

TRUST

Founded 2010 Patron: Sir Nick Scheele. KCMG

Reg Charity No: 1143535

The list of Founder Members increases each year and the Trustees are pleased to welcome the latest Founder Member, Bob Goodall. Bob is, of course, the respected Registrar for the early 1930s Lanchester 15/18 models, who freely helps other owners with the benefit of his experience, so that they can keep their Lanchesters on the road. In fact, Bob is just about the perfect new Founder Member and will be welcomed by all. The accompanying picture (right) shows Bob with his treasured Lanchester, in most suitable surroundings.

Would you like to become a life-long Founder Member and share in the pleasure of assisting this registered charity? You don't have to own a Lanchester car, fully understand Dr Frederick's theories of flight, or be searching for one of his motor launches, of course, but your donation (minimum of £100) will allow the Trustees to make people aware of the Lanchester brothers by arranging events and making awards. We do hope to hear from you.

With regards from the Trustees,
Chris, Eric and Malcolm.

www.LanchesterTrust.org



OBITUARY



Obituary of Bob Goodall – Lanchester 15/18 Registrar.

At the request of his widow, Ann, I regret to inform you all that Bob Goodall died on 20th May 2013, aged 74. Bob was known by many, as he had an abundance of knowledge and experience in many different spheres of work, sharing it with friends and strangers alike.

In his teenage years, his engineering apprenticeship had been put on hold due to National Service in the RAF. This experience took him to the Persian Gulf, where he was entrusted to maintain encrypting machines, in the desert. After his time serving Queen and country, he resumed his apprenticeship at the RAF establishment in Farnborough to become a fully-qualified engineering airframe fitter. As Ann explained, "His career was about to literally take off, later becoming an airframe fitter with British Airways out of Heathrow and Gatwick".

Able to turn his hand to just about anything that interested him, he decided to build his own house in Farnham in his spare time, on land that he and Ann had bought. He was so proficient at this that he later became a full-time builder, working on many interesting projects.

Bob continued his love-affair with his precious means of transport, the 1932 Lanchester 15/18 with Abbott limousine coachwork which he had owned since he was 21 years old. He became, of course, the esteemed DLOC Registrar for the 15/18 and 18hp models, freely helping other owners from around the world with advice and information. Bob's Lanchester was actually a look-alike of the very first winner of the famous RAC Rally. It was therefore given the prime role at the 75th anniversary, in Cardiff's Millennium Stadium, where it was not just a much-admired static display but was charged with opening the event with an impressive demonstration. I vividly remember that, after setting the hand throttle, Bob and I stepped out of the car and casually walked along behind this slow-moving yet driverless limousine. The vast audience were obviously amazed by this and thousands of camera flashes prompted Bob to realise that he wouldn't want this every day and wouldn't be joining the Rolling Stones even if they asked him! Re-embarking, Bob speeded up slightly to start our supposed-to-be solo demonstration run. As co-pilot, I noticed in horror some 'hot' racers flying off a ramp ahead of schedule and heading straight towards us. With no time for prayers, I screamed at Bob to "GO – NOW", where, like the Rally drivers, Bob thrust his accelerator pedal to the floor. How we weren't smashed into I just don't know but Bob remained as cool and calm as ever.

For Bob's last few years he had been suffering with cancer but rarely became negative, always talking of other jobs to somehow improve his Lanchester. He had recently become a Founder Member of the charitable Lanchester Trust and still gave advice when he could to enquirers. Bob was one of life's great do-ers and achievers.

Our condolences go to Ann and family. One of their abiding memories of Bob is of him with an oily rag in one hand and a metal object in the other, uttering his famous word – "mended".

Chris Clark, Lanchester Historian.