



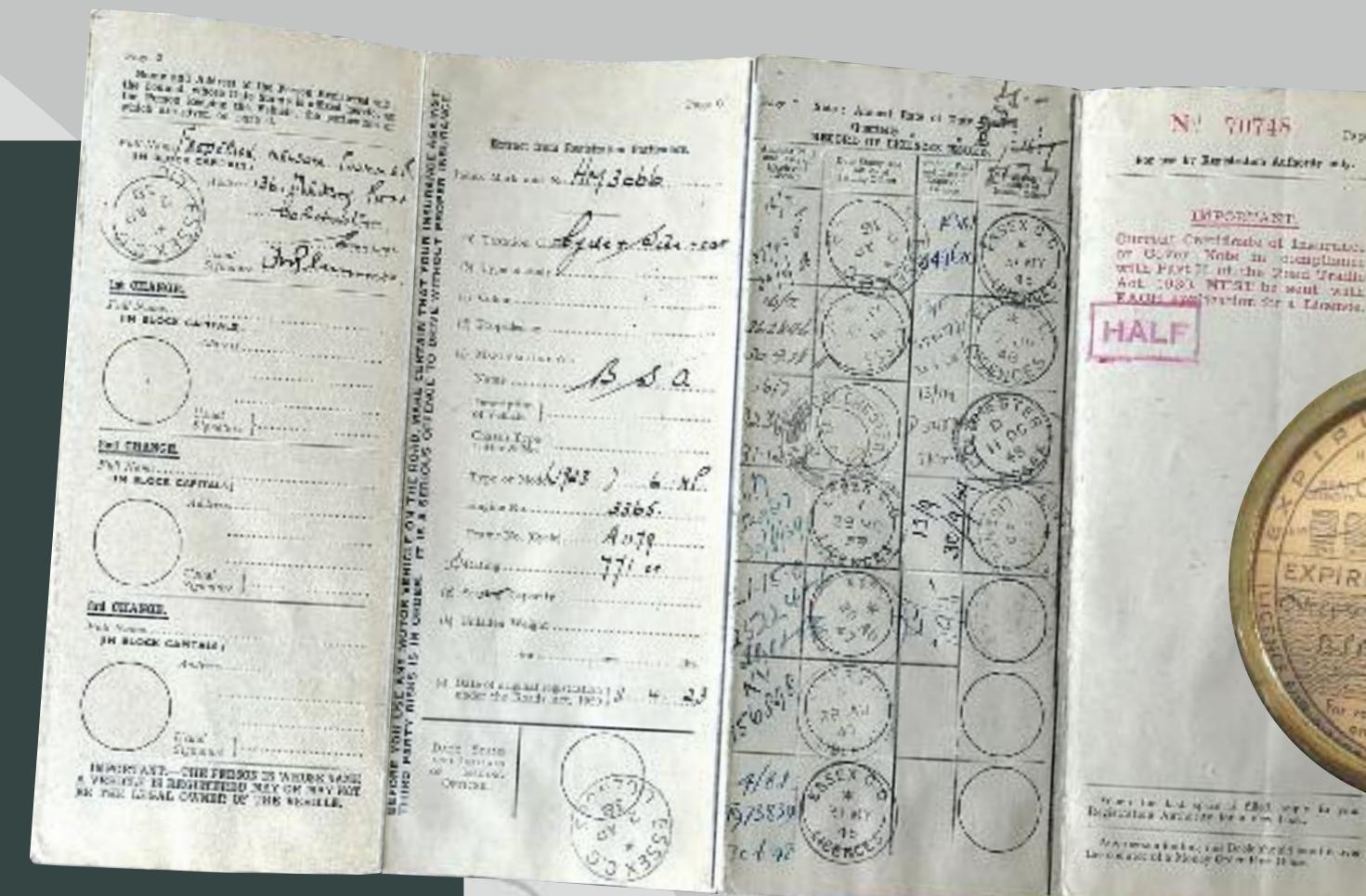
As found in 1965



Prior to restoration

# B.S.A.

## 6 H.P. TWIN MOTOR BICYCLE de Luxe (770cc) Countershaft Three-speed Gear Model with Chain Drive



ACCORDING TO B.S.A. factory records, my 6 h.p. Model "E" V-Twin left B.S.A.'s Armoury Road Works in March 1923 and was dispatched to a B.S.A. agent in Essex, England. The B.S.A. Motor Cycle Combination was then registered for use on public roads with the Essex County Council on the 11th of April of that year, HM 3066.

I believe the B.S.A. was set up as a sales demonstrator as it was fitted with an extensive array of expensive accessories, including a luxury Mills Fullford sidecar, complete with reversible baby seat, a Cowey Speedometer and bulb horn, Carbide Lighting System, rear view mirror and a very comfortable La Grande saddle. Not the sort of configuration for a struggling family man who would normally purchase a motor cycle combination to suit a limited budget.

By early 1924 the B.S.A. outfit must have fulfilled its original tasks and was sold on to a local Colchester customer, Mr Frederick Nelson Plummer, of 136 Military Road. Mr Plummer immediately took his new wife on a touring honeymoon to the Welsh Mountains with his new outfit.

The machine then gave faithful service for many years up until the outbreak of the 2nd World War, when petrol rationing relegated it to a garden shed. After the war when petrol once again became available, the B.S.A. and Sidecar was re-registered and gave further loyal service until 1949.

Mr Plummer then rode it into the old shed for the last time, covered it in old bags and an ex war department canvas tarpaulin and left it undisturbed for the next sixteen years.

By the summer of 1965 he must have decided it was time to clear out his property and advertised a Clearance Sale in the local paper. My Father and brother attended the sale with the intention of buying a bee-hive that was on offer. A deal was negotiated and the hive full of bees loaded into the back of the Morris Traveller.

Before leaving, my Father asked Mr Plummer about the contents of the old shed. "It's just my old Motorbike and Sidecar" came the reply, as he proudly levered the dilapidated doors open. "You can have it for a tenner."

Later that day when I arrived home from work I was told the story about the old shed and its contents, a B.S.A. Motorbike fitted with a Mills Fullford Sidecar lying under a rotten canvas cover.

The next morning I convinced my Mother to lend me TEN POUNDS and my boss to loan me the old Bedford recovery vehicle, so I could pick up the Motor Cycle and Sidecar during my lunch break.

**WHAT A TREASURE!**

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**Mills  
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"Action at the Brisbane Exhibition", one of many events attended over the past 50 years



Lovely Rita



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