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## **VILL**

Photo Albums and correspondence of Leo Villa, Chief Engineer  
to Donald Campbell CBE, relating to the world speed records in  
*Bluebird* hydroplane and car, 1952 to 1967

Compiled by John Underwood

**VILL**

- 1            1949 May-1950    Photo Album [containing 25 photos, newspaper clippings etc, re the preparation for, and attempts on, the water speed record with *Bluebird* hydroplane at Coniston. Frontispiece contains brief description. Each photo captioned; first is holograph- signed by Campbell and dedicated to Leo Villa after first record attempt at Coniston 1950 Jul 2]  
Sept  
36p, 25 x 29cm
- 2            1955                '*Bluebird*' Ullswater 1955. Speed 202.32 m.p.h. [Photo album containing 11 photos re the successful attempt at the water speed record at Ullswater. Frontispiece has a holograph-signed dedication to Tim Villa presented by Campbell]  
12 leaves, 32.5 x 26cm
- 3            1952-55            Ullswater 1955. [Photo album, containing introduction and 41 captioned photos, re *Bluebird* turbo-jet hydroplane and its construction, testing and unveiling at Samlesbury in December 1954. Also, later trials, modifications and christening at Ullswater in 1955 and the successful record attempt 202.32 mph. and celebrations with the 'team']  
36p, 29 x 25cm
- 4/1          1955 Oct 5        Certificate of British Registry C.344 Cover [for *Bluebird* turbo-jet hydroplane with] Official Number 186300  
1 leaf, 12.5 x 24cm
- 4/2          1964 Oct 13       Australian Department of Supply Report on radiological examination of '*Bluebird*' hydroplane, [with copy] 4 leaves
- 5            1955 July-1956   Lake Mead Nevada - Coniston 1955-56 [Photo album with introductory pages and many captioned photographs re world water speed records achieved by Campbell at Lake Mead, Nevada and at Coniston. Includes photos of the record in Nevada; presentation of Sahara Trophy; Campbell outside Buckingham Palace after receiving his CBE (bearing "To: My old pal 'Leo' What! No Grease Pat!?"]. Also photos from his appearance on 'This is Your Life']

- 40p, 21.5 x 29.5cm
- 6            1956-60            Photo Album [re '*Proteus*' *Bluebird* car and hydroplane. Includes 1960 Utah land speed record attempt with detailed photos of car's planning, testing, construction and publicity. Hydroplane material includes its planning, testing and publicity, and successful attempts at the water speed record in 1956, 1958 and 1959 on Coniston Water. Last page has plan for the CN7 *Bluebird* car designed by Norris Brothers Ltd] 116p, 27.5 x 30cm
- 7            1955-67            [File containing letters of congratulations, telegrams and good luck messages to Campbell. Includes a telegram and letter from Anthony Eden of 24.9.56 and 26.3.56 respectively; copy of Memorial Service of 1967 Feb 27 with tribute by Rev. John Hancock; invitation to act as judge for awarding National Trophy for greatest contribution to road safety for children] 28 items
- 8            **[Miscellaneous loose photographs re the *Bluebird* car and hydroplane]**
- 8/1            [Bristol Siddeley engines (probably) used for *Bluebird* car or hydroplane] 6 b+w
- 8/1/1            1958            Modified 4000 bhp '*Proteus*' turbine 8 x 6 monochrome
- 8/1/2            Feb 1962            Engine on stand Bristol Siddeley 8 x 6 monochrome
- 8/1/3            Oct 1962            Bristol Siddeley 8 x 6 monochrome
- 8/1/4            Oct 1962            Bristol Siddeley 8 x 6 monochrome
- 8/1/5            None            Motor Panels Ltd 8 x 6 monochrome
- 8/1/6            None            8 x 10 monochrome
- 8/2            [Miscellaneous photos showing components, planning, construction and workshop interiors] 22 b+w
- 8/2/1            CIBA (A.R.L.) Ltd Duxford Cambridge 8 x 6 monochrome
- 8/2/2            8 x 6 monochrome

