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# The Rootes Brothers Story Of A Motoring Empire

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The Culture of Copying in Japan  
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The History of Anglo-Japanese Relations 1600-2000  
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Oxford Dictionary of National Biography: Rippon-Rowe  
Great Britain and the East  
The Story of Coventry  
The Story of Australian Motoring  
100 Years on the Road  
The Ferguson Tractor Story  
Wheels of Misfortune  
Cars of the Rootes Group  
The Virginia Magazine of History and Biography  
Ford, 1903-2003  
The Life of the Automobile  
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Trademarked: A History of Well-known Brands  
The Rootes Brothers  
Rootes Story

*The Rootes  
Brothers Story  
Of A Motoring  
Empire*

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## CASSIUS KYLEE

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*Big Business* Christopher J Eiben

The Rootes Story - The Making of a Global Automotive Empire traces the meteoric rise of the two Rootes brothers, William and Reginald, development of one of Britain's most important motor vehicle manufacturers. The Rootes Group acquired some of the most famous names in the British motor industry: Hillman, Humber, Sunbeam and Singer cars, as well as Commer and Karrier commercial vehicles. Over the years, some of the models built by Rootes would become household names: the Hillman Minx, Humber Super Snipe, Sunbeam Alpine, Singer Gazelle, Commer Superpoise and Karrier Bantam. In its heyday in the late 1950s, Rootes was the fourth largest manufacturer of cars and trucks in Britain, exporting to over 180 countries worldwide, becoming a global automotive empire. In this book, the people and various companies involved with Rootes are profiled, as are the cars and commercial vehicles

built by them, with specifications of principal models. Personal insight from employees is given along with valuable contributions from the Rootes family themselves. This book celebrates the heyday of a truly global automotive empire and one of the most important British vehicle manufacturers of the twentieth century. This is the first book written about Rootes to be sanctioned by the Rootes family. Will be of great interest to owners and enthusiasts of Rootes cars, and those with an interest in British automotive and industrial history. Superbly illustrated with 52 colour and 361 black & white photographs. [Pulling Up Roots](#) Crowood  
Pulling Up Roots: Book One follows a remarkable line of descent of Edmund Rootes, an educated gentleman who died penniless on September 13, 1613 in Ashford, England, leaving his young family in desperate financial circumstances. The Rootes family suffered but persevered. In 1635, Edmund's three sons, Puritans, after enduring years of religious oppression, left England for the Massachusetts Bay

Colony. Upon their arrival in America, the Rootes boys settled in Salem, then more shantytown than village. Over the next fifty years, Salem grew into a commercially important seaport—and a troubled community that would become forever infamous for its witch trials and public executions in 1692. Among those falsely accused and cruelly punished was elderly Susannah Rootes. By the end of the 17th century, the Rootes family had uprooted again, moving away from Massachusetts, first to Connecticut and then on to the wilderness of Vermont. The Rootes family story provides a unique look at the evolution of America from a fragile English outpost to an independent nation—seen from the perspective of one family compelled by circumstances and chance to continue moving on and experiencing more of the young and growing country. A family history—particularly one going back centuries—faces the difficult task of telling the stories of people who are now largely unknowable. This book begins with Edmund Rootes. Who was he really? What was he

like? Kind or callous?  
 Good-natured or sullen?  
 Handsome or hideous?  
 We cannot know. But we can draw inferences by learning more about what these long-gone people experienced. By examining shreds of evidence from aged records and linking them with the sweep history, the dead gradually come into focus. Christopher Eiben is a writer and historical researcher who lives in Cleveland, Ohio.

Ward's Automobile Topics  
 McGraw-Hill Companies  
 Monograph on the historical emergence and present day industrial growth of large scale industrial enterprises, with particular reference to multinational enterprises based in the USA and the UK - covers industrial structures, etc. Illustrations and references.

Lotus Esprit David and Charles  
 An investigation into the successes and failures of the British car industry over the last century. The author examines the role of the management, trade unions and government chronicling specific examples.

