

Council News

3/08

Newsletter of the International Council of BMW Clubs



Members of the BMW Historic Motor Club UK at the photo shooting in front of the BMW Welt

Photo: Gudrun Muschalla

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70th Anniversary Rally of the BMW Historic Motor Club UK to Munich

In 1938 twenty-two members of the Frazer Nash and BMW Owners Club embarked on a rally to Munich in their Frazer Nash-BMWs.

Amongst those taking part were the brothers H.J. and W.H. Aldington, the Directors of AFN Ltd who had been the UK Concessionaires for BMW since 1934, and the racing driv-

er A.F.P. Fane who had raced 328s for both AFN and BMW Munich.

The BMW Historic Motor Club UK decided that to mark the 70th Anniversary of this event they would organize a similar rally following broadly the same route used in 1938.

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BMW Clubs
International Council



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www.bmw-clubs-international.com

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Dear BMW Club Members,

As you will have read in the last issue of the Council Newsletter, the heritage division of the BMW Group now goes by the name of BMW Group Classic and is pursuing new visions and goals.

The new goals include reinforcing the division's international orientation. The internationally unmistakable name BMW Group Classic was created to avoid misunderstandings, since the word "mobile" in English mainly refers to mobile phones.



Another important goal is the customer-oriented expansion and professionalization of the spare parts business. Here I see excellent opportunities for close collaboration with the BMW Clubs, especially in establishing new distribution channels. For example, when historical spare parts are supplied from BMW warehouse stocks, special priority offers could be made to the BMW Clubs.

What is more, a historical workshop is currently being set up for external customers which will of course also offer restoration and repair services for BMW Club members.

With your outstanding commitment in clubs worldwide under the umbrella of the International Council of BMW Clubs, you make a valuable contribution to the BMW brand. For this reason I would like to intensify direct collaboration and relations with the BMW Clubs as well as between the BMW Clubs and the various regional BMW divisions.

In view of this development, the results of the worldwide member survey started by the International Council at the beginning of May this year will help strengthen the connection between the BMW Group and the official BMW Clubs, as well as highlighting the potential offered by BMW Club members within BMW.

Allow me to take this opportunity to offer my sincere thanks to you for participating in this important survey and providing such valuable input.

I look forward to an ongoing successful partnership with you, the members of the International Council of BMW Clubs.

Yours sincerely,

Karl Baumer
Head of BMW Group Classic

Continued from page 01: 70th Anniversary Rally to Munich

70th Anniversary Rally of the BMW Historic Motor Club UK to Munich

By Catherine Webb and Peter Bowden, BMW Historic Motor Club UK
Photos by Gudrun Muschalla

The tour started on Monday 19th May with the arrival in Dover to take the ferry to France. After destinations like Kortrijk, Belgium, Nürburg and Würzburg, Germany, we followed, with only minor problems, the Romantische Strasse to Munich.

On Friday the 23rd morning, a bus took us to BMW Group Classic. Here, Dr. Thomas Tischler and his assistant Andrea Sommer from the International BMW Club Office gave us a warm and enthusiastic welcome and some explanations about the new services of the BMW Group Classic. These include looking after the archives, club memberships and restoration services. The Group's collection of vehicles is not open to the public, so we were very privileged to be given a tour. After that, we set off to the BMW Welt, an example of modern architecture at its best. By now, a few members had returned to the Derag Hotel Karl Theodor*** to get their cars which were duly parked outside the futuristic building and caused quite a stir with visitors.

Saturday saw us on the coach once again. We set off on a two-hour tour of Munich including the Nymphenburg Palace and the Olympic Park. After an afternoon of free time, we hopped on the coach again for a BMW Group Classic sponsored dinner at the oldest brewery in the city, Augustine Keller.

Sunday consisted of a 188 mile rally organized by the International BMW Club Office which they had titled the "Mad King Ludwig Rally". This took us into Austria and a stop at the famous Neuschwanstein Castle built by King Ludwig II. Snow, capped mountains and huge birds of prey were in abundance and we all agreed it had been well worth the drive.

