

free car mag

SHORTLISTED
FOR NEWSPRESS
MAGAZINE
OF THE YEAR
2016 to 2018

Get
The Look

but not his
look...

Keeley Hawes + Richard Madden

BODYGUARD + BULLETPROOF CARS



We chat to Vicki Butler Henderson
about the new series of Fifth Gear and
meet Honda BTCC star Dan Cammish



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ISSUE 63 / 2018

At this time...

Firstly apologies for hanging this issue on such a flimsy premise as the Bodyguard TV drama. It is OK though, we have spun it out into something much more interesting and that is bullet proof cars. Bodyguard was filmed just a few miles away from the FCM offices and we did put in an official request to film and interview, but BBC were a bit sniffy about it all.

You might be interested to know that 18% of our readers are women through our brilliant main sponsors, motoreasy. It may not sound a lot, but compared to magazines with cars in them, that's probably 17% more. Indeed, our ever popular 'Get the Look', the BTTC and DTM content in this issue is all the work of our female contributors. I know we don't do credits on our stories, but maybe we should start. The bottom line is we reach more women than anyone else and if you run an advertising or marketing department, you need to take that on board, and get in touch.

Vicki Butler Henderson is great and obviously she adores cars, or if you read the interview, pick ups. Plus she fronts Fifth Gear which comes back to our screens very soon and is the best real world telly programme with motors in it.

Free Car Mag continues to do things differently to everyone else, making a mellifluous racket in an otherwise discordant world. We also do fine prose and are nuts about motors.

Vicki Butler Henderson and Ronnie O'Sullivan offer FCM driving + snooker lessons + a lift...



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LAIA SANZ, NEW CUPRA BRAND AMBASSADOR

Sanz has 18 trial and enduro world championship titles and is the only woman to have ridden over the Dakar Rally finish line eight times. The motorcycle racer will be competing at the wheel of a CUPRA TCR in some scheduled races. "being an ambassador of a brand such as CUPRA is a great honour for me. CUPRA has great ambitions to reinvent the world of competition, and being a part of a project like this is a unique, stimulating experience."



FIRST DATES GO RALLYING WITH CITROËN...

Citroën UK – working with Channel 4's First Dates – has given three couples blind dates they will never forget. Citroën's World Rally Championship driver, Craig Breen, was on hand to get their hearts racing in a Citroën C3 on the Brands Hatch rally stage. First Dates' waitress, CiCi Coleman, served dessert from an iconic Citroën H Van to sweeten them up. Van not pictured, you can see them all the time at your local farmer's market/artisan foodie outlet.



**Culture
inside
Cars**



WEST END THEATRE OPENS... IN A CAR

A new play written by Olivier Award-winning playwright Bola Agbaje takes place entirely in a car parked on Drury Lane, with the cast in the front seats and audience in the back. The 20-minute play 'Papa Don't Preach' focuses on the relationship between a father and daughter as they discuss her flying the nest and her growing independence. The play, and unique theatre space, was commissioned by MORE TH>N to celebrate the important family conversations that take place in the car each day, with 51% of parents seeing everyday conversations in the car as beneficial to their family's mental health and wellbeing. Papa Don't Preach' is to initially run over four days in August, we hope it comes back soon.



THE KING - GREAT MUSIC AND A ROLLS-ROYCE

Forty years after the death of Elvis Presley, two-time Sundance Grand Jury winner Eugene Jarecki's new film takes the King's 1963 Rolls-Royce on a musical road trip across America. From Memphis to New York, Las Vegas, and beyond, the journey traces the rise and fall of Elvis as a metaphor for the country he left behind. In this groundbreaking film, Jarecki paints a visionary portrait of the state of the American Dream and a penetrating look at how the hell we got here. A diverse cast of Americans, both famous and non, join the journey, including Alec Baldwin, Rosanne Cash, Chuck D, Emmylou Harris, Ethan Hawke, Van Jones, Mike Myers, and Dan Rather among many others.



The I-TYPE 2
0-60mph 2.9
seconds and can
regenerate up to
150kW of energy
under braking

TARON EGERTON FOR A FORMULA E SEAT?

The star-studded final of the ABB FIA Formula E championship in New York, saw Rupert Friend, Taron Egerton and Mark Strong join the Panasonic Jaguar Racing team in Brooklyn, New York. Taron Egerton, star of the eagerly anticipated Elton John biopic 'Rocketman' took the time to stop by the Panasonic Jaguar Racing Team Garage whilst in attendance at the New York City E-Prix.

He was seen hanging out with Rupert Friend, star of the Showtime series Homeland and fellow 'Kingsman' Mark Strong, a favourite to be the villain in the forthcoming 'Bond 25' movie. Egerton was sporting a tailored D&G shirt, an All Saints jacket and some stylish jeans by brand Moody. However, we decided not to get his look.



SPOTTED
OUT AND
ABOUT

DAVID GANDY + MITCH EVANS

David Gandy is currently in the process of restoring a XK120 with Jaguar Land Rover Special Vehicle Operations, based in Coventry, UK. As temperatures reached a steamy 33 degree heat, David turned heads dressed casually in rolled up Lucky Brand jeans, a crisp white linen shirt from RAILS accompanied by a pair of classy Aspinall Aerodrome sunglasses. Here, Mitch Evans explains why his steering wheel won't fit David's old Jaguar.



Get the look

NATALIE DORMER

So just minutes before a Jaguar I-TYPE raced around the streets of Brooklyn, Gandy and Dormer flaunted over the start / finish line and got up close with drivers Evans and Piquet Junior who achieved Panasonic Jaguar Racing's best grid positions to date, 2nd and 6th. Game of Thrones superstar and screenwriter of the anticipated feature film 'In Darkness', Natalie Dormer spent the day at the New York City E-Prix, seen here wearing a summery black and white stripy dress from Amanda Wakeley accompanied by an Espie Roche bag and a stylish pair of Jimmy Choo sunglasses. Let's see if we can get her fantastic look on the cheap... Oh and as none of us can really afford or use a Jaguar I-Type 2 racer, the road going, best all electric car in the world, is rather more realistic and you can take the family with you.

Natalie Dormer

- 1 Jaguar I-Pace £62,925
- 2 Vintage Dress Pretty Kitty £52.99
- 3 Shoes New Look £19.99
- 4 Earrings Top Shop £9.00
- 5 Ribbon Zazzle £8.15
- 6 Sun Glasses Accessorize £15.00



SUPERB PROTECTION

We use the BBC drama as a wonderful excuse to look at really tough motors, just look at the bullet and blast proof window on the rear door of that BMW 7 Series...

Set in and around the corridors of power, *Bodyguard* tells the fictional story of David Budd (Richard Madden), a heroic but volatile war veteran now working as a Specialist Protection Officer for the Royalty and Specialist Protection Branch (RaSP) of London's Metropolitan Police Service. When he is assigned to protect the ambitious and powerful Home Secretary Julia Montague (Keeley

Hawes), Budd finds himself torn between his duty and his beliefs. Responsible for her safety, could he become her biggest threat? No idea, you'll just have to watch the programme.

Meanwhile, the armoured Superb is the result of a joint venture project between ŠKODA and a UK-based convertor. Following three years of development is a finished model that is virtually indistinguishable

from the standard production car yet offers bullet and blast protection to occupants.

