

Council News

3/03

Newsletter of the International Council of BMW Clubs



BMW 502 V8 Super in La Roche en Ardennes: 100 different models lined up for the BMW Elegance Parade. Page 03 and 04

Autumn highlights:

- **Internal:** New club structure decided
- **Events:** Reports from the 41st BMW Club Europa Meeting in La Roche en Ardennes and the CCA Oktoberfest in Austin, Texas
- **Feature:** The new BMW Museum
- **Diary:** Key diary dates for late autumn and winter

“Everything your heart desires...” Page 03

BMW’s living heritage and the BMW club scene of the future were the main themes at September’s 41st BMW Club Europa Meeting held in the Belgian town of La Roche en Ardennes. The meeting began with some 60 presidents of various European BMW clubs, who had travelled here specially to explain

the forthcoming reforms to the worldwide club structure (see also page 06), while the huge turnout of friends of BMW Mobile Tradition made the most of this romantic location in an area of natural beauty. Organizer Guy Timmerman had chosen the small Belgian town because “it offers everything the hearts of BMW fans could desire”.



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Download:

A printable version of the Council News (300dpi) can be downloaded at:
<http://www.bmw-mobiletradition.com/clubs>

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Turrets and Texans:
autumn events

The Floreal Holiday Centre at the castle of La Roche, the venue for the gathering (above).
BMW 502 V8 Super on the road in Belgium.

Stylish, sporty and romantic sums up the venue to which friends of the BMW brand came for the 41st Ardennes meeting of BMW Club Europa at La Roche, Belgium. While the assorted gems on wheels felt at home amid the castle fortifications, BMW club members went in search of a local ghost, took part in various sports and indulged in Belgian haute cuisine.



Dear BMW Club Members,

Committed to the past, dedicated to the future – it's a motto that could well sum up the work of the International Council since its inception. At its recent meeting, this approach was exemplified by a raft of important innovations that will entail a complete restructuring of the BMW club scene, while also streamlining and expanding the activities of the International BMW Club Office.

These developments not only take account of the fact that our club community has grown by a significant number of new members who would like to see themselves and their interests represented on a central platform. The reforms also draw the worldwide BMW community closer together and strengthen their position for meeting future challenges. Enhanced communication channels and new cooperative incentives will significantly improve the networking potential to generate new synergies and resources.

A first step in this direction is also reflected in the ongoing publication of our Newsletter, the third issue of which we are pleased to present to

you, our valued members. We greatly appreciate your positive feedback and suggestions, and trust you will enjoy reading this edition as well as benefiting from the new, optimized club structure.



Finishing touches: CCA Oktoberfest in Austin.

Your International Council

Events: BMW Club Europa Meeting in the picturesque Ardennes

Social gatherings, gourmet food and ghosts: BMW Club Europa Meeting in La Roche en Ardennes



Weather fit for a king, a palatial backdrop and the princess of small cars: BMW Isetta.

the banks of the picturesque River Ourthe. The main building is an old castle which was converted into the elegant Hotel des Bains during the "Roaring Twenties". Today it offers its guests a range of comfortable double rooms, spacious holiday apartments and camping facilities in the surrounding parkland.

Not that anyone gave too much thought to sleeping, since the available activities – from sport and culture to cuisine and, naturally, oiling the wheels of BMW's club culture – generally kept participants busy until late at night.

Sporting BMW fans in particular got their money's worth in La Roche. The Floreal Club has a swimming pool, bowling alleys, tennis courts and crazy golf courses for the use of its guests,

La Roche en Ardennes. A historic small town set in a magical landscape, with local sites of interest, the best of Belgian cuisine and an enchanted fairytale castle with all modern comforts – that was the enticing context for a special highlight in the BMW club scene calendar in 2003.

Held from 4th to 7th September 2003, the 41st international meeting of BMW Club Europa in La Roche en Ardennes drew hundreds of automotive fans from all corners of the European continent to one of the most beautiful small towns in the Belgian Ardennes. Everyone was taken with the attractiveness of the place, its picturesque backdrop and the excellent organization of the event.

"We chose this small town in the Ardennes as the venue for our international club meeting simply because it offers everything the hearts of our motoring fans could desire," said Guy Timmerman, President of BMW Motorclub Flanders and Vice-President of BMW Club Europa.

