

August 2012

Gazette



The official Mercedes-Benz Club
Founded 1952

In this month's issue



National Concours



'Auto-tainment Day'



Alloy wheel
refurbishment

20 per cent off SLK fitted luggage



Hillsalve luggage in the boot... ..and out.

Life-long automotive fans Rob and Heather Hill perfected the dark art of squeezing belongings into an assortment of small soft bags and plastic carriers and cramming them into the rear of their Morgan 4/4 two-seater – but the time it took drove them mad. Rob explains: "As every classic car enthusiast will know, it's not just the issue of making the best use of every available inch of the restricted luggage space, it's the wretched experience of numerous trips outside to where the car is parked (sometimes in the rain and cold) forcing small bags back into the car. It often felt like trying to do a crazy jigsaw puzzle."

Pre-war sightings



A 500K at Brooklands – later to receive a diesel engine?

You might have caught sight of this car in your daily paper. It has recently been "discovered" and is to be auctioned at the Goodwood Revival in September. An enquiry to John Mack, son-in-law of the Club's Founder Ronald Johnson, revealed that it was well known to Ronald. This photo came from his records and his notes confirm that it is a 1928 36-220 with fabric-covered coachwork by Cadogan. Ronald also recorded that it had been fitted with a Wilson pre-selector gearbox in 1931, its exhaust pipes are "covered over", it has a "wheel dashboard [mounted] brake adjuster" and is equipped with a steering damper. He goes on to say that it lapped Goodwood at 69mph in 1951 and the last entry says it was still owned by C W Brocklebank of Suffolk – whose family is now putting it up for sale.



1928 36-220 to be sold at Goodwood.

By co-incidence these two photos of another grand pre-war car also came to hand recently, taken by Brooklands Society member Ian Sutherland's father. They show the car park at Brooklands in 1934 and doesn't the Mercedes stand out? Even the Bentley in front of it looks a little mundane. John Mack's search of Ronald Johnson's notes on this car suggest it is a 500K later well-known in the Club when it was owned by Commander Cavendish – who installed a Perkins diesel engine in it.

Chris Bass

So Rob, an engineer by trade, decided to solve the problem by designing and making bags which perfectly fitted the luggage area of their car. Suddenly life on the road became infinitely more enjoyable. As long as their belongings could be packed in the bags they could go straight into the car. This innovative and practical solution caught the eye of other car owners at events around the country and orders began to flow in, leading to the formation of Hillsalve Solutions Limited, which now provides UK-manufactured luggage systems for more than 90 different sports cars, including the R170, R171 and R172 SLKs. All Hillsalve luggage is made from high quality, abrasion-resistant polyester, available in a range of colours, with brushed nylon linings. The sides are fully-stiffened, ensuring your belongings arrive in great condition. Hillsalve is currently developing a luxury range in leather.

Hillsalve will give a 20 per cent discount to Club Members if they contact the company directly via e-mail on heather@hillsalve.co.uk or by telephone on 0121 308 3172 or 07932 315942 with their membership number. General information on its products is available from the website www.hillsalveluggage.com

Tony De Frates

Mount Cinnamon Beach Club and Resort



Mount Cinnamon.

Mount Cinnamon is pleased to offer Mercedes-Benz Club Members an attractive offer – book seven nights and pay for just five, plus receive complimentary breakfast and free car rental for three days! This will be valid until October 31 this year.

Set on a majestic hillside amongst fragrant spice trees, with bewitching views of undulating white sand beaches, Peter de Savary's Mount Cinnamon is a boutique resort with 21 luxurious suites and villas, all boasting breathtaking views of the vibrant Caribbean island of Grenada. The lavish villas vary between one and three bedrooms and each has a spacious sitting room, kitchen with breakfast bar and an outdoor terrace with a view of the serenity of the island.

Activities range from hiking through lush rainforests, rafting mountain rivers to snorkelling the calm waters off the beach cabana – before a barbecue of freshly caught seafood. This is luxurious *Robinson Crusoe* living at its best. Water sports, tennis, a pool, a gym, a yoga centre and a spa are available for those looking for more conventional pursuits.

Warm, stylish and intimate, Mount Cinnamon offers discerning guests the ultimate Caribbean resort experience. For further information visit www.mountcinnamongrenadahotel.com e-mail reservations@mountcinnamongrenada.com or call 01473 4394400. To book please quote the code MB12.

James Lloyd

