



Royal Automobile Club awarded FIA 2015 Heritage Cup



The Royal Automobile Club was awarded the FIA Founding Member Clubs Heritage Cup for 2015 on Friday 4 December at the FIA prize giving ceremony hosted at the famous Lido, on the stunning Champs-Élysées in Paris.

The Club received the award for the 1000 Mile Trial, an historic event run in partnership with HERO Events, which attracted some of the world's most evocative cars from the 1920s and 1930s including Bentley, Bugatti and Alfa Romeo. The five day challenge, over wonderful driving roads and visiting some uniquely British stately homes, started and finished at the Club's Woodcote Park clubhouse in Epsom, Surrey last July.

Motoring Committee Chairman Peter Read collected the award with HERO Chairman Tomas de Vargas Machuca and HERO Managing Director Patrick Burke. Peter Read said: 'The 1000 Mile Trial has received many accolades since it returned to the international calendar in 2014 and we are delighted to have won the FIA's FMC Heritage Cup'.

The original 1000 Mile Trial was organised by the Royal Automobile Club back in 1900 and was created to show a sceptical public that the automobile could become a viable means of transport for the future. The event was won by Charles Rolls who went on to found Rolls-Royce. In 2014, the Royal Automobile Club revived the 1000 Mile Trial with HERO Events, starting and finishing at Woodcote Park, its country clubhouse in Surrey. The event caught the imagination of competitors and the public alike, going on to win the Rally of the Year award at the 2014 International Historic Motoring Awards and repeating this achievement in 2015.

It is the second time the Royal Automobile Club has collected this award, winning in 2010 for the London to Brighton Veteran Car Run. The FIA Prize-Giving ceremony is one of the year's most anticipated events within the motorsport community. Winners from all the FIA Championships attended the unique, star-studded evening including Lewis Hamilton OBE who collected his award for his third Formula 1 World Championship.

The 1000 Mile Trial has rapidly become a 'must do' event for Pre-War vehicle owners - any automobile registered prior to 1940 is eligible. As well as being a premier reliability trial, it also features speed tests off the public highways and hill climbs, plus a superb social element with stunning hotels, stately homes, museums and gems of British culture. The Royal Automobile Club 1000 Mile Trial will return once again on 11-16 July 2016.

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 continuously competed for motor sports event. 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 Motor Sport Association (MSA), Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA) and RAC Foundation, while continuing to promote its own motoring events, such as the free-to-attend Regent Street Motor Show and the London to Brighton Veteran Car Run, which are two of the highlights of the Club's London Motor Week, which next year runs from Monday 31 October to Sunday 6 November 2016

The Royal Automobile Club also awards a series of historic trophies and medals celebrating motoring achievements. These include the Segrave Trophy, the Tourist Trophy, the Simms Medal, the Dewar Trophy and the Torrens Trophy.



@TheMotoringNews



@RoyalAutomobileClub



Facebook.com/RoyalAutomobileClubUK



Royalautomobileclub.co.uk/motoring

www.royalautomobileclub.co.uk/motoring

Media Enquiries:

Rebecca Leppard

Tel: 01452 260063 / 07749 852481

Email: Rebecca@eventspr.co.uk