



HELLO AND WELCOME TO A FEW PICTURES OF THIS STYLISH FUNERAL VEHICLE.

DO NOT FORGET TO BOOK EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT

BECAUSE, SURELY, THIS IS PREFERRED TO THE NORMAL BLACK HEARSE?

This, the Portsmouth Gun, has already been used by many resplendent clients and is considered [by whom I am not sure] the O N L Y way to go! But don't worry, I am sure that HMS Drake has a comparable vehicle for all you West Country Janners and Jagers. What you Jocks and North Country/Midlanders do, I am not sure because I am told the wheels wouldn't stand the challenge of our motorways.

I took these pictures when the gun was in its shed in HMS Collingwood having just been unwrapped from the green plastic sheeting you see on the deck. Normally, this shed is full of competitive field-gun pieces which are used in various field-gun events staged at the establishment. They were all out at the time, and the sheer weight of this gun precluded me from 'arranging' it in a position where good photography would have been possible: hence the strange angles.

The limber box shaft handle is resting on a limber box {without its two wheels} from an active field-gun piece and the box on the deck is not part of our posh piece. Just in case you are not fully familiar with this vehicle here is a very quick guide to its various parts.

The overall vehicle is in two parts and each part has two wheels. The two parts are joined together rather like a car pulling a caravan. The front part is called the limber, and this is a box on wheels which contains the shells which the gun fires. On arrival at the scene of action, the vehicle is split into its two parts, the limber goes to the rear, and the shells are carried by hand across to the gun for firing. Apart from the tiddley adornments, the limber is a standard ammunition box. The gun has been modified, and over the top of the barrel and breech, a wooden platform has been built on which the coffin is placed. The gun always travels backwards, that is, the end of the barrel which emits fire and brimstone, points towards those following behind the deceased person.

The brass plaque you will see, has some of the names which I have mentioned above in the TEXT PDF File. It was impossible to photograph it properly.

The hauling ropes are not fitted to the gun.

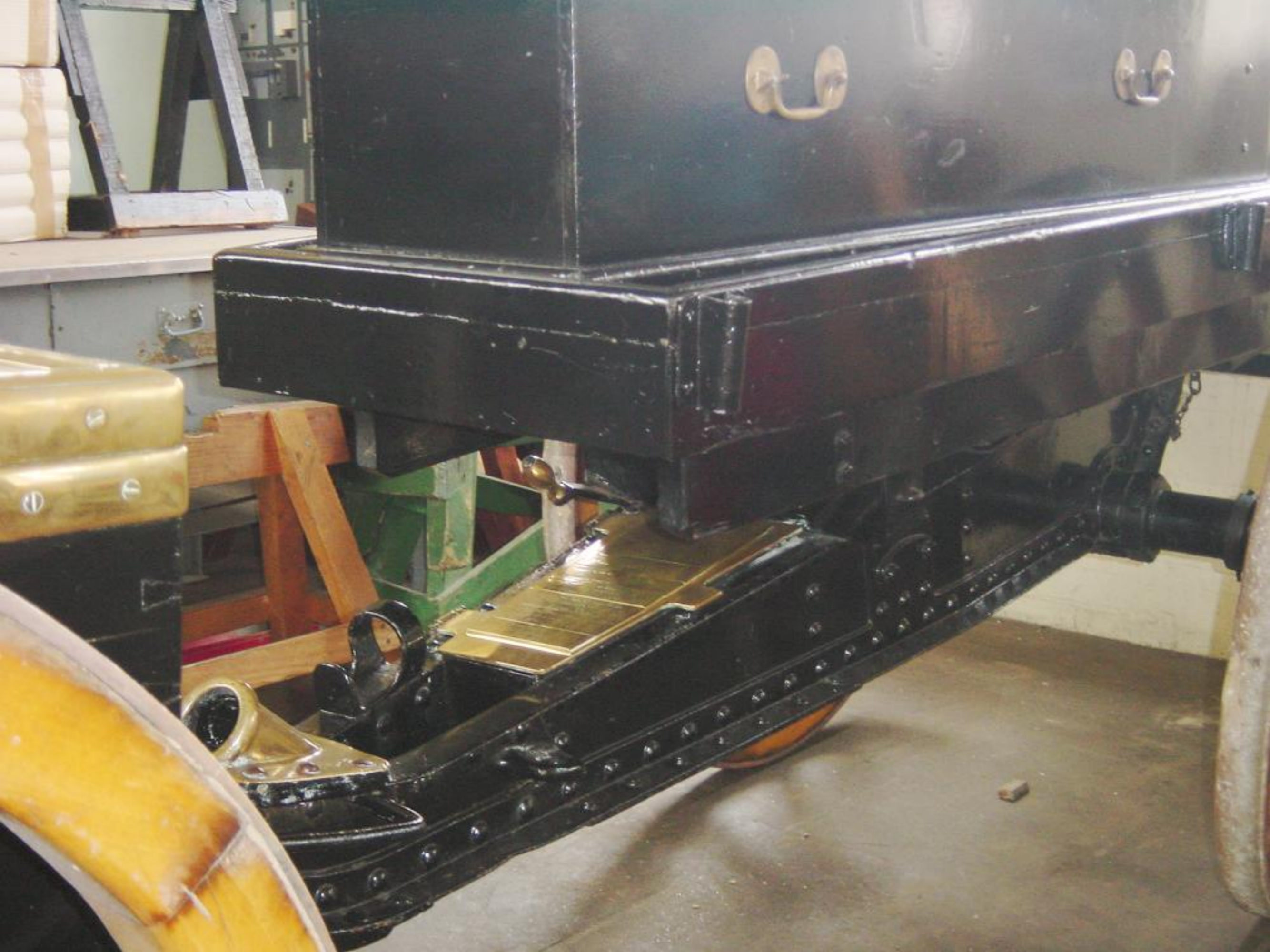
Finally, before booking this vehicle, think of all the people who will be told-off to pull this thing – none of them will know you and all would have preferred you to use the Co-op: as everybody else does. Think about it!











ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL
ADMIRAL OF THE FLEET EARL PRINCE OF BISMARCK
G.C.V. 1914-1918
ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL OF MARINE
ADMIRAL OF THE FLEET SIR JOHN D. KELLY G.C.V.
ST MARTIN'S IN THE PALACE OF NOVEMBER 6TH 1938

ADMIRAL OF THE FLEET SIR A. DUDLEY POUND
AT WESTMINSTER ABNEY ON OCTOBER 25TH 1943
ADMIRAL OF THE FLEET LORD BATES G.C.V. 1914-1918
G.C.V. D.S.O. LL.D. & LL.D.

AT WESTMINSTER ABNEY ON JANUARY 4TH 1946
VICE ADMIRAL SIR ST. JOHN TYEWHITT
B.T. R.C.E. D.S.O. D.S.C. AND BAR

ON 19TH OCTOBER 1961 AT SEA
ADMIRAL OF THE FLEET VISCOUNT CUNNINGHAM
OF HYNDROPE KT G.C.B. O.M. D.S.O. LL.D.
ON TUESDAY 18TH JUNE 1963 AT SEA
FIRST LORD CRATFIELD





FIRE



ArCap

Blue shelving unit with various items on shelves, including red and yellow containers.

Large black metal carriage with wooden wheels and brass accents.

Two metal chests or trunks in the foreground.

Wooden sled or frame structure lying on the floor.