

PCI E-News

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Porsche Club

I r e l a n d





David Whelan

Editorial

I think its Shakespeare who alludes to Septembers Autumn mists but for me it always makes me think of back to school, and the Italian Grand Prix at Monza. Each camera shot seems to show the brown fallen leaves from the royal park where it is held as if to say this is the end of the season. The climax of the film Grand Prix takes place there as they race around the banking . It was only in recent years that I became aware that the banking has not been used since 1961 (the film is set in 1967) and that what we were led to believe were grand prix cars were in fact only lesser formulae cars in drag. The camera does lie at times.

Monza and September remind me of Jochen Rhindt, the Lotus driver who died there this time 35 yrs ago. He was a boyhood hero of mine. Colin Chapman built his Lotus cars as light and as fragile as possible and then some more. The front brake disc broke and that was the end of one of my childhood dreams. I must go there sometime. Maybe even drive all the way in a Cayenne.

A good month for the plan was August and she who must obeyed even got a spin in one. What impressed her most was the park sensors, the copious airbags, the tiptronic gear change and the fact that since it came with no spare wheel ! She saw this as one less wheel to fall off or out. Anyway, wives don't change wheels.

This months bottle of wine will go to the first female name drawn from the hat who has ever changed a wheel, and we'll not count Karen Gaffney as she's a rally driver!

We had a great day and night on August 5th in the St. Helens Radisson Hotel for our BBQ and concourse competition. Elsewhere you will find the details but I must acknowledge the generous support of Porsche Centre Dublin and we were delighted to see JD .Murphy and Alan Tracey attend. The weather was not at its best early in the day but we were able to conduct the bbq outside after it cleared up in the evening. Thanks are also due to the hard working sub committee of Brian and Dave Gorman, Alan Weadick, Trevor Fitzpatrick , Neil Lane and Tom Whelan. And to Ruth, Karen , Angela and Linda who manned (or is there a word womaned) the registration desk. And to Ted for organising the concourse competition.

Alan Weadick was presented with a well deserved club member of the year award. If you did not get the chance to attend you can catch up on it all on the club web site gallery and we have been offered the chance to hold one of our monthly club nights there, something we will be doing soon.

A week later while our racing members raced in the Park another group of our members represented the club at the PCGB region 27 Tour

Useful Contacts.

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of the North where a piece of Blarney Irish Crystal engraved with our club crest was presented to the PCGB member who travelled the furthest distance from home to the event. it's a pity that due to difficulties within region 27 that only three crews actually travelled from the UK mainland for the event.

Don't forget to wave when you pass an oncoming fellow Porsche driver and please if you have now got an email address then let our news editor know so you can be put on the E-zine list and you will get this newsletter three days earlier. A good month for the Carrera kraken mountain bike, I brought it to the phoenix park and did three practice laps, where are all the wasps gone ?





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Track & Social Events



Extra PCI Track Day

Short notice didn't dull the enthusiasm for members to spend quality time on track with their cars. Julys day had to be cancelled due to rain.

Upcoming Events in 2007

September 5th : PCI club night at the Porsche Centre Dublin from 8pm onwards. This event had a great turnout last time, so don't miss out on a great social night out with other car anoraks.

September 14th : PCI track day on Mondello's National Circuit. Gates open at 12.30 and cars out on track at 2pm. Contact Ted Gaffney at tedgaf@aol.com or on the phone at 087 1249444.

Who would have thought that we would have so many 997's running around the track on a sunny Thursday afternoon ?

The sight of new Turbo's and GT3's pushing hard on track was confirmation that Porsche Cars should be enjoyed doing what they do best regardless of age.

What was pleasing to see was that there was still a collection of 944's, 993's and Boxsters racing for glory in the heads of their drivers.

Thankfully the weather held out and a few of the lucky cars could run around with the tops down

basking in the sunshine. For those of us with height concerns, the ability to drive with a couple of hundred miles over headroom over our helmets was a welcome relief.

As usual, there are plenty of pictures up on the clubs website at <http://www.porsche-club-ireland.ie> and if you want high resolution shots of any of the pictures there contact Alan Weadick at alan@weadick.com and let him know what image number(s) you want from the picture gallery.

We retain a full high resolution archive of all pictures on the website and these are available to club members free of charge.



Club and Website Update

As ever, the clubs website is the hub for what is happening and what has happened. As normal, feel free to check out the club website at <http://www.porsche-club-ireland.ie>

Membership continues to be strong for the club in 2007 with over 200 members so far since the start of July this year. We are ever hopeful that the 150 members who lapsed back then will rejoin the club and take an active part in club life.

