



1957 Trojan Model 68 (Brooke Bond) Van

Registration No. SBY 297, Chassis No. M/8233, Engine No. M/8233

From the early 'Utility' model of 1922 through to the more refined vehicles of the 1950s, the Trojan company deservedly earned a good reputation for reliable, well-built and robust vehicles.

As well as providing utility vehicles for the RAF, companies such as Cow and Gate, Duckhams Oil and the Post Office, together with numerous small businesses, favoured Trojan Vans for their reasonable purchase price and economical running costs.

Eventually, promotional and specialised body compartments were manufactured for individual company needs, such as tea vans, baker's vans and milk floats. Brooke Bond became one of Trojan's largest customers, purchasing fleets of vehicles which were built specifically for the brand's requirements.

This 'Model 68' spent its formative years as part of Brooke Bond's final fleet of twenty five Trojan Tea Vans. It was purchased by a private individual (a builder near Lydney) who had used it for only three years, when a bereavement caused it to stand for around twenty years before it was rescued and restored by an enthusiast. In 1991, the former

custodian purchased the vehicle and until 2012, it has formed part of an extensive private collection of Trojan vehicles, used only on occasion for historic rallies and the like. In 2012 it was bought by us, the current Dutch owners, to be used as a unique driving marketing Van. However, plans changed and the Van has not been registered in Holland nor has he driven there (with the exception of some small distances on a beautiful Sunday afternoon).

SBY 297 is powered by a V-Twin, two-stroke 1186cc engine, a unit which was unique to Brooke Bond Trojan Vans. Unusually, the vehicle is equipped with mechanical oil injection from the sump, to provide the required petrol/oil mixture. The starter motor has been overhauled by the former custodian. It has not driven for 3 years, but was put away in good order and is still 'a pleasure to drive'. We know of no faults, but the Trojan could be cosmetically improved.

With the car comes a history file which contains correspondence, original Trojan service bulletins, an original instruction book, the original service manual, a Lucas spare parts list, the V5 document and the V5C registration certificate.

For a small reimbursement for travel expenses we would be more than happy to bring the Trojan to its new owner - We were looking for a price of around 9.500 pounds. Offers and questions please to Klaas Smit at kjsmit@smithold.nl