8/2/3		Oleo suspension leg, inflated by valve held by in operators left hand. Motor Panels (Coventry) Ltd 8 x 6 monochrome
8/2/4		8 x 6 monochrome
8/2/5		Lifting heavy aluminum plate onto hydraulically operated shear. Falkirk Stirling British Aluminum Co 8 x 10 monochrome
8/2/6		8 x 6 monochrome
8/2/7		Motor Panels 8 x 6 monochrome
8/2/8		Motor Panels 8 x 6 monochrome
8/2/9		8 x 6 monochrome
8/2/10		Drawing office view 8 x 8 monochrome
8/2/11		8 x 6 monochrome
8/2/12		8 x 6 monochrome
8/2/13		8 x 6 monochrome
8/2/14		8 x 6 monochrome
8/2/15		Motor Panels Ltd 8 x 6 monochrome
8/2/16		8 x 6 monochrome
8/2/17		8 x 6 monochrome
8/2/18		8 x 6 monochrome
8/2/19		8 x 6 monochrome
8/2/20		Black Star Publishing Co 8 x 10 monochrome
8/2/21		Black Star Publishing Co 8 x 10 monochrome
8/2/22		8 x 10 monochrome
8/3		[Miscellaneous photos re <i>Bluebird</i> car]
8/3/1	1960	[Utah world speed land record attempt; include views of the crash damage] 25 b+w
8/3/1/1		
8/3/1/2		Monochrome

8/3/1/3	Sept 1960	Wheel torn off in crash 16 Sept 1960 Monochrome
8/3/1/4	1960	Crash at Utah, Monochrome
8/3/1/5	1960	Cockpit controls check, Monochrome
8/3/1/6	16/09/1960	Crash at Utah, Monochrome
8/3/1/7		Monochrome
8/3/1/8		Monochrome
8/3/1/9		Monochrome
8/3/1/10		Broken Wheel, Monochrome
8/3/1/11		Broken Wheel, Monochrome
8/3/1/12		Monochrome
8/3/1/13	Sept 1960	Wheel of Bluebird, Monochrome
8/3/1/14	Sept 1960	Monochrome
8/3/1/15	Sept 1960	Donald Campbell in hospital bed, Monochrome
8/3/1/16	1960	Parts of suspension, Monochrome
8/3/1/17	1960	Alan Potton of Armstrong Whitworth works on DIDAS Telemetry equipment Monochrome
8/3/1/18		Monochrome
8/3/1/19		Leo Villa inspecting damaged Bluebird Monochrome
8/3/1/20		Monochrome
8/3/1/21		8 x 6 monochrome
8/3/1/22	Sept 1960	Bluebird after crash 8 x 10 monochrome
8/3/1/23	Sept 1960	Bluebird after crash 3.5 x 4.5 monochrome
8/3/1/24	Sept 1960	Bluebird after crash Monochrome
8/3/1/25	1960	Front wheel housing 8 x 10 monochrome
8/3/2	1961-64	[World land speed record, Lake Eyre, South Australia, some with captions,

including Campbell being greeted by Prime Minister Menzies, Canberra, Oct 1961; specially designed cutting equipment used to flatten the salt surface; exhibition at second Melbourne International Trade Fair, 1963; greetings in Adelaide after breaking record in 1964]  
63 b+w, 6 b+w contact sheets

