



MERCEDES-BENZ 300 SEL 6.3



RHD, supplied new to HRH Prince George of Denmark in 1971 for use in London.

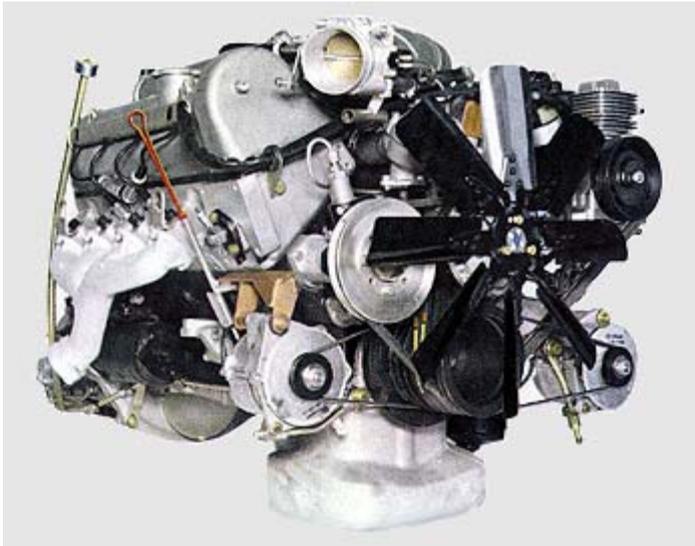
TAYLOR & CRAWLEY

The Mercedes-Benz 300 SEL 6.3 was probably the first example of the modern super saloon; BMW M5, AMG E63 etc. Erich Waxenberger, Rudolph Uhlenhaut's protégé in the engineering department at M-B, thought it would be a great idea to shoe horn the 300bhp, 6.3 litre V8 engine from the 600 limousine into the W109 S-Class saloon. This created the fastest 4 door saloon in the world:

0-60 mph: 6.3 seconds

0-100 mph: 14.6 seconds

Top Speed: 142 mph



But what really set this car apart from other performance cars of its time was its ability to cross continents cruising at 125mph whilst cosseting five passengers in absolute luxury, this was no hot-rod. Air suspension with automatic level control, automatic transmission, power steering and air conditioning were all standard at a time when most manufacturers didn't even list them as extras.

Like Uhlenhaut, Waxenberger was a talented driver as well as a superb engineer and he also had access to a well hidden PR department fund which he used to develop three 6.3s for the track. Not allowed to enter the European Saloon (Touring) Car Championship by the Mercedes board Waxenberger took the 6.3 to Macau in 1969 and drove the car to victory in the six hour race. The 6.3 then finished 2nd in the Spa 24 hours, quite remarkable considering the tyres needed replacing every 15 laps. The car was later sold to Matra in France to use as a test bed for aircraft landing gear.





Finished in metallic blue with blue leather interior there is also a period Becker Mexico radio fitted. Contained within the history file are a large number of photographs documenting the restoration work that has been carried out, including engine and gearbox rebuilds, overhauling of brakes and various bodywork repairs. One of eight cars currently registered on the UK roads in, this is a glorious example of one of the great road cars.



TAYLOR & CRAWLEY