As we told you in last months

edition of PCI E-News, David Gorman has undertaken the role of Merchandising Manager and now has availability of a large selection of high quality Club Shirts, Hats, Jackets and T-Shirts in various sizes and colours.

David set up a large shop at the Radisson Hotel in August and club merchandising and Porsche memorabilia was in high demand on the day. David was also at both the cancelled track day last month and the track day on August 23rd

last and plans to be at all PCI events in the future with his club merchandise.

Alternatively, you can contact David at the email address or phone number at the top of the previous page. He will be happy to post out any items for you subject to a small extra cost for postage.



Phoenix Park Races

The weather may not have been the best but it certainly led to some interesting racing where even the most experienced drivers got it wrong

Phoenix Park Races 2007

The phoenix park races is the longest running motor racing event in the world. It typically boasts a field of racing cars from pre-war to modern day single seaters.

Porsche racing has been on the calendar for the last two years and this year boasted an even bigger and faster field than last year. Hot on the grid were the 996 GT3's of Jim O'Reilly, Liam Dowling and Robert Titterton. But this year a guest 997 GT3 was also in contention for a high placing - Right up until it had a coming together with one of the more permanent residents of the Phoenix Park. A Tree no less !

Club events for the month of September

Porsche Centre Dublin will host the September Club Night. Come along to the Porsche Centre Dublin from 8pm at the old Belgard Road. Alan Tracey will be on hand with some of his colleagues to give us a repeat performance of the Porsche Centre hospitality that we enjoyed so much at the start of last May.

We do hope you can make it and there will be some light refreshment to go along with copious amounts of tea and coffee.. Plus of course a few shiny Porsches to buy.. I mean to view !

Thanks to Alan and all the staff at the centre for having us back again so soon.

Mondello Park hosts another PCI track day on September 14th next. Once again, this will be on the national circuit and we hope that we can see you there with your cars on track - or even just to watch and take in the atmosphere. As usual, gates open at 12.30 and the first cars are out on track for 2pm. Pricing should be in line with previous track days and remember to bring your own helmet if you have one !

The PCI track day guide is always available on request from the

membership secretary via email or post, but we will circulate the guide via email about a week before the track day itself.

Contact Ted Gaffney on 087 1249444 or at tedgaf@aol.com if you have any questions.

If you would like to organise an event in your own locality for Porsche Club Ireland members, PCI are delighted to support you in any way we can. It is a club about the members and run for the members, so if you want to even just organise a Sunday drive, or a local tyre kicking festival - don't hesitate to let us know and we will inform the members of the details.

We can arrange for some prize packs to be made available and to be given to participants at the organisers discretion.

Contact Alan Weadick on 086 8258576 or at alan@weadick.com with the details you would like published.

Saturdays racing did not get off to a great start when David Hunter slid less than gracefully off the track and down into a brook. The splash he made as his car landed on its side in the water was a sight to behold though ! As regards the remainder of the field, Stephen Doyle took the win from Jim O'Reilly with Brian Gorman turning in a respectable third place.

Jim O'Reilly came close to 'doing a hunter' himself during the second race where he very nearly lost his GT3 into the same small river. In fairness, it was the first time this author has seen a valid reason for ceramic brakes !

Unfortunately, that little faux-pas cost Jim a very substantial lead which he never recovered. The second race was won by Stephen Doyle again with Jim recovering well to pick up second place. There was a monster race to the finish between a slow starting Brian Gorman and club President Dave Whelan. Dave somehow managed to find a correct gear from the grid and stormed up the field to take third place by 1/10th of a second from Brian.

Bob Cameron suffered from brake problems all weekend and his pink pig never made to the finish of both races. Ivor Murphy had to retire in race 2 due to accident damage and Richard O'Mahony never made the grid of race 2 due to an engine failure following an off track trip.

Family Day at the Radisson Hotel



PCI celebrates in style

The PCI family day and BBQ was an outstanding success and far exceeded the expectations of both the organisers and attendees. Time will tell, but this event will hopefully become a major PCI annual event.

Standing in the rain on the back lawn of the Radisson hotel at 10am is a lonely Brian Gorman. Little did he realise that when he volunteered to act as the parking attendant that he would need full wet gear and a big pair of wellies.

Anxious faces peered out into the rain, trying not to snigger at the ever increasingly damp Mr Gorman and counted their blessings that they were tasked with indoor duties.

