

Panthers return to Surrey



A remarkable selection of 91 cars converged on Brooklands for the Panther Car Club's Grand Gathering to celebrate the marque's 40th anniversary on 1-2 September. The famous Weybridge venue was a fitting choice because Panthers were originally assembled in nearby Byfleet. "The cars were built here until 1982, and we decided that it was time for them to return home,"

said club chair Val Bridges.

The spectacular turnout – one of the club's largest ever – included 18 cars from the continent and five J72s (one from '72). Frenchman Philippe Julien brought his J72 over from Bouguenais: "We bought it last year in California. It belonged to the actor Redd Foxx and had only done 9830 miles from new."

Best of Show went to Terry Borton's '83 Kallista, fresh out of a ground-up restoration, while Don Scrivens scooped Best Lima and Bridges Best J72. Dutchman Rob Metselaar picked up the silver for 'Best Engine Bay' – thanks to his immaculate De Ville (one of four at the event), which also won its class.



Continental contingent
included French Lima (r).
Above: De Ville quartet