



HISTORIC AWARDS 2020

The Royal Automobile Club
Pall Mall, London



1948 Land Rover JUE 477, the first-ever production Land Rover, languished on a Cumbrian hillside for many decades. In 2018, before its lengthy restoration commenced, this very important machine was displayed in 'as found' state in the Club's Rotunda. Post-restoration, JUE 477 was nominated for the Awards, and is one of the 2020 finalists.



The Royal Automobile Club Historic Awards



These awards continue our rich heritage of celebrating the achievements of pioneers, champions and all forms of excellence and there has never been a better time to be rewarding success in what has been an extraordinary year.

From keeping businesses active to producing events when all the odds were stacked against, the organisers showed such determination. There was also an impressive line-up of online activities within the entries, which just reinforced how resilient and innovative the industry has been in keeping the wheels turning.

The standard of entries this year has been overwhelming and the judges, who are central to the integrity of the awards and experts in their field, had a tough time honing them down to the finalists. I am especially encouraged by the quality of nominations for the Young Achiever Award. New for this year, it really highlights the passion amongst the young guns for the industry.

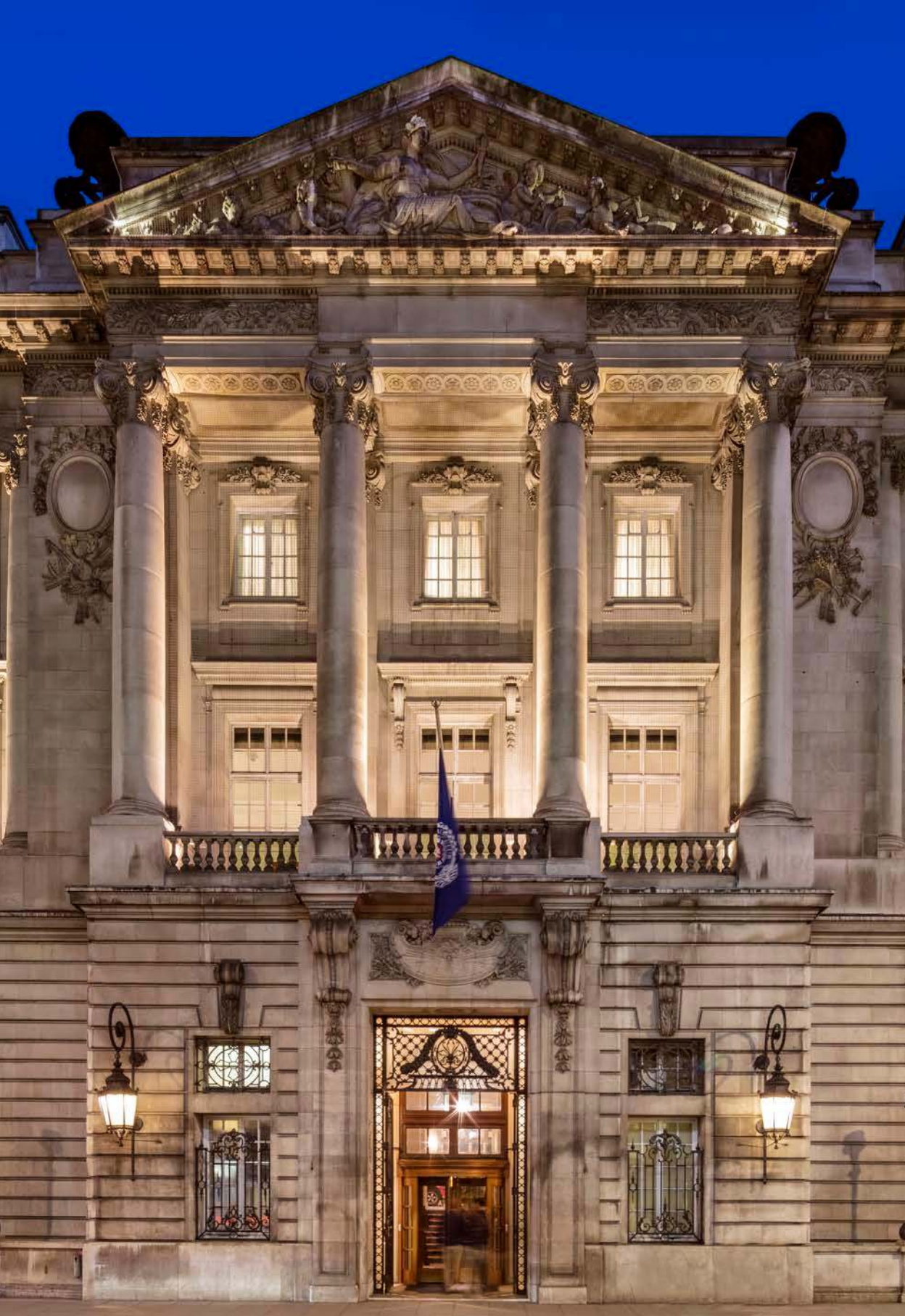
I would like to congratulate Peter and Betty-Ann Banham for this year's Lifetime Achievement Award - their outstanding contribution to the historic rallying community and the support they have given competitors for decades is overwhelming and just highlights those unsung heroes behind the scenes keeping the engines running.

