



This is a photo of the Reliant prototype that was built at Bro-Dawel. It is seen here in 1935 in Polesworth.

Iconic car inventor gets plaque honour on historic town home

By Jordan Coussins
News Reporter

THE birthplace of Tamworth's – and the world's – most iconic cars is to be honoured following a campaign by a group of motoring enthusiasts.

The Reliant Motor Club, which aims to capture the history of the quirky three-wheeled motor, has campaigned to install the iconic blue plaque at the former creators Tom Williams' house in Kettlebrook Road.

And on July 8, following their tireless efforts, the sign will be officially unveiled by Pat Afford, daughter of Reliant co-founder E.S. Thompson.

"The Reliant Motor Club joined the Tamworth Heritage Trust last year and with the trust we have been working together to get a blue plaque placed," said club member Elvis Payne.



Pat Afford (left) takes a peek at the plaque prior to unveiling. On the right is Caroline Payne, who is also the Secretary of the Reliant Motor Club, and six-year-old son Harvey Payne.

"We were delighted when it was then accepted by the committee in the Tamworth Heritage Trust.

"We have already

invited a number of former Reliant employees and we would like to invite more along so that they can meet up with former employees and share their

stories. The house is currently owned by Marc and Jaymie Rogers. They are delighted that the house is being awarded the plaque and have assisted us on

every way to help achieve our goal."

The company was formed in 1935 when Thomas Lawrence Williams decided to build his own three wheeled vehicle in his back garden at Kettlebrook, Tamworth.

The Robin was first manufactured in November 1973, a direct replacement for the Reliant Regal.

The final original version of the Robin rolled off the production line in 1981. They are sometimes affectionately called the "Plastic Pig" because of its distinctive shape.

This blue plaque will become Tamworth's second commemoration, the first being on the Bank House in Ladybank.

People can find out more about the event by visiting the Tamworth Heritage Trust hub in the Middle Entry or online at www.reliant.website