

Lanchester Trust Newsletter No. 20

Sir Nick Scheele - Obituary

It is with great sadness that the Trustees report that our Patron, Sir Nick Scheele, died at his home in Warwickshire on Friday 18th July 2014, aged 70. During his diverse life-time, he was always willing to help others and was prominent in raising funds for community work and especially for the NSPCC. Similarly, he was later delighted to become Chancellor of Warwick University, a position he held for 6 years.

He will be well remembered for his role as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Jaguar Cars in the 1990s and has been credited with saving the Company from its poor productivity and heavy losses of \$1 million per day. He proceeded to raise the design and build-quality of Jaguar cars, reviving the Company's reputation and fortunes.

In 2001, he was awarded the honour of 'Knights Commander of the Order of St. Michael and St. George' for his 'services to exports'. Sir Nick, KCMG, became Ford's Chairman of Europe, before becoming President and Chief Operating Officer at Ford headquarters, the global 2nd in command of the massive, international Company. He retired in 2005.



Sir Nick was a great supporter of all things Lanchester, recognising the great impact that the Lanchester brothers had made in all walks of life. At the height of his work-load in 1995, he still found time to inspect the massed ranks of Lanchester cars of all ages during the Lanchester Centenary Rally's visit to the Jaguar Works, as well as personally presenting

commemorative gifts to each and every owner. He appreciated the engineering of Lanchester cars and drove a veteran Lanchester on the famous London to Brighton run. He was pleased to write the foreword to the Lanchester Legacy and to accept the position of Patron of the Daimler and Lanchester Owners' Club. In 2010, Sir Nick was keen to learn more about the newly-formed, charitable Lanchester Trust and gladly accepted the role of Patron the following year (see Newsletter No.2). Since then he has given full support and encouragement to the Trustees in their quest to raise the profile of Lanchester; one night in particular writing out scores of letters and envelopes for their funding appeal.

Sir Nick Scheele will be greatly missed. A letter of condolence on behalf of all Trust Members will be sent to his wife, Ros, and their three children.

~~~~~