A hearty congratulations to all the category winners for their achievements in 2020 - they have not gone unnoticed and to bring them to the fore in times like this is even more satisfying.

These awards would not have been possible without our partners and we are enormously grateful to them for their support and to the judges for their diligence and commitment to the procedure.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind us how significant this industry is. With a turnover of £18 billion and providing employment for 113,000 people, the sizeable contribution it makes to the business and leisure industry in the UK should not be underestimated - so hats off to you all for achieving this, and wishing you much success for this year.

Ben Cussons
Chairman of the Royal Automobile Club



Contents

- ⑥ The Royal Automobile Club
- ⑦ Awards Background
- ⑦ Meet your Host
- ⑧ Meet the Judges and the Jury
- CATEGORIES**
- ⑩ Outstanding Journalism
- ⑫ Young Achiever
- ⑭ Competitive Event
- ⑯ Race Series
- ⑱ Motoring Spectacle
- ⑳ Personality
- ㉑ Collection
- ㉒ Restoration
- ㉔ Royal Automobile Club
Lifetime Achievement Award
- ㉘ Celebrating Success
- ㉚ Judgement Day
- ㉛ Our Partners

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Club would like to thank the following for their support and guidance in helping us to deliver the Royal Automobile Club Historic Awards.

Event Partner

Historic Promotions - Duncan Wiltshire, Richard Grafton and Karen Coe.

Sponsors

A. Lange & Söhne, 1762 from Brewin Dolphin, Bicester Heritage, Footman James, HERO-ERA Events and StarterMotor.

The Royal Automobile Club

The Royal Automobile Club was founded in 1897 and its distinguished history mirrors that of motoring itself. In 1907, the Club was awarded its Royal title by King Edward VII, sealing the Club's status as Britain's oldest and most influential motoring organisation.



The Club's early years were focused on promoting the motor car and its place in society, which developed into motoring events such as the 1000 Mile Trial, first held in 1900. In 1905, the Club held the first Tourist Trophy, which remains the oldest motorsport trophy still being competed for today. It promoted the first British Grand Prix at Brooklands in 1926 and the first modern Formula 1 Grand Prix at Silverstone in 1950, whilst continuing to campaign for the rights of the motorist, including the introduction of the first driving licences.

Today, the Club continues to develop and support automobilism through representation on the Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA), Motorsport UK, and the RAC Foundation while promoting its own motoring events including the Illinois Route 66 Regent Street Motor Show and the RM Sotheby's London to Brighton Veteran Car Run.

The Club also awards a series of internationally recognised trophies and medals celebrating motoring achievements in the areas of racing, engineering, personal endeavour and motoring publishing. Some of these awards include the Segrave Trophy, the Torrens Trophy, the Simms Medal, the Dewar Trophy, the Motoring Book of the Year Awards, The Diamond Jubilee Trophy, the Hawthorn Trophy and the Tourist Trophy.

Awards Background

The Royal Automobile Club has been at the heart of the motoring and motorsport world for over 120 years and the Awards continue its rich pedigree in celebrating motoring accomplishments. Underpinned by the Club's unimpeachable authority and integrity, they reward achievement and innovation by highlighting and celebrating the wide range of companies, clubs, events, associations and individuals responsible for influencing and driving the British historic motoring movement. The Historic Awards add to the Club's current extensive motoring activities and awards as described in the history of the Club opposite but also complement some of our motorsport involvements in events and races such as the coveted Historic Tourist Trophy, Woodcote Trophy and the Royal Automobile Club TT Celebration, the jewel in the crown of the Goodwood Revival.

Meet your Host



Lee McKenzie

Lee McKenzie is best known for her work in Formula 1, presenting and interviewing the drivers for Channel 4 and previously for the BBC. She now also presents live coverage on Channel 4 of W Series, a global motorsport series for female racing drivers. Lee also presents International rugby and the European Champions Cup for Channel 4 and both the Men's and Women's 6 Nations for the BBC. Lee has also covered the Olympics, Commonwealth Games, Wimbledon, equestrian and the Boat Race for BBC as well as the Paralympics and the Women's European Football Championships for Channel 4. As a news journalist, Lee covered the Lockerbie Trial, General Elections and the opening of the Scottish Parliament. She was the first female recipient of the Jim Clark award and has co-driven in many rallies from Norway to Rally GB.

Meet the Lead Judges

Each category had its own bespoke, specialist judging panel, headed by a Lead Judge who is an expert in that particular field. Each lead judge appointed other members to the jury, ensuring each category was assessed rigorously by those best-qualified to do so.



Alastair Clements

Editor-in-Chief of Classic & Sports Car.

EVENT CATEGORY

Motoring Spectacle



Steve Cropley

Editor-in-Chief of Autocar.

EVENT CATEGORY

Outstanding Journalism



David Lillywhite

Editorial Director of Magneto.

EVENT CATEGORY

Restoration



Vanessa Marçais

Historic motorsport competitor and event organiser.

EVENT CATEGORY

Competitive Event



Tom Purves

Chairman of Motorsport UK Council and Vice President of the Royal Automobile Club.

