

## Le Mans

Le Mans is the name of a race that takes place in La Mans in France.

The first Le Mans race was in 1923 on the 26th of May.

It was won by a man called Andre Lagache and Rene Leonard came second. The car that Andre Lagache drove was a 3 litre Chenard. Rene Leonard was driving a 3 litre Walker.

All races since have been held in June at 4:00pm on a Saturday.

Racers used to start the race by running across the track, hopping into their cars, putting on their seat belts and driving off. This stopped in 1963. The original track was 10.73 miles long.

A famous crash in Le Mans happened in 1955 when Pierre Levegh's Merc crashed into an Austin Healey driven by Lance Macklin. His car hit the pitting lane and it exploded and the engine flew into the grand stand which caused it to collapse, killing 80 people.

Pierre Leveghs died instantly and the Mercedes was withdrawn.

Team Audi won the 2012 Le Mans Race.