Even the sight of two large 50" plasma screens with linked Xbox consoles did little to settle the nerves. Driving a Carrera GT around the Ring required a level of dexterity that was beyond the capability of their twitchy fingers.

The sign in desk was manned and ready to go - with only the sight of two new Porsches beading in the rain at the front steps to distract them.

As time ticked away the rain refused to relent and a few worried faces wondered if the months of planning had been scuppered by the heavy rain that wouldn't let up.

And then suddenly, through the mist and rain a flat six engine could be hear idling outside the

front door of the hotel. The first of the truly afflicted had arrived.....

Suddenly there were forms to be filled in, monies to be collected, directions to be given and we had our first member arriving at the event. Happily for all concerned, the numbers continued to stream in despite the dreary weather and by lunchtime well over 100 people had arrived with their cars.

Whilst the weather hadn't relented enough to allow outdoor activities, people gathered in the Le Panto room to chat and mingle. The Xbox games had taken on a life of their own and the frequent sounds of cars bashing off railings could be heard streaming from the library.

Adjacent to the lobby, David Gorman had set up a shop filled to the brim with Porsche Club Ireland merchandising and high quality Porsche memorabilia. Whilst he took orders for several pink chairs, he did agree not to reveal any names to save embarrassment. For those not interested in rare prints of Porsches and crests, there was quite a collection of clothing and handbags on display. Although one female commented that the lack of Porsche shoes was an unfortunate oversight.

Concourse Winners 2007.



Joseph Dutton (left) pictured received the Nicholas Flood memorial trophy from William Flood (right).

Joseph's car is featured on the front cover of this months magazine and is a 911 truly beyond compare. A true pleasure so see such a beautiful machine on show.



A winner at Terenure earlier in the year, Hugh Maguire was this time the runner up with his stunning 944 coupe. Ex-Porsche works driver Rosemary Smith (left) is pictured presenting Hugh (right) with an Autoglym concourse pack courtesy of Leinster Auto Care.

Family Day at the Radisson Hotel

The first major crisis of the day unfolded around lunchtime when a certain member of the organising team decided he was hungry. An executive decision was taken and seconded by an equally hungry treasurer (also known as he who signs the cheques). So now to track down the manager and see if we can arrange about 50 ham sandwiches in a hurry.

Needless to say as the hunger levels rose we started to wonder how can 50 rounds of sandwiches take so long. Of course certain individuals were so worried about finding out where these famous sandwiches were that they didn't actually check to see that they had been put on tables in the room already (and a serious dent had been made in them already by everyone else). Now the Radisson is never one to do things by half, but the gourmet sandwiches that were whipped together at such short notice would put most catering establishments to shame. A true credit to the wonderful venue and surely a sign of the great day that lay ahead.

Ironically, it was just after the hotel had managed to do the loaves and fishes act that the weather started to play ball. Whilst it was a little more than damp underfoot, the back lawn proved to be very firm and more than capable of coping with all the cars parked on it. Fleeting reports came in that it has stopped raining in Naas, but that it was still raining in Swords. Optimism started to creep in and some actually started to believe that taking a shammy to their car wasn't a futile exercise.

Ted Gaffney has been spotted earlier underneath a heavy water resistant coat checking the beading capabilities of the cars for the concourse event. However, once the rain stopped, he was joined by the famous ex-Porsche team driver Rosemary Smith and judging could commence in all seriousness.

One optimistic member even had the audacity to ring ahead and ask

if the car wash facilities were still available. Ok, so he lived in Naas and it had stopped raining there - but being asked about car washes when soaked to the skin in a downpour may be a bit of a moot question.

As the day drew closer to feeding time, a Jazz band struck up soothing music in the library. Cooks set up their BBQ's on the rear terrace and before we knew it a feast of steaks, chicken and seafood started to appear in the room accompanied by an array of salads and potatoes. The desserts frankly were sinfully delightful and about as excessive as a Carrera GT on an Irish back road.

The food and wine flowed freely until we had to interrupt the music with such mundane matters as speeches and award presentations. JD Murphy from Porsche Centre Dublin was coaxed into saying a few words and it also gave us the chance to thank him and the hotel for all their support in putting this event together.

During this period we undertook a raffle and charity auction for our adopted charity, Barretstown Camp. As ever the membership dug deep into their pockets and raised €1850 for the charity. Several members donated prizes from their own businesses and the major prize came from the Radisson Hotel and Porsche Centre Dublin.