Even today he still waxes enthusiastic about La Roche en Ardennes as the

location for the BMW Club Europa Meeting, selected for the second time after 2001 as the setting for this social highlight in the BMW club calendar. Thanks to the great success of the event it was even extended by a day.

The full and richly varied programme left no room for boredom to set in – even for "repeat offenders" the four days at the romantic Floreal Club Holiday Centre passed by much too quickly to allow a full sampling of all the options available.

The European BMW Club presidents launched the BMW Club Europa Meeting. To everyone's surprise, almost 60 delegates, and even Jörg Hübner and Dr Thomas Tischler of BMW Group Mobile Tradition, had made their way there for the occasion. The main theme of the joint discussions was the new international and European structure of the BMW club organization.

Meanwhile, the other participants had a chance to soak up the unique historical ambience of the venue. The Floreal Club Holiday Centre is located in the middle of a 1.5-hectare park on



Inside a living heritage: the castle of La Roche and a BMW 502 V8 Super.



La Roche contd.



The "80 Years of the Roundel" parade was a crowd-puller in La Roche.

while the surrounding countryside is perfect for hiking, caving or gentle walks. Ambitious climbers can test their skills on the castle wall, and the small River Ourthe beckons brave canoeists.

Those preferring diversions of a gentler sort found plenty of culture and entertainment on a wide range of excursions into the historic heart of La Roche, to the nearby space centre or to local museums. Tracking down the ghost that is said to inhabit the venerable stones of a ruined castle promised a spine-tingle at the very least, while an excellent exhibition in the BMW Pavilion showcased the very best of BMW Group Mobile Tradition, from vintage motorcycle museum exhibits all the way to the BMW WilliamsF1.

As the organizer of the event, Guy Timmerman set great store by ensuring that BMW club members had plenty of opportunities for socializing: he was determined that they would "have a really good time among friends".

To this end, he had arranged for a wide choice of activities that would turn the gathering into a real experience for BMW fans – whether it was sampling Belgian specialities such as the famous Ardennes ham, taking part in an exclusive wine tasting, or savouring local delicacies at the festive dinner attended by all participants.

Since the way to a (wo)man's heart is through the stomach, those with a passion for BMW's heritage were not found wanting on that score. Thus forti-

fied, BMW devotees socialized and danced into the small hours to the sound of hot disco beats or live music at the Floreal night club.

For all the pleasurable activities and indulgences on the programme, due allowance was made for the true passion shared by all the BMW fans attending – taking their cherished vehicles out onto the road.

Carefully drawn up road books guided the drivers along narrow, twisty country roads and through a marvellous panoramic landscape to the most attractive sights in the area. During the exciting outdoor Country Games session, drivers feverishly pitted their skills against the top finalists in the hope of winning the best of a range of attractive prizes.



A special highlight of this 41st meeting in the Ardennes was, of course, the BMW Elegance Parade under the slogan "80 Years of the Roundel". It brought together representatives of more than 100 different BMW classics in an impressive parade watched by a large crowd of spectators.

Notwithstanding the considerable traffic congestion, the Belgian public came out in force when these rare vehicles lined up to form a long, four-kilometre crocodile.

At the end of the parade, a BMW Isetta was ultimately voted the public's favourite in the automobile category – ahead of a BMW Z3 and other fast sports cars. Among the motorcycles, a BMW sidecar combination took top honours.

Overall, the four days of the BMW Club Europa Meeting in La Roche en Ardennes proved a real highlight as the club year drew to a close, providing great pleasure to the large numbers of participants.

The special ambience of the location and the outstanding organization of the event, now in its 41st year, turned it into an unforgettable experience for all concerned.

Further info:

Further information is available at: www.florealclub.be



BMW diversity on tour: the twisty country roads around La Roche were a delight for motorcycle and car fans to negotiate.

Events: CCA Oktoberfest in Austin

Texas and back – BMW fans head for the Oktoberfest



One of the main disciplines at the CCA Oktoberfest is polishing: after days spent travelling across the continent, these cherished models deserved a thorough sprucing up.