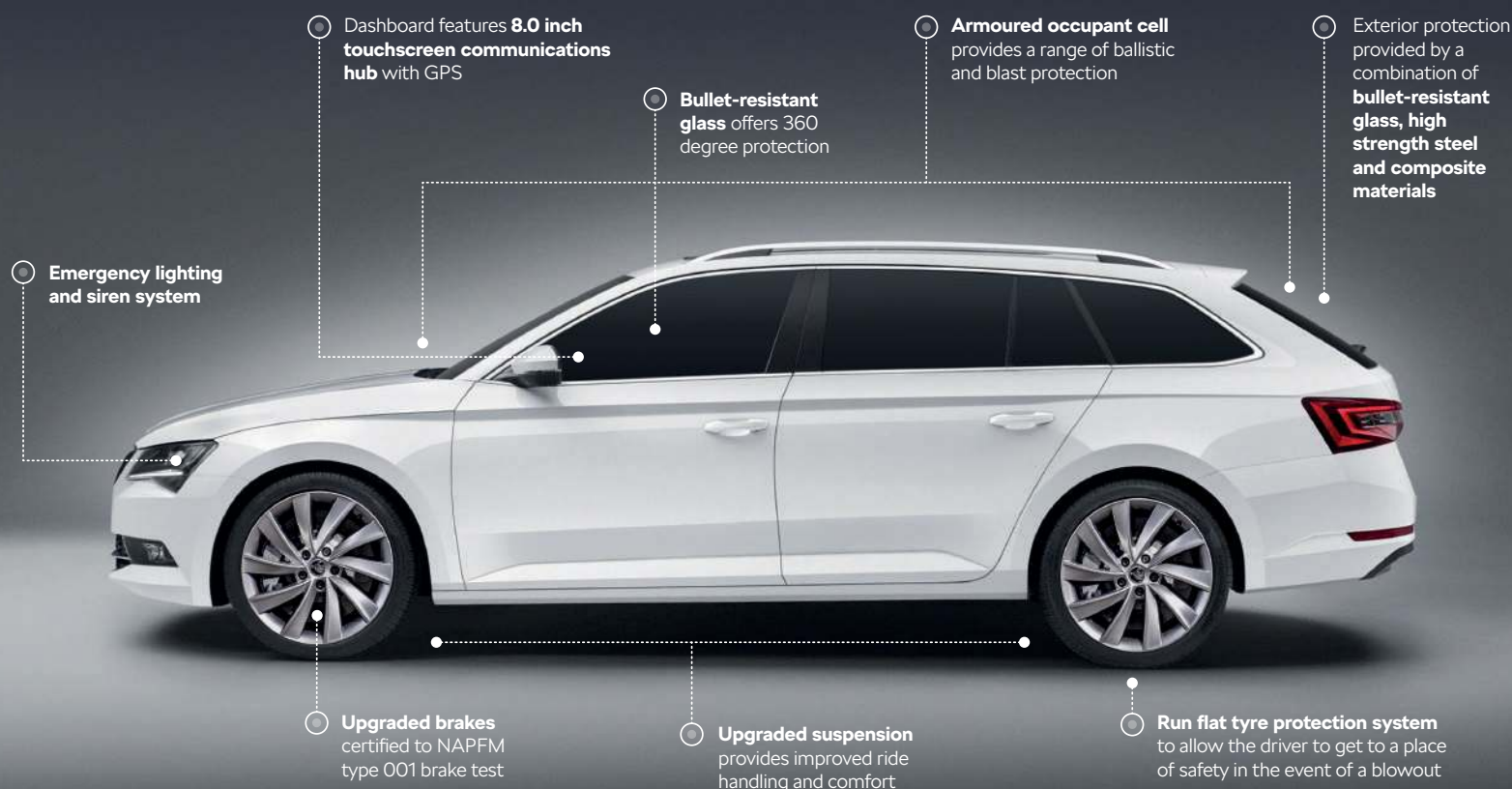
Protection is provided by a combination of bullet-resistant glass, high strength steel and composite materials; yet despite this the fully armoured Superb retains its spacious five-seater layout cabin, large boot and acclaimed build quality.

The armoured car is based on a standard 2.0 TDI 190PS Superb Estate.



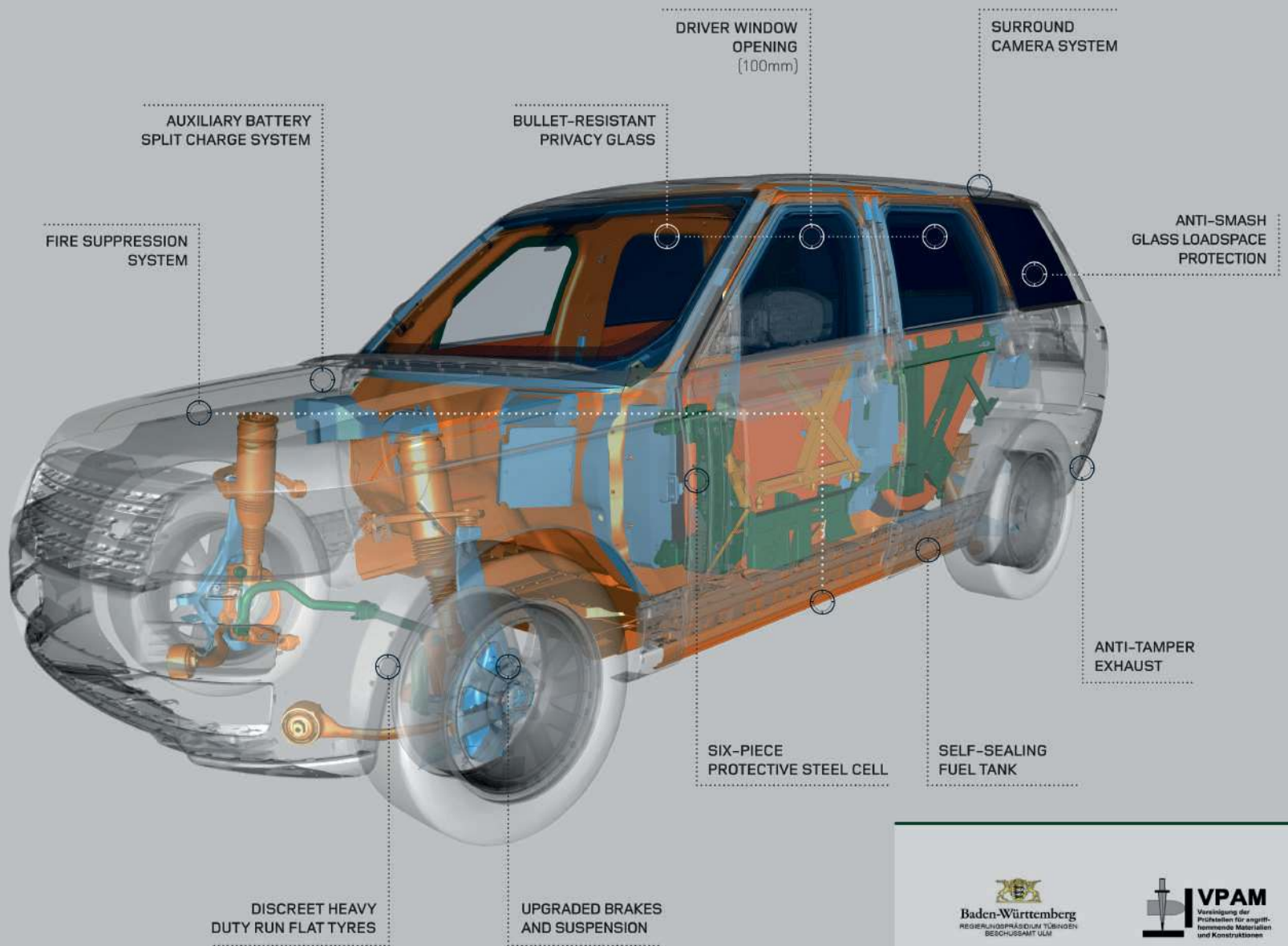
ON-THE-ROAD
PRICE FROM
£118,688

CIVILIAN ARMoured SUPERB Developed by ŠKODA



THIS PRODUCT HAS BEEN DEVELOPED UTILISING STATE OF THE ART TECHNOLOGY AND NEW MANUFACTURING TECHNIQUES. THIS SIMPLIFIES PRODUCTION, DELIVERING A HIGH QUALITY PRODUCT IN ACHIEVING THE CERTIFICATION STANDARD.

