



BMW Clubs
International Council



BMW Clubs' World

In cooperation with BMW Club & Community Management

1/24



BMW Clubs Celebrate 100 Years of BMW Motorrad

BCIC Vice Chair Julio Reyes welcomes International Council members to BMW Motorrad Days in Berlin in July 2023..

BMW CC Vietnam
Tours Europe

BMW CC Indonesia
Bimmerfest

BMW CC Gauteng
Concours

CONTENTS

- 3** 2023 Council Meeting Highlights
- 5** BMW Car Club of Gauteng Annual Concours d'Elegance
- 7** BMW Car Club Singapore
- 9** Exploring Europe With BMW Car Club Vietnam
- 11** BMW Motorrad Welt Opens in Berlin
- 12** BMW Car Clubs Indonesia Bimmerfest 2023
- 14** BMW Classic Visit
- 16** BCIC Calendar

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2023 Council Meeting Highlights



Forty delegates, observers, board members, and BMW Classic and BCCM staff converged at BMW's motorcycle plant in Berlin-Spandau on 10–11 July 2023 for the annual Meeting of the BMW Clubs International Council.

Following a welcome by Helmut Käs, Head of BMW Group Classic, The Council got down to business. Bernard Knöchlein, who had served on the Board as Vice Chair for Classic Vehicles for two decades, decided to leave the Board and open the position for election. Bernard will continue to serve on the Council as a delegate from Classic and Type Clubs. Mr Helmut Käs paid tribute to Bernard's long and excellent service and topped it off with two tick-

ets to the next Villa d'Este Concours. Fred Jakobs, BMW Group Classic Archivist related to the Council a personal reflection of his time with Bernhard over the past 20 years.

It was then time for the Council to elect Bernhard's replacement. Two extremely well-qualified delegates had been nominated: Martina Günter from BMW Clubs Europa, and Colin van Son from BMW Clubs Africa. Colin won the election and



Since this year marked the 100th anniversary of BMW Motorrad, it was appropriate for Fred Jakobs and Lutz Hahn of the BMW Group Classic Archives to give an informative presentation on BMW history and significant BMW motorcycles produced over the last 100 years.

One of the Council's most important duties is to select recipients of prestigious awards on behalf of BMW. This year, the Friend of the Marque Award was given to David de Bruyn (posthumously, BMW Clubs Africa), Guy Wikstrom (BCEF), Norm Phoenix (BMW MOA), Wolfgang Niefanger (BMW ICTC), and Ray Zimmermann (BMW MOA).



Normally, the Council does not make posthumous awards, but David would have undoubtedly received the award earlier had he not served for so many years on the International Council, including almost the last ten as Chairman. So, the Council decided that in this case, a posthumous award was the right thing to do.

The equally prestigious Prof. Dr. Gerhard Knöchlein Award was conferred upon Bob Henig (BMW MOA), Dr. Christian Zschoke (BMW ICTC), Fritz Wagner (BMW ICTC), Mike Delacoe (BCEF), and John Castle (BCEF).

The BMW Club of the Year Award for 2023 was earned by the BMW Car Club Singapore.

Traditionally, Council members break into groups to discuss matters of interest of the Council. After earnest discussions, three working groups made substantive presentations on the subjects of discounts for BMW Club members, Umbrella funding, and communication with BCIC umbrellas

during the year. The Council expressed a preference to keep these discussions going through the year by making use of remote virtual meetings.

Another item that usually generates much interest is the location of future Council meeting. After two excellent presentations by the Council members from BMW Clubs New Zealand and BMW Clubs Middle East, the Council voted to hold the 2024 Council Meeting in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

Council members were in favour of continuing Council meeting discussions throughout the year, so we set a goal of a virtual Council Meeting to be held about 90 days after the Berlin meeting, and another about 90 days before the Dubai meeting in 2024.

The link below gets you to the BMW Group Classic downloads page for the 2023 Council Meeting folder, which includes minutes, presentations, reports, and award nominations.