Austin, Texas. Four days on the road, nights spent in draughty motels, tepid meals wrapped in cellophane and eaten with plastic cutlery – there's little that can deter a genuine BMW CCA fan when it comes to attending the annual highlight of the American club scene, the legendary Oktoberfest. For almost three-and-a-half decades now, loyal members of the US American BMW community gather at varying locations for this traditional event to share their enthusiasm for BMWs with kindred spirits, meet up with old friends, test the performance and agility of their "hobbyhorses" on wheels, and simply have a good time.

Some aficionados even travel halfway around the world for the event. This year, the most distant visitor came all the way from Canada, crossing the United States down to Austin, Texas, where the event was held.

Too far, too hot, too cold

"There were rumours that nobody would be coming this year," said Satch Carlson with a smile, himself a regular participant for many years. "They said Austin was

the wrong town. Too far, too hot, too cold, too expensive... For us it was 2,500 kilometres, and irrespective of the distance, Austin was a fantastic venue."

Gymkhana and Zymöl

Even the organizers were sceptical at the outset as to whether they would be up to the logistical challenge of managing the event: after all, the CCA has a registry of more than 66,000 members.

But in the end the outgoing CCA President, Michael Potheau, was able to persuade the presidents of the Houston, Lone Star and Tejas clubs to stage the 2003 Oktoberfest jointly, and in October hundreds of BMW fans duly followed the call to indulge their automotive passion in Austin, Texas, where they were blessed with glorious weather.

Over the course of five days, participants were able to demonstrate their prowess in a wide range of traditional disciplines, from the CCA Club Race to the enjoyable Gymkhana and Zymöl Concours d'Elegance, during which some rare, gleaming examples of BMW's heritage, includ-

ing a Dixi from the year 1928 and a 1969 2002ti, showed themselves to be in fine fettle.

Not all the items on the agenda were undisputed. The rules and sequence of events are frequently the subject of hot debate – the American Oktoberfest fans take the history of their event very seriously.

But the fun side is never forgotten, and there was much amusement when drivers and passengers were challenged to compete for the fastest times for strapping themselves in, carrying out an oil change or fastening loose wheel nuts for a place in the Gymkhana – under the scrutiny of strict judges.

There were of course "ordinary" rallies too, for example autocross, timed trials and a number of races in various categories, as well as fun on the go-kart track and endless shop talk among BMW experts on tuning, maintenance and other tips. "Time just flew by," said Satch Carlson afterwards, still revelling in the memories of this event. "And as for a ghost town – well, 453 members came, and they became 453 friends."



Star of the Zymöl Concours d'Elegance: a 1928 Dixi.

News: The BMW clubs

Fit for the future after restructuring

Globalization is not just a buzzword, it has also made inroads into everyday life and is challenging us to adapt accordingly. The International Council of BMW Clubs has drawn the consequences from recent developments and, at its last meeting, resolved to restructure the worldwide BMW club organization with a view to meeting the future challenges facing the BMW Group and its worldwide club community. Almost 75 years after the first BMW car was built and the first club founded in Düsseldorf, the BMW Group is on an unprecedented expansion course – and that presents a challenge for the worldwide BMW club community as well.

Currently more than 200,000 BMW enthusiasts are organized into a network of official BMW clubs spanning the globe. The BMW club organizations in the USA constitute the largest national community of BMW fans, with one automobile and two motorcycle umbrella organizations listing around 115,000 members.

In second place within the worldwide BMW club network comes Europe, whose umbrella organization – BMW Club Europa e.V. – has been in existence for 40 years and today



At the end of a successful meeting: the delegates of the International Council of BMW Clubs

