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Likeable Mario signs in

WHAT was Mario Hytten, the Swiss Formula 3 racing driver, doing outside the Swiss Centre Restaurants, complete with his Ralt-Toyota racing car?

The international sportsman was signing autographs as part of a promotion organised by the Swiss Centre Restaurants who sponsored him in the Marlboro British Grand Prix. Mario drove a good race, finishing in 10th place.

This popular young man, described by Autosport magazine as "this likeable Swiss", has lived and worked all over Europe, though his career as a racing driver has brought strong connections with England.

Jean
Chevallaz



Philosophy behind one of the world's top hotel schools

"We are particularly anxious that the school should become a meeting point between different cultures and different mentalities, establishing bonds between people from the five continents."

THIS is the viewpoint of Jean Chevallaz, director of the Hotel School of Lausanne, which will celebrate its 90th anniversary next year. And it is one which he thinks is important for anyone who is destined to make a career in hospitality.

Jean Chevallaz took over as director of the school earlier this year after a career which had taken him into journalism, economics, agriculture and industry.

He says, "Nothing predisposed me for this job. I knew nothing about hotel-keeping, nothing about tourism and very little about teaching, but I found the challenge interesting.

"It is always an important task to take charge of the training of young people and the president

of the school, Carlo de Mercurio, was looking above all for a manager. In short, it was a good opportunity for me to make a new start, to 'shake myself a bit' intellectually."

There are usually about 460 pupils and 400 probationers under the control of the school, which has a tremendous reputation both in Switzerland and abroad. The teaching consists of a mixture of theory and practice which, says Jean Chevallaz, distinguishes it from any other establishment. "In Lausanne," he points out, "our students pass through the kitchens, do the service, the reception and the management."

And how does the new director of the Lausanne school see the hotel industry developing? Will young people continue to wish to work in service industries?

He is quick to point out that far too many people confuse service and servility - which is not at all the same thing. "Service," he says, "is the art and manner of receiving people."

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