

# CLASSIC DRIVER

## Historic Cooper discovered

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**Cotswolds-based, historic racing specialists Legends Racing have unearthed a rare Cooper 'Bobtail' that competed - and finished - the 1955 Goodwood 9 Hours.**

Entered under the 'Panda Racing Team' banner, the car was driven by Dennis Barthel/Roy Watling-Greenwood to sixth in class at the annual day/nighter at the UK's quintessentially 'English' '50s race. Cooper 'Bobtails' were popular rear-engined fully-enclosed bodywork central-seaters in which someone, somehow(!), had managed to persuade the powers-that-be that a passenger could be carried. So they could be entered in both sports car and formula races of the period. Jack Brabham, newly arrived from Australia, was the works team's number one driver and frequently beat Moss and Salvadori in more exotic machinery. The engine was usually an 1,100 cc or 1,500 cc Climax four-cylinder with a simple tubular chassis and drum brakes. They frequently competed in the under 2-litre class.

This car was purchased from a family in the North of England, who have owned the car since 1966 when it had been dismantled and not rebuilt since.

Legends intend to fully restore the car and have it race-ready for the 2006 Goodwood Revival. It comes with original log book, original Cooper Cars Bill of Sale, and letters from the period,. The car has the original registration number and current V5 (UK licensing document).



Adrian Rush of Legends Racing has even tracked down Mr Dennis Barthel, "Who is alive and well at the ripe old age of 81, and is going to give me some more background to the car's life and period stories of the day. Everyone at Legends Racing is very excited about the discovery and we are looking forward to putting it back on the track of its original racing success just over 50 years ago".

The car has been acknowledged by the Cooper Car Club UK, who are very enthusiastic about the discovery.

Apart from the Goodwood Revival (a By Invitation-only event) the car will be eligible for many first-rate historic race meetings worldwide.

### **For more information contact -**

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*To see all the cars available for sale from Legends Racing, in the Classic Driver Car Database, please [CLICK HERE](#)*

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