

Panthers head back to school



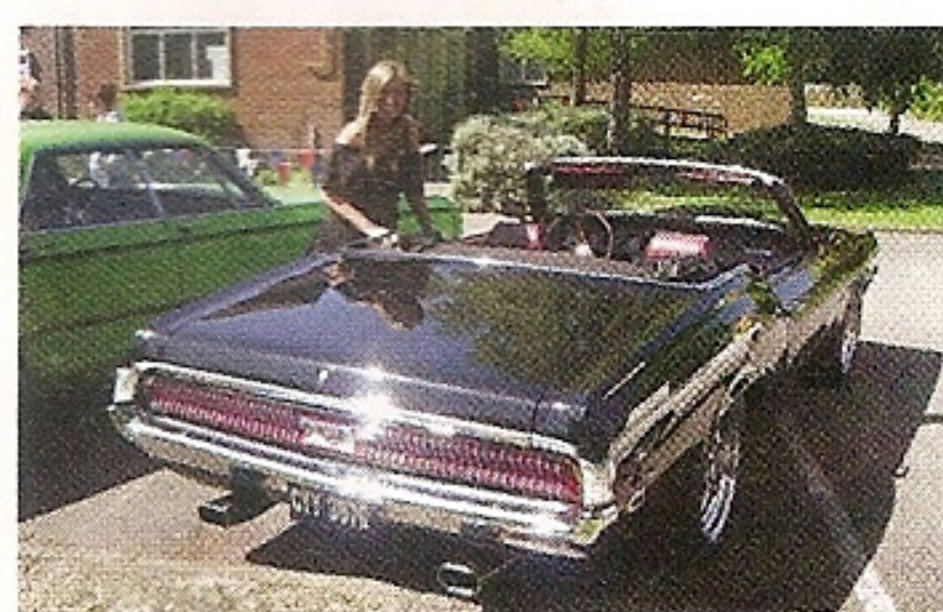
Back-to-back PCC De Villes: Julian Chen's saloon with Bridges' convertible, one of just 12

A SURPRISING VARIETY OF hot rods and classics packed the playgrounds of Victor Seymour Infants' School, Carshalton on 22 May for its inaugural Classic Car Show. Centrepiece for the fundraiser was an amazing display of 14 Panthers, including a pair of rare De Villes. "One of our members, Cheryl De Benedictis, teaches at the school so we were all happy to support the event," explained

Panther Car Club chair Val Bridges, who arrived in her 1976 Earls Court Motor Show De Ville convertible.

There was further support from the London and Surrey Mini OC, the Surrey Classic Vehicle Club and the Metropolitan Police Historic Vehicle Collection.

A healthy turn-out of American cars included the Car of Show '55 Chevrolet Bel Air of Perry Attwood and Sonia Hammond's '69 Mercury



Hammond bought stylish Cougar in 2008



1973 Jago packs NOS-injected crossflow

Cougar. "I put straight-through pipes on after getting annoyed with people asking me if it had a V8 because it was so quiet," she said.

Further highlights included Steve Stovel's Jago T-bucket and Brian Hunt's gorgeous '67 Sunbeam Tiger. "I've wanted one since they first came out," said Hunt. "It was cheaper to buy a new engine than rebuild so it's got a 302 in it, but the original is on the garage floor."



Snowdon's S3 Seven, Ricketts' Metier II

Lotus clubs fly in for brekkie

MALCOLM RICKETTS OF Club Elite and Alan Morgan from Club Lotus organised the first Lotus breakfast at Panshanger near Welwyn Garden City on 9 May. So what was the link? Lotus used the aerodrome as a service and storage centre in the '60s and Colin Chapman kept his planes there.

About 30 cars attended, ranging from Jack Taylor's ally-bodied Lotus Six special (coming soon to C&SC) via Excels and Esprits to Elises. Ricketts brought his Metier II +2 prototype (C&SC, Dec 2008), while John Snowdon was in the superb 1969 Seven that he bought four years ago. There are plans to hold the meeting annually, with maybe an extra date in the autumn.



