



ELVA Newsletter July 2023

FOR SALE

Stunning ELVA Courier T-Type Chassis no. 1183 ... Beautiful

I know that many owners selling their cars claim that they are offering 'the best', but this truly superb example is surely the most perfect Elva Courier Mk.IV 'T-Type' currently being offered, and not to be missed!

The car is chassis number 1183 and so one of the final batch of cars built up by Ken Sheppard, who had an established relationship with Peter Agg of the Trojan Group, when the decision was made to focus on the McLaren-Elva project and there were uncertainties relating to the future availability of the BMC power units. Peter had every confidence that Ken could act as a very effective 'sub-contractor' building up the final Mk.IV T-Type cars from the Trojan parts department. Very much a family affair, Ken would oversee the builds as the assembly engineer/mechanic/inspector/tester, calling in others when required, with his wife Olive looking after all the interior/trimming needs.

Ken individually road tested each car making any adjustments needed with a 'nut & bolt' check before the vehicles were sent back to Purley Way for onward delivery. That meant those cars were truly 'hand-built' as were the Bexhill/Hastings builds, whereas Trojan had originally attempted to set up a production line type process; however there was just not enough 'volume' to make that work efficiently.

A great shame that the T-Type was allowed to pass into motoring history as I was told that the 'Order Book' was strong, but without a guaranteed supply of engines (the Ford option was less popular at the time), the Courier had pretty much seen its day. I had the privilege of spending time with both Peter Agg and Ken Sheppard and they were very happy to share their recollections; certainly Ken had endless stories, many extremely funny, relating to his motorsports career and with the film business .. not sure that nowadays we have the wonderful characters found in the post WW2 years, but I know that many are still very sadly missed.

Details

1966 Elva Courier Mark IV Chassis No. 1183 .. Beautifully Restored

1.8L (1,798 cc) BMC 'B' Engine with the Five Bearing Crankshaft, Twin SU Carburettors and a 290 T Sig Erson Racing Camshaft

Manual 4-Speed with Overdrive Transmission

White Convertible

US Street Legal Left Hand Drive

Knock Off Spoke/Wire Wheels

Great History .. Purchased From Original Owner

2005 Winner Greenwich Concours d'Elegance- Best English Sports Car 1965-1967

Hemmings profiled the restoration of this car: <https://www.elva.com/news/hemmings-jan07.pdf>

Offers above US\$32,000 Considered

FOR FURTHER DETAILS PLEASE CONTACT: EP at oilismoney@gmail.com

ELVA Back Story ... It Was Once a Lotus Rival

The latest magazine to include an ELVA feature has recently appeared in the UK.

The publication is "ALTERNATIVE CARS" and the feature has been entitled "The Ups and Downs of ELVA" ... words are by Richard Heseltine and the feature includes sixteen archive photos. The writer kindly acknowledged input from yours truly. An impressive magazine but like so many, it is currently under threat due to competition from the Internet .. find a copy if you can. <https://www.performancepublishing.co.uk/ac.html>

Spark Model ELVA Engineering Van



This superb model listed on eBay represents the Morris Commercial PV which was used by ELVA Engineering in the mid-late 1950's for the collection of materials/parts and delivery to the ELVA workshops in Bexhill. It also regularly appeared at the UK race meetings in support of ELVA entrants.

Readers might recall that I recreated the full size van having miraculously tracked down an exact replica example from 1947, very few have survived, and giving it the correct authentic paintwork and professionally applied ELVA Engineering signage.

The SPARK 1/43rd model accurately reproduces the full-size van but if you would like one then do not pay GBP £100.00 ... I can do rather better!

New and unopened as provided by SPARK ... email for details but number very limited.

On eBay: SPARK S6000 Elva Engineering Morris PV 1947 1/43 #NEW ... £100.00 +
Via Roger: Please ask, giving your location.

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