8/3/2/1	1964	Lake Eyre 8 x 6 monochrome
8/3/2/2	1964	Donald and Ken Norris inspecting track wheel marks after Bluebird's run on Lake Eyre, 8 x 6 monochrome
8/3/2/3	1964	Lake Eyre. Donald & Ken Norris Bluebird's designer, 8 x 6 monochrome
8/3/2/4	1964	Donald inspecting wheel, 8 x 10 monochrome
8/3/2/5	1963	Lundall harvester used on Lake Eyre to collect loose salt, 8 x 6 monochrome
8/3/2/6		Typical view of Salt Island area of Lake Eyre 8 x 6 monochrome
8/3/2/7	1964	Lake Eyre, sunrise, dry, 8 x 10 monochrome
8/3/2/8		Lake Eyre wheel tracks, 8 x 10 monochrome
8/3/2/9	1962	Control room of high speed test rig at Fort Dunlop, Birmingham, 8 x 10 monochrome
8/3/2/10	10/12/1961	Lake Eyre Salt islands. Horizon visibility 3/4 mile over flown by single engine aircraft, 8 x 10 monochrome
8/3/2/11	1961	Donald's first visit to Lake Eyre to check suitability 6 x 4 monochrome
8/3/2/12		Donald arrival in Australia with Wynne Morgan, 8 x 6 monochrome
8/3/2/13		Donald Campbell with Australian Prime Minister Menzies, 8 x 10 monochrome
8/3/2/14	18/10/1961	Donald Campbell with Australian Prime Minister Menzies in Canberra, 8 x 6 monochrome
8/3/2/15	1964	Lake Eyre after fast trial run. Leo and

		Ken check oil temperature. All wheels changed & Bluebird refuelled 8 x 6 monochrome
8/3/2/16	1963	Lake Eyre, 8 x 6 monochrome
8/3/2/17	1964	Lake Eyre Australia, 8 x 6 monochrome
8/3/2/18	1963	Convoy on way to Lake Eyre, 8 x 6 monochrome
8/3/2/19		Bluebird arriving Niarrer railhead 1963 8 x 6 monochrome
8/3/2/20	1961	On the road between Muloorina homestead & Lake Eyre. Land Rover with 25KVA alternator, site investigations 4.5 x 3.5 monochrome
8/3/2/21	1961	Campbell flies over Lake Eyre South Australia to inspect salt flats, 6 x 4 monochrome
8/3/2/22	1963	Salt milling machine to clear salt islands. Built by Howard & Bro..... England (2 x £500 each) 8 x 6 monochrome
8/3/2/23	None	Mechanical drawing of salt milling machine, 8 x 6 monochrome
8/3/2/24	1963	Salt milling machine, 8 x 6 monochrome
8/3/2/25	1963	Lake Eyre flooded after rainstorm, 8 x 6 monochrome
8/3/2/26	1963	Lake Eyre, sunrise after flooding, 8 x 6 monochrome
8/3/2/27	1961	Experimental salt cutting machine, Donald Campbell talking to Warren Bonython, President of S. Australia branch of Royal Geographical Society 4.5 x 3.5 monochrome
8/3/2/28	None	One of six BP camera towers being erected on Lake Eyre, 8 x 10 monochrome
8/3/2/29	None	Lake Eyre salt flats, 8 x 10 monochrome
8/3/2/30	None	A very close up shot of Lake Eyre's salt surface, 8 x 10 monochrome
8/3/2/31	1964	Bluebird with parachute out, 8 x 6 monochrome
8/3/2/32	1964	Bluebird with parachute out, 8 x 6 monochrome

8/3/2/33	None	Distant view of salt lake, 8 x 6 monochrome
8/3/2/34	1963	Bluebird & convoy on the way to Muloorina & the lake, 8 x 6 monochrome
8/3/2/35	1963-1964	Aerial view of homestead at Mullorina 8 x 10 monochrome
8/3/2/36	1963	Bluebird after unloading at Muloorina 8 x 10 monochrome
8/3/2/37		Lake Eyre. Donald and Andrew Mustard 4.5 x 3.5 monochrome
8/3/2/38	None	Open to public viewing 8 x 6 monochrome
8/3/2/39	None	Open to public viewing 8 x 6 monochrome
8/3/2/40	None	Open to public viewing 8 x 6 monochrome
8/3/2/41	None	Open to public viewing 8 x 6 monochrome
8/3/2/42		Bluebird street scene Australia 8 x 6 monochrome
8/3/2/43		Bluebird street scene Australia 8 x 6 monochrome
8/3/2/44		Bluebird street scene Australia 8 x 6 monochrome
8/3/2/45		Bluebird street scene Australia 8 x 6 monochrome
8/3/2/46		Bluebird street scene Australia 8 x 6 monochrome
8/3/2/47		Bluebird street scene Australia 8 x 6 monochrome
8/3/2/48		Bluebird street scene Australia 8 x 6 monochrome
8/3/2/49	1964	Adelaide, 8 x 6 monochrome
8/3/2/50	1964	Adelaide King William Street, 8 x 6 monochrome
8/3/2/51	1964	Adelaide King William Street, 8 x 6 monochrome
8/3/2/52	1964	Adelaide King William Street, 8 x 6



