



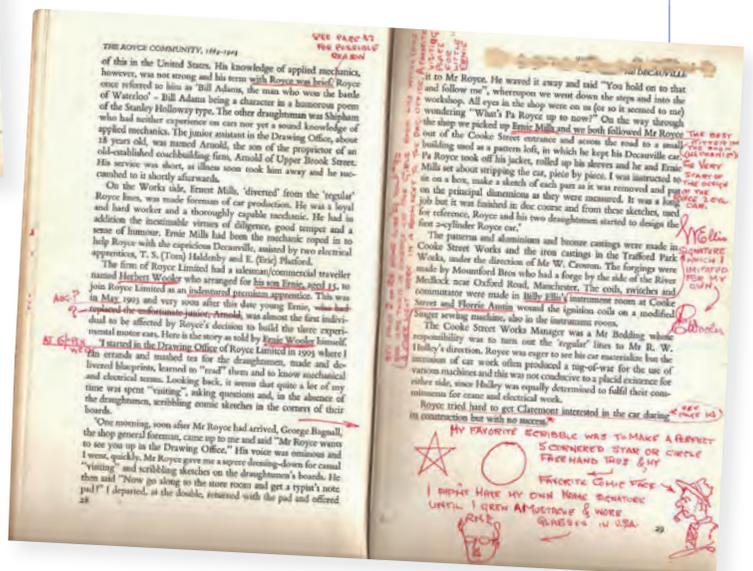
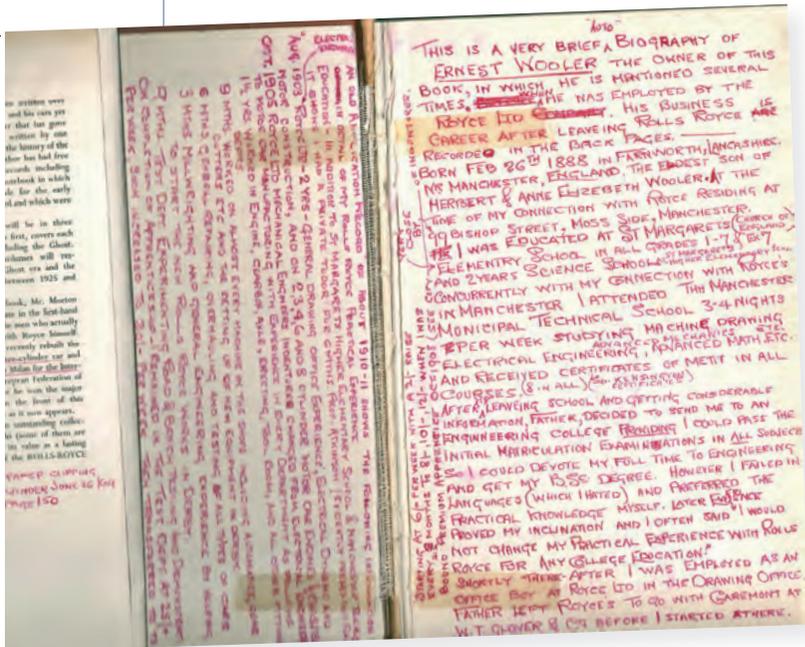
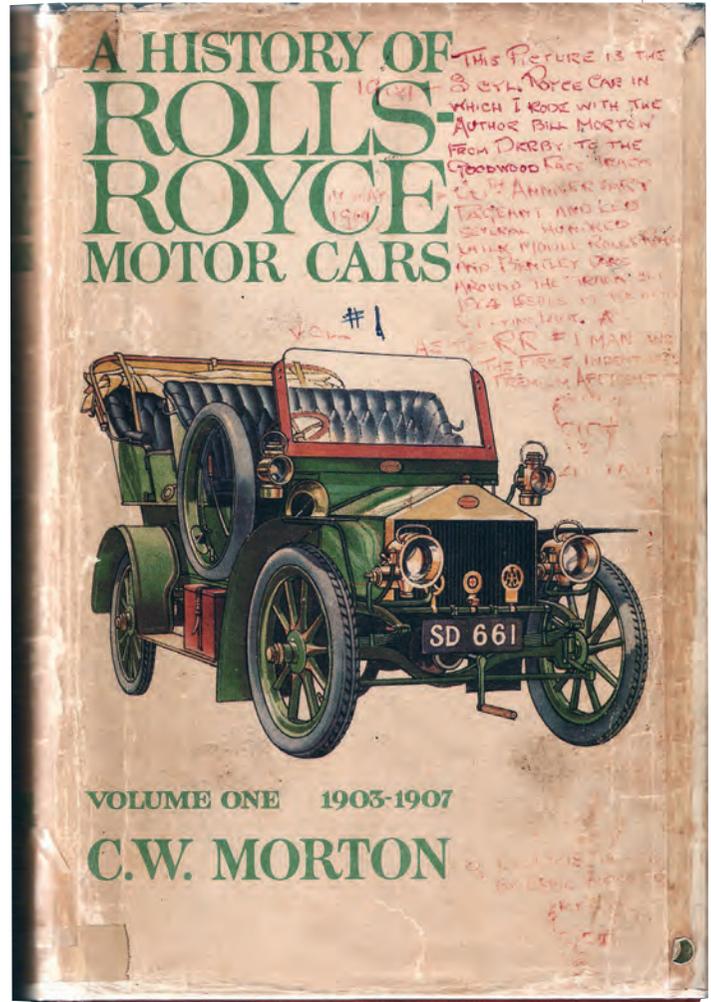
FOUNDATION NEWS

