MAKOTOPONG
CAR MUSEUM

THE JOURNAL
No. 01 · November 2026

THE SILVER ARROW

The S-Classes left. *The C-Class stayed.*

No V12. No chauffeur. No trailer.
Just 10,000 kilometres of Africa, signed across its bonnet.



Inside: the drive, the name, and why it stayed.

We bring history to life.

It wasn't shipped. *It was driven.*

Wednesday, 2 September. Two S-Classes roll into the museum, plated S·CB 140 and S·GD 140. They are two of the three cars sent around the world for 140 Years. 140 Places: six continents, one anniversary.

Dirt on the doors. Stickers on the glass. That alone would have made the day.

Then a third car pulls in. A W202 C-Class on Kenyan plates, spare wheels strapped to the roof. TheCarScene guys had driven it down from Nairobi, tracking the tour across seven countries. About 10,000 kilometres. No trailer.

The welcome home celebrations carried on.

Three days later, on 5 September, the C-Class came back to Makotopong Car Museum.

This time, it stayed.



Kenyan plate. Lights on the roof. Signatures everywhere.



Kenya to South Africa, on the door.

10,000
KILOMETRES, ABOUT

7
COUNTRIES

1
W202

II. THE NAME

A name earned at a weigh-in.

1934. A racing Mercedes, as the story goes, comes in one kilogram over the limit. So the team strips the white paint down to bare metal, and the car makes weight. Historians still argue over the details. Nobody argues with the name.

That car earned it at a weigh-in. Ours earned it on the road.



S600 Coupé (C140). The V12 was never the point of this story. It is parked nearby anyway.

III. THE LINE IT JOINS

W180	*Ponton*	**W126**	*The best seller*
W189	*Adenauer*	**W140**	*The first production V12*
W111	*Fintail*	**W220**	*The reset*
W108	*Paul Bracq's lines*	**W221**	*Still writing*
W116	*First to be called S-Class*	**W202**	*Never a flagship. Now among them.*

Nine flagships came first. A C-Class came last.

Bonnet to bonnet with a W126, it gives away everything on paper.

So tell us: which would you have kept?

It stayed. *So should you.*

Ten thousand kilometres brought the Silver Arrow to our door. Now it has nowhere left to be.

Every car in this museum has a story, and most have never been told. This was the first. Stay for the next.

1

Stay close

Email “List” to info@makotopongcarmuseum.co.za. The next story is yours first.

2

Settle the argument

S-Class or C-Class? Tell us which you would have kept: @makotopong_car_museum.

3

Follow the road

The road trip, from Nairobi to our door: @thecarscene_.

MAKOTOPONG
CAR MUSEUM

16 Boschkop Road, Boschkop, Pretoria East
makotopongcarmuseum.co.za