FACTFILE RRP: **£119,000** / HEIGHT: **1.5M** / LENGTH: **4.8M** / BOOT SPACE: **660 LITRES** / ENGINE: **2.0 LITRE TDI 190PS** / TOP SPEED: **120+ MPH**
MADE IN THE UK / CERTIFIED: **PAS 300-COMPLIANT BALLISTIC AND BLAST PROTECTION** / TIME TO BUILD: **4 WEEKS**



Baden-Württemberg
REGIERUNGSPRÄSIDIUM TÜBINGEN
BECHUSSAMT ULM

VPAM
Vereinigung der
Prüfstellen für angestrichene
Materialien und Konstruktionen

FULLY CERTIFIED TO VR8 STANDARD

Land Rover's Special Vehicle Operations Division created the Range Rover Sentinel, a luxury armoured vehicle.

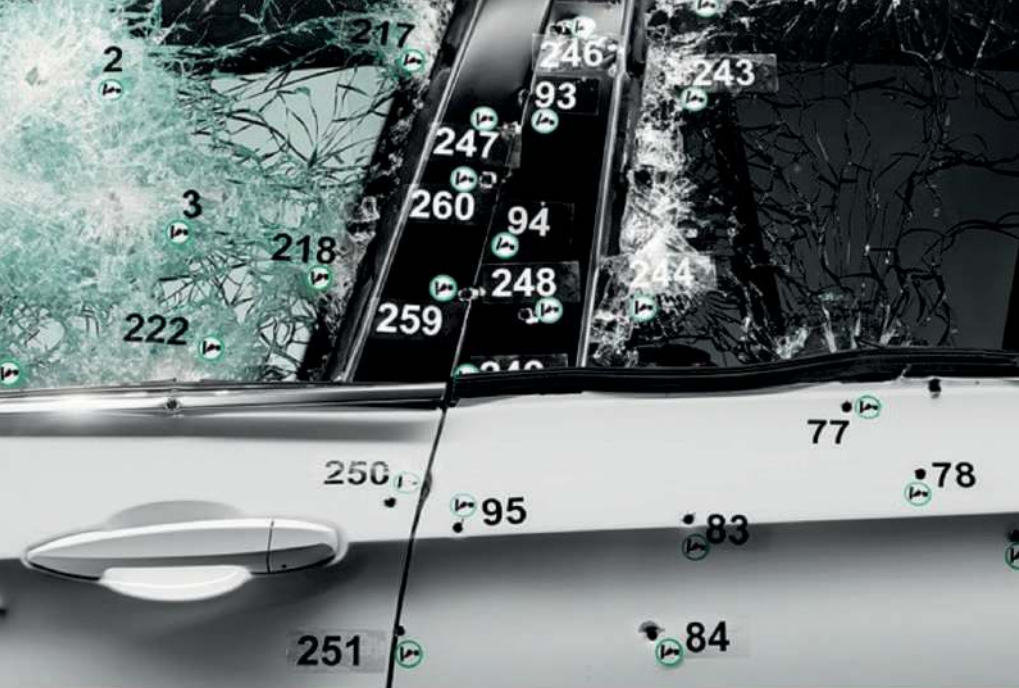
Hand built at Land Rover's Oxford Road facility in the UK, the vehicle is based on the standard wheelbase Range Rover Autobiography and provides the highest levels of protection an SUV can offer.

Designed to withstand the most damaging and targeted threats the vehicle is verified to VR8 standard

against ballistic threats, meaning it can withstand armour piercing incendiary bullets and the blast from DM51 grenade explosions.

In addition to this level of security the Range Rover Sentinel retains Land Rover's huge breadth of capability and uncompromised levels of luxury and refinement. The vehicle has no differences on the exterior to the standard Range Rover Autobiography, despite its level of protection..





BMW is the only manufacturer that offers three safety category levels according to your requirements. BMW Security Vehicles are designed to withstand a range of three risk situations – street crime (attacks with blunt objects and handguns up to a calibre of .44 Magnum), organised crime (attacks with the most commonly used automatic weapon in the world, the AK-47) and attacks with explosive

devices and armour-piercing weapons. Security is paramount to BMW and so is your comfort. Our options allow drivers and passengers to choose the level of security that best meets their needs.

Passenger Cell - With features like security glass laminate with a polycarbonate coating, a steel armour sheath lining the interior or a cockpit built around the driver, BMW Security Vehicles are designed

with a wealth of innovations that protect passengers while ensuring drivers can see exactly what is going on around them at all times, and react instantaneously when necessary. All BMW Security Vehicles are subjected to a comprehensive testing regime and are officially certified on compliance according to the internationally recognised ballistic guidelines for 'Bullet Resistant Vehicles' (BRV 2009).



CAMMISH CORNERED

We go for a hot lap and ask Honda's BTCC star, Dan Cammish some tasty questions

Q: Which is your favourite UK circuit?

A: Brands Hatch GP, but I really like round here (Snetterton). But as a driver you tend to like the tracks that you do well at. I've always done well here at Snetterton.

Q: What is the Honda like?

A: Good car for the money, it will fly around the track, but then you can also do your shopping in it. Very smooth drive. Handles incredible.

Q: Was Honda your dream team to drive for?

A: Yeah, absolutely, when I moved away from Porsche I was only going to move for Honda or BMW, due to

them both being great teams and I can see a future here at Honda. It's going to make me a better driver with all these new responsibilities, including meeting new people. This opportunity was too good to miss.

Q: Who do you think is going to win this year?

A: Matt, I think we'll get better. He is currently 3rd and starting to look really good.

Q: How does BTCC compare to your Porsche days?

A: Its very different. Porsche's are quicker than the touring cars, but the racing is very close which is what we all want to keep it competitive.





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HOT LAP AT:
[FREECARMAG.
COM](https://www.freecarmag.com)



Matt Neal and Honda have etched their names on another Dunlop MSA British Touring Car Championship milestone after collecting a maximum double points haul with victory in the series' 60-mile Diamond Jubilee blue riband race.



