



Press Release:

***La Vie en Bleu incorporating La Vita Rossa***

**Saturday 28 & Sunday 29 May 2016**

**Prescott Hill Climbs French and Italian motoring festival  
A celebration of French and Italian cars, music and entertainment**



On the weekend of Saturday 28 and Sunday 29 May 2016, the tenth annual pageant of French motoring excellence – *La Vie en Bleu* – takes place at Prescott Hill Climb, Gotherington in Gloucestershire – home of the Bugatti Owners' Club. This spectacular two day event has always been a firm favourite in the motoring calendar, and this year will be no exception. NEW for 2016 is the introduction of '*La Vita Rossa*' as Prescott also celebrates everything Italian!

Prescott Hill Climb will be transformed in celebration of fine French and Italian automobiles, themed entertainment, trade stalls and visiting car clubs. Plus special competition classes for French and Italian marques.

The paddock will be packed with iconic French and Italian classic cars and supercars from a Bugatti Veyron Supersport, Bugatti Pur Sang, Bugatti EB110, a Voisin, Ferrari Enzo, A 1965 Ferrari 275 GTB, Ferrari 246 Dino, Ferrari 328GTS, Ferrari 512 TR, Ferrari 330 GTC, Ferrari Fantuzzi 196S, 1975 Maserati Khamsin, Alpha Romeo 156 ETCC, Alfa 1750 6C, Lamborghini Countach Diablo TT to the Nelson Piquet's 1990 Benetton F1 Car and a Formula Nippon car.

To celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Lamborghini Miura, the 'Twiggy' Miura, aptly named after its first owner Justin de Villeneuve (Twiggy's manager in the 1960s) will also be heading to Prescott.

Another highlight includes six ERA's, four of which will be competing on the Saturday including the iconic Raymond Mays R4D – the most celebrated chassis in the marque's history. ERA R4D was built by English Racing Automobiles as the last development classic voiturette racing car in the 1930s, designed to compete with the highly successful Bugatti's and Maseratis. In spite of its success, it was the only D-Type ever built, but accumulated a formidable reputation, and competition records in its various guises. ERA founder Raymond May set numerous pre-war records in the R4D, including ones at Prescott hill climb, Shelsley Walsh, Brighton Sprints and Brooklands Mountain Circuit, the vehicle remains one of the most successful pre-war competition cars of its time.

Visitors to Prescott will also be in for a real treat, when the 'Beast of Turin' roars into action. The Beast of Turin is the one surviving example of a pair of land speed record contenders the Italian automaker built before WWI. The Beast of Turin' was built in 1910 with the express intention of beating the land speed record, held at the time by Blitzen-Benz. Its 28.5-litre Fiat S76 engine was capable of providing an impressive 300bhp - enough to propel the car to 116 mph, and a one-mile land speed record, in 1911.

Only two S76s were ever built. Owner Duncan Pittaway discovered the remains of one chassis in Australia, and eventually united it with the surviving S76 engine from the other car. Duncan will be firing up the beast, to compete during the weekend.

Aside from the impressive array of vehicles both on and off track, will be a whole raft of entertainment to keep the whole family amused. Gracing the main stage will be Mark Halliday, known throughout Europe and the USA for his

Dean Martin act in the hit musical “Rat Pack - Live from Las Vegas”. Mark will bring the style and panache of crooner Dean Martin to Prescott as he performs “That’s Amore” to “Mambo Italiano” plus many more.

Plus ‘Opera’ – possibly a first for a motorsport event? ‘Oyster Opera’ are professional opera singers that will transfix you with their act, but beware you might be invited to waltz along with the soprano to Verdi's Brindisi, be enveloped by a smouldering Carmen, or have a charming, budding Pavarotti serenade you on one knee. The magnificent duo regularly performs at celebrity parties, including that of Sir Elton John. We have ensured that special VIP parking is available for their gondola!

Alongside the roving accordion player, and popular stilt walkers will be the stunning Vegas Showgirls swapping their feathers for flapper dresses and performing Charleston routines to French inspired Electro Swing songs. Taking to the skies above, will be Tiger Aerobatics and their vintage air display (both days, weather permitting).

As Nick Mason, Drummer from Pink Floyd, and avid car collector said *“Despite being called La Vie en Bleu, the event is quintessentially British - a mini Goodwood Festival of Speed set in the glorious Cotswolds - celebrating French cars, but in a British way. It’s a club motor sport at its best, where visitors can mingle with the cars, speak to the drivers, and watch rare historic vehicles to modern day supercars being pushed to their limits”.*

Tickets will be on sale in January at a special ‘buy one get one free’ for a limited time only. Visit: [www.prescott-hillclimb.com](http://www.prescott-hillclimb.com)

Address: Prescott Hill Climb, Gotherington, Cheltenham, GL52 9RD

For further information regarding a car club visit, competing in the Italian and French themed competition classes, or trade stalls, please contact: [rebecca@eventspr.co.uk](mailto:rebecca@eventspr.co.uk)