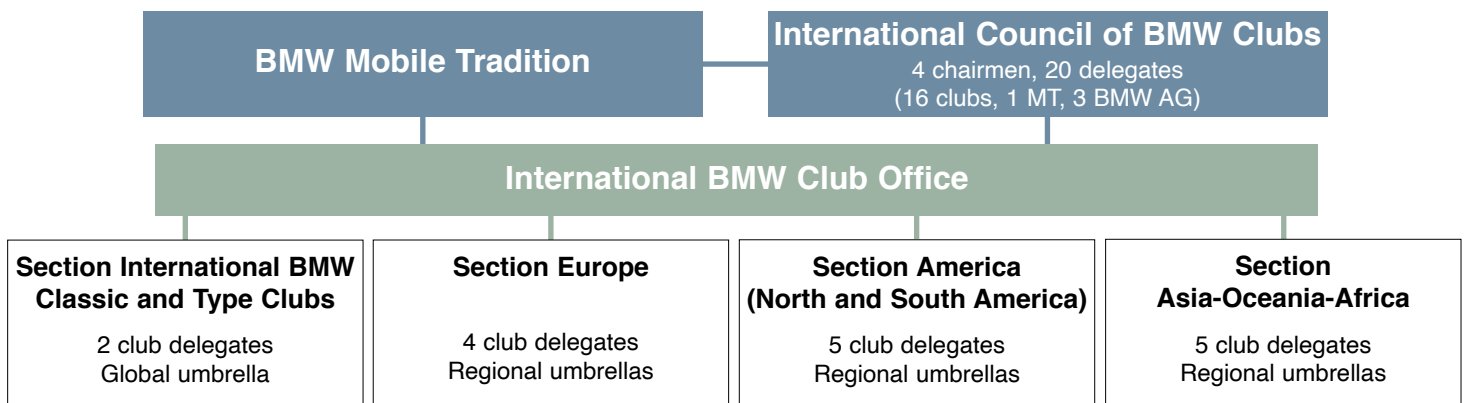
embraces some 30,000 members in 190 clubs. Further important club organizations are found in Africa, Canada, Japan, New Zealand and Australia. In addition, new BMW clubs are being set up in Eastern Europe, Asia and Latin America.

At this year's meeting of the International Council of BMW Clubs, the annual gathering of representatives from BMW clubs around the world, a total of 14 new clubs from these three

regions submitted membership applications.

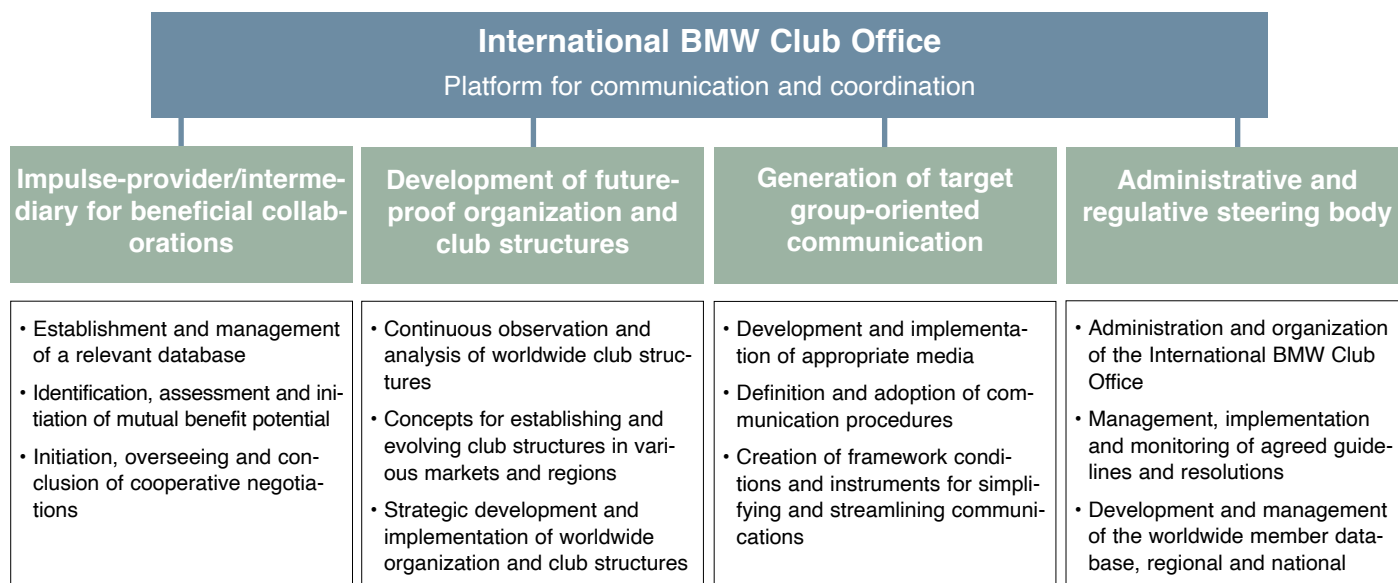
The BMW club representatives along with BMW Mobile Tradition, which oversees the club organizations, view this development as a reflection of the shift in worldwide sales markets. At their annual meeting in September they agreed that the attendant challenges and the latest wave of new clubs demanded a forward-thinking restructuring of the global club organization.

