



## Press release August 2015

### **Classic Days at Schloss Dyck with record visit– ten years matured and better than ever**

For the 10<sup>th</sup> time Classic Days took place at Dyck moated castle from July 31 to August 2, 2015 as a colorful big classic car and motor festival; a stylish journey back in time and a garden party with automotive touch.

The headline “The best place to be in August“ came true for significantly more than 30,000 spectators as high summer sunshine and temperatures set in on time with the opening. Organizer could count a record breaking number of visitors. The volunteers of the charity club Classic Days e.V. co operation with Schloss Dyck foundation could welcome in average compared to previous years 25 per cent more classic car and motor enthusiasts in the small town called Jüchen.

The jubilee program mixed up beloved and proven theme worlds with new ones whilst the admittance fees didn't increase compared to previous year. The rich content has been furthermore increased on behalf of the anniversary.

### **Tailwind by important award**

The volunteer organizers of Schloss Dyck Classic Days have been sure to develop the event on the correct rail since they have been awarded by “Motor Klassik Award“ in April 2015. Magazine readers voted Classic Days on rank 1 thus making it to the “event of the year“ .

### **Ten plus one legendary race drivers at the anniversary**

It belongs to Classic Days that well known race and rally drivers perform in regularity runs on the “racing legends“ track and that they chat freely with the spectators and write autographs. In the jubilee year 2015 attended live:

Sir Stirling Moss celebrating his Mille Miglia victory 60 years ago, Jochen Mass, Hans Herrmann, Klaus Ludwig, Hans Joachim “Strietzel“ Stuck, Frank Biela, Ellen Lohr, Roland Asch, Dieter Glemser and Christian Geistdörfer. Number eleven has been Norman Dewis, the longest working coworker at Jaguar, 33 years engineer and head of test drivers and today on duty for Jaguar Heritage. The nearly 95 years old Dewis moved the times ago by his own hands optimized D-Type around the circuit in a sporty way.

### **Event-potpourri in the castle's park**

There was no lack of the core competences of Classic Days in the jubilee year: Racing Legends means vintage sports and race cars on the 1.7 miles long circuit made from public roads closed for the event. Highlights on behalf of 10 years anniversary have been an Auto-Union silver arrow with double blower from the 30ies of the gone century and the victory car Audi DTM V8 from 1990. Il Drago ruggente (the roaring dragon) underlined its name by means of a 27 litre 12 cylinder aircraft engine and pleased the spectators not only with the impressive sound but as well with some flames coming out of the exhaust tubes. The static display of high value motorcars on the Orangerie peninsula was dedicated to important contributions to the cultural history of mobility. Wolfsburg based Autostadt including their museum ZeitHaus exhibited here among others a splendid Bugatti

Royale, a rare Bentley 8 Litre and the legendary Rolls Royce "Silver" Ghost. Rarest and most precious vehicles in "history of automobiles" – which is the headline above the Orangerie-peninsula exhibition.

The display on this "museum island" contained as well a bright overview over the British make Bristol by means of 22 vehicles or the French luxury cars from Facel Vega with six different models. Classic Days have grown over the years and the exhibit areas called "Lovely Heroes" with vehicles from the time of economic miracle, "Made in Germany" targeting delivery vans and lorries with their original advertising, "Stars & Stripes" celebrating the American way of drive, "Nostalgic Journeys" as a historic campsite or "Charme & Style" where people are period dressed and carrying picnic equipment matching perfectly the year of their car delighted the spectators also in 2015 and made the piece of art complete.

For the first time at Classic Days there has been a special display and demonstration run called "Classic & Future E-Motion" containing 13 electric drive vehicles from 1915 Detroit Electric to contemporary Tesla.

Being the main automobile partner Mercedes-Benz Classic brought the stunning 540 K steam line from 1938 to the castle as well as the legendary John Cooper Fitch "417" gullwing or the sympathetic 180 Diesel – both Mille Miglia participants. They performed in a special run dedicated to the famous triple victory of Mercedes-Benz at Mille Miglia 1955.

Along the sophores alley Autostadt presented "vehicle relations" in two areas – showing different pairs of vehicles being somehow relatives despite of belonging to different makes. Alfa Romeo and FIAT sent 15 museum vehicles – amongst others a Lancia D25 and some formula racers. The first time partner of Classic Days – Jaguar Heritage – displayed a complete model line in front of their heritage tent. Peugeot chose an African lookalike tent roof and displayed the theme world "Dakar" by means of a phalanx of rally and race cars.

Benjafield's Club joining the English Bentley friends rode down to Schloss Dyck with an armada of 32 prewar Bentleys – they have been prominently supported by means of a Bentley Speed Six Guernsey Nutting Sportsman Coupé, vulgo "Blue Train", expedited by an American collector to Schloss Dyck Classic Days and the one-off "Captain Hewitt 8 Litre", an extremely slim and sporty tourer.

Meanwhile in the Dyck fields during all three festival days the biggest club meeting of Europe took place gathering some 6,800 visitor classic cars in the bamboo grass fields.

### **Music and good mood**

For a long time also fashion shows from the 30ies to the 70ies belong to the Classic Days as well as dancing performances, music and well designed picnic sceneries. Alltogether paints the picture of a big and happy garden party where everybody finds a place to live his or her individual preference in style. Dressing scouts moved around and awarded well period dressed spectators and participants with a button. If they were extraordinary good looking they could obtain a voucher for an ice cold bottle of sparkling wine.

### **Positive balance**

The volunteer club Classic Days, the operational Limited Oldtimer- und Motorsport GmbH, Schloss Dyck foundation, Jüchen municipality and the official authorities from Rhein Kreis Neuss are delighted to announce a hundred per cent positive balance. The well prepared big event run without any turbulences exactly as planned. Now it is time to tidy up the castle's park and to bring back the retro decoration into the 800 square meters large storage of Classic Days club. Until the next first weekend in August will approach.