

Newsletter No 3 – a press release by roving reporter, Barry Halton.

LANCHESTER TRUST GETS AN FI VISITOR

The Lanchester Trust received a boost on 14th August 2011, when Formula One Grand Prix ace Nigel Mansell took the wheel of a 1928 21hp 6-cylinder Lanchester tourer to drive through the centre of Birmingham.

Mansell was in his native city to be inducted into the city's Walk of Stars, which is given to famous sons and daughters of Birmingham. After answering questions and doing a walkabout among an enthusiastic crowd, he generously spent time with a dedicated group of Lanchester owners who have recently established a registered, charitable Trust.

The Trust aims to bring wider recognition to the achievements of Dr Frederick Lanchester, the pioneering Victorian inventor, scientist and engineer, whose ideas contributed so much to the British motor industry and other fields of engineering. It aims to establish an education programme to encourage young engineers and commemorate Lanchester himself with an appropriate statue, as a public work of art.

The first car factory he established was in Montgomery Street, in the centre of Birmingham in 1900 - which still stands - where a reputation for innovative and superbly engineered cars was built, many of which were used by royalty, the rich and famous.

Nigel Mansell rose to the challenge of driving the Lanchester tourer with its 50 foot turning circle and crash gearbox down Broad Street, taking another local celebrity, Jasper Carrott, along for the ride. The car is owned by Lanchester Historian Chris Clark, who took the passenger seat for once.

Chris said later: "It was good of Nigel to show such an interest in the cars, which are some of Birmingham's best industrial achievements, and it gave us a great boost to our efforts to raise the profile of this most important British engineer"

For more information please contact Chris Clark on 01531 890204.
Please help The Lanchester Trust by supporting and making a contribution to the worthy cause; you can contact the trustees via: www.LanchesterTrust.org

PHOTO CAPTIONS

- 1 Nigel Mansell takes Jasper Carrott and Lanchester Historian Chris Clark through the crowds in Broad Street.
- 2 Nigel Mansell hitches a ride on the running board of Chris Clark's 1928 Lanchester 21.
- 3 Nigel Mansell with Lanchester Trustees (l-r) Eric Baptiste, Malcolm Whitehouse and Chris Clark, with their vintage Lanchesters.

Photos and script by Barry Halton (barry@haltonphotography.com)

Finally, the Trustees report the great news that, at last, a registration number has been allocated to the charitable **Lanchester Trust**. This will make a big difference to businesses and grant-making bodies thinking about making a donation. With the kind support also of many DLOC members (so becoming Founder Members of the Trust) we hope that the funds will soon add up to help us complete all our aims and ambitions.

