



FOUNDATION NEWS

Chairman's Notes



I WRITE THIS having just returned from the North of England Rally at Harewood House where I had hoped to see Michael Forrester's old Phantom, 37LC along with its new owner, Tom Horner. Perhaps I was being a bit optimistic but, as it now lives in North Yorkshire, no doubt it will be seen again sooner or later. Following the sale, the SHRMF received a generous donation to Foundation funds for which we are most grateful.

Foundation business manager John Baker and I did the rounds of the club stands at last year's NEC Classic Car Show and as a result we have had visits from several clubs including the MG Car Club, the Midlands Automobile Club and the Milton Keynes Aviation Society, with more to follow. They pay a fee for the visit which helps with the running of the SHRMF and without exception they all made remarks such as "what a fantastic place", "the history of RR in the middle of England" and "the Club must be very proud to have a place like this." I must say, I agree.

Recent visitors to The Hunt House would have noticed the kitchen was a mess. That has now changed. With much effort by Chris Ball and other volunteers, along with the contractor, the work is virtually finished with a new cooker installed and new cabinets in the conservatory.

On a sad note the Essex Section recently lost David Brooks. David was the membership secretary and was his police background that proved such a help to Chris Ball in getting the investigation moving which led to the recovery of the stolen items from The Hunt House. The SHRMF owes a big thank you to both Chris Ball and the late David Brooks.

Duncan Featham

Concorde - the Icon: last chance to book lecture celebrating golden age in aviation

IT MAY STILL BE POSSIBLE to book your place for this lecture by the time you are reading this issue. The Foundation website suffered a minor hiatus in early August but was repaired fairly quickly and members can once again obtain the details and book via the Shop tab.

The cost is just £20 for the reception and lecture or £50 for the whole evening including dinner.

Timing is: 5.30 for the reception, the lecture starts at 6pm and dinner is at around 7.30 when the lecture finishes. The event will be over by 9.30pm.

A suggestion was made recently that the Foundation should video all the lectures for distribution to members. Obviously permission would have to be sought from the lecturers and there may be Performing Rights issues but is there



EDUARD MARMET

anyone who would be willing to take this on or can offer expert advice? John Baker has more than enough to occupy him on lecture evenings.

Extended line-up for Heritage Weekend and AGM

THIS YEAR'S HERITAGE WEEKEND on 16 and 17 November has talks scheduled on a wide range of subjects, covering historic rallying, coachbuilding, 60 years of the RREC, Bentley's return to racing, Jaguar and Daimler. Some of the speakers are well known to members, such as Jonathan Wood and Malcolm Tucker who are regulars. Colin Hughes is putting aside his camera for the evening to give a talk on 60 years of the RREC, Nigel Thorley and John Brooks are new to the weekend and Ian North makes a welcome return.

On Saturday afternoon at around 3.30pm, or after the final lecture of the day, the AGM of the Sir Henry Royce Memorial Foundation Ltd will take place to conduct the usual business; members are welcome.

Jane Pedler (SHRMF members nominee) and Allan Fogg (RREC nominee) stand down by rotation but are both eligible to seek re-election. If any Foundation member wishes to put their name forward for election and take an active part in running the charity please contact John Baker or any current Trustee Director for details of how to obtain the necessary form and what is required in the way of proposer and seconder.



FOUNDATION DIARY DATES

Thursday 3 October

■ Concorde - the icon
John Hutchinson

Saturday 16 and Sunday 17 November

■ Royce Heritage Weekend and Foundation AGM. Confirmed speakers include Malcolm Tucker, Jonathan Wood, Colin Hughes, Nigel Thorley, John Brooks and Ian North

Royce Ltd catalogues provide insight into the pre-motor car era

HENRY ROYCE STARTED his company, F H Royce and Company (later to become Royce Ltd) in 1884. His first products were small electrical items, most notably electric bell sets and bayonet cap lampholders. (Royce patented the bayonet cap lampholder.) He soon moved on to larger items, electric motors and generators and then electric cranes, of which he produced a large variety. These were built in a new factory in Trafford Park, Manchester.

