



Renault 4 Rally Sahara, Mathilde & Philippine

Elaine Here we go! Well, I'm here in St Nicolas to catch up with those two intrepid explorers Mathilde and Philippine who, other, er, ah our earlier listeners or listeners of an earlier programme might remember went off on an expedition, in their Renault 4, to take part in the '4L Rally' in Morocco. Well, they're back safe and sound, thank goodness, and I'm here talking to them, er, about their adventures. So, Mathilde perhaps, to start with. What can you tell us?

Mathilde There is a lot to tell about that, er, project now we had and, er, it's I don't know, all the landscape of Morocco, was, er, were....

M and P ...wonderful

Mathilde and uh we went by sand, by snow, by water and sand, so all the landscape and very nice people, some Moroccan people are really, really nice.

Elaine What about the food?

Mathilde Er,

Elaine Ha,ha, ha.

Mathilde Er, quite good. Er, we eat um Kefta, it's a kind of meatballs with, er, some spice from Morocco and that is just delicious but after two weeks of, you know, er, driving the car in Morocco we had cous cous, cous cous, cous cous, tagine it's er also meat, er very meal,

Philippine with vegetable,

Mathilde ..vegetable, yeah, so it was great, yeah. And, um, I don't know, we were very excited to give the, all the funny, the, er you know, scholar argument..

Elaine School equipment

Mathilde ..school equipment

Elaine Yes.

Mathilde ..to the children so it was really huge, you know. We had a big carpet on the floor in the middle of nowhere and we had to, to give tons and tons of, er, I don't know, pencils and, er, even computers and everything like that.

Elaine Fantastic!

Mathilde Yeah Yeah.

Elaine That's wonderful, so...

Mathilde Yeah.

Elaine ..It was a success, so there were I think forty-eight, weren't there forty-eight cars, was it taking part?

Mathilde Not forty-eight,

Elaine Not forty-eight,

Mathilde no it was..

Phillippine one thousand and

Elaine One thousand, Oh!

Phillippine and two hundred.

Elaine Oh, amazing!

Mathilde Yes

Elaine So, what an expedition

Mathilde Two thousand and four hundred students.

Elaine Ah, Incredible. That's brilliant! So, Phillippine, any scary moments?

Phillippine .. No, maybe, when we lose our

Mathildeplates,

M and P the plates..

Elaine Right.

Phillippine ..to protect our car on the sun but, er, the mechanic, er

Mathildesupport

Phillippinesupport help us

Elaine You had a mechanic with you. Obviously, yes.

Phillippine Yes.

Elaine Was he kept busy?

Mathilde There was, yeah, there was maybe ten, ten different cars with the, er, all the mechanic business there...

Elaine Right

Mathilde ... and the were touring us all around the track so...

Elaine Oh lucky!

Mathilde Yep. Ha, ha.

Elaine That was lucky

Phillippine And they help us

Elaine Yes, not the place to break down,

Phillippine very much

Elaine Not the right place to break down in the middle of..

Mathilde Ah, No, No.

Phillippine Of nowhere

Elaine Nowhere

All Ha, ha, ha.

Phillippine No.

Elaine And, so what was your most exciting moment, the memory that is in your head perhaps?

Phillippine All the trip was amazing and like Mathilde said all the landscapes we saw and we did a...

Mathilde Camel ride

Phillippine ..camel riding on the dunes of Merzouga. It was very fun. And the..

Mathilde Ah, yes, the sun, not the sunrise but the sun.....?

Elaine Set.

Mathilde The sunset, yeah, ha, ha, ha.

Mathilde On the dunes were wonderful so each night we went on the top of the dunes and were resting there for maybe, oh, half an hour to watch the sun come down and really, really nice.

Phillippine Yes, it was wonderful.

Mathilde ...and some students they bring ski, skiing equipment and they were skiing on the dunes so, so snow boarding, skiing so was great

Elaine Amazing. So where did you actually stay? Where did you spend the night? I know you had a bed made in the back of the car but where did you spend the nights?

Phillippine We spend the nights on Spain, on..

Mathilde Yeah, on our trajet to Morocco we had to sleep but we slept all the time..

Phillipine Yeah, all the time.

Mathilde in our car so we just have to park and made the bed and hup..ha, ha, ha.

Elaine Very cosy.

Mathilde Yeah.

Phillipine Where we was..

Mathilde Yeah, we didn't...

Mathilde And the first bivouac..

Elaine Mmm, bivouac. Yes, tent

Mathilde you know it was really, really cold in Boul Ajoul? and we were really thankful to my dad to made us this bed because we were maybe the only one to, not, no dying cold in our car so that was great.

Elaine Well done dad!

All Ha, ha, ha.

Elaine You'll ask him again. Ha, ha, ha. Yes, so, Mathilde what was your particular favourite moment?

Mathilde My favourite moment, er, maybe the few days we spend on, er, by

ourselves in the desert. There were no more organisation and for one night we had to find a place to make, you know, fire camp and we gathered with all of our new friends and we had some marshmallow, you know.

Elaine Toasted marshmallows, Yes.

Mathilde Yes, toasted marshmallows. That was really nice.

Elaine Brilliant. So would you go back?

Phillippine Yes.

Mathilde Em, we would like..

Phillippine Ha, ha, ha.

Mathilde Really much to go back but I think now we have to do something else and maybe more exciting

Phillippine Bigger

Mathilde Yeah, a bigger thing.

Elaine A bigger project.

Phillippine And in another place

Mathilde Another place. Travel a lot. Yeah, maybe, we want to travel more and more so....

Elaine Any ideas where you'd like to particularly go?

Phillippine South America

Mathilde South bah...The same thing. Maybe we'll go again

Elaine Brilliant. But would you take the car?

Mathilde Er, Not this one.

Elaine No.

Mathilde Not this one. but why not another old car, maybe I don't know

Elaine Yeah? Maybe a little sports car? South America.

M and P South America. Ha, ha.

Elaine You can do the Thelma and Louise, you know?

Mathilde No.

Elaine No, the film 'Thelma and Louise' two girls who go off, or women who go off in a car, er, on adventures. You'll have to watch that film

M and P Okay.

Elaine Put your scarves or hats on and do a 'Thelma and Louise'. Brilliant. Well it's great to catch up with you and I'm looking forward to watching your presentation.

Mathilde Great, Thank you

Elaine And best of luck and I'm sure you will achieve your next adventure

Mathilde Ha, ha, ha. Thank you.

Phillippine Thank you.

Elaine Because you've got the determination and I think the right spirit

Phillippine Thank you

Mathilde Thank you

Elaine So, congratulations. Thank you.

