



Registered Charity No: 1143535

~ promoting the inspirational work of Dr Frederick, Frank and George Lanchester ~

Newsletter No.34

Open Day

January 2017

Below is an invitation to all Lanchester Trust members and supporters. The Trustees hope to see you at the Lanchester Library at Coventry University.

The new Lanchester, Daimler & BSA Rally in the Midlands - 3rd & 4th June.

After many years of determination, negotiation and hard work, Coventry University's Lanchester Interactive Archive was officially launched at the end of April. Since then, students and staff continue to sample its delights, laid out in a large room on the second floor of the Lanchester Library. Much of this has been kindly sponsored by the Heritage Lotteries Fund; the project couldn't have happened without its assistance.

A Lanchester car exhibit is prominently displayed at the front of the room and is unmissable through the large glass screens, especially if the side, head and spot lamps are being actuated by the 'driver' at the time. This car is proving very popular, with many visitors never previously having sat behind the steering wheel of a pre-war car. When they get into the spirit of vintage motoring they pose for photographs, leaning out to see full-lock being gained as they pull on the steering wheel. The self-cancelling, orange semaphore-trafficators have become a great hit but the most-asked question seems to be "Just how did you get the car onto the second floor, through that little door?" What a good thing it will be if this excitement encourages more people, especially youngsters, to enjoy vintage motoring.

The Lanchester car perfectly supports the many cutting-edge, computer-driven programmes on offer. The 'serious games' are there for visitors to learn about Lanchester when, for example, 'driving' either a Lanchester racing car, or a veteran, a 1932, the King's limousine or even a Lanchester armoured car over obstacles to gain success; this endeavour can be enhanced by adopting different variations of design to help you. Maybe you would instead prefer to pilot an 1890s Lanchester heavier-than-air flying machine round Lanchester's workshop, while learning about Lanchester's contra-rotating propellers, his elliptical wings and his angled wing-tips?



The 'augmented reality' will provide all visitors with great fun and education, as images seem to come right out of the computer screens from nowhere to portray Lanchester inventions. None of this diminishes the facilities for serious researchers, as there will be digitised versions of patents, inventions and correspondence to be had, along with Lanchester's medals, books, blueprints and sketchbooks on permanent display.

All Lanchester, Daimler and BSA owners are invited to visit this free exhibition, as part of the Lanchester Open Days and Rally, on Saturday 3rd and Sunday 4th June. The Rally itself will be held outside the main doors of the Lanchester Library, with Lanchester, BSA and Daimler cars of all ages and conditions being displayed for all to enjoy; there's also room for any trailers for long-distance cars or those under restoration (always a delight to see).

Entertainment will happen over the weekend but there's always the Coventry Motofest to keep you amused and interested. With demonstrations and presentations on the elevated ring road, hundreds of veteran, vintage and classic cars will be packed into the City below. The Coventry Transport Museum and the Cathedral are also free-of-charge, helping the **3rd and 4th June** to be a great event. Lanchesters, BSA and Daimler cars will have the best parking spots in Coventry, of course, so book in at your earliest opportunity via the 'LIA Coventry Rally' form at www.Lanchesters.com or contact Chris Clark on 01531 890 204. Please tell your friends to join you there, as the more the merrier.