Double Diamond

MATT NEAL
CELEBRATES -
SUNDAY 29TH JULY
2018 AT THE
BRITISH TOURING
CAR RACE AT
SNETTERTON

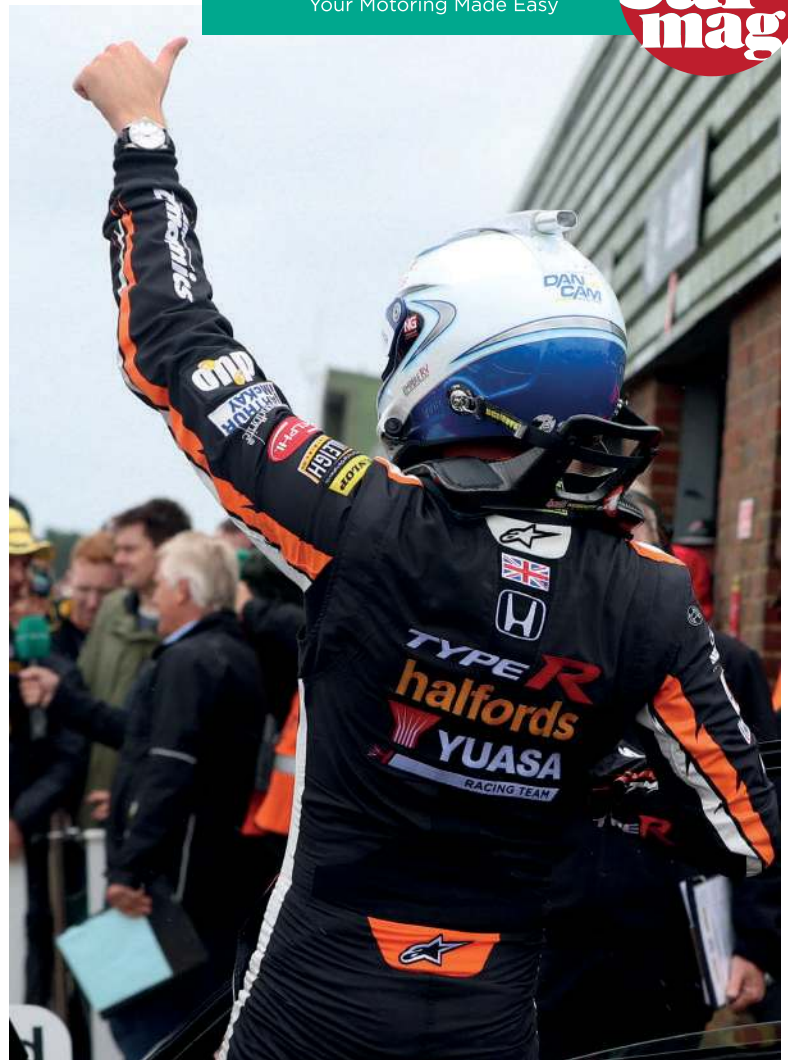


The enduringly popular BTCC series marked its 60th anniversary at the Norfolk circuit with a weekend of celebrations honouring decades of iconic tin-top action, concluding with a special third race run over 60-miles – approximately double the distance of a regular encounter. With the added reward of double points and the unique opportunity to both qualify and race on zero ballast, the stakes for a single BTCC race had never been higher.

Nevertheless, Neal and the Team Dynamics-backed Honda squad saved its best until last with an inch-perfect performance with the Honda Civic Type R (FK8) when it mattered. Starting from the front row of the grid, Neal retained second position through the opening laps before steadily upping the pressure on initial front-runner Jack Goff. Holding his nerve during a brief drizzly spell on lap nine whilst his rival made an error, Neal subsequently pounced to snatch the lead and take control of the race.

With points added for leading and for his fastest lap, Neal's maximum 44 points is the most ever awarded for a single race and fittingly marks another crowning career moment for the series most experienced racer in his 651st outing.

"It has been a truly magical day for the entire Halfords Yuasa Racing team. To produce a result like this on a level playing field with no success ballast is testament to the pure performance and the fundamental competitiveness of the Civic Type R, as well as demonstrate how hard the team has worked to unlock its potential since the start of the season. We had a tough race one and two in tough conditions, but we were always confident for the 'big one' from the front row and while the car didn't feel settled initially it got better and better as the race went on. Once I was in the lead I was determined not to put a wheel wrong, which was tough because Jack and Tom (Ingram) were all over me, but the Civic Type R performed perfectly right to the flag. I'm so very proud to be part of another landmark BTCC moment, it is one I certainly won't forget."





BRANDENBURG HATCHMEISTER



The weekend that the awesome German Touring Cars (DTM) came to Blighty, we were there with Audi to find out more.

In case you wondered, the DTM is the only racing series in the world that is exclusively dedicated to factory-backed teams. Audi, BMW and Mercedes-Benz are fielding a total of 18 cars – each car represents state-of-the-art technology and, as a result, is theoretically in contention for winning. Audi has secured all three titles (Drivers, Manufacturers and Teams) in 2017.

British Audi driver Jamie Green commenting on the DTM's diversion to Brands said, "The Grand Prix Circuit is an old-school track with many long corners, a little like Zandvoort, "pretty exciting for us drivers – a high-speed challenge. I've never won a DTM race at home. It would be great to do so this year."

Fourth on Saturday, third on Sunday: defending Champion René

Rast from Audi Sport Team Rosberg scored 28 points as the DTM returned to England and, in doing so, took yet another podium in the popular touring car race series.

The reigning DTM Champion kept pulses racing all the way to the last lap in Sunday's race around the challenging Brands Hatch Grand Prix track. Starting from fourth place, Rast was pushed aside twice in the opening stages by Pascal Wehrlein in a Mercedes-Benz. Thanks to a faster pit stop, Rast overtook the former Formula One driver before hunting down the leading two Mercedes-Benz driven by Paul di Resta and Gary Paffett, who he caught up with just before the end. At the flag, the German was only deprived of his second victory of the season by 1.376 seconds.

What we found out over the racing weekend...

- Mercedes-Benz are leaving to be replaced, possibly by Aston Martin.
- From next year there will be 4 cylinder turbo engines rather than the awesomely noisy V8s that they make do with this season.
- Each of the three Audi works teams have two R8 cars. Each example costs £1.5m to build. However, the only part that the racer shares with the road car is the badge.
- The race scrutineers ensure that the engineers are only allowed to change wheels and clean the bodywork or windscreen.



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DTM FOOTAGE
AT
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COM



“Those seven years shaped me and help prepare me for the future”

Susie

Wolff Race

Susie Wolff raced for seven years in the German Touring Car Championship, DTM, for Mercedes-Benz. Here she talks about how her time in DTM, from 2006 to 2012, shaped her life both as a racing driver, and as a person





SUSIE, HOW DID YOU COME TO JOIN DTM IN 2006?

Susie I'd just lost my cockpit in the World Series by Renault as I wasn't able to raise the sponsorship. I was really frustrated and thought: this is it, when I got a call from Gerhard Ungar about testing a DTM car in Barcelona. The test went pretty well, but I didn't hear from them for ten days afterwards. I had no idea whether I would get my chance in DTM or not. Ten days later, and I was flying out to Stuttgart to sign a contract to drive for Mercedes-Benz in DTM. With hindsight, it was the big breakthrough that influenced the direction that both my career and private life were to take. Norbert [Haug] is the one I've got to thank for giving me the opportunity, and I'm grateful to him for taking a chance on me. His support was invaluable, he pushed me forward and always believed in me

VANINA ICKX ALSO COMPETED IN DTM IN 2006. DID IT EVER REALLY MATTER MUCH TO YOU WHETHER YOU RACED AGAINST MEN OR WOMEN?

Susie No, not at all. It was never an issue for me. I started racing at the age of eight and made my way up through the various junior classes in karting and formula racing. There were never very many women competing, but I wouldn't say that I ever raced to be the best woman. I raced to be the best.

YOU AND ELLEN LOHR REALLY LEFT YOUR MARK ON DTM. YOU WERE WITH DTM FOR SEVEN YEARS, DO YOU FEEL A SENSE OF PRIDE IN THE KNOWLEDGE THAT YOU WERE SUCH A DEFINING FIGURE IN THE SERIES?

Susie I was very proud to race for Mercedes-Benz for such a long time and go head-to-head with so many terrific drivers in such a highly competitive race series. I learnt so much during that time, privately and professionally. I became part of the incredible Mercedes-Benz family and I met some incredible people which is another reason why I have such wonderful memories of my time in DTM.

HOW IMPORTANT FOR YOU IN GENERAL WAS YOUR TIME IN DTM?

Susie They were some of the most important years of my racing career. At DTM I laid the foundations for driving a Formula 1 car, which had always been my ultimate dream. I also

met my future husband, which was a pretty significant moment! All in all those seven years shaped me and helped prepare me for the future.

IS THERE ANY PARTICULAR RACE THAT YOU LIKE TO LOOK BACK ON WITH FOND MEMORIES?

Susie I'd have to say my very first DTM race actually at Hockenheim. I'll never forget it, the support I received from the team was incredible. Add to this that I finished my maiden DTM race in the Top Ten and you can understand why it's a race I'll never forget. There have been other less spectacular races where I had some terrific scraps with great drivers like Tom Kristensen, Jamie Green, Jean Alesi and Gary Paffett. They're pretty unforgettable too.