Our first activity of Monday 26th May was to parade through the BMW factory and then line up by class outside BMW Welt for more pictures. We were delighted that Albert Leonhard



Parade through the BMW Munich Plant



Stop at the famous Neuschwanstein Castle of King Ludwig II

from Dusseldorf was able to join us in the line up in the ex-Pat Carmichael 328. A tour of the manufacturing plant then followed with an expert guide. The plant is situated in the city and has limited space, so various measures have been taken to maximize the room and take account of nearby residents. Everyone agreed the plant was breathtaking not only for the technology involved but for its cleanliness and compactness.

The afternoon gave us another privileged tour, this time of the soon to be re-opened BMW Museum. We were the first group to go round since the renovation and while several of the rooms had yet to be completed, we had an excellent impression of what a stunning museum this will be.

All good things must come to an end, and so it was time to leave Munich for our return trip. We all think that the trip was a very good historic recreation of the 1938 rally with some unforgettable memories.

Further information

BMW Historic Motor Club UK
www.bmwhistoricmotorclub.co.uk

New community of like-minded for the BMW staff

Passion for Classics

By Veronika Kain, Sales and Marketing BMW Group Classic



Passion for Classics is offered by BMW Group Classic to all staff of the BMW Group, rather like other company programs in the field of sports and culture. It is a community of like-minded people interested in historical automobile and motorcycle topics, which enables them to network, communicate and pursue their hobby together.

Passion for Classics sets out to make an important contribution to keeping the tradition of our Group brands alive, as well as publicizing the aims and services of BMW Group Classic more effectively within the company. This community is strictly speaking not a club (with a board and statutes) but rather a personal agreement between the staff member and BMW AG concerning a particular range of services for which a certain annual service fee is charged.

Active and former BMW Group staff can join, no matter whether or not they own a historical vehicle. The initiative is not limited to a single brand: those who appreciate or own vehicles of all brands are invited to join, not just the brands BMW, MINI and Rolls-Royce.

A platform on the BMW Group Intranet is provided to support communication between members. Regular events are held on historical topics with invited experts. These will often mark anniversaries such as 30 years of M1, 50 years of MINI, 25 years of the Formula 1 World Championship or 25 years of the K series. There will also be special seminars on classic vehicles. Sometimes there will also be excursions in members' own vehicles or in vehicles belonging to BMW Group Classic.

This initiative does not preclude simultaneous membership of a staff member in an existing automobile or motorcycle club – on the contrary, this is in fact desirable. The activities of the club and those of Passion for Classics will provide a perfect complement to each other. Staff who own a historical vehicle of another brand will be introduced to the classic vehicles of our Group brands and their attention will be drawn to the activities of the BMW, MINI and Rolls-Royce Clubs.

So we look forward to a stimulating exchange of ideas and excellent collaboration!

Now available: The BMW M1 book

When BMW Motorsport GmbH presented the BMW M1 at the Paris Motor Show in 1978, it was clear that the Munich car makers had really come up with something special. Nowadays these rare sports cars are the focus point of every classic car meeting and to this day motor racing enthusiasts wax lyrically about the Procar racing series of 1979 and 1980. Jochen Neerpasch, former racing driver and head of Motorsport GmbH, was the father of the M1. He has researched in detail and recorded the history of the M1 in collaboration with author and automobile expert Jürgen Lewandowski. Memories and anecdotes of former staff members of BMW Motorsport GmbH and racing drivers are quoted, and the book also includes chapters by Giorgetto Giugiaro on design, by Paul Rosche on the M1 engine and also a look ahead to the M1 Hommage Car. The book has 180 pages and includes numerous M1 pictures, many of which are published here for the first time.



Published in the BMW Profiles series, the book is available for BMW Club members in German or English from the BMW Group Classic shop (Schleißheimer Str. 416, Munich) or can be ordered through the International BMW Club Office (Kati.Hockner@partner.bmwgroup.com) at the preferential price of EUR 40.

