

6. Classic Reportage

Porsche 356 Club de France

International Meeting in Deauville



They came from all over Europe: from Palermo, Madrid, Rome, Lausanne, Copenhagen, Marseille and Paris. On 20th May, 180 Porsches gathered at the Hotel Golf de l'Amirauté for the 29th international meeting in Deauville, the small town that is sometimes referred to as the 21st arrondissement of Paris. This year's event was organised by Pierre Gosselin, President of the 356 Club de France.

The 2004 meeting was something very special as it doubled as a celebration for the 50th birthday of the Speedster. Around 50 examples of this cult car had travelled to Deauville and, along with their closest relatives, the Convertible D, and other members of the family, such as A, B and C models and the venerable Pre-A, they set out to discover Normandy. The first stage of the trip was to the Le Haras du Pin stud farm, where the Porsches came face to face with other thoroughbreds, before continuing their journey to the Chateau de Carrouges, the location for a magnificent garden party.

Up to this point, the participants had been feeling a bit like their engines – air cooled – but then the sun came out and bathed the picnic and the assembled band of Porsche 356s in a pleasant warm light. The journey continued along small roads with the aroma of



cider in the air to the village of Beuvronsur-Auge and then back to Deauville for a gala evening at the hotel.

The following day, the 356s set off for a beach tour. They were joined by a 356 belonging to Georges Pompidou, the former President of France. At the

wheel was Detlev von Platen, the Managing Director of Porsche France. The meeting marked the Coupé's maiden journey following its costly restoration. In Trouville, the participants were welcomed at the Town Hall and while the 356s enjoyed a well-earned rest in a private parking area, their owners went on a tour of the town.



The crowning glory of the meeting was a Concours d'Élégance on the golf course. The view from the clubhouse terrace over the assembled Porsche 356s, which covered the course in a riot of colour, was simply magnificent. The presentation ceremony was held that evening, and it was obvious that the jury had not found it easy to decide on a winner. There was some consolation for all those who did not win though: They will have another chance at next year's event in Belgium from 5th to 7th May in Ostend and Bruges.



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Porsche Cars North America

Speedster Festival in California



50 years of the Speedster – this anniversary was marked by a huge meeting in Pebble Beach, California. A total of 1,150 participants from North America and many other countries around the world signed up for the event, which was held from 25th to 27th June, and presented their vehicles to the numerous Porsche lovers. The 356 Registry and the Porsche Club

of America were particularly well represented.

The range of vehicles on display exceeded all expectations. The collection of around 350 Speedster, Sport Roadster and Convertible D models broke records. They included numerous rarities, including the Speedster Prototype, three pre-series vehicles,

the first series Speedster, the first two Speedster Carreras, the prototype of the Convertible D and the last two Speedsters to be produced. The Porsche Museum enhanced the exhibition with the 356/001 and a 550 Spyder, which competed in the Carrera Panamericana.

The 450 Porsche 356s in attendance included a Gmünd-Coupé, an Abarth and a 356 saloon. Visitors even had the chance to admire the Porsche phaeton and a tractor.

Participants took the opportunity to get in a few laps at Laguna Seca and on the erstwhile Pebble Beach circuit. The event was rounded off by various other activities, including a parts and literature market. A new book about the Speedster was also presented.

The organising team led by Steven Heinrichs did great work and arranged a superb birthday party for the Speedster.

Jack Bair
Porsche Cars North America

Porsche 914 Club Holland

914 Meeting in the Netherlands



It was a first for the Porsche 914 Club Holland: they had never organised an international meeting before. Around 60 Porsche 914s from Switzerland, Austria, France, England, Belgium and Germany made the journey to Hilversum. The programme that the Dutch Club had put together for the event from 4th to 6th June was at least as colourful as the range of 914s parked in front of the Hotel Laperhoek.

The first trip took us along idyllic roads next to little streams and over narrow bridges to the River de Vecht. There, we transferred onto an Oldtimer party boat and enjoyed a buffet during a four-hour river cruise.

The following day, the participants set off for a 120 km tour of the surrounding region. Their objective was to find certain distinctive points along the route and to answer some very original questions. The journey took them to the green heart of the Netherlands, the so-called Green Pavilion (Het Groene Paviljoen). The 120 participants were given a special tour of this international tree nursery and at the end each of them was given a cutting of a Ginkgo

tree to take home with them – an excellent souvenir, as the Ginkgo can grow to a considerable size and live for a very long time.

The evening passed by far too quickly, with a banquet, music from a live band and the presentation ceremony. There was also a raffle with numerous prizes, which pushed some 914s right to the limit of their storage capacity. Before it was time to set off for home on the Sunday, there was another trip, to the Porsche importer Pon in Leusden. The showroom with its new and historic Porsche models was impressive, but the presentation of a 914 Race by Tony Hertzberger was even more fascinating. Several hours later, the intoxicating sound of the engine was still ringing in our ears and the smell of burning rubber seemed to linger in the air



At the end of three fantastic days, the participants were presented with the 914 book "Caught by Camera". They are all intending to meet again next year. Then it will be the VW Porsche 914 Deutschland Club's turn to invite us all to an International Meeting.

