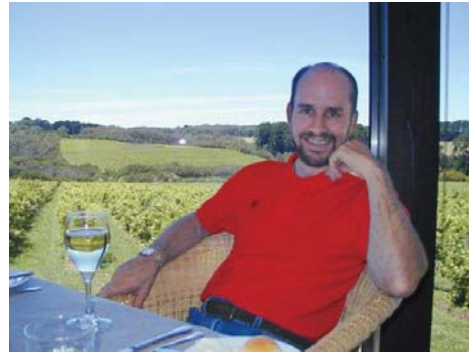


About Peter Schindler

Sometimes I pity the customs official who needs to deal with me when I cross a border by car. My documents can be rather confusing, if not downright suspicious: my car has an Austrian license plate; I hold a Swiss passport, but it shows that my residence is in Hong Kong; my driving license was issued in the U.S. and my miniature laminated marriage certificate says that my Malaysian-Chinese wife is Australian.



I was born in the land of *The Sound of Music*. My mother is Austrian; my father was Swiss. I went to high school in Austria and, upon graduation, participated successfully in various European motor racing championships. Eventually, the winds of the sea of youth blew me to the U.S. where I was allowed to study computer science at M.I.T.

During my university years I also acquainted myself with the Japanese language and on a study trip to the land of the rising sun, I fell in love with the country and much else besides. After several years in the U.S., I felt a strong urge to return to Japan. Unfortunately, I boarded the wrong plane and ended up in Hong Kong, where my knowledge of Japanese was rather less useful. So, I picked up Chinese. It was like picking up chopsticks: at first, I dropped half and had cramps, but I stuck with it for a long time until, eventually, I managed to feed myself. To this day, this language never comes without effort. Still, I've lived in China (Hong Kong and Shanghai) ever since.

I initially financed my passion for driving – over the years I've done more than a million kilometres in Europe, the U.S. and Asia – by working for an international company (Accenture). Later, I worked for several local outfits. They paid less, but at least I could nurture friendships, which had withered away under the spotlight of an international career.

Throughout these years, I've never stopped loving driving, nor have I managed to quench my thirst for it. Recently, I drove 17,000km on an extended trip to Europe and the U.K. in the course of about six weeks. When I returned home, my wife was pretty certain that that must have done the trick. "You must be sick of driving by now, surely!" She couldn't have been more wrong.

* * *

Peter's first book, *On the Road: Driving Adventures, Pleasures and Discoveries*, will be out in the spring of 2005.

Highlights of Motor Sport Career



1979—EUROPEAN & AUSTRIAN RENAULT ELF CUPS

- Overall third in Austrian Cup;
- Competed in six European events (including Monaco, Hockenheim, Zolder) as one of four Austrian representatives;
- Peter Schindler in the lead (photo to left) at international event at A1 Ring in Austria.



1980—FORMULA SUPER VEE EUROPEAN & GERMAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

- Overall fifth in European Championship (note: participated in second half of that year's championship only);
- Lap records, pole positions, and wins on several tracks, including Silverstone, Zolder, Hockenheim, Salzburgring.



“A *Star is born?* ‘A Star is born’ is how the saying goes in Hollywood, but in Northampton last Sunday the name buzzing around the paddock was that of 20-year-old Swiss driver Peter Schindler. Schindler, driving his ... Ralt RT5, smashed *seven seconds* off the lap record on his way to a devastating 18secs win in the Castrol Europe Cup race....”



1981—FORMULA 3 EUROPEAN & GERMAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

- Qualified as only German-speaking racer for the 1980 Monaco Formula 3 race;
- Participated in and won three consecutive German Formula 3 Championship races (Nürburgring, Zolder, and Salzburgring);
- Peter Schindler in the lead in Formula 3 event (photo to left) at Germany's famed Nürburgring.



“*Schindler Advancing* The 5th race of the German Formula 3 Championship was marked by the duel between Franz Konrad and Peter Schindler. Already during timed practice they chased each other to repeated lap records; and during the race the two didn't give each other an inch. Konrad, who had a bad start, managed to take the lead briefly, but Schindler retook it with a spectacularly daring braking maneuver during which the two cars' wheels almost touched each other. ... Final result: 1. Peter Schindler.” (*Motor Sport Aktuell* is the most popular German-speaking weekly motor racing magazine.)