
Woolley & Wallis Automobilia Sale 3rd April 2007 - Preview

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West Country auctioneers Woolley & Wallis have assembled a catalogue of over 250 items, many of which have a motoring theme and all being examples of mankind's obsession with elegant luxury.

It's a fascinating collection of objets d'art of interest to not only the dedicated collector of automobilia but also any connoisseur of the finer things of life, and perhaps one who likes living on its dangerous side too, starting as it does with 'lighters' and ending with 'weapons'.

In between, there's a good variety of luggage, travelling goods, cocktail shakers, hip flasks and bar ware, smoking accessories, and travel, sport and militaria collectibles.



Luxury manufacturer **Dunhill**, maker of the famous 'Motorities' in the early days of motoring, features large in not only the lighters and smoking accessories sections but also as the maker of the **Dunhill Novelty Giant 'lighter' hip flask** with crocodile skin cover (stamped marks 15cm. high £400-600), and for those wanting a lighter and hip flask in one device there's an **AT. Jones silver hip flask cigarette case combination** (the hinged case opening to provide cigarette storage stamped marks London 1930 14cm. wide £300-400).

Several cocktail shaker sets are catalogued, and we particularly like the **Tiffany & Co silver cocktail shaker and twelve goblets** (the shaker 19343, simple tapering form with horizontal band decoration, the goblets 19373 shallow bowls on long tapering stems stamped marks 26cm. high £2,500-3,500). There's also a quaint **American large copper cocktail shaker modelled as a barrel** with silvered bands on rod cradle (unmarked 32cm. wide £1,000-1,500).



The Travel, Sport & Militaria section starts off with two terrific **continental wood and brass model seaplanes circa 1930**, both estimated at £1,500-2,000. Pride of place of the motoring objects must be **'Earl Howe at the Wheel' a patinated bronze cast from a model by Frederick Gordon Crosby**, modelled racing, on wooden base unsigned 57cm. wide for £5,000-8,000. Born in 1884, the racing peer only started his competition career at the age of 44 and then proceeded to have great success in the 20s and 30s driving cars from Talbot, Lagonda, Alfa Romeo and Mercedes, possibly his most romantic being the ex-Campbell Delage. He won Le Mans in 1931 driving an Alfa Romeo shared with Tim Birkin.

There is also a magnificent **'Brooklands Automobile Racing Club - 5th 100 Mile Per Hour Long Handicap' silver cup and cover** by William Comyns, (17th Century porringer form, engraved with BARC crest stamped marks London 1911 22cm. high £1,000-1,500), and **'Ferrari Testa Rossa 250'**

a limited edition (of 8, that sold out at its launch in 1986) **silvered bronze sculpture by Francois Tobiass**, 1986, retailed by Galerie Vitesse signed and dated in the bronze 38cm wide £4,000-6,000.



The colourful Ferrari painting at the top of the page is lot 215. **'Ferrari 250GT Testa Rossa'**, a colour lithograph by Alain Mirgalet, (1984 framed 83.5 x 51cm. £800-1,200), and there are several posters including **'Tripolis 1939'** a lithographic poster by Hans Liska for Mercedes Benz celebrating Mercedes' first and second place finish, linen backed, 69.5 x 45cm for £1,500-2,000.



Of the luggage, our attention was attracted by two items of **Louis Vuitton** craftsmanship. The **Louis Vuitton cube trunk circa 1922-1929**, (square section with LV monogram, lock stamped 812022 61cm wide x 53cm high x 47cm deep) is estimated at £2,500-3,500, while a very early example of the art is the **domed Louis Vuitton trunk circa 1850-1860, covered in grey Trianon**, 100cm wide x 71cm. high x 58cm deep (£3,000-5,000).

Another great French luxury institution is represented by lot 263, a **Hermès, Paris silver-gilt smokers set** in silk lined original presentation case, comprising six cigarette canisters, ashtrays and match box holders each stamped Hermès Paris poinçon mark and makers mark canisters 5.5cm. high for £2,000-3,000.



Finally, for the gentleman's study that is somehow *lacking* something, two items of a militaristic nature may appeal. Firstly there's the **silvered bronze model of a World War I torpedo** with double propeller, on brass mounts and mahogany plinth unmarked 43cm. wide for £2,000-3,000.

And for those who really do want to impress their next business visitor why not have a **Skyflash medium range air to air missile**, stripped and chromed, circa 1976 (designed by British Aerospace Defence, decommissioned and on a custom built stand 366cm. long, 102cm wingspan) standing in the corner of the office?

It's estimated at £15,000-20,000, a discount on the £250,000 charged for the original Mach 4 projectile at the time.

The Sale will take place at Woolley & Wallis's Salisbury Salerooms on Tuesday 3rd April 2007 at 2.00pm.

To view the fully illustrated online catalogue please [CLICK HERE](#).

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