

Rolls Royce and the College

College has more than one connection with Rolls Royce. Of course numerous old boys own Rolls Royce's but the link is far more intricate than ownership. Many thanks must go to the Rolls Royce Enthusiasts Club for displaying their cars.

After C.S Rolls was killed in a flying accident in 1910, Lord Raglan unveiled a memorial to him in Monmouthshire. As near neighbours interested in cars they were almost certainly friends and quite possibly related, as Rolls' grandfather and Lord Raglan both had the same name "Fitzroy" – Lord Raglan was Lt. Governor of the Isle of Man (1902-19) and hence Chairman of the Board of Trustees at King William's College. His son, The Hon. Nigel Fitzroy Somerset (1906-11) was Head of School and retired as a Brigadier in 1949. Brig Somerset, as a young officer, commanded No 14 Light Armoured Motor Battery in Mesopotamia which consisted of 2 Rolls Royce's called "Yellow Demon" and "Golden Eagle".

Fritz Feller (1939), was an Austrian refugee who later became the chief styling engineer for Rolls Royce motor cars, Crewe until his retirement in 1994. He was responsible for the styling and evolution of the Rolls Royce Silver Spirit, Rolls Royce Silver Spur and the Bentley Mulsanne.

William Sleigh (1935 – 1941), worked for Rolls Royce Aero Limited as a flight test engineer and also helped develop aircraft engines.

Brian Crookall (1943 – 1950), was Chairman of the Rolls Royce Enthusiasts Club, 1984 – 1985.

John Qualtrough (1960 – 1965), was Rolls Royce Scholar to Merton College, Oxford. He worked for Rolls Royce, Bristol 1968 – 1974. He then worked as Systems Manager (Concorde), Supplies Manager (Harrier) and Business Planning Manager (Tornado).

Dr Franz-Josef Paefgen, is currently the Chairman and Chief Executive of Bentley. He is the father of an OKW, Max Paefgen, (2004-6)