The BMW M1 Club e.V. celebrates “30 years BMW M1”

42nd International BMW M1 meeting in Munich and Rottach-Egern

By Wolfgang Melter, President of the BMW M1 Club e.V.

26 BMW M1 and its owners were guests at BMW M GmbH in Garching on Thursday, 26th of June 2008. Mr. Willisch, head of BMW M GmbH, welcomed us. Staff of BMW Motorsport, employees of over 30 years, made presentations and told us stories of the BMW M1. All the products of BMW Motorsport and M GmbH were presented to us in their showrooms. After the return to our hotel we had a nap before dinner in the restaurant “Amado” during which the participants told some amazing tales about past meetings.

Our annual general club meeting was held on Friday morning at 8:00 am. The agenda was worked through very quickly. The most important point was the election of the board. Our first highlight was a tour through the BMW Welt. After having been greeted by Jörg-Dieter Hübner from BMW Group Classic, we undertook a very interesting guided tour across the BMW Welt which was organized by Kati Hockner from the International BMW Club Office. In the meantime Jochen Neerpasch, “Father of the M1”, had joined us. We took the opportunity to ask him all sorts of questions with regard to M1. The TV-team of VOX was very busy filming the whole event.



At the BMW M GmbH in Garching

Photo: Wolfgang Melter

After lunch we had a quick look at the cover of the new BMW M1 book by J. Lewandowski. The next highlight was a short visit to the recently opened BMW Museum. Around 4:00 pm we all left for our next residence, the lake hotel “Ueberfahrt” in Rottach-Egern. At 7:30 pm was apero-time in front of the Egerner Alm where three alphorn blowers welcomed us followed by an excellent dinner during which we had the great pleasure to be entertained by a marvellous performer called “Max”.

On Saturday morning at 8:45 am we went by car to Bad Wiessee to BMW Kathan where we were also joined by Mr. Karl Baumer,

head of BMW Group Classic. Shortly afterwards we started our experience drive through the Bavarian and Austrian Alps guided by a road-book. At certain points we had to answer some tricky questions. It was an absolutely beautiful drive accompanied by gorgeous weather which is locally called “Kaiserwetter”.

We drove past the Schliersee to St. Johann to the “Stanglwirt” in Going near Kitzbuehel and later on we went via Kufstein and Thiersee to Neuhaus to the Whisky Distillery “Slives”, where we had a guided tour through the distillery.



A fascinating view – 26 BMW M1 in front of the BMW Welt
Photo: Nina Hornung

An aperitif was served at 7:30 pm as a starter for our gala evening with a 5-course menu. In between the courses Mr. Baumer made the presentation ceremony for the winner of the Alp Tour which had taken place in the morning.

The winner was Wolfgang Melter. Being an organizer he could not keep the prize, a flight for two to a European city, and therefore passed it on to Erich Matter. The runner-up was Wolfgang Schubart who received a watch. The third place was taken by Hilde and Harald Moc who were given a book about “BMW Type History”. Unfortunately, time flew by too quickly on this special evening. Some of our colleagues are said to have come up with new versions of some of the stories with regard to BMW M1.

On Sunday morning, after an opulent breakfast, it was time to say goodbye. A few club members, who had come to the meeting for the first time, said that they would definitely join us again next year. If this statement is not a great compliment, what is?

Further information

BMW M1 Club e.V.
www.bmw-m1-club.de

Annual meeting of the BMW Coupé Club e.V. and BMW E3 Limousinen Club e.V.

The mountain beckoned ...

By Werner Hand, President of the BMW Coupé Club e.V. and Organizer

Photos by Georg Schmitt



In front of the "Mesnerwirt" in Berchtesgaden

The beckoning call invited members to an exciting weekend in Berchtesgaden in the Salzburger Land, in particular the Rossfeld Panorama Road and the nearby Salzburgring. It started on Thursday, May 22nd 2008 with a convivial evening and film showings from the last season.