*The Automobile Engineer*  
 [Melbourne] : Motor Manual  
 The Life of the Automobile

is the first comprehensive world history of the car. The automobile has arguably shaped the modern era more profoundly than any other human invention, and author Steven Parissien examines the impact, development, and significance of the automobile over its turbulent and colorful 130-year history. Readers learn the grand and turbulent history of the motor car, from its earliest appearance in the 1880s—as little more than a powered quadricycle—and the innovations of the early pioneer carmakers. The author examines the advances of the interwar era, the Golden Age of the 1950s, and the iconic years of the 1960s to the decades of doubt and uncertainty following the oil crisis of 1973, the global mergers of the 1990s, the bailouts of the early twenty-first century, and the emergence of the electric car. This is not just a story of horsepower and performance but a tale of extraordinary people: of intuitive carmakers such as Karl Benz, Sir Henry Royce, Giovanni Agnelli (Fiat), André Citroën, and Louis Renault; of exceptionally gifted designers such as

the eccentric, Ohio-born Chris Bangle (BMW); and of visionary industrialists such as Henry Ford, Ferdinand Porsche (the Volkswagen Beetle), and Gene Bordinat (the Ford Mustang), among numerous other game changers. Above all, this comprehensive history demonstrates how the epic story of the car mirrors the history of the modern era, from the brave hopes and soaring ambitions of the early twentieth century to the cynicism and ecological concerns of a century later. Bringing to life the flamboyant entrepreneurs, shrewd businessmen, and gifted engineers that worked behind the scenes to bring us horsepower and performance, *The Life of the Automobile* is a globe-spanning account of the auto industry that is sure to rev the engines of entrepreneurs and gearheads alike.

*The Rootes Group* The Crowood Press  
 55,000 biographies of people who shaped the history of the British Isles and beyond, from the earliest times to the year 2002.

**Reliant Three-Wheelers**  
 The History Press  
 During the 1960s, the automobile finally secured

its position as an indispensable component of daily life in Britain. Car ownership more than doubled from approximately one car for every 10 people in 1960 to one car for every 4.8 people by 1970. Consumers no longer asked "Do we need a car?" but "What car shall we have?" This well-illustrated history analyzes how both domestic car manufacturers and importers advertised their products in this growing market, identifying trends and themes. Over 180 advertisement illustrations are included. Triumph 1300 to Dolomite Sprint Keith Martin Despite a reputation for being eccentric and dangerous, Reliant three-wheelers are ever-present in the classic car scene and are now seen as icons of British popular culture. Reliant Three-Wheelers - The Complete Story charts the development of these much-loved cars from 1935 onwards and includes the development and production of the Regal, Robin, Bond Bug and Rialto along with detailed specification guides and hundred of photographs throughout. An ideal resource for anybody with an interest

in these classic cars, from one of the last major British vehicle manufacturers, the book covers origins of Reliant and the girder fork Light Delivery Van in the 1930s, post-war passenger cars and the groundbreaking fibreglass body of the Mark 3 Regal, Reliant under new ownership and the redesigned BN Robins, and Reliant three-wheelers in popular culture. Fully illustrated with 130 colour and 147 black & white photographs. British Engineering & Transport London : Weidenfeld & Nicolson From the moment of its launch in 1998, the Rover 75 caught the public's imagination. Here, at last, was a car that felt like traditional Rovers and had been designed in Britain. Rover 75 and MG ZT charts the evolution of the models from the early 1990s onwards including full production histories and comprehensive specification details. Contents include: the development and production of the Rover 75 under BMW in the 1990s; becoming the MG Rover Group - from BMW to Phoenix Venture Holdings; expanding the Rover 75 with Longbridge Rover Saloons and

Tourers; the MG models of the new millennium - the ZT and ZT-T; monogram 75, the five-millionth Rover; a facelift for the cars with the new V8 engines; moving production to China and the end of the MG Rover Group. Illustrated with 267 colour photographs, this is essential reading for motoring enthusiasts and fans of the Rover brand.

