

## Working Meeting of the Board

## Working Meeting at Villa d'Este



Left to right: Dorothee Grau from the International BMW Club Office, Dr Philip C. Abrami, Dr Bernhard Knöchlein, Dr Robert Hellman (all three International Council of BMW Clubs), Dr Thomas Tischler of BMW Group Mobile Tradition, Ian Branston, International Council of BMW Clubs, and Jörg-Dieter Hübner, BMW Group Mobile Tradition.

The Board of the International Council met at the end of April to consider a range of matters before the Council. The meeting was held to coincide with the Concorso D'Eleganza at Villa D'Este on the shores of Lake Como near Milan, Italy. The Chairman, Vice Chairmen, Dr Thomas Tischler and Dorothee Grau from the International Club Office were joined by Jörg-Dieter Hübner from Mobile Tradition. Over the duration of the meeting many matters were considered but some of the main items included the following.

**International Council Website:** it is recognized this is our

main communication tool and needs to act as a signpost to the Council's background, procedures, role and services, as well as provide a link to member clubs.

**Council Newsletter:** this will be produced bi-monthly with a number of standard topics in each issue, but will also include articles about major events. To ensure a Club focus, delegates will be asked to contribute one article per year to maintain a truly international focus.

**New Guideline:** this will bring together the experiences of member clubs and set out, in one publication, activities that clubs and BMW importers and dealers can consider. The sharing of this information is seen as one of the key roles of the Council not only for existing clubs to conduct their affairs but also for new clubs which are often seeking advice in terms of promotional activities and interaction with dealers.

**2004 Meeting:** considerable discussion was devoted to discussing the forthcoming meeting, especially in relation to agenda topics, themes for working groups and ancillary programmes. A range of administrative topics were discussed and the Council Board and the Club Office are looking forward to a productive period in the months leading to the annual meeting.

## BMW Clubs Australia National Rally 2004



Heather Lambley from the BMW Driver Club of New South Wales receiving the Friend of the Marque award.

From 9 to 12 April, over the Easter holiday break, BMW Clubs Australia held its annual National Rally. The 2004 event was hosted by the car and motorcycle clubs in Canberra and saw members attend from most clubs, car and motorcycle, from

around the nation. The combination of motorcycles and cars in the same National Rally makes this a unique event.

The worst drought in living memory meant no rain would spoil a variety of events including the Show 'n' Shine at the National Museum of Australia, observation drives and rides in and around Canberra and driver training, plus super sprints at the nearby Wakefield Park circuit.

Over the weekend's evening functions participants had the chance to bid for a range of merchandise donated by BMW Australia and some very special books provided by Mobile Tradition. The "engine" books were autographed by the author Dr Karlheinz Lange and BMW engine guru Paul Rosche. Keen competition to own these fine publications resulted in a generous donation being made to a local helicopter rescue service from the proceeds of the bidding.

The Presentation Night, held on the premises of Australia's first Parliament

House, was a glamorous affair and a fitting backdrop to the awarding of Friend of the Marque to Heather Lambley from the BMW Driver Club of New South Wales.

Next year's rally at the end of March will be held in Queensland's wine country inland from the famous beach at the Gold Coast and will again provide the opportunity for motorcycle and car club members to come together to enjoy some sheer riding and driving pleasure.



An idea travels the world: BMW friends pay homage to Mobile Tradition even in far-off Canberra, Australia.