



Dorothee Pullinger MBE 1894-1986

Motor engineer & business woman

Dorothee was born in France but the family moved to England when she was 8; she was the daughter of Thomas Charles Pullinger who managed the Humber car factory in Beeston from 1904-1908. In 1908 he moved to work at Arrol Johnson Vickers motor company in Paisley, Scotland, but his family remained in the Nottingham area until at least 1910.

Dorothee went to Loughborough High School and in 1910 began work as a draftsman at Arrol Johnson, and by 1912 the family had moved to Paisley. Arrol Johnson changed from producing cars to aeroplanes at the start of WW1 and Dorothee moved to become the supervisor of a large munitions facility operated by Vickers in Barrow-in-Furness for which she was awarded an MBE.

After the war she returned to Arrol- Johnson and she persuaded her father to keep the factory open to provide local employment. She became the Director and manager of Galloway Motors, set up training courses and 3year apprenticeships specifically for women and she designed a car specifically for women – the Galloway. The Company employed a largely female workforce under her direction and they produced cars until 1923 when production moved to Arrol Johnson's Heathhall works.

She was a founder member of the Women's Engineering Society in 1919, was an enthusiastic race car driver and won the Scottish six-day Car Trials in 1924. She married in 1924 and had 2 children and with her husband ran White Service Steam Laundry Ltd selling it in 1946.

During WW2 she was the only woman appointed to the Industrial panel of the Ministry of Production – she was a Conservative and Unionist member. In 1947 the family moved to Guernsey where she established Normandy Laundry Company. She continued to drive her Galloway around the island.