

# NATIONAL RALLY 2024



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Royal Leamington Spa, July 19 - 21

A wise person (probably) once said, “if it ain’t broke, don’t fix it,” so the 2024 Lancia Motor Club National Rally will once again be held at the familiar Woodland Grange Hotel in Leamington Spa. Ideally located, big enough to accommodate us all (but small enough for us to take over for the weekend) and with a handy event field attached, the hotel and its staff have genuinely enjoyed hosting us for the previous two years so it seemed churlish to relocate for the sake of it.

However, someone equally wise (probably) said “there’s always room for improvement” so we’ve spent the last few months poring over the feedback from last year and coming up with new ideas to make the weekend even more unmissable.

This is the flagship event of the LMC calendar, the biggest gathering of Lancia enthusiasts with the biggest programme of activities, and despite the name, there’s no competition licence required! While the overall format may be familiar to anyone who’s attended before, we have added some exciting new elements to this year’s itinerary.

Friday is all about arriving in style, greeting old and new faces. A hot buffet evening dinner will be served in the restaurant, followed by quizmaster extraordinaire Andy Collins demonstrating his extensive and eclectic knowledge of cars, music, movies and other surprisingly random subjects.

Following a full breakfast, Saturday morning will be all about exploring the local area. An extensive list of local attractions will be recommended, or you can join in with a short driving tour featuring an optional observation quiz. But for Saturday afternoon, all routes lead to central Leamington Spa where we have privately booked the Royal Spa Centre for the UK premiere of the film *Vincenzo Lancia and the Birth of Modern Motoring* on a full-sized cinema screen with Dolby surround sound. Our cars will be parked in display formation outside the Centre to provide a spectacle for all the passing townsfolk!

Saturday evening will be all about the Gala Dinner. We have worked extensively with Chef to provide a selection of delicious Italian fine-dining options, accompanied by Italian wines courtesy of one of our event sponsors. In a break with tradition, we have decided not to have a guest speaker this year so that there is plenty of time afterwards to continue socialising at the bar.

After Sunday morning’s AGM formalities and committee awards, all attention turns to the event field and the cars. Our usual marquee will be there as a focal point, with lunch served to the delightful accompaniment of the Vyne String Quartet. This year’s lunch has been imaginatively curated to appeal across the board, with roast chicken or pork and roasted vegetables drizzled

with thick gravy, all wrapped in a beautiful Yorkshire pudding and served with sauteed potatoes – a street-food Sunday lunch! Traders and consortia will have stalls offering lots of tempting items to buy, a ‘technical help hub’ will encourage experts to help you solve those annoying issues with your car, while younger Lancisti will be able to compete for Lego prizes with a colouring competition and treasure trail.

The National Rally is the perfect opportunity to reach out to all the other Lancia clubs, forums and consortia to create a festival of Lancia. The featured model this year is the Thema, celebrating 40 years since launch. We have been working hard with the Thema Dedra Consortium to lay on a fitting display of cars and everyone will be able to indulge in a piece of birthday cake!

In the background, judges will be assessing cars for the Concours awards. Presented at the close of the day, the awards are free to enter for LMC members only, but don’t worry if your car is (like mine) far from perfect – entry is completely optional, and this afternoon is all about celebrating our love of Lancia cars and enjoying their use, whatever their condition. There will also be a special ‘People’s Vote’ for the favourite car of the show irrespective of age, condition or membership status.

This year we also welcome a unique special guest – as far as we’re aware, Neil Wilson is the only Brit to compete in the British round of the World Rally Championship in a works Lancia – and he won! As co-driver to Henri Toivonen in a Delta S4 on the 1985 Lombard RAC Rally, we have invited him to be a guest judge and awards presenter, whilst being available to chat informally about his experiences.

## Bookings

All residential packages include *all* activities and catering – there is nothing more to pay (unless you want to add a child to share your room or a registered assistance/support dog).

Individual tickets are available for non-residents to attend the film premiere on Saturday at £5 each.

Sunday-only attendance is free. Day visitors are strongly encouraged to pre-book Sunday lunch for £12.50 per person as there will be no other catering on-site, although picnics are welcome and there will be a coffee/tea van and ice-cream, with the hotel bar open for drinks. (Note: residential guests have Sunday lunch included, but are welcome to order additional lunches if friends or family want to join on the day).