EVENT CATEGORY

Personality



Simon Taylor

Journalist, TV commentator and former Editor of Autosport and Managing Director of Haymarket Magazines.

EVENT CATEGORY

Collection



Ian Titchmarsh

Motor racing commentator and Chair of Silverstone Heritage.

EVENT CATEGORY

Race Series



Jeremy Vaughan

Head of Motoring at the Royal Automobile Club.

EVENT CATEGORY

Young Achiever

Meet the Jury



Sarah Bennett-Baggs

The editor of AutoAddicts.com, and a classic biker and racing driver.



Daniel Geoghegan

Chief Executive of Bicester Heritage. A passionate vintage car enthusiast and promoter of the UK's automotive heritage.



Danny Hopkins

PPA award-winning journalist and magazine editor and Editor of Practical Classics.



Paul Lawrence

Motorsport journalist specialising in historic motorsport, with nearly 50 years' experience in the sport.



James Page

Journalist, author and former editor of Classic & Sports Car magazine.



Lizzie Pope

Associate Editor, Classic & Sports Car magazine, geek, Mustang owner and rallyist.



Marcus Pye

Historic motorsport journalist, race commentator and competitor.



Michael Squire

Car Specialist, RM Sotheby's European Division, historic motorsport competitor and concours d'elegance participant.



David Whale

Chairman of the Federation of British Historic Vehicle Clubs and a member of the FIA International Historic Commission.



Allan Winn

Vice President of Brooklands Museum, Pebble Beach judge, former Director of the VSCC and former Director & CEO of Brooklands Museum Trust.

Outstanding Journalism

This award will be presented to the author of what the judges deem to be the best written or broadcast feature that has appeared in a British publication, TV/radio/film/broadcast media or digital platform within the twelve-month judging period. The feature can cover all aspects of the historic motoring world.

LEAD JUDGE

Steve Cropley

SUPPORTED BY

The Royal Automobile Club



The Royal Automobile Club has one of the finest collections of motoring books, publications and archives in the UK and has been supporting and inspiring journalists and authors for over a hundred and twenty years in their quest for painstaking research for their next article, book or film.

The Club's library in Pall Mall has over 6,000 books and the archive has a wealth of original material and manuscripts that chart the development of motoring in the UK dating back from the Club's formation in 1897 to the present day. The Club's annual book awards have grown to be the accolades to achieve in motoring book publishing, with record quality entries from around the world.

So it was only fitting that the Club's Historic Awards should have a journalism category to reward excellence in this specialist sector that supports the vibrant historic motoring world.

The finalists

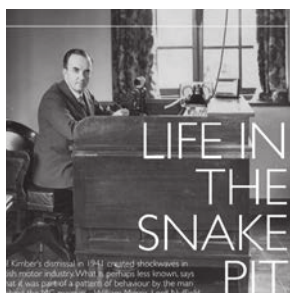


Doug Nye
Stirling Moss,
Magneto magazine

Doug Nye, arguably the greatest living motor racing historian, wrote this feature following the death of his close friend, the legendary Sir Stirling Moss.

He had initially refused to do so, upset at the loss of his friend and understandably worried that it would seem as though he were taking advantage of that friendship. Some days later, still grieving, he decided he would be willing to write about what made Sir Stirling so special, and why they had become such great friends.

It's not an obituary or a history of Sir Stirling's achievements; it's a piece straight from the heart, recalling special moments and many poignant and often funny anecdotes.



Jon Pressnell
Life in the Snakepit,
Enjoying MG

MG founder Cecil Kimber's dismissal in 1941 created shockwaves in the close-knit British motor industry. What is perhaps less known, is that it was part of a pattern of behaviour by the man whose name is behind the MG marque - William Morris, Lord Nuffield...

Jon Pressnell has written many articles on MG and is arguably the greatest authority of all on the characters of this extraordinary era. He has a way of explaining and humanising these people in ways no-one else could - and helping us understand the huge consequences of their actions.

This piece draws on his extensive research - over 30 years - on the British motor industry, and more particularly on Morris-BMC-BL.



Gary Pusey
The Wildlife Conservation Pioneers
Land Rover Monthly

Gary became aware of this fascinating story early in 2020, and soon realised that it was largely unknown in the UK - no-one he spoke to in the Land Rover community had heard of Ted Reilly or Jezebel the Land Rover.

He eventually found a reference to Jezebel on social media, which led him to a friend of the Reilly family, who told him about the plan to drive a resurrected Jezebel from Eswatini to Solihull to raise funds for wildlife conservation.

Introduced to Ted Reilly, his wife Liz and son Mick, Gary quickly became enthralled and inspired by their pioneering wildlife conservation efforts, and by the extraordinary role played by their humble Land Rover.

Young Achiever

This award is aimed at rising stars aged between 18 and 30 who are going above and beyond and building their future in Britain's historic motoring world. This is a vibrant industry and it's vital that future generations who are making an exceptional contribution within their organisation are recognised. There is a wide remit for this category - from apprentices to club officials through to event organisers and classic car dealers. The possibilities are endless!

LEAD JUDGE

Jeremy Vaughan

SUPPORTED BY

1762 from Brewin Dolphin + StarterMotor

1762

from

Brewin Dolphin

1762 from Brewin Dolphin is a new level of wealth management designed to make your money work hard so that you can get on with life.

