
1962 AJS Other

Stafford, 18 October

Lot sold	USD 8 222 - 10 962 GBP 6 000 - 8 000 (listed)	Condition	Used
Year of manufacture	1962	Location	
Engine number	16C 2345	Motorcycle type	Street
		Colour	Other

Description

1962 AJS 350cc Model 16C Trials

Registration no. XPN 552

Frame no. C10493

Engine no. 16C 2345

The trials world underwent a technical revolution in October 1954 when Bob Manns unexpectedly won the important West of England Trial on a sprung-frame 350cc AJS. Thereafter, AMC introduced rear suspension on all trials models. Other improvements too, already in use by their number one rider, Gordon Jackson, were incorporated into the specification, resulting in heavy demand by traditionally minded competitors, despite the growing popularity of lighter, more nimble 2-strokes. Whilst XPN's early history is unknown it was purchased in 1984 from Ron Stillo by a Hampshire enthusiast working in California, who promptly exported the Ajay to his residence in San Diego. A lifelong restorer of interesting machines, he immediately began a nut and bolt refurbishment, the result of which was a beautifully trimmed competition machine in better-than-new condition. (Some 15 years later the same gentleman's quality workmanship saw him win Louis Vuitton's high end Concours event with an exquisite Ariel Square Four engine mounted in a Norton Featherbed frame!). Circa 1990 the AJS was acquired by the vendor's late father; he was in such awe of its condition and appearance that it was used but once a year, simply to obtain the annual MOT Certificate. Needless to say no work was ever required! After ceasing to ride due to his increasing incapacity the engine was hand-turned at regular intervals. Offered with V5C and currently Sorn-ed, this exceptional machine warrants very close inspection.

Bonhams 1793

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