Manchester, which was ordered by the Air Ministry as a medium bomber before the serious problems with the engines had become apparent. The RAF was provided with Manchesters, which were expected to replace the Whitleys, Hampdens and Wellingtons. Roughly 200 were delivered and flew in squadron service before the increasingly clear shortcomings of the Vulture engine led to cancellation of any further production. The plane was an embarrassing disaster.

Avro however didn't just give up. They lengthened the wings, added another pair of engines.... this time the engines were Rolls-Royce Merlin engines. The Manchester might look vaguely familiar.... because of its substantial similarity to what replaced it - the new four-engined bomber, the Avro Lancaster. Which was really rather good and was tremendously successful.

New Website & Facebook Page

Some of our newer Management Committee members have been doing a lot of work behind the scenes to bring the club up to date in the modern technological world.

You may have noticed we are using **Trybooking** for bookings for our events - even those which have no cost to participate in. It gives us accurate details of who's attending an event and any special requests - and where relevant, which cars are coming. It's also useful for events where payments are made.

Our old **website** is no more and the new, easier to use website offers more functionality and presents the club well for prospective members. www.rrocwa.com

Additionally, we have a presence on **Facebook** with news, items of interest, events and more - where you can participate: **Rolls-Royce Owners' Club Western Australia**



Recent Auctions



Above: Melbourne-based auction specialist Donington Auctions have been expanding their operation to other states and in their most recent sale of collectable cars (May 2024), had this attractive 1987 Bentley Mulsanne S LWB, which sold for \$35,000.



Above: Also in May, RM Sotheby's held a large auction in Monaco, timed to coincide with the Historic Grand Prix. Among the lots was a group of six unrestored Rolls-Royce Dropheads from one collection. This 1957 Wraith by Park Ward topped the prices from this group at €132,250. It is one of five built and had been restored many years ago, now requiring more work.



Above: In April Bonhams sold this 1914 Rolls-Royce 40/50hp Silver Ghost Sports Tourer 48 YB at their Goodwood sale. It had been rebodied by Hooper in 1922 and was with the same family since 1969. The selling price was £207,000, which is about AUD\$400,000.

A look at recent Rolls-Royce and Bentley auction results from around the globe.

Below: Selling for a seemingly strong £96,320, this pretty 1973 Rolls-Royce Corniche DHC had previously been the subject of a restoration costing some £250,000! Since it was finished, it had covered just 1500 miles. Very good value for the buyer then, but not so much for the person who paid for the restoration... Sold in May at Historics in Farnborough, UK.



Above: Bonhams also held a big sale in Monaco at Historic Grand Prix time, featuring this 2010 Phantom Drophead Coupe. Interestingly the car had covered just 155 miles from new. It achieved €189,750.

Below: Earlier in May, Bonhams held an auction in Miami, Florida. This smart 1965 Rolls-Royce Silver Cloud III Drophead Coupe finished in Masons Black with 41,000 miles recorded, sold for US\$313,600.