HAVE YOU GOT A FAVOURITE DTM TRACK?

Susie Well as my first ever DTM race track, it's just got to be Hockenheim. When I was given the choice of where I wanted to drive in Friday practice with Williams in Formula 1, I had no hesitation in opting for Hockenheim.

WITH WHICH TEAM-MATE DID YOU MOST ENJOY WORKING WITH DURING YOUR TIME IN DTM?

Susie Great question. I never had a favourite team-mate per se, but I learned a great deal from Gary [Paffett]. He was always very honest and gave me plenty of advice. I had a lot of great drivers as team-mates – David Coulthard, Mika Häkkinen, Bruno Spengler, Jamie Green – and got on really well with them all.

DURING YOUR TIME IN DTM, THERE WERE TWO CLASSES OF DRIVERS, IF I CAN PUT IT LIKE THAT, WITH SOME IN LAST YEAR'S CAR AND OTHERS BEING GIVEN THE CURRENT GENERATION OF CAR TO RACE. YOU WERE NEVER GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE A TOP CONTENDER, WERE YOU? HOW DOES IT MAKE YOU FEEL? ANY REGRETS?

Susie I found it tough, of course, as any competitive driver would. When Toto took over as Head of Motorsport, I urged him to make sure that every driver had a chance to compete up front. As a racing driver, success means everything. Seven years in DTM without achieving the success I craved was pretty hard to take at times and ultimately, it was one of

the reasons I left in the end. I simply never had the chance to fight up front in a new car. But that's just how things were at the time, and I'm still very grateful for the opportunity I was given. I'm very happy that current DTM drivers can now go wheel-to-wheel in cars that are more or less equivalent.

HOW HARD WAS MAKING THE DECISION TO LEAVE DTM AFTER SEVEN YEARS?

Susie It was very easy to decide in the end, the stress versus reward wasn't working for me. I wanted to compete and achieve to my potential so I knew I needed a change. I'd worked so hard and made so many sacrifices, I just said to myself one day, "It's got to stop. It can't go on like this." So it was a straightforward decision to make and I don't feel at all bitter looking back on my time in the DTM. I like to look back on my time with the series, I learned so much and it shaped me in many ways, but I know in my gut that I left at the right time.

WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF YOU DIDN'T HAVE MOTOR RACING?

Susie I'm actually not sure. I feel very grateful that I identified my passion so early on. And yes, I'm a woman, who opted to follow a career path that mainly men took at the time, definitely not the easiest of career paths to take but I do love racing. It's always been like that, right from the very start. My career as a professional racing driver has ended but I'm still very much involved in competitive motorsport both through my latest challenge as Team Principal of VENTURI Formula E Team and also through Toto. We are very collaborative and supportive of one another both on and off the race track. I love the cut and thrust of competition and I'm very grateful for the continued opportunity to satisfy my passion for motorsport.



*“Tiff Needell has
been my television
husband,
just about forever.”*

GearBox

Vicki Butler Henderson is back with the whole 5th Gear gang and she tells us what to expect in the latest series...



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FREE CARMAG THINKS THAT FIFTH GEAR THE VOICE OF MOTORING REASON, SO SELL IT TO ME VICKI

Vicki At Fifth Gear we pride ourselves on the fact that we are professional racing drivers with a pedigree and are also motoring journalists. We hope that we can give good solid information, so that people can go away and buy a good car. We give them practical information based on what they should buy and why. We will also be having a bit of fun as well providing entertainment along the way.

THAT IS A VERY OLD FASHIONED THING TO DO NOW PROVIDING PEOPLE WITH FACTS, FIGURES AND ADVICE THAT MIGHT ACTUALLY BE USEFUL

Vicki I know, but we have always done that and stick by it. Because people can go out and buy a car for £50,000, but what we also show on Fifth Gear is that there are at least three used alternatives, which deliver the same amount of fun and power, but for a fraction of the price just because they are a little bit older. That is exactly how real people go and look for a new car, they consider every option and that includes used cars.

WHAT IS IT LIKE BEING BACK WITH THE OLD TEAM?

Vicki It is delicious to have them all back together again. It is like a children's away day when we start filming.

SO YOU ARE ALL GREAT MATES? YOU DON'T PRETEND TO BE FRIENDS THEN?

Vicki Oh no. Tiff Needell has been my television husband, just about forever. I have a lovely relationship with Tiff. Jason Plato I have known for an awfully long time and the same goes for Jonny Smith as he and I have crossed paths in our motoring journalism career, so it is all very lovely. Plus we have a new presenter Ronnie O'Sullivan who is joining the gang and I taught him how to go around a racing circuit a few years ago for a Fifth Gear item and we get on very well, so he is a great addition.



CAN YOU TELL US VERY MUCH ABOUT THE CARS YOU WILL BE DRIVING IN THIS SERIES?

Vicki I'll go from one extreme to the other. We chose a Dacia as one of the more budget friendly family cars. So we took that apart and gave our thoughts and opinions on it. At the other end of the scale I have driven a Bentley Continental GT, which is a full on luxury saloon car. There's the proof that we will be driving everything you can possibly think of from top to bottom and everything in between.

WERE THERE ANY AWFUL CARS IN THAT LINE UP?

Vicki The truth is that no one builds an awful car any more. So they are all of a pretty decent standard. There wasn't one car that we all hated. However, when it comes to a car's looks, whether you like it or not is always down to individual taste, so there are always going to be disagreements between us on that. If someone doesn't like the way it looks then it is up to the others to convince them otherwise. Usually, if the boys don't agree with me on something at the start of the piece I'll have convinced otherwise by the end. I'll have basically browbeaten or whipped them into agreeing with me.

WILL FIFTH GEAR BE GIVING US MOTORING NEWS AND HOW TO DRIVE?

Vicki We have not gone down that path, however in some of the team tests we certainly have talked about driving more economically. There are certainly some cars that might have a computer trick that improves driving and we will bring that into the programme by explaining what it does and then get the best from it.

WAS THERE ANY CAR THAT AT THE END OF A DAY'S FILMING YOU WANTED TO TAKE HOME WITH YOU AND KEEP?

Vicki Pick up trucks. I love Pick up trucks. We did an item and had a handful of wonderful trucks. It was huge fun and it just confirmed to me how much I love them. The simple fact is that you can get the family in them plus whatever else you want to throw in the back of the big loading bay behind the cabin.

IN AN AGE WHEN ANY IDIOT CAN GET ONLINE WITH A CAMERA FIFTH GEAR HAS REAL CREDIBILITY

Vicki I am very proud of that fact, I think we do a good job in that respect. What cars does Free Car Mag drive?

OLD ONES. CLASSICS THAT LOOK COOL



Vicki Love it.

The brand new series of Fifth Gear starts at 9pm on Thursday 6th September exclusively on Quest



Renault pop up in the '90s

Clio celebrated around the UK this summer

Renault is celebrating the Clio, a car born in the 90s and the original millennial, which has stood the test of time and never gone out of style. The car brand took over Hogarth House in the heart of London last month for an exclusive launch event, giving Londoners a chance to re-live a favourite decade: the 1990s.

The pop-up space was split in half: 90s nostalgia and modern day, with different elements bringing to life the technological, design and style journey of the Renault Clio from the 90s to present day.

Visitors had the chance to fully immerse themselves in a complete 90s throwback. In an ode to the best kids' parties, they snacked on Nerds and party ring biscuits, had their tongues turn blue from Slushies, and got their friends in a knot with a classic game of Twister. Music from Britney Spears, STEPS and the Spice Girls (to name just a few), Tamagotchis, Pogs, video games and polaroid cameras also gave visitors flashbacks to long lost youths.

The modern day space featured nail

artists, photo booths, and a unicorn wing feature wall ready for that perfect selfie. After bopping along to smash hits, visitors chilled in the seating area with swinging rattan chairs and snacked on unicorn cupcakes.