The new BMW club structure



New club structure contd.

Objectives and tasks of the International BMW Club Office



Changes in the regional distribution of the clubs, the introduction of an additional club section and the allocation of delegates are designed to secure adequate representation of the new organizations in the joint committees, as well as simplifying communication procedures between the local clubs, the national umbrella organizations and the divisions of BMW AG, and helping to promote cooperation across all the sections.

In concrete terms, the structure of the BMW clubs at a regional level is to be roughly adapted to the existing BMW sales regions. That means BMW clubs will in future be divided into three regional sections: Europe including Germany, America, and Asia-Africa-Oceania.

Parallel to this an "International BMW Classic and Type Clubs Section" will be established, which will be concerned with the various interests of club members and the historical brand value of important models.

Membership of this new section is dependent on certain conditions: club activities and goals must embrace an international approach, and the membership makeup must reflect this too. Vehicles and types have to be of impor-

tance to the BMW brand value. As of 2004, the International Council of BMW Clubs will be restructured according to the new plans. In future it will be comprise 20 delegates.

Based on membership numbers, Europe – represented by BMW Club Europa e.V. – will nominate a maximum of four delegates, with America including Latin America and the Asia-Africa-Oceania section each providing a maximum of five. The Classic and Type Clubs Section will be represented by two delegates.

New Presiding Committee

The aim is to guarantee the representatives of the car and motorcycle clubs in the sales regions a more balanced representation. Closer links with BMW AG and its sales organization will be ensured by the delegation of three representatives of the BMW sales regions and one representative from BMW Group Mobile Tradition.

The BMW club representatives are unanimous that the new club structure should clearly follow the approach already actively pursued by the clubs, which contrasts with that of comparable club orga-

nizations. It allows for the uptake of many important clubs without the need to relinquish their own identity. A common, standard framework is ensured by the Statutes of the International Council of BMW Clubs.

Further changes concern the Council's Committee and the International BMW Club Office. Three of the four Chairmen of the Council did not renew their candidacy. Ian Branston of Australia was unanimously voted in as the new Chairman of the International Council of BMW Clubs. The new Vice-Chairmen are Phil Abrami of BMW Club Canada for cars and Dr Robert Hellman of the BMW Riders Association USA for motorcycles.

Dr Bernhard Knöchlein was re-elected as Vice-Chairman for classics. The top priority of the newly elected Committee is to implement the new structure as swiftly as possible. The changes officially come into force on 1st January 2004. The umbrella organizations must now elect their delegates for the restructured Council.

In implementing the new structure, the BMW clubs will receive the support of the realigned International BMW Club Office. In future, it will act primari-

New club structure contd.

ly as a worldwide communication and coordination platform, mediating between the club organizations of BMW Mobile Tradition, BMW's central sales departments, BMW's national sales subsidiaries and its importers.

A further key function of the new Office is the active management of these sundry relationships and the ongoing development of the club organization. Priority objectives include the establishment of a global club database, the development of target grouped communications through the appropriate media, and the updating and revision

of the current Statutes. This in-depth structural reform is an important step into the future for the International Council, and puts the BMW club organization in pole position once more. Thanks to efficient teamwork and the cooperative support of all those involved, the path is clear for a smooth and swift start.

Over the past years the BMW club community, which unites BMW drivers from a wide range of countries, cultures and continents, has repeatedly furnished impressive testimony of the extent of its commitment and efforts on behalf of the BMW brand. The numerous anniversaries

which BMW AG has been able to celebrate in recent years have been lent vibrancy and meaning by the enthusiasm and deep commitment of the club community, sending out a signal worldwide that the fascination and appeal of the BMW brand remains undiminished.

Thanks to the steadily evolved club structure and the unflagging dedication of club members, we can look forward with keen anticipation to the forthcoming activities of the BMW clubs to mark the next big anniversary: 75 years of BMW automobile production.