<https://100years.bmwgroupclassic-downloads.com/>
Password: 100yrsBMWMotorrad



When the Council gathers. It's not just for business. Members met for lunch in the BMW Plant Berlin cafeteria, and in the evenings, at various restaurants. The farewell dinner on Tuesday night was a river cruise in Berlin's River Spree. A beautiful evening allowed members to see some of the best sights in Germany's capital.

This year's meeting was also held just after the conclusion of BMW's Motorrad Days at the Berlin Messe. Attended by thousands of motorcycle enthusiasts, the event was made even more special by the presence of hundreds of BMW Club members from Europe, and even as far away as Turkey.

Photos by Andres Martinez, BMWCLAF

BMW Car Club of Gauteng Annual Concours d'Elegance – by Sirsh Hariram

Spectators, officials, and entrants could not have asked for a better setting on the day. With the sun out in full tilt, a reprieve from the cold winter weeks that now fortunately seem to be drawing to a close, the Mall of Africa (Waterfall City Park) shone and glistened in all its glory.

The BMW Car Club of Gauteng had celebrated its 42nd anniversary of the prestigious Concours d'Elegance on the day. This annual event aims to bring together fanatics, collectors, and lovers of the brand in general, all under 'one roof' and with the common goal of showing appreciation towards the Bavarian powerhouse and all its offerings on display. Furthermore, this specific event coincided with the 50th anniversary of BMW in South Africa, a truly astounding milestone considering the evolution of the brand and the growing volumes of support from young and old alike within our Rainbow Nation.



Concours d'Elegance is a term of French origin, which means a "competition of elegance" and refers to an event where prestigious vehicles are displayed and judged. It allows collectors, as well as the general population of motoring enthusiasts and petrolheads, an opportunity to showcase their professionally maintained/restored vehicles – some of which would be deserving of a rightful place amongst the echelons of automotive royalty.

Over 20 vehicles were entered to participate in the actual Concours, which would be segmented into various classes for judging. The 'Show and Shine' category allows for a novice competitor to display their vehicle, without the requisite and more vig-

orous preparation needed for the higher Concours classes. The 'd'ETAT' category takes it a step further and requires that the vehicle being entered be 100% original and/or accessorised with period-correct extras from the relative BMW approved partners. The 'd'ELEGANCE' category allows for restored vehicles or vehicles that are not 100% original and which may have non-factory/aftermarket accessories installed.

Judging for the above-mentioned classes was a stringent process, with no dust-bunny left unturned. Armed with a clipboard, pen and white gloves, judges looked more like medical practitioners than actual automotive professionals on the day. This alone would



highlight the seriousness of competition on the day. To form part of the crème-de-la-crème, vehicle owners/restorers would have to painstakingly ensure that their entered vehicles conform to the highest level of judge's scrutiny that is expected at an event of this standing.

In addition to the concours vehicles, the spectators were treated to some of the finest eye-candy that Munich had to offer and some of which us South Africans had the unique opportunity to improve on with over 50 vehicles on display. As with any event such as this, the stunning vehicles from yesteryear were always going to garner the most attention. BMW's M-division has a knack of creating time capsules that always age like fine wines and this year's event had cemented that theory tenfold. E36, E92 and E46 M3's, E30 333i's, E39 M5's, Z3 M-Coupe's (of the AC Schnitzer variant), an absolute beauty of an E60 M5 (being 1 of

2 in the world with this specific colour combination) were just some of the extremely impressive models on display. The somewhat endless man-hours and painstaking restoration/detailing processes were evident in these beauties. Owners never strayed far from their valiant steeds and proudly engaged with bystanders who wanted to know more about these vehicles on display.



There was an impressive display of BMW Race Cars including two E9 3.0 CSL Batmobile replicas, the original 530 MLE Race car (unique to South Africa), the E23 745i race car (also unique to South Africa). There were four E30 3 series race cars and the original Deon Joubert E34 535i race car and an E24 Original Parts 635CSi replica along with an E46 M3 race car.