As part of the pop-up, visitors were also to check out both a 1990s Mk1 Clio and modern-day car model to see the Clio's transformation over the past 25 years. Remember the days where you had to roll down the windows to cool down, get out the map to see where you were going, and jam in a cassette to listen to tunes? Visitors also experienced the current generation Clio's intuitive technology, with MediaNav and Bluetooth allowing you to access all multimedia content in the blink of an eye, and high definition BOSE speakers letting you feel the intensity of the music.



MOTORING NEWS QUOTES

"With the spotlight firmly on reducing pollution in urban areas, we welcome a focus on reducing unnecessary engine idling. The correct procedure should be for an enforcement officer to ask the driver to switch their engine off, and if they refuse, they will be issued a penalty. Idling engines can produce up to twice the amount of emissions of an engine in motion, and for drivers it can mean higher fuel bills."

The RAC's head of roads policy, Nicholas Lyes on the £20 fine engine idling issue.

"Road condition and maintenance has been a matter of public concern for several years, with potholes plaguing the country."

Transport Select Committee chair Lilian Greenwood

"One of the most difficult decisions to take in my career so far."

Daniel Ricciardo will make a shock move from Red Bull to Renault

Have your say  @freecarmag1





LAND ROVER CELEBRATES 70 YEARS: This Series IIA is in fact amphibious, and was built under a contract for the Australian Army. Only one was built and it returned to Solihull after trials down under. The vehicle was then sold to the Eastnor Castle Estate in Hertfordshire (the ancestral home of Range Rover development) where it was used as a recovery vehicle and even snowplough. In recent years it was gifted to Dunsfold Land Rovers where it was fully refurbished to original specifications.



VREDESTEIN INTRODUCES TYRES FOR MODERN CLASSICS

Specially designed for the legendary Audi Ur-Quattro, Vredestein's first modern classic tyre, the Sprint +, will be launched in September 2018. Its development was assisted by none other than former Formula One champion and Vredestein ambassador Jochen Mass.

"There is more and more appreciation for cars from the 1970s, '80s and '90s – so called 'youngtimers' or modern classics," says Jochen Mass. "They are also about to become classic cars, properly speaking. Unfortunately, manufacturers have already stopped producing original tyres for such vehicles. Owners are therefore forced to fit more modern tyres on their youngtimers, often with less than optimal results from an aesthetic point of view."

"Vredestein believes that a quality product with a retro look developed specially for youngtimers is a better choice," Mass adds. "The value of youngtimers is growing and

retro tyres that match their era of origin help preserve the magic of these cars. Vredestein gives the youngtimer tyres a fitting tread and an elegant sidewall design, while manufacturing them according to the latest production methods and strictest quality requirements. The drivers thus get optimised grip – but combined with a retro look."

"The UK market for classic and modern classic vehicles is at an all-time high," says Karl Naylor, Apollo Vredestein UK Country Manager. "Vredestein has a long history of producing classic car design tyres with cutting-edge technology and is perfectly positioned to fulfil demand from a market

overall worth more than £5.5m* in the UK. Some models from the '70s and '80s are sought after by enthusiasts who loved them when they were new; their popularity and suitability for everyday use drive the demand for suitable safe, good quality tyres. "By the first half of 2019, we expect to have approximately ten different tyre sizes for youngtimers," says Michele Sala, Product Manager Passenger Vehicle Tyres at Apollo Vredestein.

Vredestein will release the youngtimer tyres under the name Sprint+ in September 2018. The first will be a very special model: a 215/50 R15 for the legendary Audi Ur-Quattro. This tyre size has not been available anywhere for a long time.

www.vredestein.co.uk





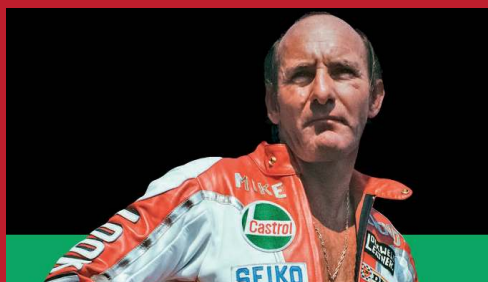
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Screw down crown

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www.seiko.co.uk



MIKE THE BIKE AGAIN £14.99

In June 1978, 11 years after he quit Grand Prix motorcycle racing, Mike Hailwood returned to the Isle of Man TT races. This book, written by his manager and friend, Ted Macauley, is the account of his dramatic comeback, from the original wild idea to his final race. More than this, though, it is a study of a remarkable man in a remarkable world, and of the races, the machines, and the men who ride them.

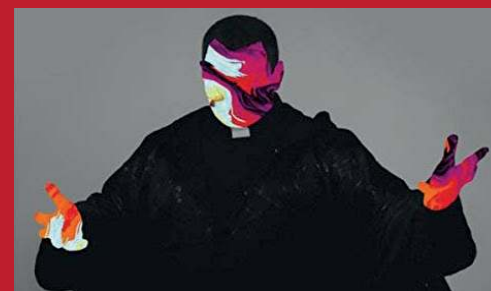
www.veloce.co.uk



PASHLEY-MORGAN £1495

Pashley, the longest established British bicycle manufacturer and Morgan, the longest established British automotive manufacturer are collaborating to build bicycles. The range will start with two bicycles, known individually as the Pashley-Morgan "3" and the Pashley-Morgan "8". Each bike will be hand built at Pashley's Stratford-upon-Avon factory.

www.morgan-motor.co.uk/pashley



**FEED THE RATS -PIGS PIGS PIGS
PIGS PIGS PIGS PIGS £12.79**

We are often asked what sounds we have playing in the office or when we are out and about in the Free Car Mag fleet. Well, it is this. We are indebted to Dave, a friend of the Mag for bringing this to our attention. It is Hawkwind crossed with Black Sabbath, a little bit of Budgie and the The Pink Fairies. So it is unrelentlessly heavy. If this issue is a teeny bit doomy then blame the pigs x 7. www.pigspigpigspigspigspigspigs.bandcamp.com



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KIA OPTIMA

The new Optima Saloon and Optima Sportswagon benefits from Kia's all-new 'U3' 1.6-litre CRDi (Common-Rail Direct injection) diesel engine. As well as refreshed exterior and interior design, the new Optima features Kia's latest active safety and in-car connectivity technologies.

They are available with Kia's latest Advanced Driver Assistance Systems (ADAS), creating an intelligently safe vehicle with active safety technologies to avoid or mitigate the effects of collisions.

They are available with Kia's latest 7.0- or 8.0-inch touchscreen infotainment system, with satellite navigation and Kia Connected Services powered by TomTom®. The system offers Apple CarPlay™ and Android Auto™ to enable full smartphone integration. Android Auto™ is designed to work with Android phones running 5.0 (Lollipop) or higher; Apple CarPlay™, for iPhone 5 or newer.

We have only scratched the high tech surface.





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FROM £2750



Customers can choose much more



DS 7 CROSSBACK

For instance, the interior colourway for the **DS Inspiration** includes OPERA: Alezan Brown Nappa leather with watchstrap design. This is a no-cost option on the Ultra Prestige model, where the Opera Inspiration has been Art Black, and customers can now specify the new DS Inspiration OPERA Alezan Brown Nappa leather with watchstrap design for a £2,750 option if chosen for a Prestige model. **DS ConnectedCAM** is now available as part of the Premium Safety pack (standard on Ultra Prestige), and is also available as a stand-alone option on this trim level. DS ConnectedCAM is a camera system built into the base of the interior rear-view mirror. It uses full HD GPS technology and has a built-in memory card of 16 GO to store photos. A Wi-Fi connection allows data to be transferred from the camera to a smartphone.