Hunt House Treasures **No.8**

Annotated Copy of Morton's Book

The 'Treasure' in this article is rather different from the items described earlier in this series, but it demonstrates the huge variety of the gems at The Hunt House. This item is worth very little in monetary terms, but as a source of detail in Rolls-Royce history its value is immense.

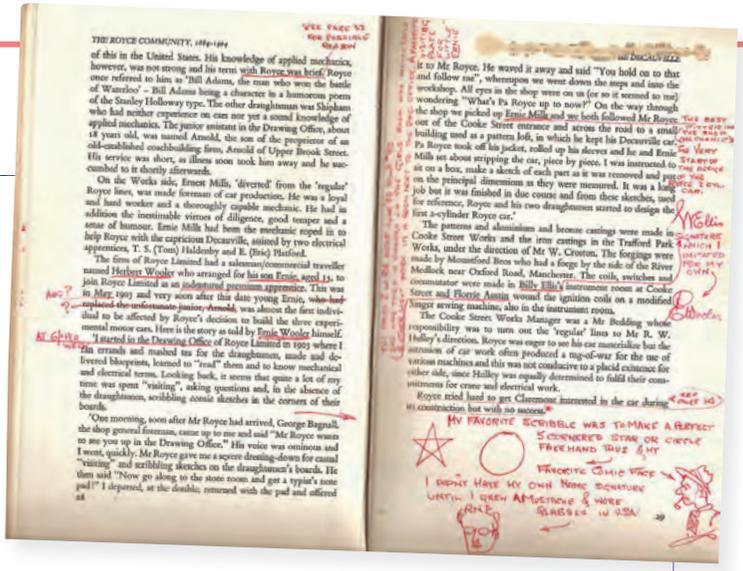
Many members will possess a copy of A History of Rolls-Royce Motor Cars, Volume One 1904-1907 by C W (Bill) Morton. The book was published in 1964 and was to have been the first of three volumes, volume two covering the Silver Ghost period, and volume three, the remaining pre-war models. Sadly Bill never completed the other two volumes, but we do have his draft for volume two at The Hunt House. Much of the material in this will be incorporated in Steve Hubbard's forthcoming sequel to The Edwardian Rolls-Royce by Fasal and Goodman.



The copy of the book to which this article refers belonged to Ernest Wooler. Ernie Wooler was born in 1888 and joined Royce Ltd in 1903; he was the Company's first indentured premium apprentice. (His indenture papers are also at The Hunt House.) He was one of a select few chosen by Royce to assist in the building of the first Royce car. He clearly knew Royce very well, and worked closely with him, Hives, Wormold, Northey, Haldenby and other great names of the early days. Ernie's father, Herbert Wooler, was a close friend of Claremont.



(50) Capt. Percy Nurthey at the wheel of a 10 hp 2-cylinder Royce or prototype Rolls-Royce car. Note the smart appearance and sloping bonnet, not a characteristic feature of the first and second Royce cars. (51) Below: Eric Platford with his fiancée in a Royce car.
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There are numerous references to Ernie throughout the book, and it is clear that the author relied heavily on his reminiscences as someone who was there at the time. In this copy of the book, Ernie has made hundreds of notes in the margins, some of which are very detailed indeed. These give a wealth of supplementary facts, record his own anecdotes and occasionally make corrections. He comments too, on the personal lives of those involved.

This most fascinating item was very generously donated to the Foundation by Tom Clarke in 2016.

Philip Hall

Scouts' Visit

Years ago the Foundation frequently hosted visits to The Hunt House by groups from local (and sometimes not so local) schools. Sadly, increased bureaucracy and intensified legislation have made such visits difficult to organise, and they no longer take place.

It was a great pleasure therefore to welcome a party of young people from the Greens Norton Scout Troop. Some twenty boys and girls, smartly dressed in their scout uniforms arrived on the evening of 13 December 2017 under their Leader, Aaron McConnell.