		monochrome
8/3/2/53	1964	Donald Campbell with Mayor of Adelaide 8 x 6 monochrome
8/3/2/54	1964	Donald Campbell with Mayor of Adelaide 8 x 6 monochrome
8/3/2/55	1964	Donald Campbell with Mayor of Adelaide 8 x 6 monochrome
8/3/2/56	1964	Donald Campbell with Mayor of Adelaide 8 x 6 monochrome
8/3/2/57	1964	Reception Adelaide, 8 x 6 monochrome
8/3/2/58	1964	Donald Campbell standing on Bluebird 8 x 6 monochrome
8/3/2/59	1964	Bluebird on display, 8 x 6 monochrome
8/3/2/60	1964	Mayne Nickless Ltd transport to Lake Eyre, 8 x 10 monochrome
8/3/2/61	1964	Exhibition photo, 8 x 10 monochrome
8/3/2/62	1964	Exhibition photo, 8 x 10 monochrome
8/3/2/63	March 1963	British Pavilion at 2nd Melbourne international Trade Fair Feb 27 - Mar 16 19563 8 x 10 monochrome
8/3/2/64	None	Salt lake contact print, 8 x 10 monochrome
8/3/2/65	None	Contact prints, 8 x 10 monochrome
8/3/2/66	None	Contact prints, 8 x 10 monochrome
8/3/2/67	None	2¼ sq contact sheet, 8 x 10 monochrome
8/3/2/68	None	2¼ sq contact sheet, 8 x 10 monochrome
8/3/2/69	None	2¼ sq contact sheet, 8 x 10 monochrome
8/3/3	1958-64	[Captioned photos re <i>Bluebird's</i> components, testing and construction] 14 b+w
8/3/3/1		Brakes for Bluebird Ferodo Ltd 8 x 6 monochrome
8/3/3/2		Ferodo Ltd, 8 x 6 monochrome
8/3/3/3	August 1958	PCR/RS Press conference at Imperial College London SW7, 8 x 10 monochrome

8/3/3/4		New high speed plant testing chamber 8 x 10 monochrome
8/3/3/5		Cockpit instrument panel, 8 x 10 monochrome
8/3/3/6	1958/9	Imperial College London wind tunnel 6 x 4 monochrome
8/3/3/7		Brakes for Bluebird Ferodo Ltd 6 x 4 monochrome
8/3/3/8		Donald Campbell with Mr Menzies P.M. Australia Goodwood, 8 x 6 monochrome
8/3/3/9		High speed test plant at Fort Dunlop, 8 x 6 monochrome
8/3/3/10		Press conference at Imperial College Campbell in wind tunnel with 1/8 th scale model, 8 x 10 monochrome
8/3/3/11	1959	Frame of new Bluebird constructed at Motor Panels Ltd Coventry, 8 x 6 monochrome
8/3/3/12	1959	Motor Panels Bluebird car early construction, 8 x 6 monochrome
8/3/4	1958-64	[Untitled, re <i>Bluebird's</i> components, model testing and construction at Motor Panels Ltd of Coventry (including visit by Prince Phillip); land speed record attempts at Utah and Lake Eyre; visit to Goodwood] 11 colour (including 2 contact sheets), 101 b+w
8/3/5		[Miscellaneous, including artist's impression and detailed general arrangement] 8 b+w

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