

# Commemoration of 1936 Grand Prix staged in city

■ Event organised by Limerick Classic and Vintage Car Club, as classic cars take to street

Nick Rabbitts

THE city's streets were filled with the sights and sounds of screaming engines, burnt rubber and petrol fumes, at a special commemoration last weekend of the Limerick Grand Prix.

In 1935, 1936, and 1938, Limerick staged a full international grand prix, which consisted of a 55 lap road race around Pery Square, O'Connell Street, William Street, Sexton Street, Roxboro Road, the Carey's Road, Lord Edward Street, Punch's Cross and O'Connell Avenue.

In the most acclaimed 1936 race, some 24 motors took place, including one driven by the Thai Prince Bira among other celebrities.

Seventy-five years on, some 20 vintage motors retraced the steps of the original rally, organised by the Limerick Classic and Vintage Car Club.

These included the same MG which won the 1936 race.

The car, driven then by Belfast's Andrew Hutchinson, was returned to its former glory by Neil Hilton.

And Mr Hutchinson's nephew, Tony Redmond was also in attendance.

Co-organiser Martin

Burke said: "This route is the only one outside of Monte Carlo which remains unchanged after 75 years, so there is a bit of history attached to it. We have some fabulous cars here, which have come to help us commemorate this."

As well as the MG car, other cars on display included an Aubrey Thompson Racing Special, two Bugattis, a "supercharged" Mercedes, a Riley, and an Alvis, which won a race in Dublin's Phoenix Park in 1938.

While the cars were on display outside, the Georgian House played host to a recollection of Limerick's grand prix races.

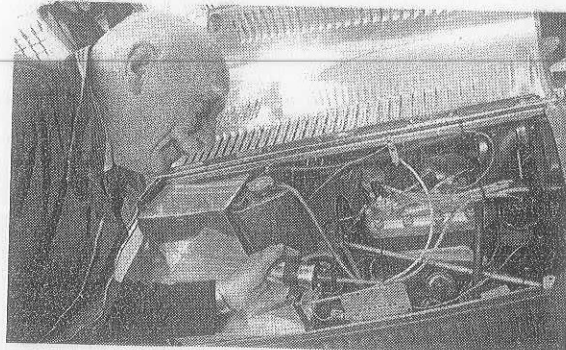
The display included photographs from the era, and Pathé footage.

Brothers Paddy and Finn Fielding lived on Hartstonge Street when the 1936 Grand Prix were taking place.

They recalled the race with great zest: "It was a magical time in the city. The racing cars arrived on the Friday of an august weekend. On the Saturday morning, there were trials at six am. The cars used to also come into the chicane outside he Jesuit's Church. Really, it was a magical time."



Liam O'Doherty, Ballinacurra, Billy Peacocke, Limerick Civic Trust and Clíodhna Mulcahy, Raheen, admire a 1928 Mercedes at the Limerick Vintage Grand Prix in Pery Square. PICTURES: DAVE GAYNOR



Joe Kearney, Janesboro, takes a closer look at the engine compartment of a 1931 Austin 7



Matthew and Leah Moore, Clarina, in a 1930 Alvis Silver Eagle at the Limerick Vintage Grand Prix



Gabriella Kalarus and Max Cyran, O'Callaghan Strand, beside a vintage Wolseley



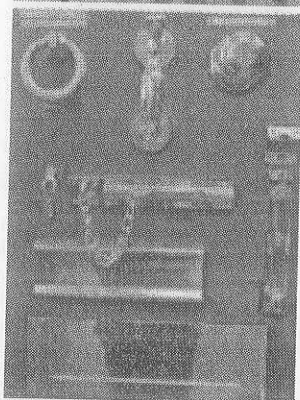
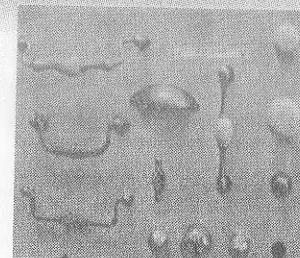
Nicky Desmond, Raheen, behind the wheel of a Thompson Racing Special at the Grand Prix



Colin Williams, Paddy Fielding, Fin Filding, Martin Bourke, Neil Hilton and Tony Redmond at the GP

## Aisware Products

Main Street, Patrickswell, Co. Limerick  
Ph: 061 215978 Fax: 061 215 979



Aisware Products has been in Business for 25 years supplying Quality door furniture of all types including Handles, Knobs, Locks and Hinges etc.

View our Web site or visit our showroom in Patrickswell.

PVD Brass Front Door fittings (no polishing just a wipe down)

Replacement Handles available for multi-point front door locks.

Letter plates and Cylinders available

Email: aiswareproducts@eircom.net

Website: www.aiswareproducts.com

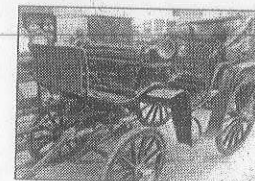
## The Auction Rooms

Sixmilebridge, Co. Clare  
Antique and Fine Art Auctioneers

### "The Autumn Sale"

Important Fine Art - Antique Furniture - Garden Furniture  
on Tuesday 13th September at 10:30 a.m.

Victorian Horse-drawn Carriage  
(Estimate €3,000-4,000)



#### FEATURING:

FURNITURE Dining tables; Regency Secrétaire Bookcase; Victorian three-door Bookcase; Victorian four-door Bookcase; Chests of drawers; Georgian inlaid brass rail Sideboard; Georgian-style mahogany dining table (10ft long); Georgian four-poster Bed; Library Tables and Sofa Tables; Church Pews; Baby Grand Piano

COLLECTABLES: Collection of Fossils and Meteorites; Collection of Chinese Jade; Porcelain; Silver; Collection of Glassware, including Waterford

JEWELLERY: Gold Necklaces and Chains; Diamond Rings from a Limerick Estate

BOOKS: Large Selection of Irish Interest

CARPETS & RUGS: to include selection of Persian and Turkish examples

GARDEN FURNITURE: to include a Gazebo; Victorian Urn; Selection of reconstituted Stone Items

IRISH ART & OTHER PAINTINGS: by Declan O'Connor; Anna-Marie Rossi-Zen; Markey Robinson; Geraldine Dennehy and many more

1,100 Lots approx.

Catalogue & Photographs online now

www.irishcountryhome.com

Email: afich@eircom.net

Viewing: Saturday, 10th September - 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, 11th September - 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Late View, Monday, 12th September - 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Tuesday 13th September - 9:00 a.m. - start of Sale

The Auction Rooms, Sixmilebridge, Co. Clare  
Tel: 061-369533 / Mobile: 086 8290680

EX. LIMERICK LEADER  
10TH SEPTEMBER 2011  
PAGE 19