Since 1762, Brewin Dolphin has been planning futures. Our clients' futures, the futures of those they hold dear, their businesses, and all the things that matter most to them.

Investing your money is actually the last thing we'll do, because first we'll invest all the time it takes to get to know your unique circumstances, understanding what makes you tick, and laying the foundations for what we hope is a lasting relationship.

Capital at risk.

STARTERMOTOR

Our historical car world is at risk. If nothing is done it will eventually disappear.

StarterMotor works tirelessly to bring the next generation into our old car world.

It provides vehicles and other resources to education facilities and apprenticeship schemes, for students to use for learning and to enjoy driving in competitions, events and shows.

In particular it highlights the urgent need for more engineering apprentices.

We believe our old car world can provide a real haven in the digital age: enjoyment, adventure and community.

It's a place to belong; where friendship, common interest and mechanical fun are self evident.

The finalists



Liam Howel (age 23)

Liam Howel has made a great contribution to the success of the Jim Clark Trust and Jim Clark Motorsport Museum over the last 18 months.

He first became involved with the Trust during his third year at university, when he was a volunteer working on fundraising duties and social media posts. When he graduated in 2019 he was asked to join the Trust as Digital & Marketing Executive.

This saw him take charge of social media, where he has attempted to target and harness interest from a younger audience. He has also been at the core of designing the Trust's updated website and online shop.

Liam has recently taken up the role of Secretary of the Jim Clark Trust.



Jack Bond (age 24)

Jack Bond already has 16 years of Vintage Sports Car Club membership under his belt and is committed to building his career in vintage motorsport.

At age 14 he was campaigning his family's 1926 Bullnose Morris before progressing to a self-prepared 1914 Vauxhall A/D type. He now has a competitive drive in a 1930 Alvis Silver Eagle Special.

A permanent member of staff at Tip Top Engineering, he also other strings to his bow - he recently cast, machined and sold a run of Morris cylinder heads.



Harry Ruffell-Hazell (age 20)

After seeing a line-up of restored classics outside CMC in Bridgnorth, Harry Ruffell-Hazell handed in his CV. The company was impressed, even more so when he was interviewed.

He was taken on as an apprentice in 2017 and thrown in at the deep end, joining an apprentice team working on a 1954 Lancia Aurelia, and was soon made team leader on the project.

"Always with a smile on his face, eager to learn, hands on, and now producing high quality work of his own to an impressive standard, Harry has a great future ahead of him."

Nigel Woodward, Managing Director, Classic Motor Cars.

Competitive Event

This award seeks to celebrate the very best of the multitude of events that have a strong competitive element. This covers any event from motor racing meetings and hill climbs to navigation and stage rallies, regularity trials, and hot rod and drag races. Eligible events must have taken place within the UK, or to have had a significant part of the event take place within the UK. Virtual events and events held behind closed doors were also eligible.

LEAD JUDGE

Vanessa Marçais

The finalists



HERO-ERA A Novice Trial

HERO-ERA's first post-lockdown event ran in August 2020 and pioneered the return of rallying after a break of five months. It was the prime focus of HERO-ERA's mission to encourage newcomers and younger competitors to sample classic rallying. Over three days, participants moved from classroom to the roads of Wales and Shropshire to put the lessons from top rallyists Seren and Elise Whyte into practice, with a competitive rally on the final day.

It was one of the first such events to run under Motorsport UK and Government COVID rulings, which required innovative thinking about how the event was organized and operated.

HSCC Legends of Brands Hatch Super Prix

The HSCC's Legends of Brands Hatch Super Prix, on the Grand Prix circuit, ran on the second weekend after the permitted return of racing at the start of July.

More than any other, this was the event that showed that major historic race meetings could run to the new normal of COVID rules.

The Club undertook a massive workload to implement new working practices and drew a very strong entry for two excellent days of racing.

MotorSport Vision secured spectator access and went to enormous lengths to ensure visitor safety in the era of COVID, and the event was the perfect fillip for those starved of historic racing since the end of 2019.

Thruxton Historic

Re-scheduled from early June to mid-August, the newly titled Thruxton Historic attracted excellent grids to race at one of the country's fastest and most challenging circuits.

For many of the competitors, it was their first race meeting of 2020 and a great, yet socially distanced atmosphere was evident in the paddock.

The dedicated circuit management team and the event promoters went to tremendous efforts to ensure the smooth running of the event under the close scrutiny of local COVID authorities.

Significantly, the race meeting was open to a limited number of spectators who loved the chance to see a fine array of historic cars in action.

Race Series

This category aims to recognise the huge number of highly active and successful historic race series, many of which take place across an international stage, and can be organised by one of the big International organisers or by one of the many UK-based historic racing clubs. To be eligible for this award a race series must have a predominantly UK based calendar.

LEAD JUDGE

Ian Titchmarsh

SUPPORTED BY

A. Lange & Söhne

A. LANGE & SÖHNE
GLASHÜTTE I/SA

Our timepieces are the embodiment of everything that A. Lange & Söhne stands for. We feel a deep sense of pride when we hold them in our hands. And yet it is not only the results of our work that make us who we are.

