

Event Report

German Car Day Sunday 29 July 2007

If you were anything like me, you were cursing the rotten weather on the morning of this event. Well, truth be told I was cursing myself really for spending Saturday polishing the car up when I knew perfectly well rain was tipped for the Sunday!

Despite some pretty ordinary weather for most of the day, there was once again a decent participation for German Car Day, and the BMWs led the way with the biggest turnout. It was great to see a presence from some of the marques which are usually a



As usual there were plenty of Porsche and a few Mercs, but some of the lesser known makes were there too, like a few Borgwards and even an NSU Ro80.

Not only did the BMWs arrive in the biggest numbers, but there was also a huge variety. There were cars of varying ages, and

E24 M6 constantly sliding around with little provocation on its 20-odd-year-old TRX tyres on the wet roads. The old TRX rubber was certainly attempting its best to live up to its lethal reputation at the first sign of rain! Hopefully Dean found it as amusing as his touring party did!

I also found that this year there was much more available in the way of eateries in Northam, and it really was great to catch up with a few other club members for a beer over a good wholesome pub lunch. All in all, German Car Day was a most enjoyable day, and hopefully future years will see its popularity grow further and see the host town get more and more behind this event.

The downsides of the day were the premature closure of the Motorkhana (due to safety concerns from the local constabulary about the wet course), putting an end to one of the day's main attractions, and also the presence of a few speed cameras. Unfortunately these would appear to be becoming a regular fixture on drives out to car events. Whilst no-one likes the thought of participants engaging in reckless or irresponsible driving, I must admit that personally I question whether



little down on numbers too. The Volkswagens were well represented in the form of several late model GTis, and there was even a contingent of split-window Kombis – a couple of which it had to be said were absolutely beautifully prepared.

almost all models were represented in some format – there were even quite a few convertibles despite the rain.

For me, the highlight of the drive to Northam had to be the sight of club member Dean Parker's



the resultant effect of spending the drive with your eyes focused on your speedometer is a safer

alternative than paying attention to the road and your surroundings.

To end things on a positive note, German Car Day is a growing event and is an important annual fixture on our calendar of events. Make sure you keep an eye out for it next year, when it will no doubt be even bigger and better!

Hope to see you all there next year!

Stephen Hinsley

Photos courtesy Dean Parker