Further info:

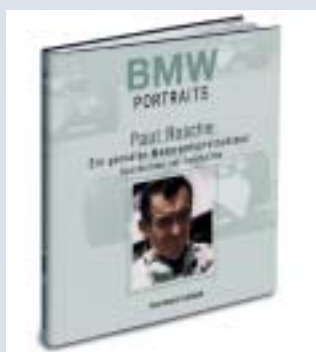
Further information on the International Council is available at: <http://bmw-mobiletradition.com/clubs>

Bookstore: latest publications

Portraits: Paul Rosche. The History of a Legendary Engine Constructor

BMW's range of publications has been extended by another book series: supplementing BMW Profiles and BMW Dimensions, the next series will be known as BMW Portraits. The first title is devoted to BMW engine designer Paul Rosche.

The names Rosche and BMW Motorsport are inextricably linked. The Munich-born engineer played a pivotal role in BMW's numerous successes in a range of motor racing series thanks to his engine designs, which were sometimes hailed as "ingenious". His efforts, along with those of his team, reached a high point with victory in the 1983 Formula One World Championship and the development of the BMW M1 street-legal race car. On 128 pages featuring numerous illustrations, contributions and interviews with big names from motor racing, such as Bernie Ecclestone, Niki Lauda, Hans Joachim Stuck and Norbert Haug, the life and work of Paul Rosche is vividly portrayed.



BMW Portraits: Paul Rosche

Available in English and German through your BMW dealer or from EGMONT VGS Verlagsgesellschaft mbH
PF 10 12 51,
D-50452 Köln
Tel. +49 (0)221 208 1131
Price: EUR 29.90

Profiles: BMW Coupés – A Tradition of Elegance

The marriage of power and elegance – one of the greatest challenges in car design has traditionally been posed by the coupé. Since the early 1930s, BMW has succeeded in setting benchmarks in this area of design. Originally the word coupé referred to a "cut off horse carriage". For BMW today, the term stands for an accomplished blend of aesthetics, sportiness and dynamism. The seventh volume in the Profiles series tells a tale of elegance and dreams on four wheels, richly illustrated with design studies, sketches and rare photographs.

With a chapter dedicated to the new 6 Series in this expanded version of the book, BMW continues a highly successful tradition and illustrates how consistently the company has managed, over eight decades, to unite sportiness and elegance in the shape of the coupé.



BMW Profiles 7: BMW Coupés – A Tradition of Elegance

Available in English and German through your BMW dealer or from HEEL Verlag GmbH, Gut Pottscheidt, D-53639 Königswinter
Tel. +49 (0)222 392 300
Price: EUR 30.00

Feature: 30 Years of the BMW Museum

En route to the new BMW Museum

When the BMW Museum opened in 1973, it embodied a unique concept. Striking architecture was coupled with a novel concept of imparting knowledge, turning the BMW Museum over the years into a major crowd-puller in Munich's north – and into a model for countless museum designs around the world.

30 successful years have inevitably left their mark. Despite numerous improvements, the time has come for a radical refurbishment. Along with BMW's administrative tower, built at the same time, the Museum with the blue and white logo will be completely renovated over the next few years. The "memory and soul" of BMW is scheduled to close in spring of 2004, but visitors from near and far will not be left standing in front of closed doors. Until its reopening in the summer of 2007, the plan is to continue to display BMW's most attractive vehicles in an exhibition hall at the Olympic complex.

When it eventually reopens in 2007, the new BMW Museum will present a wealth of themes revolving around two- and four-wheeled vehicles. The main objective, as before, will be to showcase BMW's rich heritage of nigh-on 90 years. For the first time, there will be a seamless presentation of its history, with motor racing given a broad platform as the key

factor in the success and reliability of BMW engines. People who have made their mark on the BMW brand through their dedicated commitment will also be given a voice: designers, engineers and racing drivers, as well as development staff in specialist departments and assembly line workers. With the redesigned Museum, the refurbishment of the tower and the construction of BMW World, Petuelring will in a few years' time boast an extensive exhibition and event centre with highlights to meet every taste.