It is a sincere dedication that shapes us – a passion that makes us strive for perfection day after day. Our unending diligence and patience, our artistic determination, our striving for innovation, our imagination and our persistent belief that everything is possible – followed by our ambition to make it possible. And even if we have already found a compelling solution, we never stop looking for an even better one. This is what unites us among ourselves, and with all the many people who are enthusiastic about our watches.

The finalists



FJHRA/HSCC 'Silverline' UK Championship

Historic Formula Junior has been around for many years and is one of the most affordable classes of historic single-seater racing, offering an attractive array of front and rear-engined machinery. It has a strong following throughout the UK and Europe.

Despite the abridged season, four strongly-supported races enabled there to be a worthwhile series.

The strength of support for this series is evident in the fact that the first post-lockdown event, at Brands Hatch in July, attracted a remarkable 34 entries - including three from Europe.

GT & Sports Car Cup

This series epitomises the spirit of sports and GT car racing with genuine, period-specification cars from the 1950s and early '60s of a type which raced both internationally and in national events of the period.

Very high-quality grids with excellent driving standards, result in spectacular yet clean racing throughout the field. A race series run by drivers for drivers it is now in its fourteenth successful season.

Grids, which are by invitation only, usually comprise more than 30 cars and range from iconic sports-racing cars of the 1950s such as Lola Mk 1s and Lotus Elevens to E-type Jaguars and Shelby Cobras and Mustangs of the mid-60s.

HRDC 'Jack Sears Trophy' for Touring Cars 1958-1966

Historic Touring Car racing covers a wide spectrum, but the focus has tended to be on the cars from the mid-1960s onwards.

The HRDC 'Jack Sears Trophy' (named in honour of the man who won the British Touring Car title in both '50s and '60s genres) caters for Touring Cars from the earliest days of the BRSCC (later RAC) Saloon Car Championship which are rarely, if ever, seen elsewhere and offers both competitors and spectators something completely different.

In 2020 the series consistently topped the bill in grid numbers in all the race meetings that it attended.

Motoring Spectacle

This award recognises the stunning range of classic and historic car events that take place around the UK throughout the year. Potential nominees must have no element of timed competition. Eligible events include concours d'elegance, tours, classic vehicle shows and club gatherings. Judges will be looking for events - big or small - that have displayed a true sense of spectacle. Eligible events must have taken place within the UK, or to have had a significant part of the event take place within the UK. Virtual events or events held behind closed doors were also eligible for 2020.

LEAD JUDGE

Alastair Clements

The finalists



Classics for Carers

In April 2020, as the UK's historic motoring enthusiasts watched classic events being cancelled due to lockdown, automotive photographer, writer and classic car owner Nick Chivers came up with an idea.

Classics for Carers was an entirely charitable event in support of NHS carers, colleagues and volunteers. The 'stay-at-home motoring event' saw classics taking pride of place on driveways across the UK on May 3. They could be enjoyed by local communities and exhibitors were encouraged to share their motors on social media, for people to enjoy further afield.

Nick's original aim was to raise around £1,500 for the NHS charities. Between this and a much-demanded second event in June, he actually raised £17,500. And he raised more than funds - he raised spirits.

London Concours

As the first major automotive event to run since February, the rescheduled London Concours in August was taking a step into the uncharted. With the additional complications of brand-new restrictions, the event organisers' task of curating a world-class selection of vehicles in one of London's most beautiful hidden locations had become infinitely more difficult.

So, even for those involved in the organising, it was a pleasant surprise to see a London Concours event bound in the same enthusiasm, passion and pageantry as ever. From a line-up of eight Ferrari Dinos, to a class dedicated to vintage Hot Rods, London Concours felt like a real celebration. A celebration of motoring, but also a celebration of respite from the shackles of lockdown.

REVS Limiter

Designed to support the classic car community during lockdown, REVS Limiter was a brand-new, online-only car show that took place on 16-17 May 2020 and was organised by motoring enthusiast, artist and Chaplain at Bicester Heritage, Adam Gompertz to support people's mental health.

To join in, enthusiasts simply went to the event's Facebook page, where they could watch videos from a range of expert guests including McLaren F1 and Lotus Elan designer Peter Stevens, Salvage Hunters: Classic Cars presenter Paul Cowland, and journalists Steve Croyley and Matt Prior from Autocar, as well as Classic & Sports Car Editor in Chief Alastair Clements. Plus, everyone was invited to upload photos of their treasured classics to share the story of their passion.

Personality

This award seeks to recognise any individual who has made a truly outstanding contribution to heritage, historic motoring or historic motorsport during the judging period. The winner can come from any part of the British historic motoring world - private enthusiast, club organiser or perhaps a specialist who has achieved something remarkable.

LEAD JUDGE

Tom Purves

SUPPORTED BY

HERO-ERA



HERO-ERA is the world's foremost classic motoring events group featuring the legendary Peking to Paris Motor Challenge as its most challenging endurance event. HERO-ERA events also run famous rallies such as the arduous Le Jog and the very competitive historic RAC Rally of the Tests.

