

color, indeed? Why not black and red?

And so, when the 1948 London Show opened, the most striking exhibit on the Bentley Motors stand was B287BG, James Young-Gurney Nuttingbody 2402, a Gurney Nutting C.15 sedanca coupé in black and red. The James Young-Gurney Nutting records say B287BG was painted in the same pattern "as job 2400" (that is, as the Showing the Flag car, B175AJ), and in fact it was, except that the London Show car had black wheel discs, lined red (as on the King-Darling car). Not only were the exterior colors the same, B287BG was trimmed with red leather (Connolly number V. M.3171), piped in black, exactly the same as the first two C.15 bodies.

#### Eclipsed by the 'New Look'

Despite its resplendent color combination, the black and red Gurney Nutting C.15 sedanca coupé did not garner as much attention at the 1948 London Show as its designers perhaps expected. This was the year of the "New Look" cars, as they were christened, "full width" bodies with modern styling. In contrast, the C.15 sedanca coupé was, as *The Autocar* put it, a "particularly noteworthy" example of an "uncompromising car in traditional style and impeccable taste." *The Motor* snipped that the sedanca coupé had been "seen before" (possibly they thought it was the same black and red car that had gone to the U.S. the year before, or perhaps they meant only that the design was not a new one), and perhaps because of that reason, no photos of the C.15 sedanca coupé appeared in automotive press accounts of the show. The Institute of British Carriage and Automobile Manufacturers were still conducting their coachwork competition at the 1948 show, but neither the red and black sedanca coupé, nor another variation of the C.15 exhibited on the Gurney Nutting stand, received any awards (possibly because the C.15 was not a new design, but more likely because it was eclipsed by the novelty of the "new look" bodies).

*The Autocar* noted that the sedanca coupé was offered at £6120 (including U.K. purchase tax), which made it the most expensive car on the Bentley stand. It was likewise the most expensive car - by a lot - in the 1949 Bentley catalog, at

#### Sedanca Coupés, Not Black & Red

Three more of the 'blank quarter' C.15 sedanca coupés were built, but none was black and red. One or two of these were probably released as James Young bodies.

Body No.	Chassis No.	Reg. No.	Color Scheme	First Owner	Present Owner
2404	B142CF	LKK232	grey 'pattern'	Lady Hague	Bernard Crowley
2406	B320LFV	Belgium	unknown	E. Meerl	unknown
2407	B68EY	KRX15	green-grey & Cadillac green	Mrs. Chondris	unknown

I speculate that Lady Hague's car was done in two-tone grey, to the pattern shown on McNeil's wash drawing, but this cannot be ascertained for certain. Possibly, B320LFV was sent abroad unpainted and untrimmed to lessen the import duty. Mrs. Chondris' car was photographed, and if in the original colors, grey-green was very light, and the paint pattern used differs from that on McNeil's drawing.

In addition, six other C.15 sedanca coupés were built with 'tear drop' windows in the rear quarters in place of false louvre bars. See "A Pair of Unusual Bentleys", *The Flying Lady*, May/June, 1984 pp. 2872-2874.

£3900 (plus £2168 tax), around £400 more than the basic prices for other coachbuilt Mark VI bodies, and half again as much as the Mark VI standard steel saloon. For less money, you might own a Bentley, but you wouldn't own a sedanca coupé.

#### Egypt

Following the show, B287BG was shipped to the Cairo Motor Co. (the Bentley dealer in Cairo and Alexandria), for Chawaby Bey. Delivery date is listed as December 15, but I presume that is the date it was shipped to Egypt, rather than its actual delivery date to its first owner. In pre-1952 Egypt, "Bey" was a title roughly equivalent to knighthood in England, and thus the new owner can be thought of as "Sir

