The Robinson Car is the only surviving one of three cars designed in Kettering by the motor engineer, Charles Robinson. It is a unique vehicle both in terms of its extraordinary history and its engineering features. It is now one of our most popular exhibits!

**Technical Specifications**

- The body of the car was constructed by Barnetts of Thrapston
  - The Registration Number is BD 983
  - Chassis frame Number: A103
    - Engine Number A103
    - Engine: 1884cc, 12hp
- 4 cylinder engine with a unique cooling system using the exhaust gases to accelerate the flow of fresh air around the engine
- 3 speed gear box and 1 reverse gear
  - Cone clutch
- Drive by propeller shaft and differential back axle
- Ignition by magneto and trembler coils
  - Lamps lit by acetylene gas
- Originally the bodywork was painted green
History of the Robinson Car

1905: Charles Robinson opened one of the first motor garages in Kettering on Montagu Street.

1910: Registered on the 1st of April by the original owner, Dr Roughton. He had the car’s back seats replaced with a platform and toolbox underneath for ‘roadside operations’!

1930s: Displayed in the garage showroom window. Charles Robinson re-acquired the car during or just after the first world war.

1940s: Charles Robinson retired and sold the car to local man, Mr Stock, who restored the car and entered it into numerous vintage car rallies.

1955: The Robinson Car won the Prix d’Honneur in the Veteran Car Club’s Silver Jubilee International Rally.

1972: The car was sold again, and travelled to the north of England.

1982: The car had returned to another Kettering man and was purchased from him with funds from the Science Museum, County Council, the Civic Society and was placed on loan to the Wicksteed Village Trust.

The Robinson Car was part of the first displays at the Manor House Museum & remains one of the most popular exhibits today.