On Friday we then drove through the mountain region between Markt Schellenberg and Lake Königssee. We then went on to the Salzburgring where the "ADAC Bavaria Historic" was held. Here we joined the other participants of the event "Faszination BMW M3" with their 10 vehicles.

One of the high points of the day was when the race track was opened to participants, initially to the M3 group.

Then the lights went green for the sedan and coupé drivers. Free training was the order of the day, and many eagerly seized the opportunity. Paul Rosche followed our activities on the race track from the pit lane!

The day ended with the annual general assembly of the two type clubs.

On Saturday a plant tour was offered to all participants – 25 sedans, 60 coupés and 10 M3 vehicles – of Schnitzer in Freilassing. Herbert Schnitzer himself told stories from past eras of motor racing history and described the milestones of the company in impressive detail.

After lunch the group then moved on to the Rossfeld-Höhenering road, situated east of Berchtesgaden and west of the Salzachtal valley in the Berchtesgaden Alps. The opportunity to drive along the reserved mountain race track "Rossfeld Nord" was another emotional highlight of the event. Special thanks go to the track attendants, who were at least rewarded with a great view of the cars and the impressive sound they made.



Practice session for the sedan and coupé drivers at the Salzburgring

The opportunity to drive on the original race track was enjoyed so much by the drivers that there was a permanent smile on their faces from start to finish. At the farewell on Sunday, everyone agreed that a repeat performance was definitely required!

Further information

BMW Coupé Club e.V.

www.bmw-coupeclub.de

BMW E3 Limousinen Club e.V.

www.bmw-e3-club.de

6th annual meeting of the BMW Moto Club France in Garmisch-Partenkirchen

Pilgrimage to Bavaria by the BMW Moto Club France

By Bernard Simon, BMW Moto Club France

Once you have acquired a fascination for one of the many areas of interest that the world has to offer, the first thing you set about doing is to find other people who share your way of thinking, who look in the same direction and follow the same rhythm as you do, and whose lives circle around the same passion. Once you have found people like this, you form an alliance with each other as a way of sharing the same enjoyment, in the same way in which the various instruments in an orchestra harmonize with each other while mutually reinforcing each one's individual impact.



BMW Moto Club France stand in Garmisch-Partenkirchen

From sausage to beer, from religion to motorcycles: it is with such allegiances and products, in particular the allegiance to these products, that clubs associate themselves with their own holy places and adopt their own cultural rites.

And we, the members of the BMW Moto Club France, are no exception. Which is why our sixth annual meeting, which took place at the beginning of July 2008, attracted more fans than ever, all of them taking part in the long journey to Bavaria, on board their motorcycles with the white-blue propeller.

As with all pilgrimages, it was the potential for encounters with like-minded people from all over the world that was the most important aspect of the event. The question was: would their passion be radiated like shortwave signals in the ionosphere? This question becomes clear when you realize that a stranger that you meet by chance worships the same golden calf that you do and is at the same place as you at the same time: Garmisch-Partenkirchen, the elegant skiing location, which BMW has chosen as its very own Santiago de Compostela.

In their search for classic and modern models, the visitors filed (just like elsewhere too) past the motorcycles for three whole

days. One band of demigods proclaimed that the decorations on our faithful bikes were well worth the church tax and that they would guarantee the benevolence of the gods for the rest of our way. This moment of immersion, the baptism of the novice, was followed by the pilgrimage to the Mecca of our passion – Munich, the seat and center of the BMW Welt.

Once in BMW Land, we made our way through the many, inevitable stations of our enlightenment: the BMW Group Classic, which is open to its most faithful fans: the BMW think tank, from its beginnings in the field of aviation, through the darkest period of its history, and into its earliest and biggest successes, including its presence on cinema screens. We then paid a visit to the BMW Museum, which presented the history of the BMW brand in ten religious sequences. The holy of holies, the BMW four cylinder, bore particular significance to our group: the minaret with four towers, the thinking Mandarom, where clever ideas are developed and from where they are disseminated, the guarantee of the company's unity, which if at all, could only be overtopped by a shortwave transmitter – a tower which you can only admire from the outside and not visit, to ensure that the mystery is preserved and one's perception remains alive.



