

Bentley 3½ litre saloon

My father persuaded me that a pre-war Rolls Royce might be the next stage in growing up from my Morgan days, so the young solicitor's first saloon car was a Rolls Bentley Hooper bodied 3½ litre saloon. It also introduced me to the financial slippery slope of running an old car: if you cannot afford to run it new, you cannot afford it old. The car quite simply felt right. It was so tactile: every control was a delight, whether an ignition or light switch or the silky gear change. The advertising slogan "The Silent Sports Car" was an apt description.

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