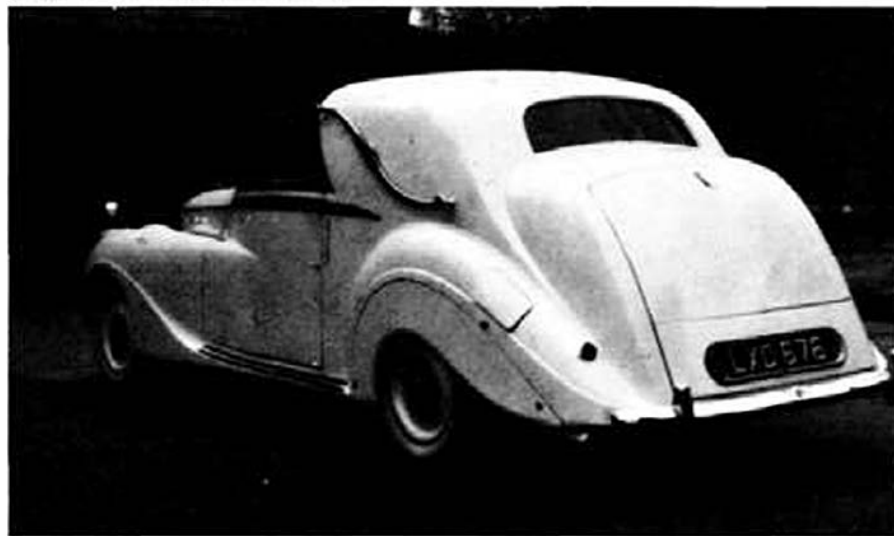
Chawaby." I know nothing, however, of Chawaby Bey, except that this was not the only time this gentleman's name appears on RR-Bentley sales records. Very recently, B287BG has surfaced in Europe after all these years, but at this writing I have no information on its history.

#### The First Black and Red

And what of the first black and red sedanca coupé, B175AJ, the 1947 Showing the Flag tour car?

The sedanca coupé was possibly retained by Inskip or by the factory for demonstration purposes for some time after the tour. Alternatively, B175AJ was sold on the tour, and later sold back to Inskip, or perhaps to some other dealer. The records are not entirely clear.

B175AJ in 1966, after repainting by Norris Allen - see F1879. Some wheel, bumpers, exhaust, and rear sheet metal have been changed (note inset British number plate unit), but chrome strips remain on body under doors. Norris Allen photo.



CARS FOR SALE



**SILVER CLOUD III (CDL791)** 1964 James Young lwb saloon. RHD; two-tone brown/gold; tan hides, sunroof, a/c, excel cond.; no division, rare car. 1 of 39 built; front brakes and servo just rebuilt; hides just Cannalized; 20,000 mi on total engine rebuild. \$65,000. **Bud Marley**, 4255 S. Olive St., No. 9, Denver, CO 80237 303-7588331.

**SILVER CLOUD III (RCEL77)** 1964 lwb saloon. LHD; black w/ beige leather; recent bare metal paint, a/c; new tires; division; mechanically sound; maintained in showroom condition; 89,000 mi. \$65,000. **Robert Thomejan**, TX 512-340-9916.

**SILVER SHADOW (SRH2864)** 1967 saloon. RHD; maroon w/ dark tan leather; good eng., transmission, a/c; folding roof; good interior condition. \$10,000. **Neil Anderson**, 14755 Preston Rd., Suite 515, Dallas, TX 75240 214-386-7350.



**SILVER SHADOW (SRH5581)** 1969 saloon. RHD; flawless porcelain white w/ black hides; all pur., a/c; maint. by RR trained British mech.; strong eng.; new carpets. wood in excel. cond.; rust-free; never damaged; delight to drive; will del. for expenses; cert. appraisal, \$25,000; 111,000 gentle mi. Asking \$19,000. **Steve Wagner**, Valparaiso, IN 219-462-1048 summer, 813-262-0041 winter.

**SILVER SHADOW (SRX6767)** 1969 saloon. LHD; Caribbean blue with blue-grey interior; recently rebuilt hydraulics front to back; no rust; runs like a top; 54,000 documented miles; full history - I am second owner. Asking \$20,000. **Bob Beny**, 2944 Yellow Creek Rd., Akron, OH 44333 800-276-7891 or 216-668-1502 days, 216-836-6542 eves.

**SILVER SHADOW (SRX7026)** 1969 saloon. LHD; sand over Astakhan (deep brown) w/ brick red fine line; beige interior; excellent mechanics; brightwork, wood, and glass; good finish and hides; less than 47,000 mi. \$27,500. **R.C. Mandrala**, Flat Rock, NC 704-696-2665.

**SILVER SHADOW (SRH7641)** 1969 saloon. RHD; dark blue w/ grey interior; lambswool carpets; excellent physical and mechanical condition; new brakes and rotors; new tires; overhauled c/c system; must sell; under 100,000 mi. \$15,000 but negotiable. **E. Walter Snyder**, FL 407-495-1150.