Club members having fun in the pavillion on Saturday evening

Of course, I could have gone into far more detail regarding the holy places that we visited. But we don't wish to say anything that might disturb the memories forming in the convolutions of the brains of those people who paid their respect this time around. Similarly, we would wish that all those taking part in the next confirmation in the coming year will approach this rite of initiation with the same impartiality, and thus enjoy the experience all the more.

Further information

BMW Moto Club France
www.bmwmcfr.com

A weekend fun run to Baguio City

A Cool Mountain Run to Baguio City

By Rod Guinto, BMW Car Club of the Philippines

Photos by Francis Aguila and Albert Chung, BMW Car Club of the Philippines



BMW's of the club members in front of the summer residence of the country's president

The BMW Car Club of the Philippines held a weekend fun run at the beginning of the year to Baguio City, 300 km north of Manila, the nation's capital. The run was done from April 5th to 7th, 2008 with a total of ten BMW cars of various models climbing the twisty roads and mountain pass to reach the summer capital, 4,000 feet up to this mountain city. Besides getting the chance to drive these magnificent machines to their full potential, the fun run was organized to foster camaraderie and driving proficiency as well as providing a welcome respite from the scorching summer heat in the metropolis. The participants got to enjoy the cool air, the pine scent and the magnificent mountain scenery.

The day started early, 3:30 am to be exact, when the cars headed north on the North Luzon Expressway (NLEX) after fuelling up. From there, the group decided to take a farmland scenic route via the Concepcion-Victoria-Ramos by-pass to Baguio City. At the end of this by-pass route is Marcos Highway; one of three main roads that snake up to the city. Arriving at 10.30 am in the city, the group first had breakfast at Camp John Hay, an old U.S. military camp now converted to a recreation facility. Eventually the gang checked in at the Baguio Country Club, a 100-year-old vacation facility put up by the Americans in the early 1900s.

Targeted as a camaraderie building weekend fun run, the club members had fun during the 2-day stint at this magnificent place, highlighted by a city tour, bar hops and just spending the time away. Aside from the memorable experience, there were two main highlights. The first were the free service checks done by an authorized BMW dealer (Klassik Motors BMW), with no less a person than their company Vice President Michael O. Cua. In coordination with the club, they had decided to hold their service group company summer outing to coincide with this event. In doing so, the cars enjoyed free service checks

together with a free roadside support assistance all the way up to Baguio. Two support vehicles were used to carry the needed diagnostic tools and other maintenance items for this purpose.

The second highlight was the very warm welcome given by none other than the city mayor Peter Rey Bautista, who is himself an avid BMW car collector and enthusiast. The honorable mayor had frequently invited BMWCCP to visit Baguio City in the past but this was the first time that the club was able to honor the invitation. The meeting with the mayor was capped by a symbolic Key to the City ceremony by the mayor to the BMWCCP President Manolet Ramos. In turn, the club presented the honorable mayor with a Letter of Appreciation for the wonderful welcome; signed by all the club members in attendance.



Symbolic Key to the City ceremony with the city major

With BMWs at the summer residence of the country's president as a photo souvenir, it was truly a cool and long weekend to remember!

Further information

BMW Car Club of the Philippines
www.bmwclub.org

Portrait: BMW Owners Club of South Australia

Australian BMW Club milestone – BMW Owners Club of S.A. 50th anniversary



By Trevor & Moira Hill, BMW Owners Club of South Australia

The BMW Owners Club of South Australia was formed on 14th July 1958 by a small group of enthusiastic BMW motorcycle owners. The journey began in a small room in a hall before relocating to the Tramways Hotel. Members opened up their homes and meetings were even held in an attic.

