

ABOUT THE CLUB

The Armstrong Siddeley Owners Club was formed in the early 1960s to help owners maintain and preserve their cars and to promote interest in Armstrong Siddeley and other makes associated with Siddeley.

Armstrong Siddeley is one of the great Coventry marques, Armstrong Siddeley Motors being formed in 1919 by a merger between Armstrong Whitworth and the Siddeley Deasey Motor Company of Parkside, Coventry. The early history of the Company is largely the story of John Davenport Siddeley, first Baron Kenilworth, a man of vision and determination who first started making cars in 1902, at Garfield Road in Coventry.

During the First World War Siddeley began developing and manufacturing aero engines, a trend which was to continue. One of the most famous engines was the Jaguar, so that later on William Lyons had to seek Siddeley's permission before using the name for his cars!

Armstrong Siddeley cars are the epitome of fine engineering, craftsmanship and meticulous attention to detail. There was considerable feedback from the Company's aircraft development, giving rise to the advertising slogan "The Car of Aircraft Quality". The cars started with the 30hp of 1919, with a wide range of models in the 1930's from the small 12hp to the fabulous Siddeley Special. During the Second World War Parkside produced tank engines, torpedoes, airframes and engines for Lancaster bombers and attracted considerable attention from the Luftwaffe!

After the war Armstrong Siddeley were the first British manufacturer to produce a new range of cars, the 16hp Lancasters, Hurricanes and Typhoons being a wholly new and modern design. There were followed by the Sapphires, fast saloons which were true gems, finely polished into the "Star" Sapphire of 1958.

Meanwhile the business had been growing, and in 1960 the group decided to cease car production and concentrate on aero engines. At least the marque finished on a high note and was spared the indignities of mergers, bankruptcies and foreign takeovers which have been the fate of other Coventry car makers. The Coventry factories of Armstrong Siddeley Motors still survive productively as part of Rolls Royce.

Today the Armstrong Siddeley Owners Club flourishes as a small but vibrant club with around 800 members and branches all round the world America to Australia, Norway to Malaysia, attesting to the remarkable appeal of these fine cars and commemorating the people who made them.

The Club runs a comprehensive spares service, covering both new & second hand parts for pre-war and post-war models. An ongoing remanufacturing programme ensures that owners will continue to be able to run their cars in the future. All parts which the Club produces are made to original factory specifications or better - something no other supplier can claim.

Club activities include a busy social calendar, ensuring that the whole family can enjoy the pleasures of owning an Armstrong Siddeley. This can be reinforced by family membership which entitles any two members of a family to join at reduced rates, with two votes at Club meetings.

Anyone interested in joining the ASOC should contact the Membership Secretary :-

Peter Sheppard,

57, Berberry Close,

Birmingham,

B30 1TB Telephone: 0121 459 0742

You do not have to own an Armstrong Siddeley to join, just share our enthusiasm for the marque.

The Armstrong Siddeley Owners Club offers the following services to its members:-

SPARE PARTS

The Club maintains a good stock of new parts for post-war models, including some body panels. There is an ongoing programme to produce those parts which are no longer available. The Club carries full Product Liability Insurance and spares which it re-manufacturers are made to original factory specifications or better, something no other supplier can claim.

Since most cars run by members are post-war models, the majority of sales are made to owners of these cars and stocks reflect that demand. However, a serious attempt to supply spares to owners of pre-war Siddeleys and commonly requested parts are re-manufactured from time to time.

Also there is a reasonable stock of second hand spares for both pre- and post-war vehicles, this stock being added to as parts become available.

MAGAZINE

The Club Magazine "SPHINX" is published five times a year and circulated to members free of charge. "SPHINX" contains articles of interest to Armstrong Siddeley owners including original factory material as well as relying on contributions from members relating to their experiences- it is very much a magazine by the members for the members. "SPHINX" is the main communications outlet of the Club and provides a useful car and spares advertising service

LIBRARY

The Club Library holds a growing and comprehensive selection of interesting and useful information. The Librarian endeavours to locate additional material and can guide Members seeking further data either inside or outside the Club.

All items in the Library are available for sale as photocopies as well as some originals and reprints. Where original manuals are no longer available, the Library offers Club reprints

RALLIES AND MEETINGS

There are Area Rallies each year, usually one in the North, one in the Midlands and one in the South, as well as the main National Rally and Family Weekend which moves location around the country. Regular Continental trips are arranged with the help of our enthusiastic European members. Club rallies are open to all members and include a variety of family entertainments as well as the concourse events.

The concours is divided into two main categories; the standard concours in which every car is judged and the Master Class for past winners. In addition, Driving tests and 'Car and Costume' have proved popular competitions giving everyone a chance to win- there are numerous trophies.

To help keep the name of Armstrong Siddeley before the public and motoring press the Club has a stand at important Classic Car Shows held during the year. At these we exhibit some of the best examples of the marque from the area in which the show is held.

Local meetings are the life-blood of the Club and a must for new members to enable them to meet other like minded enthusiasts in the club. These meetings are social events as well as assisting members seeking advice and help with any problems they have with their car. They are publicised in the "SPHINX" magazine.

HELPLINE

There are Club Helplines staffed by fellow members, including experts on different models of Siddeley as well as specific areas of technical and other expertise, for example gearboxes and DVLA registration. The Helplines are established to create centres of knowledge for members who need detailed information about their model of Armstrong Siddeley. Helpers are able to advise members and put them in touch with other owners to assist with restoration problems.

