



DOWNSIDE ABBEY PRESS RELEASE

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CROWDS FLOCK TO DOWNSIDE CAR SHOW

Hundreds of people turned up for the Downside *Concours d'Elegance* classic car show, on Sunday 1st May.

The winner of the 'Abbot's Cup' was Andrew Triggol with his magnificent 1930 Rolls Royce 20/25; the car was also hailed winner of the Pre-War category.

Other Class Winners included:

1945-67 category: David Roper [1951 Jaguar XK120]

1968-84 category: Jason Salmons [1971 Sunbeam Rapier H120]

Head Master's Choice category: Michael Carter [1988 Mercedes 300SL convertible]

With over 100 vintage, classic and interesting vehicles registered from Austin to Aston Martin, Bentley to Bugatti, and Rolls-Royce to Riley, the event has been gaining momentum in recent years. People enjoyed a Hog Roast and Cream Teas, plus musical entertainment from the Downside Pipe Band and Barbershop; a large numbers of visitors also took up the offer to enjoy a tour of the Abbey Church and School.

The Judges were Mike Penn [Founding Curator of the Haynes Motor Museum], Terry Richards [AC Owners Club], Charles Trevelyan [Chairman of the Bugatti Owners Club], James Whitehead [Head Master, Downside School], plus car enthusiasts Tim Mercer and Jane Trowell.

It is hoped that the event will run again next year. Keep an eye on www.downside.co.uk when the date is announced.

[Photographer credit: Graham Cox]

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NOTES TO EDITORS

Press contact: Claire Wass cwass@downside.co.uk 01761 235151

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Downside Abbey is a Roman Catholic monastery, and is home to a community of Benedictine monks. Situated atop the Mendip Hills, south of Bath, the Abbey Church is one of only four Minor Basilicas in England; it has been designated by English Heritage as a grade I listed building. It is also the largest of the Neo-Gothic style churches built in this country after the Reformation, and was described by Sir Nikolaus Pevsner as "the most splendid demonstration of the renaissance of Roman Catholicism in England. If ever there was an excuse for building in period forms in the twentieth century, it is here".

Downside School is one of England's oldest and most distinguished Catholic schools. It is an independent, co-educational, boarding and day school for pupils aged 11-18. Founded in 1606 in Douai (in France), the School is now housed in magnificent buildings at the foot of the Mendip Hills, twelve miles south of the City of Bath.

Downside is a strong academic school. Outstanding examination results are a priority. Everyone is encouraged to aspire beyond their academic expectations and the School has a thriving academic life with pupils going on to the top universities in the UK, the USA and Europe. Importantly, Downside also aims to educate young people through a Christ-centred curriculum to develop as future leaders in 21st Century society.

The school's pastoral care is excellent. 85% of Downside pupils are 7-day-a-week boarders and approximately 20% are from overseas. Weekends for boarders are busy with a full programme of activities.

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