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The first 20 cars to arrive at the venue lined up and looked pretty

A DAY AT THE MUSEUM

A LOCAL MEET FOR SOME BUT FOR OTHERS A MAMMOTH TREK, THE NATIONAL MEET FOR THE 406 OWNERS CLUB WAS STAGED AT COVENTRY TRANSPORT MUSEUM

WORDS: TIM COLLINS PICS: DAVE BROWETT, RICHARD SLOMAN AND MARK WILLIAMSON

The Peugeot 406 Coupé Club held its 'local' meet in Coventry on Sunday February 22 at the Transport Museum. The event was well attended, with 30 gleaming Peugeot 406 Coupés lined up, by special arrangement, on Millennium Place directly in front of the venue.

Although local to many, several members came from further afield, involving an early start for those travelling from Glasgow and Kent.

After a pre-meet at motorway services on either the M6 or M1, various convoys got on their way with Museum being their final destination. I was part of the East Midlands convoy and after leaving Castle Donington services we headed for the Showcase Cinema

at J2 of the M6 in order to meet up with the Northern convoy. When we moved off a planned direct journey down the A46 became an indirect one and the convoy split at roundabouts and traffic lights.

The plan of the day was to move off around noon and head into Coventry after a last minute clean and prep. However, a stipulation of the Museum was that you can only park and display if you have a drip tray, not something we had planned for and as a result the local Tesco did a roaring trade in £1.04 oven roasting trays!

The Coventry Transport Museum helped us reserve Millennium Place directly in front of the venue (credit is due to forum member Dave Browett for sorting out the Public Liability Insurance). The Museum had also arranged for

the security bollards to be lowered to allow the 29-car Coupé convoy to enter the pedestrian area ... the last car arrived a little later.

The 406 Coupé traffic jam into Millennium Place was a sight in itself and many passers-by made the inevitable double take.

The array of 406 Coupés on show covered nearly all production colours; there were examples of the S, the SE, a Settant'anni and both of the Satellite Grey and Granite variants of the limited edition 'Silver & Black' model. One particular car, christened Tommy from Glasgow, featured custom leatherwork and attracted a great deal of interest.

Experts were available all day to help resolve those minor issues, plus we had a Peugeot Planet diagnostic tool to read and decipher those annoying error codes.

Whilst the Coupés were parked up several owners had a good look at the museum while others went for food or a spot of shopping. The museum is well worth a visit as it includes a large collection of British vehicles including Thrust 2 (previous world land speed record holder), Thrust SSC (the current world land speed record holder), a six-wheeled Tyrrell F1



Millennium Place opposite the Coventry Transport Museum was the perfect setting for the meet



A beautiful array of fantastic hand crafted leather complete with Peugeot lions were on show



Tim Collins' incredibly rare right hand drive Settant'anni is a club favourite



The convoy of 406s entering Coventry drew many admiring glances. The public had a look too!



As the skies darkened many club members sought shelter in the museum

Grand Prix car and a DeLorean DMC-12.

A special thank you is due to the Coventry Transport Museum staff, especially Anne Dooy, for helping out with the arrangements to use Millennium Place.

Future events, during 2009, involving the Peugeot 406 Coupé Club are detailed on the website www.406CoupeClub.com and include FCS09 at Rockingham on Sunday June 14, a Scottish Meet at Crail, a meet at a major motoring venue in Southern England, plus attendance at the International Meet in France in late October. ■

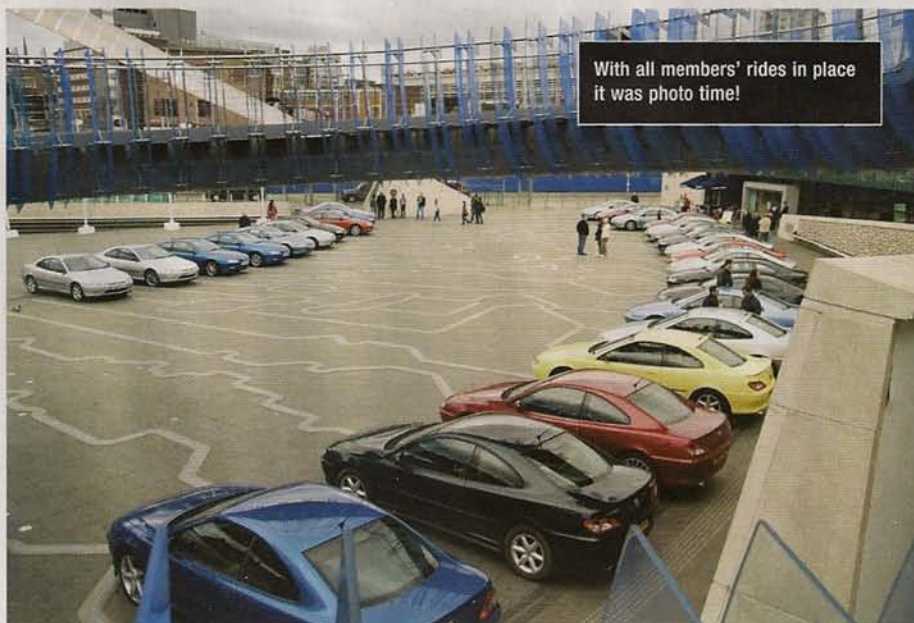


Museum goers and 406 Owners Club members mingled as passers by couldn't help but wonder what was going on

WHY NOT JOIN US?

The 406 Coupe Owners Club has UK based forum is run by enthusiasts and provides a valuable resource of help, how-to guides and a place to discuss the Coupé.

Although based in the UK the forum has a global membership with representation in most European countries, Israel, Hong Kong, Japan, Australia and New Zealand. The forum holds a variety of local and national meets in all corners of the UK. To find out more about our club or to join visit www.406coupeclub.com.



With all members' rides in place it was photo time!

EVENTS DIARY

11-12 April 2009

International Styling and Tuning Show

Donington Park, www.istsuk.com

11 May 2009

Performance Tuning and Modified Show

Santa Pod Raceway
www.ptmshow.co.uk

24-25 May 2009

Modified Nationals

East of England Showground,
Peterborough
www.modifiednationals.co.uk

14 June 2009

French Car Show

Rockingham Raceway
www.frenchcarshow.co.uk

4-5 July 2009

World Series by Renault

Silverstone circuit
www.worldseriesbyrenault.com

This free event is the British leg to celebrate all things Renault from vintage road cars and historic racers through to modern day road rally and F1 cars

31 July – 2 August 2009

Ultimate Street Car

Santa Pod Raceway
www.ultimatestreetcar.co.uk

3-6 September 2009

Disneyland Paris Car Rally

Organised by South Quay Travel, this is a popular event for car enthusiasts and takes in two great theme parks, themed hotels and there's the opportunity to show off your car to over 30,000 visitors daily at Euro Disney. There will be dedicated club stand areas and an award for the 'best supported car club 2009'. For more information, Tel: 0207 510 2929

6 September 2009

TRAX

Silverstone circuit
www.traxshows.co.uk

RARE SETTANT'ANNI

As some of you may have noticed the Settant'anni in May's Club Class report on the Day at the Museum, was not, in fact, the 406 pictured. Apologies for the mix up, but here it is in all its glory. Picture by Richard Sloman.



A true Settant'anni rather than the imposter in the May issue