



Rétromobile 2024: The Monneret saga on show in the new collector motorcycle zone



Monneret archives.

As announced in July 2023, a brand new feature will be making its début at the 2024 edition of Rétromobile: a zone dedicated to collector motorbikes. At the heart of this space: a retrospective display on the adventure of the Monneret family from the 1930s to the present day, illustrated by the exhibition of around 20 exceptional motorbikes and previously unpublished photos of the Monneret saga.

A family history marked by generational transmission

The Monneret saga began in 1908 with Georges Monneret, the holder of 183 world speed records, who excelled in a range of disciplines. In 1952, his passion for challenges prompted him to embark upon a trip from Paris to Alpe d'Huez on a Vespa. Six months later, he accomplished the feat of riding from Paris to London in just 5 hours 30 minutes, crossing the English Channel also on a Vespa that had been specially converted into a pedalo-catamaran. **These two exceptional Vespas will be exhibited among an array of other mechanical gems owned by the Monneret family.**

The saga continued in 1931, with the birth of Georges' twin sons, Jean and Pierre. Also huge motorcycling enthusiasts, they completed a 40,000-km "round-the-world trip" at the Montlhéry racetrack at the age of 20. Pierre, following in his father's footsteps, became the only Frenchman to win two Grands Prix in the same day in 350 et 500 cc. He also earned the distinction of becoming the first Frenchman to win a world speed championship race in the premier category.

1958 would see the birth of the youngest of Georges' sons, Philippe. In turn, he would add several prestigious titles to the family's roll of honour, including winning the 24 Hours of Le Mans in 1991. In 2015, he broke the world speed record, clocking 357 km/h on the straight of the Circuit Paul Ricard. Today, he continues to pass on his passion through his motorcycling school and in particular his racetrack riding courses which are now managed by his 31-year-old son Edouard. **Philippe Monneret will be attending the stand in person to recount some of the exciting stories that marked the history of this family which is so intrinsically linked with the history of motorcycling.** Visitors will also be able to discover the 1971 Peugeot 104 with which Philippe set a record at Montlhéry at the tender age of 12 with his father; and the **1962 VAP "vélomoteur" from the Dunkirk-Monte Carlo rally fitted with a trailer in which Philippe crossed France at the age of four.**

2,000 sqm of passion, heritage and sharing

The Monneret Saga comes as an addition to an already profusive motorcycling offering, alongside prestigious manufacturers such as **BMW Motorrad, Ducati, Harley-Davidson, Indian Motorcycle, Triumph** and **Yamaha**. Other unavoidable figures of the motorbike world have already confirmed their attendance, including **Vintage Rides**, a travel agency specialising in motorbike tours, and **Wildust**, the clothing brand dedicated to women bikers. The area will also include a sales zone dedicated to motorbikes over the age of 30 and the **famous London bar-restaurant Ace Café, in the presence of its owner Mark Wilsmore**. All on a surface area of 2,000 sqm where heritage, bikes and discovery will be the order of the day!

"This unprecedented retrospective, shining a spotlight on the exploits of one of the most famous motorcycling families, embodies the very essence of our show, where each vehicle tells us a story and every story creates memories for us. We will be honoured to welcome Philippe Monneret at the exhibition. We are in no doubt that he will enthusiastically share some of the finest chapters in the story of this iconic family from the two-wheeler world," says Romain Grabowski, Rétromobile exhibition director.

More visuals available [here](#) (Monneret family archives).

RÉTROMOBILE 2024

WEDNESDAY 31 JANUARY – SUNDAY 4 FEBRUARY 2024

Paris expo Porte de Versailles - Pavilions 1, 2.2, 3

Opening hours: Weds & Fri: 10am – 10pm / Thurs, Sat, Sun: 10am – 7pm

PREVIEW EVENING • TUESDAY 30 JANUARY 2024 FROM 7PM TO 10PM

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About Rétromobile

Founded in 1976, Rétromobile is today one of the most prestigious collector car exhibitions in Europe. This stature has allowed it to bring together everyone from the vintage car world, and offer unprecedented and exclusive displays and special features. It is also acknowledged by its visitors as being the world's largest pop-up art gallery dedicated to cars. As a true leader in the collector car market, Rétromobile is the annual gathering for all car fans



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