Federation update

FROM TIME TO TIME IT IS WORTH TAKING STOCK OF THE wider level of interest in the historic vehicle movement. The two recent additions of the United States and China to FIVA have the potential to significantly increase the lobbying power for classic-car owners, thus giving us more power to our elbow.

The USA's love affair with the motor car is obvious, but less is known of the level of interest in the Far East. If you need any convincing that there is the same passion for classics as we have here in the West, go to the FIVA site <http://www.fiva.org/EN/WW/China.html> and take a look at the interest developing in organisations such as the Classic Vehicle Union of China (www.classiccarchina.org/index.html). It will be interesting to watch the emergence of the Chinese car enthusiast in the years to come. As they say, watch this space.

Coming back down to earth and to a different topic, the FBHVC Legislation Committee deals with many matters linked with the DVLA. We have an excellent working relationship with the DVLA, which listens to and answers our questions on various subjects. We could see from the high numbers attending our presentation at Clubs Expo 2010 at the HMC, Gaydon, that there is a demand for more information. We hope to include the topic in a future FBHVC conference and intend to invite the DVLA along to our discussions.



Classics have a keen following in China, as proven by the '07 Peking-Paris rally



CHRIS CUNNINGTON FBHVC CHAIRMAN

FBHVC lobbies in Brussels and Westminster. For info call Rosy Pugh on 01865 400845, e-mail secretary@fbhvc.co.uk or see www.fbhvc.co.uk

Club events

Shows, meets & gatherings

JULY

4 Gaydon Mini Festival At the Gaydon Motor Centre, Gaydon, Warwickshire CV35 9EF. Tel: 01926 645120; <http://eventheritage-motor-centre.co.uk>

9-10 NSU OC 50th Anniversary At The Friars, Aylesford, Kent ME11 5JL. Tel: 01883 744431; www.nsuoc.co.uk

9-11 Sunbeam Talbot Alpine National Rally At The Shuttle Collection, Beds MK13 7LJ. Tel: 01376 571111; e-mail: talpine@btinternet.com

10-11 VBOA National Rally Vauxhall Bedford Opel Association meet, at Billing Aquadrome, Billing, Leics LE12 7JL. Tel: 01530 211111; info@vboa.org.uk; www.vboa.org.uk

13 South Mids Classic Transport Meet Any classic welcome, 6:30pm, Becketts Farm, Wyke, Leics LE15 8AJ. Tel: 01564 823402; e-mail: holly@beckettsfarm.co.uk

17-18 Citroën CC National At the HMC, Gaydon CV35 9EF. Tel: 07000 248258; www.citroencarclub.co.uk

21 TVR, Lotus, Ginetta & No 6pm, Ace Café 020 8961 1010

23-25 Austin Counties CC Meet At the National Fruit Collection, Brogdale 01227 265550 (8am-5pm); e-mail: gspotts@gspotts.plc.co.uk

23-25 Austin Ten DC National At Frome Rugby Club, Some 01932 789483; www.austintendriversclub.com

24-25 Cambridge-Oxford OC National At the National Railway Museum, Shildon, County Durham. Tel: 07966 249506; www.co-oc.co.uk

25 Old Ford Rally 350+ Blue motors at Gaydon. Bob Wilk 01832 734463; <http://eventheritage-motor-centre.co.uk>

25 Festival of Black Country Vehicles Cars, 'bikes and lorries made in the area head for the Country Living Museum, Dudley. Tel: 0121 557 9643; www.bclm.co.uk

25 Riviera Classic Car Show pre-'84 cars, on Paignton seafront. Pre-book with Phil Harding, Old Wheels Club 01803 523111

25 Mini Day At Crich Tramway Village, near Matlock, Derbyshire. Tel: 01773 854321; www.tramway.co.uk

CLASSIC www.classiccarclub.co.uk