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All-new SUV better than ever

HONDA CR-V

From the entry level S grade to SE, SR and finishing at the top of the range EX, there is a model for everyone who wants to enjoy the nation's favourite SUV. The 1.5 i-VTEC petrol engine comes with a choice of two and all-wheel drive and in both manual transmission and CVT. Standard across all grades is parking sensors and a rear view camera as well as Honda SENSING; Honda's suite of safety features which includes collision mitigation braking system, forward collision warning, lane keep assist, lane departure warning, road departure mitigation, adaptive cruise control and traffic sign recognition. SR and EX will also feature blind spot warning and cross traffic monitoring, while the CVT version will feature low speed follow. Learn more from your Honda dealer.

SPORTY WITH A SENSE OF DIRECTION



Matthew Harris's Mazda 2 Sport PCP contract ends, has a budget of £5,500 for a semi-fast car with a sat-nav.



A CAR FOR THE HEAD VAUXHALL ASTRA GTC

I think that Matthew should at least go for a sporty looking car. He doesn't have a family to tug around and doesn't need a big boot for anything apart from shopping. In that case a coupe is the best option and a sensible, but also stylish choice might be a Vauxhall Astra GTC. These are great value buys and are well equipped too. A 2012 example at a dealer with 53K miles and powered by a 1.4 Turbo engine which had just been serviced, with a full year's MOT was only £5000.



A CAR FOR THE HEART BMW 3 SERIES

If Matthew fancies a more prestigious badge, BMW always have plenty to choose from in the 3 Series coupe range. The £5000 budget means that the cars will be from the middle of the last decade. The obvious choice would be a 320iSE, but if Matthew wanted something much more powerful which would be almost as exciting as a legendary M3, but cheaper to tax and insure. The exciting option would be a 335iSE. We found a 2006 with 97,000 miles with an automatic gearbox for £5000.

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YOUR CAR
CHOICE
QUESTION



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Paul Thompson needs something bigger than his current Mini Clubman for a growing family and Labrador. Needs a load lugger.

LABRADOR LUGGER



A CAR FOR THE HEAD BMW X5

A 4 x 4 is not out of the question and Paul did mention a BMW X5 to me and that is an excellent vehicle. It is car like to drive, indeed it is a BMW 5 Series, but higher off the ground. As this is a family car which is going to cover plenty of miles he should consider a hybrid model with a petrol and electric motor, which will not depreciate as quickly. A xDrive40e M Sport would make all sense and a 2015 model with lots of extras is £36,000 with 45,000 miles.

A CAR FOR THE HEART SAAB 9-5 ESTATE

Paul mentioned a Saab 9-5 estate to me, but as much as I love them I am concerned that these obsolete models are getting rather old now. He needs a modern reliable car that is easy to get parts for. That's why a Vauxhall Insignia estate is the perfect answer as it is practical, stylish and widely available. He can also take advantage of the depreciation with a mainstream car and that means he could pay not very much at all for a 2014 2.0 CDTi Elite Nav Auto at £7995 which returns 50mpg.



The first city car with four wheel drive in 1983 the Panda 4 x 4

Over 7.5 million have been made since it was first launched.

Designer Giorgetto Giugiaro

"The Panda is like a pair of jeans, that simple, practical, no frills piece of clothing. I tried to bring into this car the spirit of military machinery, especially helicopters, that means light, rational, built-for-purpose vehicles."

The two-seat Panda Elettra, introduced in 1990, added an electric motor and batteries replaced the rear seats

When Pope John Paul II visited Spain in 1982, he rode in a specially built SEAT Panda.



Pandanomics

We love the Fiat Panda and the thing is the whole world still does. In its original format it became a Bangernomics legend.

The thing is in the UK we said goodbye to the baby Panda back in 1995. In image conscious, badge snob, specification fixated Britain we no longer had a soft spot for back to basics motoring from 1980. To their credit, the Italians never did fall out of love with the simple things in life and that explains why the Panda remained, embarrassingly for Fiat, as their entry-level bambino until 2003.

Despite an impressive 23 year production run the Panda has never really made it as a true small car icon. The Panda didn't motorise a nation like the cute Fiat 500 did, it didn't revolutionise small car packaging like the Mini, offer a solution to the peasant, fresh egg and plough field scenario like the 2CV. The truth is that the Panda was just another '80s hatch, but less so. The intentions were certainly good and using the design services of Giorgetto Giugiaro was inspired. The simplicity and easy assembly of the original model is admirable, with easily stamped flat panels, no rain gutters, a flat windscreen, hammock style rear seats and commercial vehicle like slats

where the grille ought to be. Of course that could not last. Obviously consumers demanded classy plastic wheel trims, a proper plastic grille and on some models a proper rear seat.

Good things did happen to the Panda though. Out went the ancient chariot related leaf-sprung rear end and in came trailing arms and coils. 1986 saw the 999cc Fire engine installed which delivered economy and utter unburstability. Indeed it became the only piece of solid metal left as the bodywork inevitably disintegrated. The Panda was still far from sophisticated until that is the 4 x 4 arrived in 1984. Mouths dropped further with the Sisley in '87, topped off with roof rack ski attachments and inclinometer on top of the dash. It was a hoot to own and all the 4x 4 that most of us will ever need. From there though it was downhill.

The Panda ultimately descended into special edition hell, although I would forgive the Bobby Moore endorsed Italia '90 anything, but the Fantasia, Dance, Bella, Bianca, Sergio Tacchini, Solar VIP, Madagascar suggested that the Panda had run out of ideas and customers.

At least the Panda came back with a credible bang in 2003.

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A Grand Panda-day out

The second edition of "Panda a Pandino", the international gathering of Panda owners from all across Europe took place this summer. There was a Panda for every day, as 365 of them met up in Pandino, breaking all previous records and making it the biggest Panda gathering the world has ever seen. Guest of honour was the new Panda Waze, the most socially connected Panda ever. To honour the special guest, owners met up in front of Pandino Castle, the striking 14th century hunting residence of the Visconti family, where 200 Panda cars spelled out the words "Panda Waze", with the aid of colourful boards. A lively procession then left the castle to parade 27km through several nearby towns and villages. The event originally started as little more than a joke in 2017 when a young Panda owner from the south of Italy announced on Facebook her intention to drive with her friends in their little car to the town in the north of the country of the same name, Pandino. Word of mouth and social media saw to the rest. On 18 June 2017, the official date of the first edition, more than 200 past and present Fiat Panda cars turned up from

all over Italy. Some of the proud participants of the event were special enough to receive one of the 11 prizes offered by the organisers. Prizes were given out to the best equipped Panda, the oldest Panda in show, the Panda that came from furthest afield and the most extravagant Panda. Proceeds from "Panda a Pandino 2018" will be used by Consulta dei Giovani, together with various associations and the City of Pandino to restructure recreational spaces for people with disabilities.



For more used car information and buying tips bangernomics.com



Hi-Altitude

The Toyota Hilux Continues its Support for Flying Legends

Free Car Mag loves classic aircraft and needs no excuse to reproduce a picture with a Hawker Hurricane in it. The presence of a Hi-Lux is as an added bonus. Indeed, the Toyota Hilux returned to provide ground support for the annual Flying Legends air show, one of the world's premiere aviation events.

Visitors travelled from across the world to see the unique collection of historic aircraft gathered at Duxford airfield, Cambridgeshire. The event also coincided with the 50th anniversary of the making of the film *The Battle of Britain*, which was shot on location at Duxford. Loaned specially for the event, the Hilux supported ground crews

tending the Spitfires, Hurricanes and Mustangs at the show, and made light work of towing the aircraft into position. It was decorated in a special aero livery that evoked the appearance of the classic aircraft on display, including the famous Indian Head logo of The Fighter Collection.

