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Below: this 1935 Triumph Gloria Twelve saloon still radiates charm, despite being off the road for over 40 years



Paul McCartney's DB5 revived

Walter Baroni, a specialist in English classic cars of Corsico, Milan, sends us these pictures of an Aston Martin DB5 that he is restoring that once belonged to Paul McCartney. *Time* magazine described the Sierra Blue car 'BY 379B' as 'spiffy' in its September 22, 1967 issue: 'Bachelor Paul, 25 (his favorite [sic] "bird" is 21-year-old actress Jane Asher), is a movie addict, loves "the look of London", tools around town in a spiffy blue Aston Martin DB5.'

Aston Martin Heritage Trust found the build sheet which confirms that DB5/1653/R

was sold to McCartney, one of the giveaway extras being a Phillips Acro Mignon record player.

After its initial 500-mile service on October 7, 1964 the next entry on the build sheet is dated 1970 when it had a new clutch and various other works at 40,513 miles. Might this be when McCartney sold the car, to its next owner, Truebell Stationers of Wandsworth?

McCartney's former DB6 'LLO 880D' lives with Aston Martin's Works Service division.

More English car restoration pics, mostly Jaguars, can be found at www.baronilegend.com



Love me do: this Aston Martin DB5 being restored in Milan by Walter Baroni was once owned by Paul McCartney

Not so Gloria

This original, unrestored, 1935 Triumph Gloria Twelve saloon recently came to light in South Wales, and is now back in Devon where it was originally registered and where it has spent all bar three years of its life. It has been off the road for at least 40 years.

Says David Churchill of Auto-Invest, who is offering the car for sale: 'In 2007 it was sold to an elderly man in South Wales who intended to restore it but never did. A friend of his asked me if I was interested in it since we had previously sold the definitive Gloria Southern Cross Tourer 'BLX 454' (ex-Donald Healey 50th anniversary tour of USA car). So the car is now back five miles from where it started in mid-Devon.'

The Pre-1940 Triumph Owners Club estimates that from a total production of 3400, only 11 of the 117 built with this type of saloon bodywork have survived with their bodies intact, with six other survivors sporting altered coachwork.

Still fitted with its original 1232cc four-cylinder Coventry Climax engine (actually only ever producing 10.8hp) and freewheel gearbox, this 75-year-old car is fitted with an original (presumably from new) Weathershield period sunroof, and it retains its original Exeter registration number of 'BFJ 54'.

For more details see www.autoinvest.co.uk or call 01363 83909.