



# *Lake Michigan Lady*

Newsletter of the Lake Michigan Region Rolls-Royce Owners' Club, Inc.

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Jeff Minogue chose his car as one would choose a piece of art.  
He bought what he liked and took great pains to preserve it for the future. Here is his

**1975 Rolls-Royce Silver Shadow  
Long Wheel Base Sedan [LRD 20644]**

A remarkable example of a modern day classic

see "A Shadow Reborn" inside



### **A clever solution**

The owner wanted a right side mirror installed to improve visibility. Not usually available on LHD cars, Larry Courtney suggested installing one from a RHD motorcar. The final result customizes the car as per the owner's wishes without sacrificing correctness.

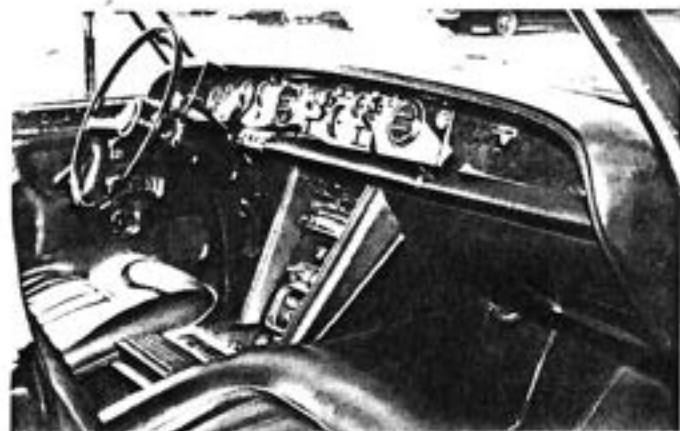
The particularly fine figuring of the burl walnut on the glove box door can be seen to advantage in this photograph.



### **Classic good looks**

One could hardly guess that this design is now over thirty years old - a comment on the timelessness of Rolls-Royce styling. This 1975 Rolls-Royce Long Wheelbase Sedan [LRD 20644] is finished in a color scheme that was a popular choice in the mid-1970s: silver and black with red coachlines. Unabashedly elegant in this combination, the two contrasting paint colors accent the body lines perfectly. The long wheelbase cars are distinguished by the Everflex top and Rolls-Royce badge on the sail panel, and included four extra inches of space for the rear seat occupants, compared to the standard wheelbase version.

From November 1966 to December 1976, Rolls-Royce produced 16,717 Standard Wheelbase cars and 2776 Long Wheelbase cars. The relatively low production of these latter cars would seem to preserve their collectability for the future, and the owner's example will most certainly be among those to survive for many generations to come.



### **Driving this motorcar...**

is, after all, the main pleasure in owning such a machine. Here you will be greeted by the shine of newly-lacquered wood and fresh Connolly hydes, making even the most mundane trip to the supermarket a pleasurable event. The all-black interior is accented with red piping on the seats, and a CD player has been inconspicuously installed in the center console.



### **...or riding in it**

are equally enjoyable experiences. A color television, housed in a leather-covered case, has been installed in the rear compartment. Just the thing to catch up on the latest stock market reports as you speed to another engagement. For leisure times, the map pockets contain the videotapes of choice. Even with the front seats in the full-rear position, there is still ample rear leg room.

# A Modern-Day Classic is Preserved for the Future

## A Shadow Reborn

by Jeff Minogue

I think that when choosing which classic car to own, one should apply the same principles to purchasing a car as to collecting art. If you like it and will enjoy it, buy it; if not, don't. Classic cars take a great deal of time, knowledge, and money to own and maintain.

I chose this 1975 Rolls-Royce Silver Shadow Long Wheelbase Sedan [LRD 20644] as my classic car of choice because it is one of the most recognized Rolls-Royce body styles, along with having all the comforts of a modern day car, such as automatic transmission, air conditioning, power windows and door locks, etc.

With the majority of Silver Shadows under twenty-five years old, many of them have been cleaned up by masking off the chrome and adding another coat of paint, along with having the seats re-dyed. They simply aren't rare enough yet to warrant a total ground-up restoration. I plan on owning this Silver Shadow LWB for many years to come, so I felt that it was in my best interest to totally restore the car rather than put bandage on top of bandage.

My first step in the restoration was to make the car mechanically sound. I chose Larry Courtney to do the work because of his knowledge and reputation. As with any car of this age and mileage (almost 90,000), Larry came up with a long list of things to be done, including repair of leaky valves and seals, an air conditioning overhaul, a complete brake job, and a rebuild of the hydraulic system. You name it, I think it was on the list. We both agreed to work on one problem at a time until everything was checked off his list, or until the money ran out!

After a long time spent in and out of the shop, the car was ready for a coachwork restoration. Since only the best will do, I chose Barrington Coach Haus in Barrington to do the body and paint work. This was a two-winter project, with one color being applied each winter. Every piece of chrome was

removed and the paint was stripped right down to the bare metal. Five coats of primer, four coats of paint, three coats of clearcoat, with hand-painted pin-stripes and twenty thousand George Washingtons later, and the car's finish was perfect.

With all the mechanical and coachwork completed, it was time for the interior to be done. Although it was in remarkably good shape, the original leather had been re-dyed. In doing so, the red piping along the seats was colored black. I replaced the leather (with Connolly, of course), and brought back the red piping, which ties in beautifully to the red pinstriping on the car. The wood was shipped to David Paskin at EPC in Virginia for refinishing. The AM/FM radio was replaced with a compact disc player, and last but not least, the small 3½ inch black and white TV in the back was replaced with a 9 inch color TV with built-in VCR. Being that my Silver Shadow is the long wheel-base model, I went with the optional remote-control so I would not have to lean forward to change the channels!

When asked if it was worth it, I can only respond by saying "Rolls-Royce is symbolic of being the best. I am privileged to be a part of preserving such a great automobile for future generations to admire."



*All the hard work was rewarded at the 1994 Lake Michigan Region Concours d'Elegance, where Jeff (at left) collected the second place trophy for Best Late Post-War Motorcar.*



# Rolls-Royce Motor Cars



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September 9, 1992

Mr. J. Minogue  
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Dear Mr. Minogue:

Both Rolls-Royce Motor Cars Inc. and our dealer representatives regard each owner of our motor cars as a proud member of the Rolls-Royce family. Your purchase of a Rolls-Royce or Bentley motor car was the beginning of a long lasting relationship.

With this in mind, we proudly introduce the Rolls-Royce Motor Cars Inc. "Owner Appreciation Clinic". It is our way of saying "thank you" to you, our valued owner.

Rolls-Royce Motor Cars Inc. and Steve Foley Cadillac, Inc. cordially invite you to participate in our Owner Appreciation Clinic which will take place at the dealership location the week of September 28, 1992. Rolls-Royce engineers will be very happy to meet with you, examine and road-test your motor car, and answer any questions you may have.

While your motor car is being examined and road-tested, you will have the opportunity to view and test-drive the current line of Rolls-Royce and Bentley motor cars, familiarize yourself with the latest technologies available and speak directly with Rolls-Royce representatives from your local area and from North American Corporate Headquarters.

We appreciate the fact that your time is valuable so we have arranged to conduct our "Owner Appreciation Clinic" on an appointment basis. Please call Chuck Grant at (708) 564-4090 extension 7113 who will be pleased to schedule a convenient appointment for you. We will require approximately one hour for the examination and road test of your motor car and of course, there is absolutely no charge for the examination service.

We look forward to hearing from you and having the opportunity to meet with you personally.

Sincerely,

Paul Beart  
Manager Owner Relations,  
Quality and Dealer Development