



Tel. 08458 334455 +44 1925 210035

1924 Rolls-Royce 20hp Tourer Lot Entry: 27



Specification

Lot Number: 27 Sold For £31,920

Auction Sales 19/04/2012

Reg Number:

XR 1292

Chassis Number:

GF12

Engine Number:

G698

Cc:

3164

Body Colour:

Grey

Trim Colour:

Red

MOT ExpiryDate:

T.B.A.

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Unveiled in 1922, the 20HP was a second string to the Rolls-Royce bow - a shorter, more economical sibling to the Silver Ghost, which broadened the marque's reach to include the very rich as well as the seriously wealthy. Instantly distinguished by its horizontal radiator shutters (only the last of the line were fitted with vertical ones), the newcomer was constructed around a ladder-frame chassis of 129-inch wheelbase. Power came from a 3127cc straight-six, OHV monobloc engine, that was mated directly to a three-speed manual gearbox operated by a centre-change (the modernity of which caused a degree of controversy at the time of launch!). Suspension was by semi-elliptic leaf springs front and rear. Braking was initially on the rear wheels alone, while steering was by worm and nut. Progressively updated to feature a four-speed gearbox (with more familiar right-hand change!) and servo-assisted all-wheel braking, the 'baby' Rolls remained in production until 1929, by which time some 2,885 examples are understood to have vacated the company's Derby factory. Lighter and more responsive than the Silver Ghost, the 20HP was also capable of exceeding 60mph. Bare chassis were priced at £1,100, to which all manner of bodies were fitted.

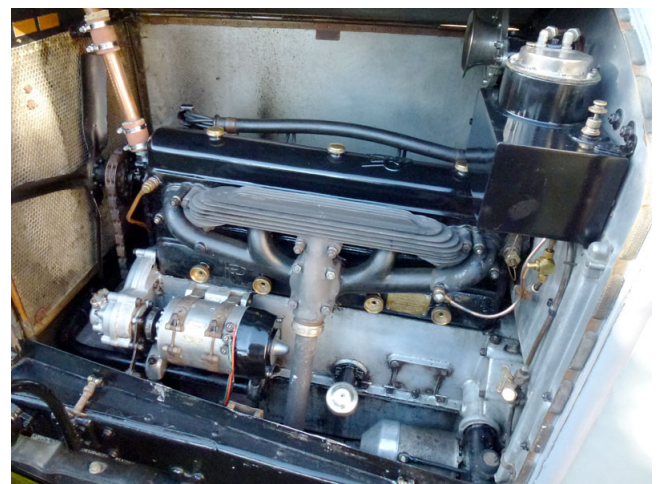
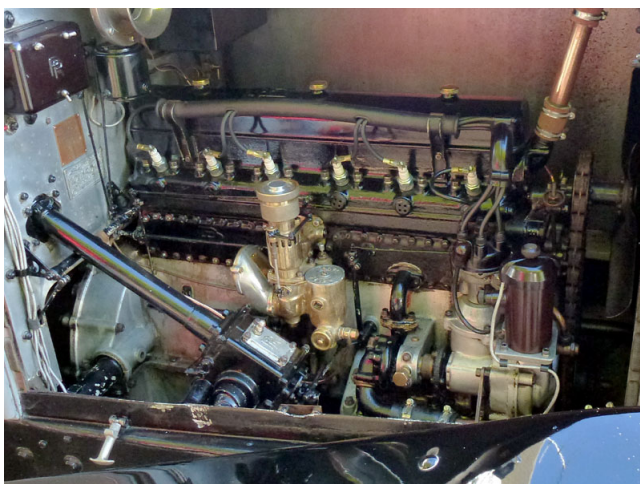
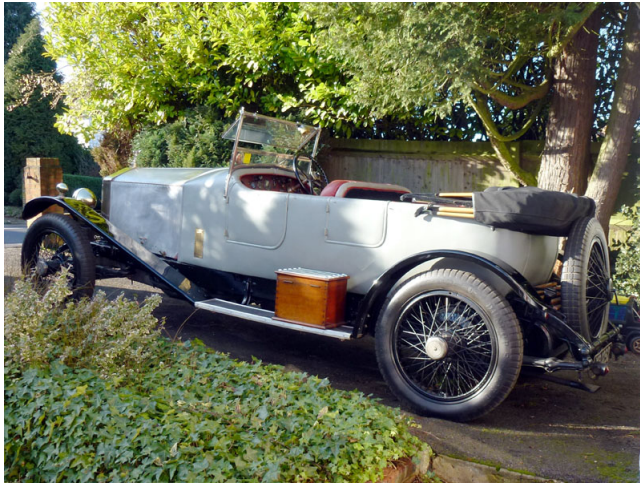
This particular example - chassis number GF12 - was supplied new to the high ranking civil servant and businessman, Sir George Barstow KCB. Always fitted with Tourer coachwork, its original Salmons body was supplanted by a more rakish Chamberlain one during the 1950s. Acquired through the renowned Rolls-Royce historian and author John Fasal, 'XR 1292' has been in the vendor's care since 1986. The step-grandson of W.O. Bentley, he informs us that (a) the engine "runs well (though emits some smoke)", (b) the bodywork, paintwork and interior trim are in "good" order, and (c) the Rolls' electrical equipment is "very good with the exception of the ammeter". Currently on SORN, this appealing, four-seater Rolls-Royce is now seeking a new home.



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Image



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Image

