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Royal Automobile Club Concours pays tribute to 120 years of legendary Lancia

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ROYAL AUTOMOBILE CLUB

The Royal Automobile Club tells us...

(All words and photographs from the Royal Automobile Club)

CONCOURS

Technical trailblazers and sporting stars on show at Woodcote Park as the idolised Italian marque reaches a landmark automotive milestone

The long and illustrious history of one of Europe's most revered automotive marques will be celebrated at the Royal Automobile Club Concours, held in the scenic grounds of Woodcote Park on 8 July.

Lancia, one of the automotive world's true pioneers, turns 120 later this year - a significant motoring milestone that will be honoured with a special display showcasing many of the Italian marque's most iconic and influential models.

Founded in Turin in November 1906 by Vincenzo Lancia (photo below, at the wheel) and



fellow racing driver Claudio Fogolin, the newly established Lancia & C. Fabbrica Automobili produced its first car the following year and rapidly earned a reputation for technical innovation and engineering excellence.



The Theta of 1913 became the first European production car to feature a complete electrical system as standard equipment. In the following decade, the revolutionary Lambda rewrote the automotive engineering rulebook. It was the first car to feature a load-bearing monocoque body and also pioneered the use of independent suspension. Its narrow-angle aluminium V4 engine and four-wheel braking system further underlined Lancia's advanced thinking.

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In later years, the elegant and sophisticated Italian marque introduced the five-speed gearbox on the Ardea in 1948 and, just two years later, launched the Aurelia - the world's first production car powered by a V6 engine.



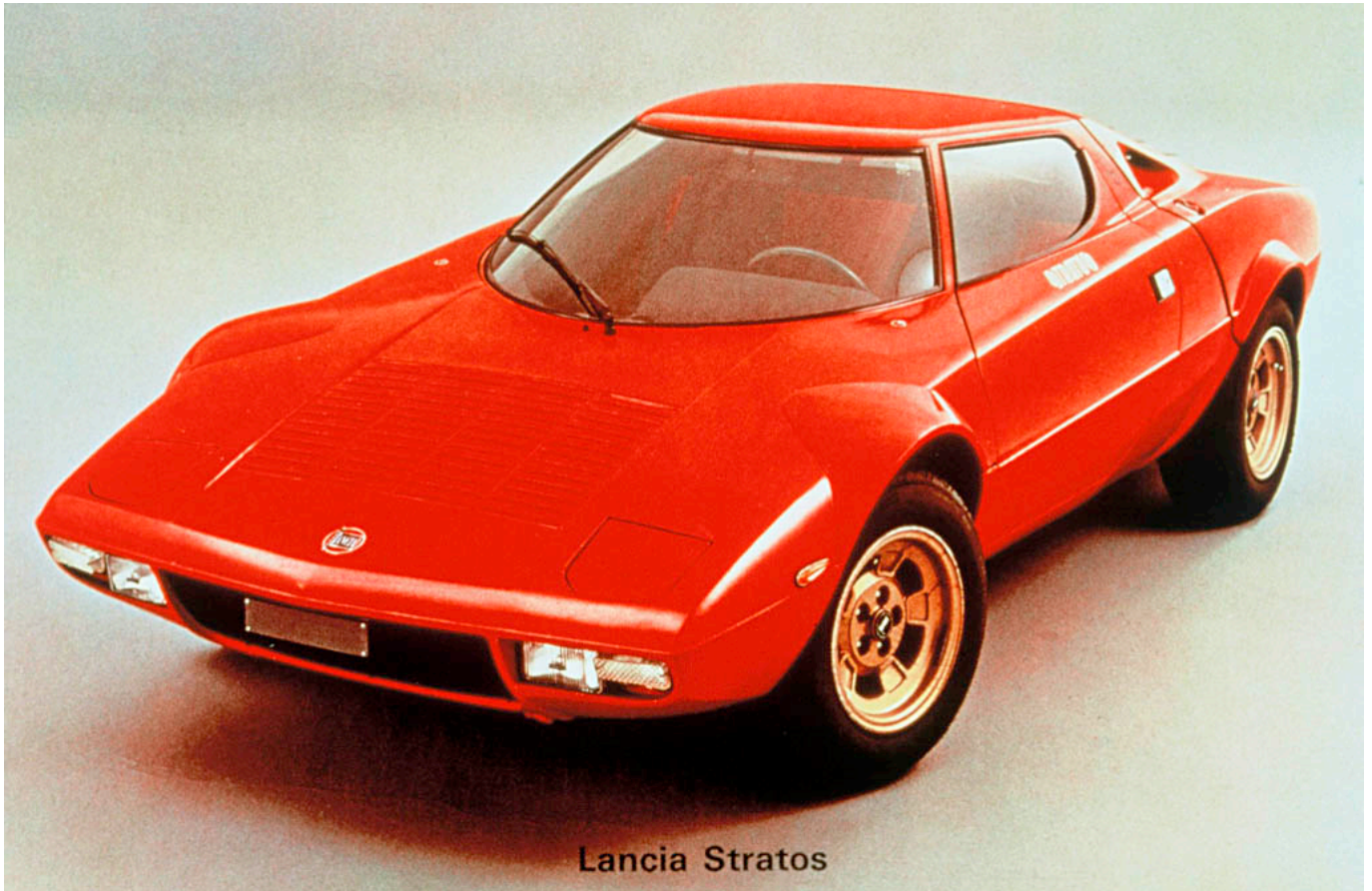
Aurelia.