BMW's concept of presenting its brand through arresting architecture finds several emulators in Wolfsburg and Ingolstadt, soon to be followed by Stuttgart as well. None of these projects, however, can compete with BMW's unique, organically evolved urban site, whose historic core comprising the Museum, the production plant and the

delivery centre is at the heart of the cultural and media metropolis of present-day Munich.

The BMW planners are duly confident. Three-and-a-half years before the new exhibition architecture is unveiled, Museum visitors can already look forward to some breathtaking design work. They will find the BMW logo at the entrance as a visible pledge for the next 30 years as well: anything bearing the BMW name must have BMW quality.



A new milestone in 2007: the BMW ensemble.

Christmas club offer!

Under the slogan "Merry repair manuals and happy hunting for spares!" BMW Mobile Tradition is offering a special Christmas discount to all BMW club members this year.

This offer is BMW Mobile Tradition's way of saying thank you to all the loyal BMW devotees and enthusiasts belonging to clubs around the world. You may want to add the repair manuals to your club library, use them as the perfect Christmas gift to fellow-club members, or keep them for your own personal use. This Christmas offer, which is exclusive to BMW clubs, is available to any inte-

rested members. All BMW repair manuals on CD-ROM can be purchased at a discount of 30 percent.

All you have to do is note down the order number of the desired repair manuals or of the 2003 Parts Catalogue as listed in the BMW Mobile Tradition Accessories Catalogue (pages 78 and 79). If you do not have the Accessories Catalogue to hand, it can be downloaded as a pdf version from the BMW Group Mobile Tradition website at www.bmw-mobiletradition.com under the heading Publications & Accessories. Then simply fax your BMW club's joint order through

to the International BMW Club Office at the following number:

+49 89 382 34390.

You have until 31st January 2004 to fax us your order. Please bear in mind that our exclusive offer applies only while stocks last.

The BMW Mobile Tradition team wish you a very happy Christmas and an eventful 2004!

Further info:

Further information available at:
www.bmw-mobiletradition.com

Diary

Classics are at their most beautiful when in motion. To offer you plenty of opportunities to see your own or others' classics on the move, here is an overview of the main events for the 2004 classic calendar. Should "your" event not be listed, do please send us the details so that we can add it to the calendar. We rely on your support!



Techno Classica 2003: The BMW Mobile Tradition stand.

Further info:

All Websites given in this Newsletter are listed here for quick reference:

Events:

- www.florealclub.be
- www.ems.messe-essen.de
- www.bmw-club-saarland.de
- www.classicmotorshow.de
- www.diebike.at
- www.flexpo.be/eng/index.asp
- www.swiss-moto.ch
- www.bmw-club-deutschland.org
- www.bmw-mc-vl.be
- www.bmw-club-rangau.de

Clubs:

- www.bmw-club-europa.org
- www.veterama.de
- www.bmw-mc-luebeck.de
- www.bmw-mcf.com
- www.bmw23.de
- www.bmw-club.org.uk

Various:

- www.bmw-mobiletradition.com
- www.bmw-mobiletradition.com/clubs

November	November 28 – December 12	Essen Motor Show Essen Fair, Germany www.ems.messe-essen.de
December	December 13	12th Round of the BMW Club Saarland Karting Championship, Dupré Karting Track, Neunkirchen www.bmw-club-saarland.de
January	January 20 – February 20 January 24 – 25	Bremen Classic Motor Show Bremen, Germany www.classicmotorshow.de Bike 2004 Motorcycle Fair Vienna, Austria www.diebike.at
February	February 8 February 19 – 22	Cars Flanders Expo Ghent, Belgium www.flexpo.be/eng/index.asp Swiss Moto Zurich, Switzerland www.swiss-moto.ch
March	March 27 – April 17	Motorcycle Tour New Zealand BMW Club Germany, New Zealand (tour destination) www.bmw-club-deutschland.org
April	April 1– 4 April 9 – 12 April 22– 26 April 24	Techno Classica Essen, Germany 3rd European GS Easter Meeting Kamping Houtum at Kasterlee, Belgium www.bmw-mc-vl.be Concorso d'Eleganza Villa d'Este Cernobbio, Italy 4th Meeting of BMW Club Rangau Oberhausen near Hockenheim, Germany www.bmw-club-rangau.de



Concorso d'Eleganza Villa d'Este, 2003.