The company is run by enthusiasts for enthusiasts, providing something for everyone whether it's for beginner or expert. They even offer their Arrive Drive fleet of vintage and classic rally cars for hire which can make it a convenient one stop shop for all rally needs. Great cars on events in stunning locations with great people and many personalities taking part.

*www.heroevents.eu
www.endurorally.com*

The finalists



Daniel Geoghegan,
Bicester Heritage

In creating Bicester Heritage Dan has made a truly outstanding platform for the promotion of the Heritage movement. This year he masterminded the construction of The Command Works, a £10m extension to Bicester Heritage's former WW2 RAF Base which comprises eight new buildings creating over 77,000 ft² of new mixed-use business and employment space. The new build facilities are impressively designed to blend in with the historic nature of the site but allow continuing expansion of the centre. This has brought its rewards with Motorsport UK, the Little Car Company and HERO-ERA rally and event organisers all establishing their operations centre on site this year.



Rev. Adam
Gompertz

The Reverend Adam Gompertz has provided truly spiritual energy to the Heritage movement at a time when physical distancing and lockdown has resulted in far fewer opportunities for enthusiasts to meet in person, with events cancelled or postponed.

The Reverend's work on social media, his excitement, passion and warmth have added to the colour and texture of the movement at a very difficult time. It's fair to say that for the Heritage community the Reverend has become a digital rock on Facebook.

This year he has led three virtual events to great acclaim and has partnered with Mission Motorsport and StarterMotor charities.



Janice Pitchforth,
Heritage Skills Academy

Janice Pitchforth has been singularly instrumental in promoting and developing apprenticeships throughout the Heritage industry.

She has worked tirelessly to secure apprenticeship opportunities for people from their teens to their 50s, and has been asked to open a second Southern centre for apprenticeship training at Brooklands Museum.

Janice's success with the Heritage Engineering Technical Apprenticeship programme has restored the faith of a disillusioned industry in the potential and commitment of a new generation of engineers.

The motor industry recorded 90% fewer apprenticeship starts since 2019, but Janice bucked the trend by matching 25 new employees with apprenticeships since March 2020.

Collection

Historic vehicle collections come in many forms, from those amassed by private individuals to those curated by museums large and small or by internationally-renowned marques. The award is presented to a British-based collection which makes a significant contribution to the historic motoring movement in the UK or internationally. Examples include public-facing activities held in a museum or through sharing the vehicles from the collection at public events, or creative virtual events/seminars etc. that have allowed a wider audience to participate online.

LEAD JUDGE

Simon Taylor

SUPPORTED BY

Footman James



Footman James is one of the UK's leading specialist vehicle insurance brokers with over 35 years' experience, providing insurance to classic vehicle owners, restorers, private clients, motor traders and competitors.

The Private Clients team specialises in providing over £1.3bn worth of tailored insurance packages for a portfolio of prestigious vehicles and high-value collections. They also offer cover for high-value homes and contents.

Every Private Client of Footman James receives a dedicated Account Handler throughout the lifetime of their policy. Their Private Client team is incredibly experienced, with an average service length of 13 years with Footman James.

Footman James' Private Clients also gain access to their exclusive Chrome Collective Club, which allows them to attend special events and access VIP hospitality packages. Last year, their Chrome Collective members enjoyed a virtual wine tasting evening with Private Cellar and an exclusive evening with Harry Metcalfe hosted by Alex Riley.

The finalists



British Motor Museum

Like everyone, the British Motor Museum has had an extraordinary and difficult year, not least when, owing to lockdown, it had to close its major exhibition celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Range Rover when it had been open for just two days.

The Museum launched a new, online exhibition, celebrating one of Britain's best-selling small cars - Metro at 40. The exhibition is free to view on the Museum's website and gives everyone the chance to celebrate this iconic car's special birthday.

In October 2020 the Museum opened a new exhibition from the Jaguar Daimler Heritage Trust (JDHT), telling the story of when Jaguar bought the Daimler Company from BSA in 1960.



National Motor Museum, Beaulieu

In spite of the considerable challenges we all faced in 2020, the National Motor Museum kept very busy, staging some of its most popular events such as its 'Simply' events, and introducing new attractions.

These included Motoring in Miniature - a fun-filled family exhibition showcasing more than 800 toy cars and pedal cars from the 1920s to the 1990s. Visitors in August were invited to drive into the Beaulieu visitor attraction, park-up and enjoy a Park and Picnic evening in the parkland with live music and exclusive access to the National Motor Museum and new adventure play area, Little Beaulieu.

In October 2020 it was announced that the Museum's workshop would, for the first time, open its doors to historic vehicles owned by enthusiasts.



Vauxhall Heritage

In 2020, for the first time in its 72-year history, a selection of cars from Vauxhall Heritage's famous collection went on public display, telling the incredible story of Vauxhall Motors' rise from a niche sporting car manufacturer to one of the UK's best-known automotive brands.

'Vauxhall - Made in Luton' opened on September 5 at Stockwood Discovery Centre, Luton - a stone's-throw from where almost all the exhibits were originally manufactured.

The main exhibition includes ten of Vauxhall's most significant Luton-built cars from the last 115 years, book-ended by the very first model to be produced at the famous Kimpton Road factory - a 1905 7/9hp - and the last passenger car to roll off the line - a 2002 Vectra - before the plant started to produce LCVs exclusively.