### **The Mistress of Mayfair**

The Crowood Press Explore the engaging story of Triumph's successful mid-sized saloon cars from the 1960s to the 1980s. British Car Advertising of the 1960s Motorbooks International The plot could have been inspired by Evelyn Waugh's Vile Bodies, but unlike Waugh's novel - which parodies the era of the 'Bright Young Things' - The Mistress of Mayfair is a real-life story of scandal, greed, corruption and promiscuity at the heart of 1920s and '30s high society, focusing on the wily, willful socialite Doris Delevingne and her doomed relationship with the gossip columnist Valentine Browne, Viscount Castlerosse. Marrying each other in pursuit of the finer things in life, their unlikely union

was tempestuous from the off, rocked by affairs (with a whole host of society figures, including Cecil Beaton, Diana Mitford and Winston Churchill, amongst others) on both sides, and degenerated into one of London's bitterest, and most talked about, divorce battles. In this compelling new book, Lyndsy Spence follows the rise and fall of their relationship, exploring their decadent society lives in revelatory detail and offering new insight into some of the mid twentieth century's most prominent figures.

#### **Rover 75 and MG ZT**

Bloomsbury Publishing  
In the first thirty years of trade registration, between 1876 and 1906, over 250,000 marks were registered in Britain. In this book, David Newton, formerly Head of Patents Information at the British Library, has selected 220 of the most interesting and curious of those early brands. Shell originated with one Marcus Samuel selling antiques and curios, including sea shells, in Smithfield in 1833; it was only when his son visited the Caspian Sea and saw an opportunity to export oil from Russia that trade in the better known product

began. An advertising campaign for Listerine mouthwash, originally a disinfectant for surgical procedures, coined the phrase 'always a bridesmaid, never a bride'. From Carlsberg beer to Triumph cars, from Lea and Perrin sauces to Beecham's pills, we learn the history of these brands, the companies which registered them, and how the brands have developed over the years. *British Book News* The History Press  
This title was first published in 2000: Coventry is synonymous with both the creation and relative decline of the British motor car industry. This volume utilises the extensive range of primary sources on the subject to explore the relationship between the car industry in its local context and the wider economic, social and political environment. It analyses the emergence and early dominance of Coventry's motor manufacturers, the rise of volume production in the 1930s and the instabilities and renaissance of the post-war era. Specific chapters deal with the industry's response to the demands created by the two world wars. A number

of themes run throughout the book including the structure of the industry and the relationship between its various sectors, resource provision, management and labour relations, and the nature and response to market demand. The book also provides fascinating insights into the history of some of the most evocative marques in the car industry, including Daimler, Jaguar, Alvis, Siddeley, Standard and Rover.

*Great Britain and the East; Far East* MacMillan

Publishing Company

This book challenges the perception of Japan as a 'copying culture' through a series of detailed ethnographic and historical case studies. It addresses a question about why the West has had such a fascination for the adeptness with which the Japanese apparently assimilate all things foreign and at the same time such a fear of their skill at artificially remaking and automating the world around them. Countering the idea of a Japan that deviously or ingenuously copies others, it elucidates the history of creative exchanges with the outside world and the particular myths,

philosophies and concepts which are emblematic of the origins and originality of copying in Japan. The volume demonstrates the diversity and creativity of copying in the Japanese context through the translation of a series of otherwise loosely related ideas and concepts into objects, images, texts and practices of reproduction, which include: shamanic theatre, puppetry, tea utensils, Kyoto town houses, architectural models, genres of painting, calligraphy, and poetry, 'sample' food displays, and the fashion and car industries.

*Sports Car Market*

*magazine - August 2008*

McFarland

The history of the Rootes Group (1913-1978) and its subsidiaries - Hillman, Humber, Singer, Sunbeam, Karrier, and Commer. This is the story of the Rootes Group which was both an important British car manufacturer, and a significant contributor to the war effort in 1939-45, as it made large numbers of military aircraft and vehicles. The company was started by William and Reginald Rootes in Maidstone from a background of building and selling bicycles and was originally concerned

with new car sales, but the brothers soon realized that there were additional benefits in making cars rather than from just selling them. The Rootes Group grew largely by taking over existing companies and rationalizing and developing their ranges of cars and commercial vehicles. Many famous names became part of the Group: among the best known were Humber, Hillman, Sunbeam, Singer, Commer, and Karrier. Fully illustrated throughout, this is a fascinating introduction to one of Britain's oldest car makers.

