# The Veteran Car Run

**On the first Sunday in November a most unusual event takes place: the Veteran Car Run from London to Brighton. The run is open to "motor vehicles (3 wheels or more) built before January 1905 ". So the newest cars that you can see at the run are a hundred years old.**

When at the end of the nineteenth century the first cars appeared on the roads, the government made a law that a man had to walk in front of the „horseless carriage" with a red flag to warn people and horses. This was stopped in 1896, and a group of happy drivers broke their flags and drove to Brighton. This was the first run. It became a tradition.

It was 3rd November 2015, a cold and rainy day after a long and exceptionally hot summer. Drivers, reporters, and fans had to get up at a very early hour, as the flag came down to the start at 8 o'clock. More than 500 veteran cars were there. Not only British cars. There were drivers from the USA, Canada, Australia, South Africa and Hong Kong, as well as Ireland, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, and Sweden.



It is a run, not a race. There are no prizes. The thing is to drive the 59 miles to Brighton. The motorists do it for the fun of it. They were warmly dressed and took hot coffee and sandwiches with them. If a car breaks down, the motorist has to repair it himself.

From Hyde Park they drove to Trafalgar Square, down Whitehall, then through the suburbs and out into the open countryside of Sussex. Reporters followed in more modern cars and they were



glad about the roof and windshield. All along the route stood people cheering. The real test came when they climbed the Downs. Several cars were not able to get to the top. The others went down the other side and finally arrived in Brighton.

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|---|---|
| **unusual**: ungewöhnlich | **suburb**: Vorstadt |
| **event**: Ereignis | **follow**: folgen |
| **take place**: stattfinden | **roof**: Dach |
| **appear**: erscheinen | **windshield**: Windschutzscheibe |
| **government**: Regierung | **cheer**: zujubeln |
| **law**: Gesetz | **be able to**: können, es schaffen |
| **celebrate**: feiern | **Downs:** (Hügellandschaft in Südengland) |
| **freedom**: Freiheit | |

## Translate:

1. Dieses Auto ist hundert Jahre alt. ...................................................................................

2. Ein ungewöhnliches Ereignis fand statt. ....................................................................

3. Wann findet der nächste Lauf statt? ..........................................................................

4. Viele alte Autos erschienen auf der Straße. .............................................................

5. Es war ein kalter und regnerischer Tag. ...................................................................

6. Ich musste zu früher Stunde aufstehen. ....................................................................

7. Es hatte Fahrer aus Irland, Belgien und den Niederlanden. ......................................

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8. Es gibt keine Preise. .................................................................................................

9. Es war nicht ein warmer Tag. ....................................................................................

10. Wir waren warm angezogen. ....................................................................................

11. Die Leute jubelten. ...................................................................................................

12. Schlussendlich kamen wir in Brighton an. ...............................................................

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## Adjectives and adverbs:

It wasn't a warm day, but we were ...*warmly*........dressed.

She isn't a careful driver, but her friend drives .................................... .

The people are happy. They cheer............................

It wasn't an easy run. The cars didn't climb the hill ........................... .

There were some rather slow cars. They went ........................

## DICTATION

The Veteran Car Run is a most unusual event. The cars are more than one hundred years old. This year it was a cold and rainy day. I went to see the start at Hyde Park. There were British cars, American cars and even Irish cars. The flag came down at eight o'clock. It was fun to see them moving and to hear the sounds of these old motors. Some drivers had to repair their car right after the start. The others drove to Trafalgar Square. All along the route to Brighton people were cheering.