Restoration

The Restoration award is presented to the restoration that results from impressive technical expertise, significant research and sensitivity to the vehicle and its history. The judges look for evidence of a dedication and determination to learn as much as possible about the subject's provenance, and for an immaculately-documented research and restoration process, combined with world-class skills.

LEAD JUDGE

David Lillywhite

SUPPORTED BY

Bicester Heritage



BICESTER HERITAGE

Bicester Heritage is creating a revolution in historic vehicle ownership. The unique location is the UK's only hub for historic motoring excellence and is the national centre for a £8.8bn per annum industry.

Founded in 2013 Bicester Heritage has gone from a standing start to a home for over 45 specialist businesses, and growing, with a collective turnover of over £50m, making it the largest player in the industry and set to grow exponentially with a global reach.

The unique ecosystem of businesses based at Bicester Motion, a beautiful 444 acre former WW2 RAF Bomber Training Station, acts as a 'marina-like' cluster, promoting skills and expertise, employment, qualified customer footfall, shared business incubation and aggregate growth. Collectively, Bicester Heritage is all about driving the future of the past.

Special mention



1954 Lancia Aurelia B20GT

In addition, the judges chose to select one of the nominees for a Special Mention. They felt that the 1954 Lancia Aurelia B20 GT deserved this accolade because its excellent restoration was entirely managed and undertaken by a small group of young apprentices at Classic Motor Cars (CMC).

The finalists



1911 De Dion-Bouton lorry
Nick Pellett

This is almost certainly the oldest working heavy commercial De Dion-Bouton in the world and, until Nick Pellett restored it, it hadn't run for nearly 100 years since being abandoned in France after the Great War.

How do you restore a vehicle when there are no published books specialising in De Dion Bouton commercial vehicles and, thanks to two World Wars, there are no surviving factory records? The answer is incredibly detailed and dedicated research - which started years before Nick acquired the lorry itself.

In 2016 he found the unrestored 1911 rolling chassis for sale and later that year began a restoration that, in Nick's words 'Nearly did me in.'



1981 Ford Escort Mk2 (ex-David Richards/ Aro Vatanen WRC)
Viking Motorsport

DKP 191T is the car Prodrive owner David Richards and Ari Vatanen took to victory in the Acropolis, 1000 Lakes and San Remo rallies in 1981 - their World Rally Championship-winning year.

After many years David Richards was able to track DKP 191T down. It was in need of a major restoration, and Escort specialists Viking Motorsport were tasked with the rebuild.

The car had originally been built by David Sutton Cars, who ran the Ford rally team at that time. To make this restoration even more special, John O'Connor who actually built the car in 1980, now works for Viking, and was able to restore a car he built 40 years ago.



1948 Land Rover JUE 477
Ineos Automotive + Julian Shoolheifer

Chassis 860001, the first-ever official production Land Rover, had been left exposed to the elements on a Northumbrian hillside for decades from the 1970s before being put into storage in a tumbledown barn in 1998.

Julian Shoolheifer's hugely sympathetic but thorough restoration began in 2017 and has preserved as much of the vehicle's history and originality as was physically and safely possible.

The chassis alone took four months and 1,000 man hours to restore, and the twisted and torn bodywork was not even washed. In September 2020 JUE 477 won the Best 1940s Vehicle at the Concours of Elegance at Hampton Court Palace, London.

Royal Automobile Club Lifetime Achievement Award

This special award recognises an outstanding contribution to British motoring history and heritage, or to the British historic motoring and motorsport movement, across many years.

Peter & Betty-Ann Banham

For over three decades Peter and Betty-Ann Banham have been ever-present members of the historic rallying community. Known to countless owners, organisers and entrants around the world as the people whose remarkable ingenuity and enthusiasm have saved the day, they are perhaps the best representation of the often-unsung heroes of historic motorsport.



From the pages of a 1990 edition of Motorsport magazine to a PistonHeads forum thread, the names of Peter and Betty-Ann Banham can be found wherever historic rallying is discussed. Keen competitors themselves, they and their venerable Riley were once regulars at Club rally events, where Peter's knack for roadside repairs quickly earned him a reputation.

Far from being preoccupied only with their own success, however, the Banhams' willingness to assist their fellow entrants soon laid the path to a role as a mechanical assistance crew on distance events. On countless occasions since they have been the last in the car park at the end of a long and tiring day; Peter with his never-ending supply of large washers, bolts and lengths of sturdy chain, and Betty-Ann alongside him, an equally unerring source of tea, fruit buns and positivity. Peter says that she also has an uncanny ability to find whatever mechanical item he needs!

Peter and Betty-Ann are still playing their part on the Flying Scotsman and the RAC Rally of the Tests. Tomas and Patrick from HERO-ERA said, "Ever since we met Peter and Betty-Ann more than a decade ago, they have been amongst the most resourceful characters in the



classic rally scene. Always a smile, always selfless in their desire to help competitors carry on their rally, Peter and Betty-Ann represent a rare breed of human beings that many should be inspired to emulate."

