

PCI E-News

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Porsche Club

I r e l a n d





David Whelan

Editorial

One of the best things about being involved with the committee of PCI is meeting fellow Porsche Nuts. And most of them you do not actually meet because its mostly an email thing. One reassuring trend is that most have made their Porsche purchase on emotions before joining the club.

That's ok, I did the same myself. Mad really , most of us are logical , professional people and then, bang we invest our savings in a Porsche . And when our 'friends' ask us why we did it we can't or wont explain. My mad neighbour across the road, the one who drove into my Subaru Impreza Turbo one night at 4am, only knows me as that man across the road with the fancy cars. This I found out quite by accident at a dinner one night when her brother, who never met me before and lives 200kms from me and her, described me as ' you must be that man (as in mad man) with the fancy cars. I suppose its better than been known as that man across the road with all them fancy women !

Not a great budget for Porsche owners , and before I start, any member who feels different not only has a right of reply, but a duty to reply. I admire the ideas of the greens but they just don't seem to be able to grasp the nettle of solutions to global warming other than tax cars. The big emitters are power stations running on fossil fuels and forcing ordinary people to commute by car because our public transport is run on a shoe string. Have you tried travelling by train to Sligo, or from Cork to Galway (this last one is not really possible).

Two centuries ago we had a brilliant rail network linking all major towns. No, these guys that

make up our government are confined to doing away with light bulbs. What bright spark thinks it up?

Tax the fuel and not the car. My Cayenne does 20mpg but I make the effort not to use it every day or where there is a suitable public system. Other days I hop on my Carrera Kracken Mountain Bike and go to town or the shops. So all in all , I put out less emissions. What bright spark invents a thing call the green route on the north side of Cork City and then forces cyclists to share their lane with a bus. Have you ever seen the hills in Cork City, not even a Mountain Bike with a rider fresh and doped from the Tour de France can tackle them.

Its coming near the end of the year. A time for reflection. Hm....., we've got a hard working and enthusiastic club committee. Alan Weadick does this E-news, the other Alan the web site. The Gormans, Dave flogs the kit, Linda has volunteered to take on the secretary job, Brian gets his kit off when not racing, Bob C lends deportment, grooming and gravitas to meetings when not butchering pink pigs. Michael and Margaret represent the battle of the Boyne area. My name sake Tom Whelan twists arms in Porsche Centre Dublin to help us put on such good events. Ted continues to be our soul means of communication with the clergy (thank you Father Ted) and Karen has a memory that never forgets even the smallest detail. On behalf of all you club members, I say thanks and well done to our committee.

Our aim is simple, to encourage and facilitate your interest in things Porsche. I cant but mention the

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heat at the AGM in January. We lost some members after that sadly. The door, and the club is always open to those that put Porsche first.

I made a 1037km journey in Mrs. Whelan's Scenic in December to attend the annual dinner of region 27. (Don't worry I do not get paid mileage). It was good to be there and I was given a very warm and hospitable welcome by Alan and George and made feel at home. know, it involves best part of a week in France. I'm going !





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Track & Social Events



Cork Run February 2008

PCI Members in the south kick off the 2008 calendar with a local run.

PCI members down south had their first run in Cork. Eight cars assembled at Eddie Rocket's restaurant in Cork for an 11am breakfast.

About ten cars were expected, but due to inclement weather in the south east, George Neureider and friends could not travel. The run was lead out by Dave Whelan in his new GT3 and they travelled to Bandon and Ballinasarty (stopping for a photo shoot at the Henry Ford Memorial Model T). The convoy then headed on to Clonakilty, Rosscarbery and the Glandore rally section of West Cork rally before stopping for lunch at the Marine Hotel in Glandore.

The proprietors son, Shane, had just purchased a 996 GT3. A new recruit for Porsche Club!. Everyone had a wonderful lunch and Denis Collins made presentations, to Albert Lennon, John Guerin, Dermot O'Brien and Mark Collins to commemorate their trip to the Nurburgring and Old-timer GP last May.

They then took the coast road back to Ownahincha, Red Strand, Galley Head and Clonakilty before heading back home. The Afternoon weather was beautiful and the coastal scenery was stunning. A great day was had by all and a wonderful start to 2008. A big thanks to everybody for turning out so early.

Upcoming Events in 2008

February 24th : A Sunday lunch meet at the Knightsbrook Hotel in Trim, Co Meath. All PCI members are welcome to attend and bring their cars out for a stretch. There is a buffet lunch for €20 in the hotel at 1pm and the possibility of a drive after lunch depending on numbers and the weather. Contact Dave Gorman on 086 2740444 or email at davidg996@eircom.net for details.

February 26th : PCI Karting night at Kylemore Karting, Dublin . Sign on at 7.30pm. Contact Ted Gaffney at tedgaf@aol.com or on the phone at 087 1249444.

March 2008 : For the month of March, Porsche Centre Dublin are offering PCI members a 10% discount on all parts and labour. This offer is only for the month of march and for paid up PCI Members.

March 21st : PCI track day at Mondello park . This time around it is the 2.2 mile International circuit. As a result costs are slightly higher at €180 for members, €210 for non-members. Sign on and registration from 12pm with cars out on track at 2pm until 6pm. Contact Ted Gaffney at tedgaf@aol.com or on the phone at 087 1249444.