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Porsche Club Great Britain

Largest Porsche 928 Meeting



The venue for this event was the National Motor Museum in Beaulieu – one of the first of its kind and the example for numerous other museums. On 23rd May 2004, the exhibition focused primarily on vehicles of British origin, including the world record breaking Bluebird.

many Porsche 928s in attendance, selecting the “Best Car of the Day” was far from easy. In the end, the 1987 Strosek received the most votes. Its owner Richard Pearce was delighted to accept the accolade from the President of the Porsche Club Great Britain, David Newton.



On the morning of the event, a total of 85 Porsche 928s assembled in convoy and set off for the museum. Other cars followed. The longest journey made by a British 928 driver was 250 miles, but one fan from Switzerland had driven more than 600 miles just to be there. The 120 reserved parking spaces at the museum were snapped up in no time. A record was on the cards. Ultimately, eight 928s, twelve 928 S, 19 S2s, 54 S4s, 20 GTs, five of the rare SEs, one Strosek and twelve GTS's were counted. Altogether that was a sensational 131 vehicles. As far as the British 928 Club members are aware, this surpasses all previous records – including the USA with 105 cars and Germany with 110. With so

Source: Porsche Post

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Porsche Club 928/Region Rhein Main

Visit to the Porsche Centre Würzburg



The plan for the day had actually been to visit the Würzburg Residenz palace, but this was spontaneously cancelled. A visit to the Porsche Centre Würzburg was far more interesting, and so the Porsche Club 928 arrived there with 18 vehicles. Managing Director Harald Stoll and his customer service manager Herbert Weihprecht were delighted with the excellent number of vehicles, particularly as Weihprecht had bought himself a 928 a few weeks previously.

The Club got to enjoy a fascinating tour through the Porsche Centre, where they discovered a 928 S4 and a recently restored Porsche 356. Harald Stoll gave a talk outlining the history of the

company and its current activities, which include the maintenance of classic Porsche models. Along the way, Stoll and Weihprecht patiently answered the countless questions from the Club members. The welcome left nothing to be desired; there was even a buffet laid out in the showroom. At the end, the guests and their hosts exchanged small gifts and the band of Porsche 928s set off for the "Wittelsbacher Höhe" restaurant in Würzburg, where this April excursion came to an end.

Many thanks once again to the Porsche Centre in Würzburg for the successful event and for their warm welcome, and to our Club member Horst Schimpf who was the successful organiser.

Roland Kurtz

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Porsche 356 Interessengemeinschaft Deutschland e.V.

Anniversary Party



Under the patronage of the President of the Northern Rhineland ADAC, Otto Flimm, the Porsche 356 IG Deutschland celebrated 25 years of existence on Sunday 13th July 2004 in the town centre of Brühl – a huge party to which all Porsche enthusiasts were invited.



Two days earlier, 120 IG Club members and friends had arrived to discover the fortified town of Brühl and the surrounding area. Saturday 12th June saw a trip that took in picturesque palaces and castles, including the "Villa Trips". This museum of motor racing history in Kerpen-Horrem is dedicated to Wolfgang Graf Berghe von Trips, who was killed at Monza in 1961 and who achieved great sporting success in a Porsche 356. Another stop was the world's only collection of Rosengart cars, the Lucien-Rosengart Museum in Bedburg-Rath. The trip was spiced up by various special exercises that called for both knowledge of cars and good driving skills.

A gala evening including the Brazilian ballet "Fiesta Brasil" and special guests the Monheim "Panic Orchestra" brought the day to a festive conclusion. Our guest of honour, Jennifer Biela from the Club Co-ordination at Porsche Deutschland GmbH, enjoyed herself just as much as did all the old and new members of the 356 IG.

The highlight of the anniversary event followed on the Sunday: an old time jazz party on the historic market square in Brühl. Well over 50 Porsche 356s assembled into a spectacular convoy and drove past Schloss Augustsburg and through the town centre. As a kind of birthday present from the Mayor of Brühl, Michael Kreuzberg, the convoy was led by the last Porsche 924 in service in the state of North Rhineland Westphalia, complete with blue lights and siren. In his welcome speech, Kreuzberg emphasised that Brühl will be happy to play host to the Porsche 356 IG and its historic vehicles again in the future. On this day of celebrations, the musical entertainment was provided by jazz band "The Cartwheelers". There was also an ADAC information stand, including a historic patrol bike privately owned by Otto Flimm and a 1930s delivery truck, from which the owner of the Rosengart museum, Karl-Heinz Bonk, distributed champagne, dressed in the

costume of a French vintner. It was an excellent way to drink a toast to our anniversary.

Dr. Michael Immenkeppel

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