Prolific historic competitor Jonathan Turner recalls being bailed out by the Banhams on countless occasions. If an errant tyre, repaired by hand with trusty

steel levers, and a replacement spring, fashioned from chain by the roadside, are Peter's bread, then plucking cars from snow drifts on the Monte is his butter.

There is nothing commonplace about Jonathan's most noteworthy interaction with the Banhams, however, which occurred when Peter spotted him stranded in the Gobi Desert during the 2007 Peking to Paris. With nothing to be done about his Itala's broken crankshaft, Peter towed him for nine hours over the washboard roads.

Battered by sandstorms and with the tow rope giving way at every opportunity, they eventually capitulated and camped by the roadside. It was only upon waking the next morning that they discovered themselves to be just one dune away from having reached the main campsite; in true Banham fashion, everyone else had gone to bed by the time they arrived.

With their extraordinary feats eclipsed only by the enormity of their goodwill, the Banhams' exceptional teamwork, charitable spirit and industrious approach are indelibly etched not only in the annals of historic rallying, but in the anecdotes of thousands of competitors whose days they have saved.



Celebrating Success

Whilst lockdown prevented our awards evening being held at our magnificent Club House in Pall Mall this year, we naturally ensured that each winner had their own special occasion and could celebrate in style. Trophies and champagne were delivered, and the delighted winners were able to make their acceptance speeches from their individual locations for the online awards event.



Gary Pusey, recipient of the Outstanding Journalism award.



Jack Bond, winner of the inaugural Young Achiever award (supported by 1762 from Brewin Dolphin and StarterMotor).



Historic Sports Car Club CEO Andy Dee-Crowne with the Competitive Event trophy.



Flavien & Vanessa Marçais celebrate the GT & Sports Car Cup winning Race Series (supported by A. Lange & Söhne).



Nick Chivers, founder of Classics for Carers, with the Motoring Spectacle award.



HISTORIC AWARDS 2020



Janice Pitchforth, recipient of the Personality award (supported by HERO-ERA).



Jeff Coope, Managing Director of the British Motor Museum accepting the Collection award (supported by Footman James).



Julian Shoolheifer with the Restoration award (supported by Bicester Heritage).



Peter and Betty-Ann Banham with their Lifetime Achievement award.

Judgement Day

We received some superb nominations in the Restoration category – and our judging panel had to conduct some extensive research in order to whittle them down to our three finalists.



1911 De Dion-Bouton lorry

Expert, independent judging by real specialists in their field is one of the key elements of the Awards. For the Restoration category, that includes spending a day examining the finalists ‘in the metal’, talking to the owners and restorers and gaining a deep understanding of the story of each vehicle and its restoration.

To do this our judges spent a socially-distanced, pre-lockdown day in December at Bicester Heritage – the category partner – where the beautifully-preserved historic buildings made an entirely appropriate and highly practical backdrop to the task. Land Rover JUE 477 and the ex-David Richards/Ari Vatanen Ford Escort arrived with their respective ‘entourages’, as did the Lancia Aurelia B20 GT, restored by the apprentices at CMC, which the judges wanted to review for a possible Special Mention.

To do this our judges spent a socially-distanced, pre-lockdown day in December at Bicester Heritage – the category partner



1948 Land Rover JUE 477



1981 Ford Escort Mk2



1954 Lancia Aurelia B20GT

There was one notable absentee from Bicester Heritage – Nick Pellett’s 1911 De Dion Lorry is not a machine that can speedily be popped on a trailer. So, once they had gone over the Land Rover, Escort and Lancia with the proverbial fine-toothed comb, David Lillywhite and Danny Hopkins headed off to the Shuttleworth Collection at Old Warden, where they were able to examine the venerable vehicle in one of the hangars.

Our Partners



A. Lange & Söhne

A. Lange & Söhne Boutique
38 Old Bond Street
London, W1S 4QW
020 7493 2266
www.alange-soehne.com



**BICESTER
HERITAGE**

Bicester Heritage

Building 123
The Station Armoury
Buckingham Road
Bicester, Oxon, OX27 8AL
01869 327 928
hq@bicesterheritage.co.uk
www.bicesterheritage.co.uk



Patrick Burke
Managing Director

HERO-ERA Events Ltd

138 Southern Avenue,
Bicester Heritage,
Bicester, Oxon, OX27 8FY
T: +44 (0) 1869 254979
M: +44 (0)7710 352264
Patrick@hero-era.com
www.hero-era.com

1762

from

Brewin Dolphin

Nicholas Hammond

1762 from Brewin Dolphin

8 Waterloo Place
London, SW1Y 4BE
020 3201 3186
Nicholas.Hammond@brewin.co.uk
www.brewin.co.uk/1762



David Bond

Footman James

Castlegate House
Castlegate Way
Castlegate Drive
Dudley, DY1 4TA
07850 656 457
david.bond1@footmanjames.co.uk
www.footmanjames.co.uk

STARTERMOTOR


David Withers

StarterMotor

Bicester Heritage
Buckingham Road
Bicester, Oxon, OX27 8AL
07515 480 221
dw@startermotor.co
www.startermotor.co



 @royalautomobilehistoricawards

 @AwardsHistoric

 @royalautomobilehistoricawards

 The Royal Automobile Club

www.royalautomobileclubhistoricawards.co.uk