

Charles Rolls Heritage Trust

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We need donations to deliver our heritage project and to maintain it. Boost your donation by 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 you donate. Gift Aid is reclaimed by the charity from the tax you pay from the current tax year. Your name and address is needed to identify you as a current UK taxpayer and will be held in compliance with GDPR and HMRC rules.

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Please send to: Hon Treasurer (CRHT),
65 Harland Road, Bournemouth. BH6 4DW

This is an abbreviated application form - HMRC rules apply and data is stored under the GDPR.

The full membership and Gift Aid form can be accessed from the web site home Page.

Email: crht1910@yahoo.com



Associate Membership forms can be downloaded from the website, if not included with this trifold.

Registered Charity No 1174592 – www.crht1910.org.uk

Charles Rolls MA, FRGS, AMIMEchE



The Hon Charles Stewart Rolls
27 August 1877 - 12 July 1910

Although Rolls was born in London, the family home was the Hendre near Monmouth. Even as a toddler he had a zest for speed reflecting the family motto Speed and Truth. At Eton, Rolls was considered a 'dreamer' and had to return home where a personal tutor was able to fire him up with the prospect of taking Mechanical Engineering at Cambridge. As the owner of the first car in Cambridge he earned the nickname of 'dirty Rolls', reflecting on the regular and deep maintenance needed. Gaining a half blue in cycling he was in contact with the Wright brothers who at that time were cycle makers. By 1897 Rolls was competing in, and winning, car races on the continent; Britain still had a 12mph speed limit. Rolls formed a car dealership selling expensive foreign cars to those who could afford them, or who chose his hire purchase scheme. The meeting with Royce in 1904 gave Rolls a British car to race. He won the Isle of Man TT in 1906, the year Rolls-Royce Ltd, was formed and met the Wright Brothers in New York. A flight in 1908 led Rolls to buy a French built Wright Flyer. He had also ordered two from the Short Brothers who had created the Britain's first purpose built aircraft factory in 1909 with a licence to build six Wright aircraft. In June 1910 he flew a non-stop return trip across the Channel but a hastily applied modification to the tail plane proved his nemesis at Bournemouth a month later.

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Formerly Charles Rolls Memorial Trust
Previous web and email links remain valid

Celebrating a great International Aviation Event at
Bournemouth in 1910 and remembering an awesome
pioneer in motoring and aviation - the Hon Charles Rolls.



In 1910 Bournemouth held events to celebrate its centenary during which Britain's first International Aviation Meeting was one. The great aviators, including Charles Rolls (co-founder of Rolls-Royce Ltd.), competed and displayed their machines and abilities to an avid crowd. Tragically, on the second day, Rolls crashed becoming the first fixed wing fatality in Britain on Tuesday 12 July 1910 - and the nation mourned.

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