

# RACING GREEN NEWS



## Welcome to Racing Green News

With 2014 racing by, we thought this issue of our newsletter should do the same. We're focussing on the various rallies and motoring events that our customers and cars are participating in across the globe. While some are considering competing for the first time, others have a team out in force.

As always, we hope you enjoy this newsletter and would be grateful for your feedback as well as your own stories and submissions. Thanks once again for your continued support.

*Peris, Nigel and the Racing Green team*

## Keeping it in the Family

**B Special 3.8 Racer owner Hans Wiedner seems to have passed his love of rallying onto his son Florian as he has just taken part in his first rally - the Saalbach Classic in Austria.**

Hans competed in the Kitzbühel Alpine Rally in May 2014 as one of around 200 entries, which sees the finest classic cars from the likes of Porsche, Maserati, Aston Martin and of course Bentley race through the streets of Kitzbühel and along the surrounding beautiful alpine roads.

The Kitzbühel Alpine Rally, which spans 500km, is judged in two categories: the Alpine Rally Sport Trophy for expert rally drivers and the Alpine Rally Classic Trophy for novices and those driving for pleasure. This makes it an ideal first outing for those who want to try their hand at rallying but don't feel confident to compete.

Florian had obviously driven with his father before, but for the Saalbach Classic, which is a regularity event held over three days, Florian took his own car, a Racing Green B Special Speed 8.



The rally route covered more than 650 kilometres with approximately 25 Regularity Stages and with Hans competing as well, you can be sure there was some healthy rivalry between father and son.



## A Woman's Touch



Even with its sleek lines and stunning curves, the Bentley has always been seen as a man's car so imagine the look on people's faces when they see Andrea Blyth at the wheel. The Yorkshire lass, who just happens to be blonde, is more likely to be found in the garage than in the kitchen.



"I keep extending the garage to fit my cars rather than extending the house and having a new kitchen," explains Andrea. And given she's just taken delivery of a new Speed 8 it's no wonder.

Andrea and husband Simon are both car lovers but it's Andrea who is the one who is always looking and progressively changing cars.

"Simon wants to cherish each one of them whereas I want to own everything and drive a whole host of cars. He's always telling me to keep my hands in my pockets."

She didn't listen though, and it's a good job too else they would have never bought their first Racing Green, a Speed 6 that they happened to spot on the way to the Beaulieu Motor Museum in the UK.

"We were passing a garage that sold vintage Bentleys and spotted the Speed 6," adds Andrea. "We stopped to speak to the owner and he explained that he was selling the car for Racing Green. It was only number two or three off the production line and I knew I had to have it. I was so certain, I wrote a cheque for the deposit there and then.

"We kept the Speed 6 for a good few years but then we saw the Blue Train. There was no question that I wasn't having one and

the order was placed. Only problem was having to wait for it to be delivered so we decided to sell the Speed 6 so I could sample a few other cars while we were waiting for our new car to arrive!

The Blue Train arrived in 2013 and they have been inseparable ever since. Andrea doesn't drink so it gives her the perfect excuse to always be the one behind the wheel, hence the raised eyebrows.

"I always surprised by people's response to seeing a woman behind the wheel, especially of a car like this. I've always loved cars, I'm happy to get my hands dirty and I believe you should buy, use and enjoy your car, whatever it is."

Over the years Andrea and Simon have built up quite the collection. Their garage features a 1927 Rolls Royce Phantom, which Andrea admits is a challenge to drive but she loves it just the same. There's also a 1930 Alvis, which was Andrea's first car with a synchromesh gearbox and centre acceleration.

While Andrea's tastes are vintage cars of the 1920s and early 30s, a far cry from her daily driver – a Range Rover, Simon has a passion for Volvos after using them through his teenage years. An Amazon, a rare 262 and 244 are just some of the models in his collection.

At least now with two Racing Green cars at their disposal, they don't have to argue about who's driving – they have one each!

"I'd use the Blue Train all the time if my husband didn't insist on keeping them so clean," jokes Andrea. "The steering on Racing Green models is so light compared to other cars. The standard and quality of its build and performance is beyond compare."

Having taken the Blue Train to Scotland and the Speed 8 to events such as Le Mans Classic, could a rally be in Andrea's future?

"It's on my list," Andrea replies with a glint in her eye.



## Looking for adventure



If you are looking for a greater adventure than the shorter rallies that are on offer in the UK and Europe, why not challenge your driving skills and your car and head further afield into new frontiers. From crossing continents to the World's greatest motoring challenge, the routes are endless...

For the biggest adventures, the Endurance Rally Association leads the way. Organising rallies that venture into areas never visited before is no mean feat but makes for fantastic driving.

Two Bentley Special Speed 8's are currently being prepared to take on The Road To Mandalay in February 2015. Anton Gonnissen, who has already put his car through its paces on the 2013 Peking to Paris, and Peter Pollet will take both take on this brand new event, which sees borders crossed for the first time.

The Road to Mandalay starts from famous Raffles Hotel, Singapore, and drives up through Malaysia into Thailand and on into Burma, finishing in Rangoon after driving the road to Mandalay.

Another great adventure, especially for those who are new to rallying and want to test the waters, is the TransAmerica 2015. Competitors travel from Halifax, Nova Scotia, on the east coast of Canada, to San Francisco, California through some of the best and most spectacular scenery and roads that both the Canada

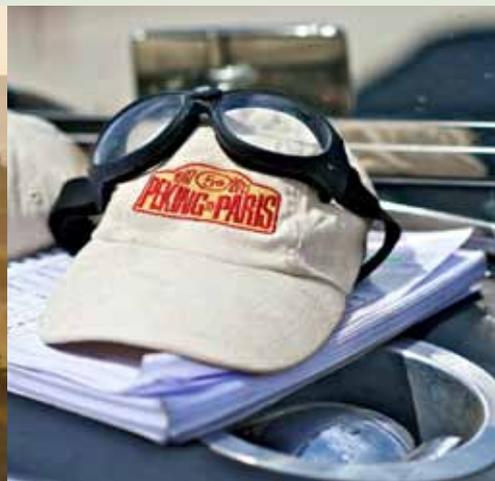
and the United States has to offer in the company of fellow enthusiasts.

