

LOMBARD RALLY FESTIVAL EXETER RACECOURSE MAY 27th 2023

Lombard Rally Festivals tap into the growing interest in historic rally cars, and the group of such cars that are often now unable to be rallied competitively.

They are too valuable to be rallied, fall outside current regulations in the UK or their owners do not want to damage them due to difficulties in obtaining replacement parts.



We bring the cars to a venue, a stately home, racecourse, showground or similar, that often also could not be used competitively now, set it up in the style of a period rally stage and the drivers demonstrate the cars under controlled conditions. Our events are not timed or driven competitively. Yet the drivers are always happy to drive the cars enthusiastically, giving a great spectacle on the day. The events recall a period when the Lombard RAC Rally was the largest attended sporting event in the UK. More people came out to watch over its November weekend than watched every football league match added together during the season. Look out for cars from the 1960s such as Minis, Ford Anglias and Cortinas, Hillman Imps, from the 1970s such as Ford Escorts, Vauxhall Chevettes, Hillman Avengers, from the 1980s such as Talbot Sunbeams and Opel Mantas, before moving to the Group B era of Audi Quattros and MG Metro 6R4, and more.

We are delighted to bring our latest event to Exeter Racecourse, a venue that we see as an excellent base for these events over future

years, building up from this year. A selection of suitable cars to a tarmac run on the racecourse's service road, with a large display area for classic and interesting cars next to the rally car base. There will be a dedicated spectator area and parking alongside. Entered from behind the Haldon Diner, spectator tickets are now on sale.

Displays and Caterers will also be based in this one area, allowing spectators access to the whole event, from close to the parking area. The rally cars will be running from 10.00am until approximately 4.00pm in batches, with our commentator talking to the drivers between runs. We look forward to welcoming hero drivers or cars from the past. At Exeter we will offer rally car rides with the funds raised going to former footballer, Marcus Stewart's Motor Neurone Disease Charity.

The drivers are always approachable and ready to talk about their cars; particularly the older ones who have stories of finishing rallies in cars that they have literally dragged to the finish line, winning or losing – as the saying goes 'the older we get, the faster we were'!

For more information, please look at the event's dedicated Facebook page – Lombard Rally Festival Exeter Racecourse – or contact tim@lombardrallybath.co.uk



