

1909 Daimler model TB22 with a Knight sleeve-valve engine.

This is a unique 1909 Daimler open two-seat car, with an additional dickie seat (which seats two more) with its original upholstery, fittings and equipment. The 1909 body was built by Hewers Motor Bodies of Aldbourne Road (next door to the Daimler factory) in Coventry. It is the only known (complete) surviving model TB22 and the only known vehicle still carrying a Hewers body. The model TB22 was the first Daimler model to be fitted with the famous Knight sleeve valve engine so this could possibly be the oldest sleeve-valve engined Daimler in existence. The knight mascot on the radiator is for the Knight sleeve-valve engine and similar mascots were used on other cars fitted with Knight sleeve-valve engines, such as the later American Willys Knight cars.

Adrian has owned this car since September 1995 and regularly takes it to events (although its low fuel economy and 35 mph cruising speed limit the distance he can travel!).

It uses metric (875mm X 105mm) tyres, has a central accelerator pedal, a hand advance/retard mechanism for the spark timing, manual engine lubrication, no synchro-mesh gears, no starter motor, no front wheel brakes and needs a degree of skill to drive.

The history of the car from its registration (H6779) in Middlesex in 1909 to its ownership by a Stationer living in Driffield, East Yorkshire prior to 1921 is not known and Adrian would love to discover it. Can anyone help?