BMW South Africa also showcased their heritage fleet including the E12 530MLE, E26 M1 and E30 333i.

The day had progressed without any hiccups and when the time had come for the prize-giving, all eyes were fixated on the main stage, awaiting the results of the judges' scorecards. Winners and runners-up were announced for each category, and they strolled



to the stage to the sound of applause from the crowds in attendance. Had your name been called on the day, you can rest assured that moment would have been an extremely proud and exciting one for the winners. In fact, the winners were all spectators in attendance, who got to witness firsthand the passion and love our fellow South Africans have for cars. It is this love that unites many people from different walks of life, and it is something that we can all be proud of.

Third place in Show 'n Shine went to Bruce Ceprnich in his E46 M3 followed by Dion Williams in his E36/8 Z3 M Coupe Schnitzer with first place going to Dhiresch Dewnaryan with his immaculate E92 M3.

Third place in d'Etat went to Yaseem Cassim in his E36/8 Z3 M Coupe Schnitzer, second place to Nishar Karim in his E36 M3 and first place to Preenie Pillay in his E30 325iS.



Sanjay Madhav in his E30 325iS bagged third place in d'Elegance, with Hoosein Moolla taking second place in his E39 M5 with Ian Fischer taking the trophy in his E23 735i.

Guy Patron in his E60 M5 was second in d'Honneur preserved and Ross Cornelson took the d'Honneur preserved trophy in his impeccable E46 330 Ci Convertible.

The judge's choice of the day was a beautifully restored 1938 BMW 327. Special mention must be made for the sponsors ITOO, organizers including Johann Venter from Vantage Automotive Art and the BMW Car Club Gauteng itself. Such a momentous event would not be possible without the assistance of each and every person involved. Thank you for putting together this amazing event that just cements us as a car-loving nation... more specifically one that enjoys roundel emblems, in-line 6's, (mostly) rear-wheel drive and German precision!

BMW Car Club Singapore

In the thrilling journey of 2023, our car club embarked on a memorable ride marked by a profound commitment to community service and the joy of driving. Our central focus remained on two core initiatives: organizing impactful charity drives and orchestrating the grand Mega BMW Drive that brought together enthusiasts in celebration of automotive passion.

cased not only the elegance and power of BMWs but also the unity and camaraderie within our club. This mega event brought BMW enthusiasts from diverse backgrounds together, creating a memorable experience for all.

Key Elements:

1. **Diverse Participation:** Enthusiasts from various walks of life and BMW models joined the Mega



Charity Drive Highlights: Throughout the year, our car club demonstrated a deep sense of social responsibility through various charity drives. We engaged with local communities to make a positive impact, raising funds and awareness for important causes. From supporting local children's home and healthcare group initiatives, our members united their love for cars with a shared commitment to giving back. **Mega BMW Drive:** The pinnacle of our year was undoubtedly the Mega BMW Drive, an event that show-

Drive, emphasizing the inclusivity and diversity within our car club.

2. **Scenic Routes:** The drive featured carefully curated routes, winding through picturesque landscapes, enhancing the joy of driving and fostering a sense of community among participants.
3. **Social Impact:** Integrating our commitment to community service, a portion of the event proceeds was dedicated to a charitable cause, reinforcing the idea that our passion for cars can contribute to meaningful change.

As we conclude this remarkable year, our car club stands poised for an even more impactful and exhilarating future. The road ahead is filled with opportunities to make a difference, share the love

for BMWs, and strengthen the bonds that make our club a thriving community. Together, we drive not only for the love of cars but for the love of making a positive impact in the world around us.



A 2389km Journey Exploring Europe With the BMW Car Club Vietnam —by Phong Vt

“A journey originating from hearts that love BMW. A journey originating from the BMW Community in Vietnam. A journey of a lifetime - Trip of a Lifetime.”

