

Lagondaforum: A.E.Dobell M45 Monte Carlo

A.E.Dobell M45 Monte Carlo

Written by bruffsup at Sep 21, 2011 10:30 am

Just got my works record card from Jon Leo , Thank you Jon! and it is a Deusey, no it is a Lag but you know what I mean. It would seem appear that first owner Dobell (RAF base Malta) competed with this car successfully for several years winning his class at Monte Carlo in 1936 etc. If anyone can shed any more light on this interesting history I would be most grateful.

Re: A.E.Dobell M45 Monte Carlo

Written by Colin M34 at Sep 21, 2011 9:36 pm

Hello Barry,

You need to buy a copy of Arnold Davey's Lagonda history book - the David and Charles one with the blue cover.He co-authored this with Anthony May.

It's long out of print but second hand ones regularly turn up on eBay. It's a "must have" - Arnold goes into much detail about competitive use of Lagondas and I'm sure you will enjoy it!

Colin M34

Re: A.E.Dobell M45 Monte Carlo

Written by bruffsup at Sep 22, 2011 12:23 am

Will do. Thanks agin Colin.

Re: A.E.Dobell M45 Monte Carlo

Written by Julian at Nov 05, 2011 9:56 am

Hi Barry,

Interested to hear more as Mr Laqueur (the "L" from LMB) actually owns the Dobell 1935-36-37 Monte Carlo M45 Rapide!

Reg number, BPK 743

Chassis # Z11134R

The car resides in our workshop. I drove it at the Brooklands celebration earlier this year.

What chassis number and Reg is your car? and is it a Rapide?

Would be very interesting to know more.

Best regards,

Julian

Re: A.E.Dobell M45 Monte Carlo

Written by Colin M34 at Nov 05, 2011 5:30 pm

I knew BPK 743 about 30 years ago, before Mr Laqueur bought and restored it.

At the time it was owned by a nice man called Harry Goldstone who lived near me in Aldeburgh in Suffolk. He was a very keen Lagonda enthusiast and had bought the car from Dan Margulies. However Harry was rather skint and when I knew him the car was in pretty bad shape and certainly I never saw it on the road. I think he had hand painted it.

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However, BPK 743 was certainly his pride and joy and was very proud of its rallying history. Harry dreamt of driving it one day though sadly this never happened and he passed away without having the same pleasure Julian had driving it at Brooklands.

Harry also had some very pretty daughters who had some excellent parties...

I could possibly have bought BPK 743 though in those days but it was still quite valuable and being in my early 30s I had just moved into a pretty run-down 18th century house that took all my energy to restore. I don't regret not being able to buy such a historic car because it would have needed so much work at the same time I was trying to get rid of dry rot....

It is now a pleasure seeing BPK 743 in fine condition and in such good hands.

Cheers

Colin M34

Re: A.E.Dobell M45 Monte Carlo

Written by bruffsup at Nov 06, 2011 12:59 am

Hi Julian, That is interesting as I gather from reading my recently arrived "History of the Marque" that Mr. Dobell had several Lagondas. My car Z10492 , apparently the 14th M45 made? was sold to Dobell and shipped to RAF base Malta. Whether or not it competed in anything is unknown to me , maybe it just towed mosquitos around! There is quite a copious file on my car along with the factory record card I received from Jon Leo and all the numbers match. The registration number is AOB253 . I have the log book and number plates. I would love to know if any early photos of the car exist. Thanks, Barry

Re: A.E.Dobell M45 Monte Carlo

Written by Julian at Nov 07, 2011 9:32 am

Hi Barry,

Yes, I am sure Mr. Dobell had more Lags as I have seen references to an M45 also, I will try to find it again for you.

We should get together on this as we (Macko) have a massive amount of info on BPK and Mr. Dobell and am sure that if we look hard enough we will find something about your car!

Would be great to see them both together!

Interestingly Macko's car has some plaques fixed by Dobell on the car with his name and contact details etc. etc. and also another with the chassis and engine number, I think probably for customs issues on the Monte. The crazy man started from Tallinn in Estonia of all places!

Best regards,

Julian

PS.

Collin,

It was rather "tired" when we got it, but after some gentle fettling it was running well enough for me to drive it on our LMB Alpine rally about 15 years ago when we met the club for dinner in Molsheim!

Thanks for the kind words.

J