### **The Culture of Copying in Japan**

Routledge  
As Lotus's flagship model for almost three decades, the Esprit was launched in 1976 and remained in production for over a quarter of a century. It received regular refreshment along the way, principally to its original Giorgetto Giugiaro design and, from 1987, to its later Peter Stevens incarnation. Both iterations enabled the Esprit to maintain its position at the forefront of its market segment. Regularly compared to the best available from its German and Italian rivals, the Esprit was equally at

home on the race track as it was on the road. A promising return to top-line international GT racing saw the Esprit compete on equal terms with the likes of Ferrari and McLaren, whilst, back in the showrooms, the car was selling for a fraction of their cost. The legacy of the Esprit can clearly be seen in current Lotus models whose core design brief is that they should always be the finest handling vehicle with the deftest of steering, feedback and feel. With over 300 stunning images, including professional photos, factory archive pictures and specially commissioned artworks, and featuring several interviews with Lotus personnel intimately concerned with Esprit production, this volume is a fitting tribute to a masterpiece of design and technology.

*The Singer Story* David and Charles

The Rootes Story - The Chrysler Years focuses on the Rootes Group during the 1960s and 70s, the vehicles produced by the company, the people that created them and the events that led to Rootes selling out to Chrysler Corporation of America and eventual acquisition

by the French Peugeot company. A valuable backdrop to the events is provided throughout the book by ex-Rootes employees and management. Chronicles the Rootes Group's efforts to survive as a major car and truck manufacturer in Britain's turbulent 1960s and 1970s. From a position as a respected global name in manufacturing, the Rootes Group found itself struggling to compete in a new buyers' market, in which foreign competition was starting to overtake British manufacturers. Despite the challenges that confronted them, Rootes designed and built some of the most popular cars of the period: the Hillman Minx and Super Minx, the Singer Vogue and the Humber Sceptre, and the iconic but ill-fated Hillman Imp, as well as some of the most rugged and well-purposed vans and trucks, built by Commer, Karrier and Dodge. The book highlights the competition pedigree of the Sunbeam Rapier, the Alpine, the Imp and the Ford V8-engined Tiger. Famous

names such as Paddy Hopkirk, Rosemary Smith and Peter Procter all give their stories as works drivers for Rootes, while engineers at 'comps' tell the background stories of how races and rallies were won and lost. Andrew Cowan, Rootes' works rally driver and winner of the 1968 London-Sydney Marathon in a Hillman Hunter, shares his story in what was a remarkable and unexpected victory for Rootes. This complex story is told through the eyes of ex-Rootes and Chrysler personnel, giving 'from the horse's mouth' accounts of the company and its exploits. Geoff Carverhill takes you inside the boardroom, into the drawing office and on to the production line to give the reader an insider's view of Rootes, Chrysler and Peugeot.

**The Autocar** Routledge  
Hillman, Humber, Singer, Sunbeam, Sunbeam-Talbot

**The Official Price Guide to Collector Cars** Fox Chapel Publishing  
The Story of Coventry traces the evolution of the city, from the myths of Godiva, through to the

issues, challenges and opportunities facing it in the twenty-first century. Exploring Coventry's heritage through records, architectural developments and anecdotes, it reveals a fascinating and much misunderstood city, whose history is often overshadowed by its bombing during the Second World War. Peter Walters, well known for his numerous newspaper features and active role in local heritage, shows that there is a great deal more to the history of Coventry than first meets the eye. This beautifully illustrated text will delight both residents and visitors alike.

**The History of Anglo-Japanese Relations 1600-2000** The Crowood Press

Billy and Reggie Rootes were among the most respected figures in the motor industry. This book, by a motoring writer who worked for the Rootes Group and has access to family material, tells how the brothers turned a small family business into an international motoring empire.