



**The search is on for the Royal Automobile Club's Motoring Book of The Year – at an affordable price**

Now in its third year, the Royal Automobile Club's Motoring Book of the Year Award for 2016 is looking for a winner – an accessible title that could grace any bookshelf for the price of a modest meal out.

To be judged by an independent panel of Britain's most experienced book reviewers, the award will be going to the author of what they consider to be a book with wide appeal at a price of no more than £75.

"We want to make our award relevant and helpful in the world of car and motor racing publishing today," said Peter Read, Chairman of the Motoring Committee of the Royal Automobile Club.

"By stipulating an upper price limit, and asking our independent judges to assess broad appeal, we want to get the Club's name, and its 110-year association with the car, attached to a new book that the greatest possible number of readers can enjoy. Clearly, for some, £75 is still a considerable outlay, but it is an upper limit – a £20 book could still be a brilliant read."

In recognition of the fact that every year many published books represent incredible feats of research on relatively esoteric subjects, there will be an additional Specialist Category for a title the judges consider to be truly a 'labour of love'.

The presentation will take place on Wednesday, 2 November 2016 at the Royal Automobile Club's Pall Mall clubhouse in London. The evening will also include a debate, with audience participation, on the future of car book publishing with a panel of special invited guests.

A very special guest will also be interviewed live on the night about their work – a 'Car Book Legend' like those featured in previous years, including Graham Robson and Doug Nye.

Books to be considered for the Award in both categories will have been published between July 2015 and June 2016. Publications on all manner of car and motor sport subjects, historic or contemporary, will be considered. The Club

is urging all authors and their publishers to make the judges aware of every eligible title. For submission details please contact: [rebecca@eventspr.co.uk](mailto:rebecca@eventspr.co.uk)

The judging panel includes Mick Walsh of Classic & Sports Car magazine, Gordon Cruickshank of Motor Sport, Keith Adams of Classic Car Weekly, freelance writer and Octane magazine reviewer Richard Heseltine, motoring writer and broadcaster Henry Hope-Frost, together with Ben Horton of leading independent automotive book distributor Horton's Books and Christian Whitehead, transport buyer for Foyles Bookshop.

"Some people may have written off the printed word as old hat, but not the Royal Automobile Club," said Peter Read. "We have one of the finest libraries of books in the world on cars, drivers, designers and races, and we intend to keep adding to it.

"The history of the Club spans that of the car itself, and it is almost our duty to stoke discussion and enthusiasm in all aspects of motoring. I'm glad to say that our Motoring Book of The Year Award really is continuing to fly the flag in the UK for motoring authors and their work."

#### **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, the Torrens Trophy and the Diamond Jubilee Trophy.

Media Enquiries:

Rebecca Leppard

Tel: 01452 260063 / 07749 852481

Email: [Rebecca@eventspr.co.uk](mailto:Rebecca@eventspr.co.uk)



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A Royal Automobile Club Event

