

Lagondaforum: M45 Saloon "Olympia Exhibition Car"

M45 Saloon "Olympia Exhibition Car"

Written by E.Harvin at Nov 08, 2012 1:35 pm

Hello all, I'm new to the forum.

I've had the pleasure recently of being around some lovely pre-war Lagondas, and felt the need to expand my knowledge about these fine motorcars.

Last week I came across this M45 Sports Saloon, which claims to have been one of the Olympia Exhibition cars. Story has it that it was purchased new by a British diplomat dispatched to Germany, and the car remained here in Germany ever since. The coachwork is said to be by John Charles Ltd.

Does anyone happen to know more about the history of this car? Seems to be very interesting.

Attachments:

[M45 Sports Saloon.jpg](#) (filesize: 125.86 KB)

Re: M45 Saloon "Olympia Exhibition Car"

Written by bruffsup at Nov 08, 2012 2:22 pm

Whatever it is I love it!

Re: M45 Saloon "Olympia Exhibition Car"

Written by E.Harvin at Nov 08, 2012 5:42 pm

It is lovely isn't it... a few more pics sorry for poor quality.

Attachments:

[M45Saloon2.jpg](#) (filesize: 198.29 KB)

[M45Saloon3.jpg](#) (filesize: 126.79 KB)

Re: M45 Saloon "Olympia Exhibition Car"

Written by h14 at Nov 08, 2012 9:29 pm

Seems to have a V12 rev counter!

Re: M45 Saloon "Olympia Exhibition Car"

Written by Peter S30 at Nov 09, 2012 2:28 pm

I remember that I received an email in July this year that this car was for sale for 118k EUR and you can see it here:

<http://www.klassiker-handel.de/fahrzeuge/lagonda-m45-sportssaloon/>

It has an interesting and what I understand original body but I also must say that most Lagonda factory bodies look at least as nice as the coachbuilt ones

Re: M45 Saloon "Olympia Exhibition Car"

Written by h14 at Nov 09, 2012 3:53 pm

Hi Peter,

You echo my sentiments, I've yet to see an alternative coachbuilder's body that competes with Lagonda's (ie Frank Feeley's) own. This one is interesting but perhaps too fussy for my taste.

That said, I quite like the V12 tourer by (I think) Vanden Plas, which I believe still survives in America, much better than Lagonda's unsurprisingly rare tourer offering on the V12/LG6 chassis.

But of course they were different times. The non-Lagonda coachwork purchaser presumably wanted, perhaps for that very reason, something

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different to the factory offerings. That still doesn't explain why some truly gruesome and staid formal bodies were built on one of the period's most advanced and fastest chassis!

Laurence

Re: M45 Saloon "Olympia Exhibition Car"

Written by E.Harvin at Nov 09, 2012 6:09 pm

Peter, you're right the car was up in Hamburg, but now it is in Berlin being offered by Jaguar Groß. Same price as I recall.

I believe that it's passed through the hands of a few German dealers over the last year or so, I'm surprised there hasn't been more interest.

I think it's a nice example with interesting history if the story is correct.

Their price seems a tad optimistic... though having said that a comparable special bodied sports saloon with history by some other marques often command quite a bit more.