April 12th : PCI Annual Dinner at the 5 star Hotel Europe in Killarney. Costs are €180 per room bed & breakfast with the dinner costing €55 per head. Further booking details to follow - but mark the diary now so you don't miss out on a great night.

Club and Website Update

I'm sure a few people might have noticed that Linda Gorman has kindly taken over as club secretary.

I hope you will all give her a warm welcome as she steps in to her new role - relieving me of some of the less glamorous tasks involved in the day to day operation of PCI. Unfortunately due to an ever increasing workload outside of the club, I have had to step back from the role of club secretary.

The club committee have asked me

to stay on looking after PCI E-News and to handle communications for the club. I am delighted to continue in this role and look forward to keeping you all updated with what is going on in the world of Porsche and within our own little club.

In other news, I'm sure you will have seen that we have quite a few events planned for the next two or three months - including a track day on the international circuit at Mondello and our ever popular annual dinner which will be held at

the stunning Hotel Europe in Killarney. Brian Gorman has cajoled a fantastic deal from the hotel for lakeside rooms. We hope you can make it as it should be a great night for everyone - and maybe a better day for your Porsches !

Finally, if you want to get an article or anything published in PCI E-News contact me at alan@weadick.com before the 20th of each month to get it included.

Alan Weadick | PCI

Rennsport Reunion Report Daytona 2007



Albert Lennon & Dennis Collins 'bump' in to each other at a Nascar race track in Orlando, Florida

When I opened the March issue of Porsche & 911 and read that The Reunion was planned for early November 2007, I immediately planned my winter holidays around the event as it was also my birthday. I was born in 1948 which coincides with the 1st Porsche produced.

It was an event that I could not miss as it was planned to be the biggest collection of Classic Porsche Racing cars ever assembled. This was the 3rd time the event had been run and it was organised by former factory works driver and Le Mans winner, Brian Redman. This was the first time it was run in Daytona.

The event majored on the 917 - acknowledged as the greatest Sports car of all time. Every other model that raced since 1948 was there also. Cars came from around the world and were outfitted in colours of the famous sponsors like Rothmans, Martini, Layton House Jagemeister, Gulf, Repsol, Miller

and Lowenbrau. My hero drivers like Willie Kaushan, Jurgen Barth, Borg Waldergard, George Folmer, Derek Bell, Vic Elford, Hurley Haywood, David Hobbs, Al Holbert, David Piper, Dick Barbour, and Timo Bernhard the current Penske Porsche LMP2 Driver were all there.

It brought back great memories of when I was growing up reading reports of the great sports car races of 60's 70's and 80; at Targa Floria, Nurburgring, Spa, Le Mans, Silverstone, Sebring, Road Atlanta and Daytona. I never thought I would see these great cars in action. When I got the chance I was not about to let it slip.

Chuck Mc Queen (son of Steve) did some demonstration laps in the 917 that his famous father once owned. The event featured a display area to celebrate almost 60 years of Porsche road going models in a special compound from 356 to Carrera GT, Conquers area, Public Driving Experience Track, Demonstration laps by the Star

drivers, Racing Practice and Full on Racing on Sunday.

The main race for fibreglass prototype Le Mans/ Can Am cars turned into a thriller between the Hare (a 908-03 3.0Lt) driven by Phil Draigrepoint and Hound (917 4.5Lt) Driven by Jim Torres.

Considering these are machines are priceless it was a joy to see them raced flat out at 200mph where the 917 constantly opened up a lead on the banking only to be caught by the small nimble 908 on the infield sections. They passed each other several times on each lap and 1100 hp of the 917 eventually forced to 908 to overrun a corner on the infield and Torres took a great win. There was similar action down the field and in the other races where models like the 935, 962, 934, 956, Kramer K8 Spyder, Moby Dick, 911RSR, 911i-ROC, 930RSR, 911CTR, 914-6, 944 Turbo and 968 raced neck and neck to entertain the crowd.

Rennsport Reunion Report Daytona 2007

A very rare 1 of a kind 1968, 917 Spyder also appeared that had a 16 cylinder 7.2 Lt engine and produced 850 BHP. It was tested by drivers Mark Donohue and Willi Kaushen but proved too much of a handful to drive and was never raced due to its weight. It was like an orchestra when it started.

The event was totally focused on providing entertainment to the public, where everybody was allowed into the pit garages and onto the pit wall where you could meet the drivers and see the mechanics in action. I had the honour of meeting my hero Derek Bell and getting his autograph on my Porsche Club Ireland tee shirt. I also met Brian Redman and Ian Newton (Events Manager Porsche North America) who previously worked with Porsche UK. He asked me to say hello to his friends in Ireland and particular to Michael Grimes who he had much contact with in the past.

The banking in Daytona is 31 degrees at it steepest and it is impossible to walk up. The track is one of the most famous in the world, where the facilities are second to none and the weather in Nov is in the high 70's. Attending the meeting was like all my birthdays coming together and it is a must for all Porsche lovers at least once in a lifetime. It will be held again in 3 years so mark your calendars.

While I was in America I also met up with Albert Lennon from Kilkenny and sometimes Cork (996C4S and Cobra owner) where we both drove Richard Petty Nascars on Walt Disney 1 Mile Tri Oval Super Speedway in Orlando. This was also a never to be forgotten experience.

For anybody who has been and enjoyed the Goodwood Festival of Speed or the Oldtimer Grand Prix at Nurburgring, the Reunion in Daytona is equally enjoyable if not more for Porsche Owners as it is dedicated totally to the mark.