All photos Tony Harrison

The booking deadline is Friday, June 7. After this date, unsold rooms from our reservation will be released to the general public, so early booking is essential to be sure of a place. Bookings can only be accepted with the required deposit.

**The launch of the Club’s new website allows you to book and pay online using debit or credit cards. Simply navigate to [www.lanciamc.co.uk](http://www.lanciamc.co.uk) and click on the ‘Meetings & Events’ tab; scroll down to July 19 and click on the link for the National Rally. Then click on the ‘Register Now’ button and choose your preferred package or individual options.**

Should you prefer to pay by cheque or bank transfer, you can download a copy of the booking form from the forum or email us to request one. Please ensure you complete the information box and sign the form to confirm acceptance.

Any balance will be payable to the club by June 7. The hotel operates a cash-free payment system throughout and cannot bill purchases to your room.

To make early booking risk-free, cancellations up to the booking deadline (June 7) will be accepted and deposits returned. After the booking deadline, there will be no refunds for any cancellations (and any outstanding balance will still be payable) unless the Lancia Motor Club is able to re-sell the booking to another member, in which case a 10 per cent admin charge will apply. Most annual travel insurance policies cover the UK as well, so we recommend checking to see if you’re covered. Should the event be unable to take place due to government-imposed restrictions, all deposits will be returned or held over to a following event at your choice, so you can book in confidence.

## Any questions?

Please contact Mark and Jo Hall on 01327 351407 or 07946 079222 (leave message if during working hours), or [nationalrally@lanciamc.co.uk](mailto:nationalrally@lanciamc.co.uk) if you need to know anything else. Although dogs cannot be accommodated in the hotel rooms (except pre-booked registered assistance/support dogs), they are welcome in the hotel grounds. If you would like your furry friend(s) to join you overnight, please contact us directly for local accommodation options, or to request motorhome parking in the grounds.

## LMC National Rally terms & conditions of booking

**(Please note that a number of the terms and conditions mirror those imposed on the Club by the venue and are included to protect the Club and members)**

Bookings for the Annual National Rally (the Event) made to the LMC can only be accepted with the required deposit and duly completed online registration or booking form published by LMC. Completion of an online registration or booking form confirms acceptance of the following conditions (and those contained specifically in the booking form):

1. Payments in £ sterling only will be made by Bank Transfer, credit card or cheque.
2. Cancellations in writing to the address or email on the booking form (NOT THE HOTEL) will be accepted up to June 7th 2024, and your deposit will be returned less 10% administration fee. After June 7th 2024 The Lancia Motor Club regrets there will be no refund unless the room is resold, in which case the deposit will be refunded less 10% administration fee.
3. If the event is postponed due to pandemic or other force majeure reasons, bookings will be held over until the event can be rescheduled, or a refund given by request.
4. If the event is cancelled by LMC or the hotel, booking payments will be reimbursed, but no other liability is accepted.
5. All prices include VAT at the standard rate in force at the time of booking.
6. You are required to retain a copy of your completed booking form.
7. No bookings can be taken after 7th June 2024 unless made in writing/email and agreed with the event organiser.
8. The balance outstanding is required to be paid in full by 7th June 2024 or the booking is deemed to be cancelled. The Lancia Motor Club regrets there will be no refund unless the room is resold, in which case the deposit will be refunded less 10% administration fee.
9. Bedrooms are available from 3pm on the day of your arrival and must be vacated by 10am on the day of departure.
10. Event participants are required to comply with all Health and Safety and general instructions issued. Emergency procedures are displayed in all rooms and should be referred to at the start of the event.
11. The Lancia Motor Club accepts no liability for any loss, injury or death suffered by you or other members of your party or other persons visiting the venue where caused or contributed to by such persons.
12. The Lancia Motor Club accepts no responsibility or liability for articles of property left, lost, stolen, or damaged on the premises.
13. The Lancia Motor Club accepts no responsibility or liability for any damage to vehicles parked at the venue.
14. Use of the venue and/or participation is at the Event participant’s risk and the participants will abide by the hotel’s standard conditions and regulations.

Lancia Motor Club recommends participants take out appropriate insurance to cover cancellation costs.