[Editor’s note: This article was translated from Vietnamese to English using Google Translate. Apologies to Phong Vt if we mistranslated anything. Also note that the full article and dozens of great pictures are available online at <https://teamhq.notion.site/Articles-on-BMW-Car-Club-Vietnam-Europe-Drive-Trip-2023-to-Don-2d3f1c35031f40bcba-c406298a957105>.]

Twelve days on the roads of Europe have ended, 58 members of the group have returned home safely, with “treasures” that are joy, happiness, passion for the journey, and the joy of traveling. Passion for BMW, accompanied by a little regret, and even promises.

The happiness of being able to conquer and explore street corners and roads together, discovering the beauty of ancient, majestic Europe. The passion for driving on journeys that has never been conquered, especially with great companions. The passion for BMW seems to multiply dozens of times, when there are so many emotions with the cars, with the traditions of the Bavarian brand.

A little regretful when 12 days in Europe ended as quickly as a dream. And the promises of the next journey: we will definitely go together, to new lands.

That’s all we: members of BMW Car Club Vietnam, participants in Europe Drive 2023, have until today, and many days to come.

The journey ended successfully and safely. With five months of preparation, accompanied by the hard work of all members, it ultimately brought a great result.





BMW Motorrad Welt Opens in Berlin

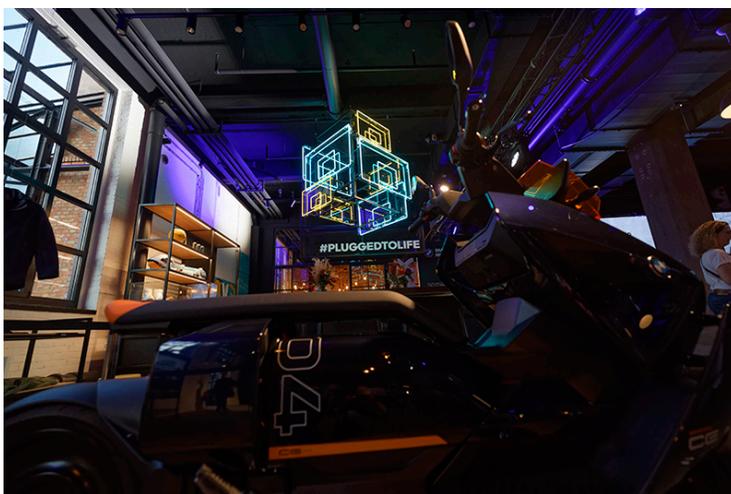
On 28 September 2023, 100 years to the day after BMW presented to the world its first motorcycle—the R 32—at the Berlin Motor Show, the company opened the BMW Motorrad Welt in the grounds of the BMW Plant Berlin-Spandau. BMW Chairman Oliver Zipse was joined by the Chancellor of Germany, Olaf Scholz, the Mayor of Berlin, Kai Wagner. And Markus Schramm, Head of BMW Motorrad.

Attended by 150 guests, the ceremony featured a presentation of custom motorcycles based on the R 18 as well as the world premiere of the R 1300 GS. BMW also took the opportunity to announce a donation of 100,000 € to several local and regional charities and UNICEF.

Members of the BMW Clubs International Council were, of course, familiar with the location of the New BMW Motorrad Welt, having spent time in BMW Group Plant Berlin while attending their 2023 annual Council Meeting in July.

BMW Motorrad Welt contains art exhibitions, living room concerts, autograph sessions with well-known artists, and the Motorcycle Cinema. It offers a variety of different activities for the general public, motorcycle fans, and all BMW Group employees. A visit here is the perfect complement to a guided tour of the plant grounds and production hall (available Monday through Friday).

Regular BMW Motorrad Welt hours are Monday through Sunday from 10.00 am to 7.00 pm.



BMW Car Clubs Indonesia Hosts Annual Meeting and Bimmerfest 2023

BMW Car Clubs Indonesia hosted its National Meeting XII and Presidential Election on 10th November 2023, followed by Indonesian Bimmerfest 2023 the next day at the Mandalika Circuit.