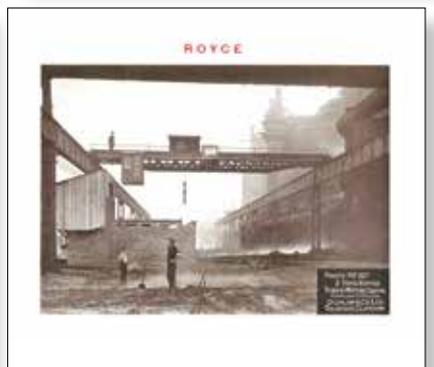
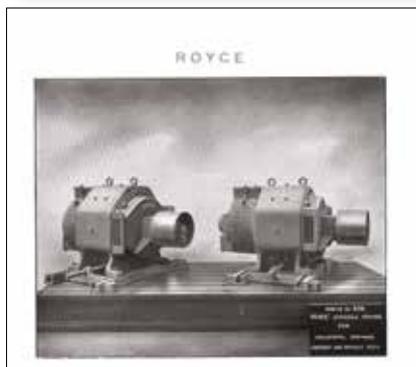
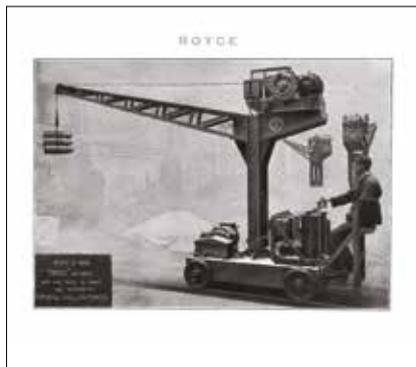
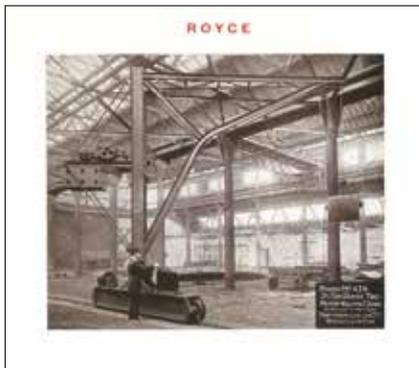
The Foundation is fortunate to have some fine examples of Royce's pre-motor car products - lampholders, generators, domestic electrical installation components and a motorised winch and a crane, which stands in The Hunt House courtyard.

However, until now the Foundation lacked any documentation or publicity material for Royce products. This has

been put right by yet another most generous donation by Tom Clarke, who has presented three Royce catalogues to the Foundation. These contain photographs of Royce crane installations which illustrate the huge variety of types the company produced, the majority of which must have been bespoke. These were exported all over the world.

After 1904, Royce's chief area of attention was motor cars, but he continued to oversee his crane business, Royce Ltd, until it was taken over by Herbert Morris of Loughborough in 1932. Herbert Morris continued to market cranes under the Royce Ltd name until after World War Two.

Philip Hall



FOUNDATION NEWS



The Tetris Twins report from SHRMF @ Burghley House

WHAT A STUNNING BACKDROP; this was my first full rally at Burghley and one could not have asked for anything more. The site looked crisp and the cars were perfect. The Hunt House marquee was hot but not too hot and the ice creams were just delicious.

My only disappointment was that the Foundation was not able to sell as much merchandise as we had hoped.

Fortunately, we were actively trying to find a buyer for the Michael Forrest 1925 Phantom I (37LC) and she held pride of place on the Foundation's display stand, surrounded by our new range of limited prints. It was a struggle to position her but all the pushing, pulling and panting meant she looked her best on the charcoal carpet and the mirrors on the floor displayed the craftsmanship. There was considerable interest in the car and the exacting standards of engineering.

Many visited the stand to view her for one last time and reminisce on the work involved, their friendship with Michael or to comment on the many articles he wrote during the rebuild. Members hold strong views about what is right and what is not: the vibrant discussions, I suspect, would have heartened Michael had he still been with us. The outcome was positive: offers abounded from local and distant UK enthusiasts and from as far afield as South Africa.

In the end, the family unanimously agreed to sell the car to a worthy young engineer who will finish it to the same standard that the



restoration enjoyed under Michael's hand. Good news for everyone is that the car will return to the rally in future years as each element of the work is completed. Our thanks go to Sally, Jane and Clive for allowing us the opportunity to display 37LC at The Hunt House and to assist them with finding her a good home. The new owner made a generous donation to the Foundation so, all round it was a successful weekend.

Despite the furor surrounding the Phantom I, I suspect that because it was my first rally, the "judging hat" came with the role and, as always, the cars were the stars. I was very pleased to work with



Michael Bailey and between us we judged the Most Elegant Car in Show. To ensure we were not ignored we dressed for the occasion and, as the *Tetris Twins*, we selected the ravishing 1964 Bentley S3 Continental (above) owned by Mr and Mrs Alan Rowlinson as the winner; appropriate considering the anniversary year but not the reason we selected the car.

It was a tiring weekend and involved long weeks in the build-up but I can honestly say it was worth all the hard work by so many people. I trust the sunshine will appear again next year when you will see Michael, Ian D and myself in matching suits of pure design and such elegance. Where else could you dress so flamboyantly and get away with it?

John Baker

The Sir Henry Royce Memorial Foundation

President: Charles Tabor Chairman: Duncan Featham Deputy Chairman: David Whale Company Secretary: Mark Griffiths

Trustees/Directors: Cedric Ashley, Chris Ball, John Beecroft, Stephen Byrne, Allan Fogg, Philip Hall, Ian Hick, Jane Pedler, Lindsay Robotham Business Manager: John Baker

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