**SILVER SHADOW (LRA13468)** 1972 lwb saloon. Two-tone grey exterior; black Everflex roof; red hides; Moutons red mats; workable vent windows; factory air and cruise; meticulously maintained, as new condition; 54,000 mi. \$35,000. **Kirk Storm**, 12520 Edgewater Dr., Lakewood, OH 44107 216871-8390 days, 216-228-1005 eves.

CARS FOR SALE



**CORNICHE (DRH11492)** 1971 Mulliner, Park Ward drophead coupé. LHD conversion prior to 1987 purchase, Wimbledon, white w/ new dark blue stayfast top; saddle leather interior; factory air; Mitsubishi radio, cassette w/ stereo; beautiful car; must see to appreciate; 87,941 mi. \$42,000. **Phyllis Newton**, 39445 Co. Rd. 29, Woodland, CA 95695 916-642-0801.

**CORNICHE (CRA14045)** 1973 Mulliner, Park Ward drophead coupé. LHD; white exterior incl. top; olive green interior; chocolate carpeting; original chrome bumpers; Sony hi-fi w/ cd player; excellent in and out; 96,000 mi. \$27,500. **Charles Stern**, 13721a Playa, San Francisco, CA 94122 415-333-3939.

**CORNICHE (DRB15744)** 1973 Mulliner, Park Ward drophead coupé. White w/ cream white top; tan leather interior; one of the last chrome bumpers, full grille cars delivered in the U.S.; original owner; absolutely flawless; 1st place at National RROC Meet 1987; 22,000 mi. \$55,000. **Steve Morton**, 71-094 La Paz Rd., Rancho Mirage, CA 92270 619-328-7657 or 714-721-8424 Newport Beach.

**SILVER SHADOW (IRO20726)** 1975 lwb saloon. White w/ dark blue Everflex top; dark blue leather; excellent cond.; all maint. records available since new; garaged and covered; 53,787 mi. \$28,500. **Leslie Blankenship**, 695 Cloverdale Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45246 513-825-2488.

**SILVER SHADOW (IRD22062)** 1975 lwb saloon. Brown exterior w/ beige Everflex top; tan leather; excellent mechanical condition; runs and drives great; beautiful car; 75,000 mi. \$19,000 a.b.o. **Russell Ellis**, 780 Warburton Rd., Elkton, MD 21921 410-287-6681.

**SILVER SHADOW (IRE25170)** 1976 lwb saloon. LHD; walnut over silver sand; brown Everflex top; beige interior; rust-free; very reliable car; drives excellent. \$21,000. **Bill Williams**, 21917 River Rd., St. Claire Shores, MI 48080 313-886-2012.

**SILVER SHADOW (IRE25687)** 1976 lwb saloon. LHD; midland green (olive) w/ black Everflex top; beige leather; very good condition; owned since '87; 64,000 mi. Reduced to \$18,900. **Mike Ziegler**, 437 Auburn St., Allentown, PA 18103 610-435-6920.

**SILVER WRAITH II (IRX30883)** 1977 lwb saloon. Black w/ black top; tan leather interior; orig. paint and interior excellent; floor mats and foot rest, all books and service records; vehicle always garaged and covered; 36,000 orig. mi. \$45,000. **R. Salido**, Tucson, AZ. For info call Bill McKenna, 818-222-1019 days, 805-482-1663 eves.

**SILVER SHADOW II (SRG34539)** 1978 saloon. LHD; elegant black/silver exterior; black leather interior; pampered since new by loving original owner; original panache; all Southern California 32,924 mi. \$24,000. **Ron Reiter**, 2303 Wayne Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90027 213-667-2191.

CARS FOR SALE

**SILVER WRAITH II (URG35129)** 1978 lwb saloon. LHD; white w/ tan Everflex top; tan thr. int.; new throughout; beautiful paint finish; CA car, always garaged and covered; meticulously maintained by top RR mechanic; 54,000 mi. \$36,500. **Larry Heinzmann**, 6669 Mt. Forest Dr., San Jose, CA 95120 408-395-3700 days M-F.



**SILVER SHADOW II (SRG35358)** 1978 saloon. LHD; factory a/c, pw, door locks and seats; cd/stereo; all tools, books and records; new tires; engine and interior are flawless; always garaged; never damaged; expertly maintained - flawless; needs nothing; 67,000 mi. \$29,000. **Will Stuart**, Miami, FL 305-252-6680 days, 305-252-8999 eves.