BMW Classic Visit —by Ian McLachlan, President, BMW Drivers NSW

My Partner and I planned a holiday to Europe for October 2023. As we're both BMW fanatics, a big motivator for including Germany on our itinerary was of course to enjoy all things BMW in Munich (plus lots of beer). One thing we specifically wanted to experience was a visit to BMW Classic. I had the privilege of touring BMW Classic in 2016 as part of the BMW 100 Years Anniversary celebrations, but my Partner had never been to Munich before.

I contacted our International Delegate for Australia, Trevor Dean, with our travel dates and asked if it would be possible to visit the Classic museum. Within a few days Trevor advised he had arranged a private tour. To say we were excited about the prospect of experiencing a tour of Classic is an understatement.



At the agreed time, we duly reported to the Classic Café. While we were waiting, we were treated to an E24 635CSi being road tested for a client, and then saw a beautiful restored light blue 507 drive past on its way to one of the workshop bays to be examined. Shortly, Benjamin our guide arrived and introduced himself. We had a wonderful chat in the café about the history of our Club (BMW Drivers Club NSW), our own passion and ownership history of BMW's, and also Benjamin's personal favourites and cars he has owned, including an E30 Touring. He was interested in my own experience of owning an E31 (clearly Trevor had clued him in), and a rapport was quickly built.

Benjamin then took us through one of the Classic workshop areas, which had a number of customer cars being worked on (including an open wheel racer), and on to the Museum itself. For me, entering the Museum proper was like the kids entering Willy Wonka's chocolate factory. So many things to look at; what do you focus on first. Although I had been there before, it was still a huge thrill to walk in and see so many unique and special cars.

Benjamin calmly put some structure around things and guided us to the 'first' aisle of cars. As we walked around, he explained the heritage of the particular cars, the history of why they exist, and some background of why they are in the Classic museum. This knowledge covered the full range of cars from heritage racers, to experimental alternative fuel cars, to prototypes that didn't make production, and several special variants of well-known road-going cars. We even had some discussion on the electric 2002's that were specially produced for the 1972 Munich Olympics, and the E30 ute that has been used for many years to ferry various supplies around the Munich factory. I was impressed with Benjamin's depth of knowledge of the cars on display, and his general passion for all things BMW. It was very refreshing to meet someone so young that had this obvious passion for the classic cars, and the Marque in general.



With so many wonderful machines on display, and their interesting back-stories, it is difficult to pinpoint a highlight or favourite. I'm a fan of the older cars, so I particularly liked the 507's on display. I've also had a long-time attraction to the Z8, so seeing the prototype Z8 coupe was pretty special. It is a shame that it never made it into production, and only roadsters went on sale. For pure storytelling, I couldn't go past the pair of M1 pro-cars. One of the cars looked pristine, while the other appeared to have the many scars of track battle. The truth was that the neater looking car was the actual car that won the championship. Due to its pedigree and history, it was decided that it had become too valuable to continue to be driven in historic racing events. So, a replica was built, and the services of a couple of very talented ladies were employed to transcribe the livery, and every track scar from the actual race car, onto vinyl sheets, which were used to wrap the replica. This replica is the car that now competes in various historic race meets, and the original is kept safe and sound.



I am biased, being a BMW tragic, but I have to say that the visit to BMW Classic was a highlight of the Germany leg of the trip for me. It was an honour to be able to walk around so many unique machines, and discuss all things BMW with a fellow enthusiast.

If you are able to make the trip, do it!



BMW Clubs International Council Calendar

- 31 January 2024 Friend of the Marque and Knöchlein Award nominations due at BCCM and BCIC Board**
- 18–19 March 2024 BCIC Board / BCCM Working Meeting, Munich**
- 28 March 2024 BMW Clubs International Council Virtual Meeting**
- 30 April 2024 (Proposed) . BMW Club of the Year Award nominations due at BCCM and BCIC Board**
- 6–9 November 2024 BMW Clubs International Council Meeting Pre-tour, Dubai, UAE**
- 9–14 November 2024 BMW Clubs International Council Meeting, Dubai, UAE**