The club membership is for current or past owners of any BMW powered vehicle and at present has 100 members, predominately motorcyclists, although one member had an R60 powered aircraft. A Historic Register caters for vehicles older than 30 years. Regular club activities include monthly meetings, weekend rides and shorter weekday trips. In addition there are country and interstate rallies held during the year.

Our club history is rich and varied and over the years has shared a great camaraderie. Ron Bell, our Club Patron, has been an active member for 45 years. He and other members have competed in and won the 24 Hour Enduro Trial on their BMW motorcycles, a gruelling test for bike & rider.

Several events were organized to celebrate our 50th anniversary. Firstly enthusiasts from South Australia, Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland met at a point half-way between Adelaide and Brisbane to ride to Canberra, our Nation’s Capital, a return journey of 3,500 km for Adelaide based riders. The ride was a great success and the participants were shown great hospitality by members of the Canberra based Australian Capital Territory BMW Motorcycle Club.

A Motorrad Day was held on 13th April 2008 at our dealer, Adelaide Motors Motorcycles. Past and present members and guests enjoyed the gourmet BBQ & talked and ogled the bikes in the showroom and in the carpark. A display of members’ motorcycles from 1938 to the present highlighted the model changes over the years. Some original club members from 1958 were in attendance with interesting tales to tell.



Patron Ron Bell cuts the cake

Photo: Uwe Sinn

The club awards annual dinner, held in July, celebrated the Anniversary with over 50 members attending. Our BMW Dealer donated a Motorrad jacket which was presented to Club Patron Ron Bell as recognition of his 45 years membership. Long time member Marilyn made a cake decorated with the Marque and Club logos and a model R23 as centerpiece.

As our club continues to grow and develop we look to the future and imagine where we will be in another 50 years. One thing is certain, with the continuing enthusiasm of our members, support from our BMW Dealer and more great models from BMW, the future looks very bright indeed.



Motorrad Day at the local BMW dealer

Photo: Trevor Hill

BMW Owners Club of South Australia

Founded:	1958
Membership:	100
Type of club:	Motorcycle club
Website:	www.bmwocsa.org.au

Diary

There is still a number of promising events coming up this year which you should definitely not miss. From now on you also find the 2009 events. Your event isn't listed yet? Then simply send us the respective information.

You will also find a current calendar of events on our website at www.bmw-clubs-international.com



Many visitors attended the BMW Motorrad Days 2008 Photo: BMW Motorrad

October	October 03 – 05	Schwarzwald Meeting of the BMW Veterans Club (D) http://www.bmw-veteranenclub.de
	October 11 – 12	VETERAMA 2008 in Mannheim (D) http://www.veterama.de
	October 15 – 19	XII Convención Internacional BMW 2008 – Motorradtreffen (MX) http://www.bmwmotorradgdl.com.mx
Preview 2009		
February	February 06 – 08	BREMEN CLASSIC MOTORSHOW 2009, Bremen (D) http://www.classicmotorshow.de
March	March 12 – 15	RETRO CLASSICS 2009, Stuttgart (D) http://www.messe-stuttgart.de/cms/index.php?id=1262
April	April 02 – 05	TECHNO CLASSICA 2009, Essen (D) http://www.siha.de

Further information

All websites given in this newsletter are listed here for quick reference

Clubs:

- www.bmwhistoricmotorclub.co.uk
- www.bmw-m1-club.de
- www.bmw-coupeclub.de
- www.bmw-e3-club.de
- www.bmwmc.com
- www.bmwcarclub.org
- www.bmwocsa.org.au

Events:

- www.bmw-veteranenclub.de
- www.veterama.de
- www.bmwmotorradgdl.com.mx
- www.classicmotorshow.de
- www.messe-stuttgart.de
- www.siha.de



The Tasmanian Chapter of the BMW Car Club of Victoria celebrated its 4th anniversary Photo: Brian Stokes