**SILVER WRAITH II (URK37600)** 1979 lwb saloon. LHD; onyx w/ tan Everflex top; tan interior; beautiful condition; excellent mechanics; 83,400 mi. \$25,000. **John Griffin**, 205 Gossania Park, Auburn, CA 95603 916-885-1503.

**CORNICHE II (DAG-14717)** 1986 Mulliner, Park Ward drophead coupé. Magnolia w/ tan top and interior; all options incl. refreshment decanters in each door; absolutely as new; truly unblemished; 13,000 mi. \$92,500. **Nic Petroff**, Windstar, 5090 Park Dr., Vardon, OH 44089 216-467-0022.

**SRVER SPUR (NAK-27434)** 1989 lwb saloon. All white, incl. Everflex roof; Bermuda blue leather w/ white piping; all extras incl. Motorola car phone; showroom new; only 6,000 mi. Asking \$75,000. **Maurice Chappelle**, FL 813-794-3755.



**BENTLEY 3 1/2 LITRE (B37DX)** 1935 Vanden Plas tourer. Delivered new to India, May 1935. Less than 2,000 mi. since a body-off restoration in England 12 years ago. White w/ red leather and black hood, tonneau and side curtains; has owner's manual, tools, etc. ready to show or tour. \$95,000 or trade for late Bentley DHC or saloon. **Dote Powers**, FL 813-778-7270.

**BENTLEY MARK VI (B340DA)** 1949 saloon. One owner CA car; no corrosion; tools; runs strong; good orig. cond.; always maintained at RR agencies; papers available. \$11,000. **Richard Parker**, CA 818-753-5679.

**BENTLEY MARK VI (B320LFV)** 1949 Gurney Nutting sedan coupé. LHD. rare model, Mason's black with vermilion Connolly interior; original tools; handbook; one of the most elegant Mark VI's produced; photos available. Offers in the region at \$75,000 U.S. Contact **Chris Sos**, Toronto, Canada 416-484-9045, 416-720-1133.

# The 2009 Amelia Island Concours d'Elégance

Edward H. Jelinek (NE)

Not the Isle of Mist but the early morning fog at this year's Amelia Island Concours d'Elégance. Edward Herbst's 1949 Mark VI (B320LFV) Gurney Nutting sedanca de ville drives through the show field looking for their class and the sun.



All photos: Larry S. Glenn

Every year in March for the last 14 years, Bill Warner and his crew have held the Amelia Island Concours d'Elégance at the Ritz-Carlton hotel. It is known as the "fun" concours because everyone seems to have a great time without all the nervousness prevalent at other such events. Here you see approximately 275 cars, both classic and racing cars, displayed on the golf course fairways. From the beginning, this concours set out to invite a racing personality to be "Honorary Chairman" and this year's choice was ex racing driver and Speed TV personality David Hobbs.

Events began on Thursday with the Rolls-Royce Wine Maker's Dinner at The Ritz-Carlton. The following day was full of activities: seminars at the hotel on such subjects as "the Great Customizers" and photograph collections, the FedEx Road Tour, and RM's auction preview. There were far too many things to do, so you had to budget your time carefully.

Each year since the beginning of the Road Tour in 2000 (started by Jerry Foley to honor the Mercer marque), I have been a volunteer helper at this event. It started out by helping our friend Jerry Foley with an informal road tour to Fort Clinch where we had lunch in the

woods in the good company of friends and owners. The fort is a most interesting place as it is a pre-civil war fort that never saw battle, neither in the Civil War nor any other. Since the fort is in very original condition, one can see how they lived and worked in its day. It is certainly worth a look. Today, FedEx is the sponsor of the tour and we still go to Fort Clinch, but only spend 45 minutes there and people don't get a good chance to tour the fort. We then drive to Fernandina Beach where we have an enjoyable lunch in a local restaurant and the tour breaks up after lunch, with each participant making their way back to the Ritz-Carlton.



**RC44 (1936 4½L)** Vanden Plas tourer Owner: A. Simo  
The Spirit of the Mille Miglia Trophy - The Car That Best Expresses  
The Spirit of Road Racing



**S335RL (1926 SSG)** RRCCW Piccadilly Owner: L. Boynton  
Automobile Magazine's Driving Enthusiasts Award - The Individual  
Who Drives Their Car Regularly