



QUALITAT

EUROPEAN MOTORS LTD

Newsletter



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IN BRIEF

- **Qualitat** is located at 220 Station Road, Penrose
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Workshop hours

Mon—Fri 8am to 5pm

Spares hours

Mon—Fri 7.30—5.15pm

- Sat morning 8.30am—12.30

- Check out our new website

www.qualitat.co.nz

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QUALITAT
EUROPEAN MOTORS LTD

- Importers of Audi / VW parts
- Repairers of all vehicles
- Technicians trained in - VW... Audi ... Mercedes ... BMW

Vagn's Important Reminder !

With the cooler, and wetter months upon us, now is a good time to have your vehicle electrics checked. The increased use of wipers, headlights and demisters puts more demand on charging systems and batteries. Don't be caught out waiting for break-down assistance. Have your vehicle electrics checked. Preventative maintenance is so much easier.

Staff Conference—March 2007

Yet another successful Staff Conference was held at Waiheke. Fishing was one of the leisure activities, and Ben from Spares took the prize for the biggest fish—a 53 cm Snapper. The workshop team however, caught the most fish in the allocated time.



Staff Conference - Waiheke Island fishing

The SUV debate—love 'em or hate 'em !

A recent British poll found that 70 per cent favour higher taxes on SUVs. It seems there are several European countries also showing similar signs of antipathy. However, sales figures to date tell a different story. Although maybe the tide is about to turn, as in Paris some activists have been going round the city deflating the tyres of parked SUVs. The message they are sending is—these vehicles are for the country, not the city.

In the tough U.S. market there is fierce competition to get the edge on clean diesels. Diesels make up around half of the western European car market, however petrol has been the preferred choice in the U.S. The U.S. market is hoping that with the arrival of the newer efficient and cleaner diesel this will see an increase in the sale of diesels, as typically they get around 30 per cent better mileage than petrol engines, and also have more robust towing power.



VW news

Porsche takeover??? In March, Porsche became VW's largest shareholder at 31 per cent. Under German law, an investor must make a takeover offer when its holding in a company reaches 30 per cent. The law requires that the takeover offer only be made once, not that it succeed, spokesman Michael Baumann said. The next threshold for a mandatory takeover is 50 per cent. Porsche however, does not plan to acquire Europe's largest car maker. The move was apparently to protect Porsche's supply relationship with VW, as it was feared this could be undermined if VW fell to other foreign influences.

New VW Cars

The Volkswagen Tiguan ("Teegan") is the little brother to the Touareg, and should be on sale in New Zealand early next year. As a special eye-catching feature for its launch at the Los Angeles Motor Show it was displayed with special tyres with a contrasting orange pattern to match the bold bodywork. This model offers a spacious cabin for passenger comfort.

Meantime, VW has been running the Tiguan on SunFuel, which is a synthetic fuel. SunFuel claims to cut carbon dioxide emissions by up to 90 per cent, which will help to dramatically reduce greenhouse gases. Initially SunFuel will be available as a mixer with standard fuels, but eventually it may be available from dedicated SunFuel pumps within 10 years.

Another new Volkswagen model is the Eos V6. It is built around a mixture of Golf and Passat elements, but as a coupe-convertible, it also has its own characteristics in both styling and >>>



driving. Priced from \$61,990, Eos is good value if you are in the market for this type of vehicle.



Eos V6

German carmakers' catalogues do not yet include a single hybrid vehicle. However, they maintain they are committed to making environmentally friendly cars so we may yet see some hybrid versions.

Beware mobile phone users -

Under existing British law, mobile phones and records can only be checked after a fatal accident, however, British motorists may soon be subject to mobile phone checks for even quite minor accidents. Fines are also set to double in cost.



Audi R4

Audi -New Cars

Audi is developing a small sports car to challenge the Porsche Boxster. It will be called the R4.

Audi's new supercar, the two-seater R8, is another example of Audi challenging Porsche territory. The price tag in New Zealand will be around the \$260,000. The market for supercars is the fastest growing segment in the automotive industry, and as such Porsche will have to withstand some very stiff competition.

The A6 allroad Quattro vehicle is another in the line-up for Audi. It will line-up alongside the bigger Q7 (Audi's first four-wheel drive)

Audi RS6 is undergoing final tests in Germany of this high-performance vehicle, and in an effort to disguise its lines from spy cameras, it has painted the body of the car, black with white spots.

The **Auckland Volkswagen Owners' Club** held its May club night at Qualitat premises. About 30 members attended and enjoyed a very pleasant get together with a barbecue supplied by Qualitat. If you are interested in joining the club, you could contact John Atkinson phone 832-5824.



A line up of VW's in the grounds of Christ's College in Christchurch during the New Zealand Volkswagen Festival held during Easter this year.



TRIVIA !



1. Before 1961, Volkswagen Beetles had no gas gauge. What did you have to do when you ran out of petrol?
2. What do the four rings of the Audi symbol represent?
3. What do the letters BMW stand for?

Interesting Trivia - Nazi war criminal Adolf Eichmann worked as a foreman at a Volkswagen factory in Argentina before being captured by the Mossad in 1960.

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1. You had to flip a lever on the floor to access your gasoline reserve, and that meant you still had 30 miles or so to find a gas station.
2. They represent the merger in 1932 of the four previously independent motor vehicle manufacturers, Audi, DKW, Horch and Wanderer.
3. Bavarian Motor Works