After some light refreshment in the conservatory, they were taken on a tour of The Hunt House. They had been told that at the end of the evening there would be a light-hearted quiz; they all seemed to take this seriously and were seen to be making copious notes, using a Foundation pen and pad which were included in a 'goodie' bag that had been given to them. One thing that they were fascinated to learn was that in the 1920s, boy scouts worldwide had contributed one penny each to buy a Rolls-Royce for their Founder, Lord Baden Powell.



The quiz comprised ten not-too-easy questions about what they had seen on the tour. Two scored nine out of ten, and after a tie-breaker question, Ed Riding was declared the winner.

It was an enjoyable evening for all concerned, and a delight to welcome this group of well-behaved young people.

Philip Hall



Ministry of Defence Apprentice Award

Since 1982, the Foundation has provided an annual award to a Ministry of Defence apprentice whose work has shown outstanding merit. Originally entrants were able to enter any piece of work which demonstrated their skills and craftsmanship, and over the years a huge variety of projects were submitted. However in 2016 the rules were changed, and the contestants are now required to design and fabricate a specified object.

The project for 2017 was a Survival Knife, and the five contestants produced a wide variety of lethal-looking articles. All showed a high standard of craftsmanship, and much ingenuity in incorporating special features. The entries were judged by Philip Hall and Professor Simon Jones, Pro-Vice-Chancellor of Cranfield University. Luke Worrall of Defence Munitions Gosport was declared the winner, and Lorn Trybis of Defence Equipment & Support Abbey Wood received an honourable mention.

The serious judging over, the contestants were then challenged to demonstrate the practicality of their knives by using them to make a cheese and tomato roll. Cutting in half a soft roll, slicing a tomato, slicing crumbly cheese, and spreading hard butter, proved a severe test of the knives' capabilities.

The Foundation award, together with some fifteen other MOD awards, was presented by HRH The Prince of Wales at the Apprentice Awards Ceremony in Whitehall on 7 December. Unfortunately security regulations prevented the actual prize, a Snap-on tool kit, from being taken into the MOD building. Luke Worrall's knife, by its very nature, also fell foul of security arrangements, and this had to be contained in a sealed glass case, rather than being openly exhibited. Prince Charles was therefore unable to handle Luke's creation, as he did other entries when he toured round and chatted to the apprentices.



➤ Luke Worrall with HRH The Prince of Wales

Philip Hall





Visit to Bicester Heritage



➔ Left to right. Bill McGawley OBE – SHRMF Trustee, Jane Pedler – SHRMF Trustee and Chairman, Francis Galashan – Chairman Bicester Heritage, John Pitchforth MD Heritage Skills Academy

For the last twelve months the Foundation has been working with the national Heritage Engineering Trailblazer Steering Group to conceive, design and implement the new Apprenticeship Framework.

During those discussions, it became apparent that both The Foundation and Bicester Heritage - who are both key members of that Steering Group, have complementary strategic objectives. Consequently, an exploratory visit by the Foundation Chairman, Jane Pedler and the Chairman of its Education & Awards Committee, Bill McGawley OBE was

made to the Bicester site on 26 January. After an extensive tour of the complex productive discussions ensued and it was agreed that both parties would continue to explore relevant initiatives for mutual benefit and a proposal is being prepared which will be presented to the Foundation Trustees at the March Board Meeting. In the picture above, Jane and Bill are shown with Francis Galashan who has masterminded the conversion of RAF Bicester into the impressive Bicester Heritage campus, along with John Pitchforth CEO of the Heritage Skills Academy. ◀

Lecture List 2018

Wednesday 16 May

History and Heritage of Morgan Motor Company (Subject to change) – Charles Morgan

Wednesday 16 May

The Spitfire and Seafire – Rod Dean

Thursday 4 October

The Golden Age of British Airships – Alastair Lawson

Saturday 17 November - Sunday 18 November

Royce Heritage Weekend and SHRMF AGM

Staff News:

At the end of December our Business Manager Graham Cottrell retired for the second time and he and Chris have now moved to Yorkshire, near Beverley. He worked for the Foundation for five years and the Trustees are very grateful for his dedication and hard work over that time, including the month of January 2018 where he engineered a holding operation and eventual handover to his replacement. We wish both of them all the best for the future and hope he will come back to visit.

The Trustees are pleased to announce the appointment of a new full time Business Manager, Ms Jane Sanderson. She took up the appointment on 5th February 2018 and by the time you read this should be well settled in and happy to talk to any members who wish to contact the office.

The Sir Henry Royce Memorial Foundation

President: Charles Tabor Chairman: Jane Pedler Deputy Chairman: Clive Green Company Secretary: Mark Griffiths Trustees/Directors: Cedric Ashley, Chris Ball, John Beecroft, Stephen Byrne, Duncan Feetham, Allan Fogg, Philip Hall, Ian Hick, David Whale Business Manager: Jane Sanderson

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