



Newsletter No.1

Dear Founder Member,

The Lanchester Trust was formed in March 2010, to celebrate the name and works of Lanchester. The 3 brothers, Dr. Frederick, George and Frank achieved so much in the way of invention, design and manufacturing but the proud name is not as well-known as it should be: The Lanchester Trust aims to correct this anomaly.

Many challenges for The Trust have been overcome during the first year of operating and clear goals have been decided on. Ambitious they are too, with a Student Award for Lanchester-type qualities of inventiveness, inspiration and enterprise, to be awarded this autumn after many months of competitive design work.

Another challenge is to create a permanent memorial to Dr. Frederick: the Lanchester Sculpture. This imposing public work of art will be shown in all its glory, with Fred's head looking out towards Coventry Cathedral. But more of this later, as we should now report about The Trust's first outlay of funds: the wall plaque dedicated to George Lanchester.

This blue plaque is now displayed on George's last home, called 'The Hill' in Chulmleigh, North Devon. The official unveiling of the wall plaque was preceded by a display of George's amazingly accomplished life and work, shown in the nearby Town Hall, and it drew much interest and comment; "I never knew that" was heard quite a few times!



Much of the glory for persevering with the project was down to Deborah Philips, the local Parish Councillor who is so proud of both Chulmleigh and its erstwhile resident, George Lanchester. After short speeches by Deborah, officials and the Lanchester Trustees, the unveiling was performed by George's grandson, Richard, who travelled especially from Chichester for the occasion. Witnessed by some 75 supporters, plus local and national media, quite a spectacle was created, especially with the Klaxon horn fan-fare from the several 1920s Lanchester cars present to honour George; sadly no post-1931 Lanchesters cars attended.

The Trustees warmly thank the owners of the attending Lanchester cars, who shortly after the ceremony began their long drives home to Sussex, mid-Wales, the Midlands, Bristol, Essex, Gloucestershire and Wiltshire. This was a great inaugural ceremony for The Lanchester Trust, an opener for many special events to come in the future.

Founder Members were thanked for their generosity in supporting the Trust and this historic event. *Thought: do you know of anyone who may be interested in sending a donation to The Lanchester Trust, so*

becoming a Founder Member, an honourable position for life that is still being offered to all for some time yet? If so, please contact the Trustees for more information (see www.LanchesterTrust.org).

That's it for now with this first newsletter but these will be produced on a regular basis to keep you informed of progress.

From Eric Baptiste, Malcolm Whitehouse & Chris Clark,

Trustees of **The Lanchester Trust**.



The Trustees, Richard Lanchester holding the blue plaque, and the tireless Deborah, all in front of George's cottage and a 1928 Lanchester car.