"We give navigator training, offer plenty of advice before you even get to the start line and the camaraderie on the rally is second to none," explains Rally Director Philip Young.

Philip has over 30 years experience of organising short and long distance rallies and is the brainchild behind the Peking to Paris Motoring Challenge, which takes place in 2016 but is already fully booked.

"We have some novices join us on the Peking to Paris and some fair much better than others. But it's not for the faint hearted. A month on the road, covering such amazing distances each day is hard work. That one is definitely not a pleasure cruise."

To find out more about the ERA rallies, visit [www.endurorally.com](http://www.endurorally.com)



## Vintage Racing at Zoute

Vintage Racing is gearing up for the fifth edition of the Zoute Grand Prix 2014 in Belgium. Zoute has long been associated with a refined lifestyle where class, recreation and sportsmanship reign supreme.

From 9th to 12th October 2014, Zoute will welcome the world's most prestigious car brands.

Our sales and service partners Filip & David Bourgoon are honoured that their customers are bringing several Speed 8s, Old No1s and Alpines to the event. The after-sales department has started to prepare the cars to be rally proof, hopefully leading in some nice results. The Vintage Racing technical support team, led by Patrick Philips will be at the service of its customer with their assistance car during the entire weekend. More information can be found at [www.zoutegrandprix.be](http://www.zoutegrandprix.be)



## Greece to Morocco

Franz Lamot and his team at HC Mobiles took part in the Greece Rally in May. Covering 3,000km, around 170 classic cars took part including three Racing Green models – two Alpines and a Speed 8. The teams travelled across beautiful landscapes starting from Thessaloniki and ending five days later in the same city.

The highest placed Racing Green car went to David Costermans who finished 27th after reaching the top ten before incurring a penalty! Franz finished in 39th place after he too had some trouble with a tripmaster cable. Luc Thiis didn't enter to compete. Instead he drove only for fun, enjoyed the sun, the gorgeous landscapes and the good food!

Franz is now preparing for the Moroccan Rally, which takes place from September 25 till October 2. An exciting première for Racing Green as for the first time, nine Racing Green cars will be involved in the rally. The HC Mobiles service truck, driven by experienced mechanic Patrick Van Den Broeck, will follow the cars and look after them all as they set off on the 1,800km journey starting in Fez and ending in El Jadida.



## Keep in touch



We'll be sharing our news throughout the year via more issues of this newsletter and our website but we would like to hear from you too. Share your motoring adventures with us. Tell us where in the world you are going in your car or where you are planning. Get in touch with us by emailing [info@vintageracinggreen.com](mailto:info@vintageracinggreen.com)

## Stateside

A quartet of new owners are now enjoying Racing Green cars in the USA. Our friends at 502 Motorworks in Kentucky have sold a Special Speed 8 to a collector in the Carolinas. Finished in black, the car has been equipped with several customer-selected options including the larger wheels, Klaxon horns, and optional rear axle ratio. They have also sold a Special No. 1 that will be finished in blue with bonnet stripes.

502 Motorworks plans to show the cars in several Concours d'Elegance events in America such as Amelia Island, Pebble Beach and Hershey during 2015 and would love to see customers there. They would also like to invite interested parties in the US to visit their facility to experience one of the wonderful automobiles from Racing Green in person.

Two Racing Green models have also taken up residence in Malibu, California, thanks to our sales partners at Odessa in Gloucestershire after a chance meeting at Techno Classica, Essen.

## A Touch of Techno Classica

Thank you to all those who visited the Racing Green stand at Europe's biggest classic motoring show - Techno Classica in Essen. As one of the few shows where we actually display as many models from our range, it is a wonderful opportunity to catch up with customers as well as showcasing our latest developments.

Of the five cars we displayed - the B Special Speed 8, Fastback, Alpine, 3/8 Racer and the B Special No 1 – it was hard to pick who was the crowds' favourite.

We'll be returning to Techno Classica in 2015 and look forward to seeing you there. If you have never visited before, we'd encourage you to put the dates in your diary now as it is an event not to be missed.



## Hotting up in Switzerland

Things are hotting up in Swiss oldtimer scene according to owners of Garage Louis Frey, one of our service centres. Most oldtimer clubs in Switzerland are member of either the Swiss Oldtimers SDHM (Swiss Historic Vehicles Association) or FSVA (Fédération Suisse des Véhicules Anciens). Both associations aim to provide the best conditions for historic vehicles, together with representing owners in politics, road traffic licencing departments, etc.

In Autumn 2013 a new association was founded called the FSVH Swiss Federation for Historic Vehicles, with the goal of encouraging all the various associations to join together to create one oldtimer association in Switzerland. The rationale being that one complete body of enthusiasts would be more powerful in negotiations that benefit the cars and their drivers. A nice idea but not it seems for those who do not want the change...Let's see what the future brings.

## Contacts

For further information on our Bentley and Alfa vehicles or our bespoke engineering services please contact us on:

Email: [info@vintageracinggreen.com](mailto:info@vintageracinggreen.com)  
Telephone: +44 (0)1554 776994  
Fax: +44 (0)1554 754386  
Website: [www.vintageracinggreen.com](http://www.vintageracinggreen.com)