Lancia is equally renowned for its extraordinary rallying heritage. The marque dominated the sport for decades, beginning with the Lancia Fulvia Coupé HF, which secured the company's first World Rally Championship title in 1972.



Fulvia Coupé HF.

The Fulvia was followed by the legendary Lancia Stratos - the first car designed specifically for rally competition - and then by the Rally 037 and Delta S4 during the fearsome Group B era, before the iconic Delta HF integrale cemented the company's place in motorsport history. By the time Lancia withdrew from rallying, it had amassed an unrivalled total of 10 FIA World Rally Championship Manufacturers' titles - a record that still stands today.



Lancia Stratos

Stratos.

The special 120th anniversary display at the Royal Automobile Club Concours will feature many of Lancia's greatest automotive and competition successes.

With enthusiastic support from the Lancia Motor Club, icons on display will include a 1922 Lambda, a brace of 1950 Aurelias, a pair of Fulvias from the sixties plus both a Stratos and Delta integrale to represent the company's more recent outstanding sporting pedigree.



Delta integrale.

“Lancia is a much-cherished marque, particularly among automotive cognoscenti and rally enthusiasts, and I’m delighted that we are celebrating its remarkable heritage at Woodcote Park,” said Duncan Wiltshire, Chairman of the Royal Automobile Club.

“Like many others, I grew up when Lancias were winning rallies all over the world and, as a result, the brand holds a special resonance for many of those attending our Club Concours in July.”

The Lancia anniversary showcase is one of several special feature displays designed to captivate visitors to Woodcote Park. These will appear alongside the seven prestigious central concours categories, which will be judged by a panel of leading experts at the second staging of the award-winning Royal Automobile Club Concours.



The Concours itself will be an irresistible mix of some 70 competing cars, mixing fun and style in unique fashion. In all there will be over 200 rare and eclectic cars spread across the rolling greens of Woodcote Park, together with special anniversary tributes, engines to admire, motorcycles to marvel at, and modern supercars to covet. Live music, great food, and chilled champagne on hand - it promises to be a unique day out for enthusiasts.

Adding further prestige to the occasion, world-renowned auction house RM Sotheby's will host its Summer Sale simultaneously at Woodcote Park for the first time.

Tickets are available to all members of the Royal Automobile Club. Woodcote Park will also welcome members of invited car clubs and motoring organisations — particularly those aligned with the selected Concours categories and feature displays.

Members of invited clubs and organisations have received a unique access code enabling them to purchase advance tickets. A full hospitality package is also available for guests seeking an enhanced event experience.

Full ticket details, terms and conditions, and comprehensive event information can be found at the official website: royalautomobileclubconcours.co.uk.

About 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 its status as Britain's oldest and most influential motoring organisation. The Club's early years were focused on promoting the motor car, which developed into motoring events such as the 1000 Mile Trial, held in 1900, and the Tourist Trophy in 1905, one of the world's oldest competitive motorsport events. The Club promoted the first pre-war and post-war Grands Prix, at Brooklands in 1926 and Silverstone in 1948 respectively, whilst continuing to campaign for the rights of the motorist, including introducing the first driving licences. Today, the Club continues to develop and support automobilism through representation on the Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA) and the RAC Foundation, while



promoting its own motoring events including the Club's London Motor Week and the RM Sotheby's London to Brighton Veteran Car Run. The Club also awards a series of internationally recognised trophies celebrating motoring achievements. These include the Segrave Trophy, Torrens Trophy, Simms Medal and Dewar Trophy.

About the Royal Automobile Club Concours

The first Royal Automobile Club Concours took place in July 2025, and formed an exciting addition to an already illustrious calendar of more than 60 annual motoring events hosted by the Club. For the first time, the private members' club threw open the doors of their Woodcote Park estate to welcome invited guests and visitors for a glorious celebration of exquisite cars, industry interviews, live music and fine dining. The curated Concours featured 50 of the world's finest cars, spanning more than 100 years of motoring history. Veteran, vintage, classic and racing cars, as well as motorcycles, competed in several classes, while the independent panel of expert judges consisted of some of the most influential people in the automotive industry. Complementing the Concours was a huge variety of special car displays, many of them saluting anniversaries or historic events with deep Club resonance. Meanwhile, a huge area was devoted to Club members' cars in all their glorious variety. The inaugural Concours was hailed as a resounding success as highlighted by presentation of the Breakthrough Event of the Year accolade at the International Historic Motoring Awards. Now entering its second summer, the Concours will build on last year's success and, adding to the show, will also host the RM Sotheby's Summer Sale.