The weekend ran smoothly and enjoyed ideal air show weather of clear blue skies. The show closed with a grand finale Balbo formation, in which a number of WWII fighters took to the skies in a mass fly-past salute. It was a truly wonderful weekend.





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Miller Time

That's a Douglas DC-3
the military version
became known as the
Dakota

The voice quartet "The Skylarks" and the Swing Dance Orchestra under Andrej Hermlin will perform at the Mercedes-Benz Museum in a tribute to Glenn Miller.

Glenn Miller taught people to swing with his music, both in times of war and peace. In December 1944, as a musical entertainer for the US Army and the most popular American musician of the Second World War, his plane crashed into the English Channel in circumstances that have never been fully explained. The biography of the famous band leader reflects this year's motto for the Stuttgart Music Festival – "War and Peace". On 7 September 2018 his music can be heard in the Mercedes-Benz Museum.

"In the Mood", "Moonlight Serenade", "Chattanooga Choo Choo": Everybody has heard the swing compositions and arrangements of Glenn Miller. And we can all recall their unmistakable sound. The voice quartet "The Skylarks" and the Swing Dance Orchestra under Andrej Hermlin have dedicated themselves to a revival of the unique Glenn Miller sound, and found international success. They perform in the same outfits as the original band, with the same casual elegance and infectious virtuosity.

"Modern architecture and classic vehicles are the right backdrop for this musical programme," says Alexandra Süß, a member of the management team at the Mercedes-Benz Museum. "Music plays an important part in our event calendar. We see ourselves as a cultural venue, and are open to different musical genres."

www.mercedes-benz-classic.com/museum



FCM 64

The next issue is sort of being planned right now in true, slightly disorganised Free Car Mag fashion. We seem to have Idris Elba sitting in a car when previously he has been happy enough on the cover. Not at all sure where we are going with all this, so you will just have to wait and see...



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SPENCER HAZE

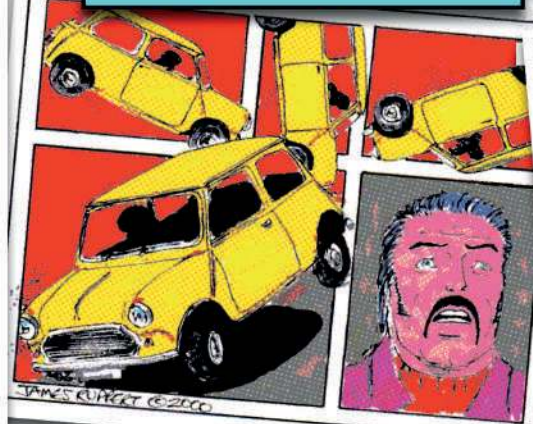
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...is running out of time, a private eye from 1973 driving into the future...

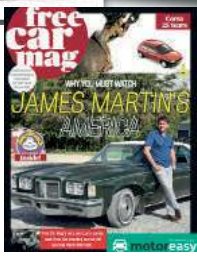
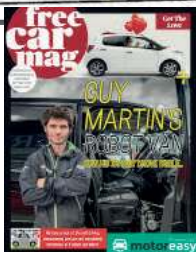
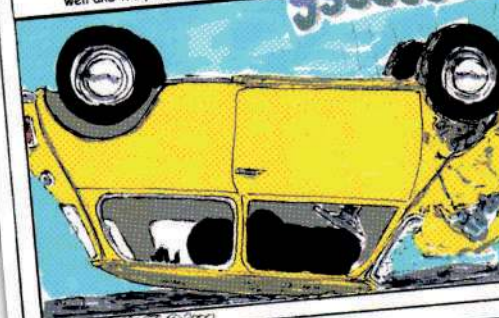


SCRIBBLED BY JAMES RUPPERT

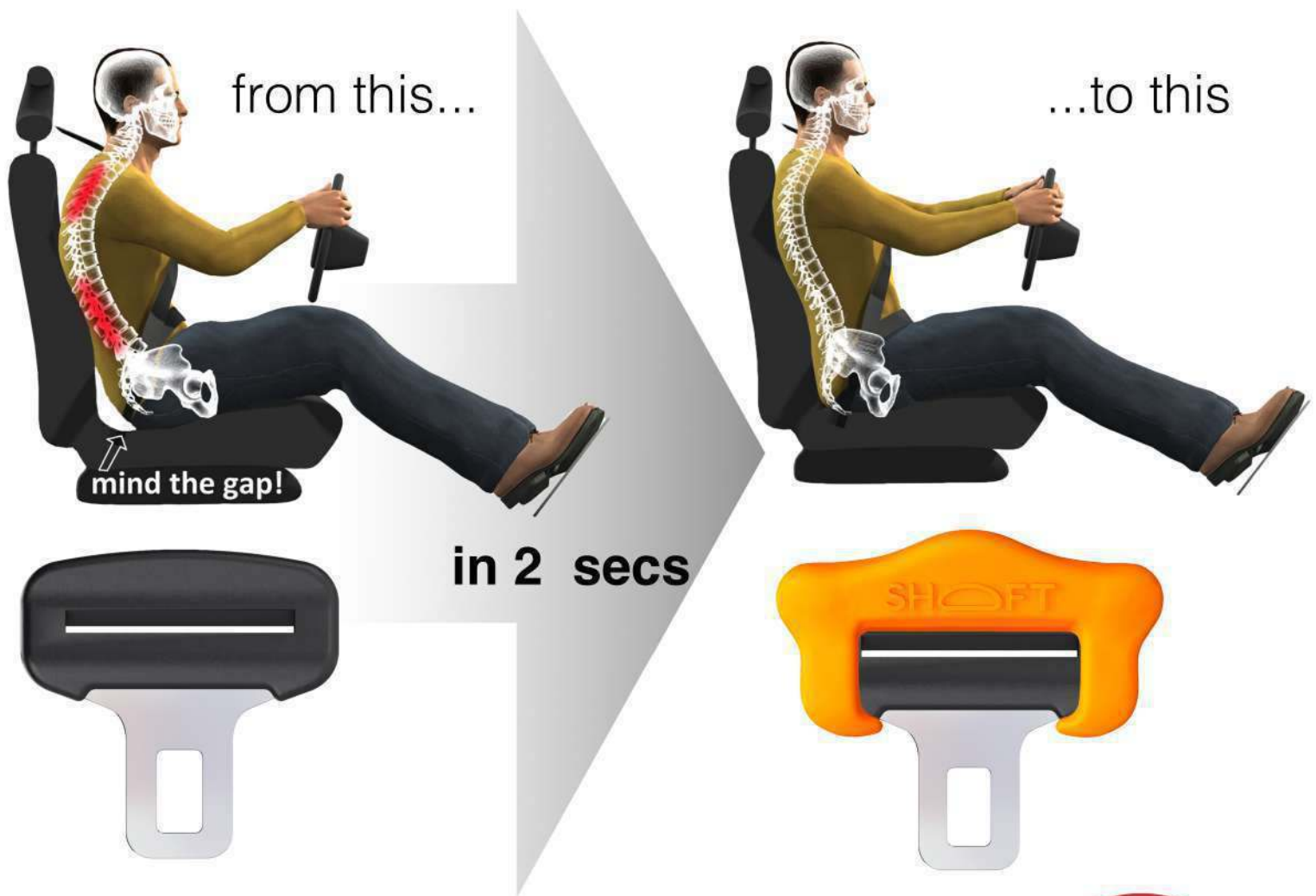
Haze is beginning to get the measure of the Impreza. It had loads of grip but the driver was braking too early. Rapid changes of direction in the Mini were paying off but what Haze hadn't bargained for was 27 years of traffic calming measures as he hit a speed hump, sorry 'sleeping policeman' at full tilt. For the second time that day Haze's world turned upside down flipping everything onto it's roof...



The Mini slid along on its roof and came to rest in a shop front. The chase was well and truly over for Haze.



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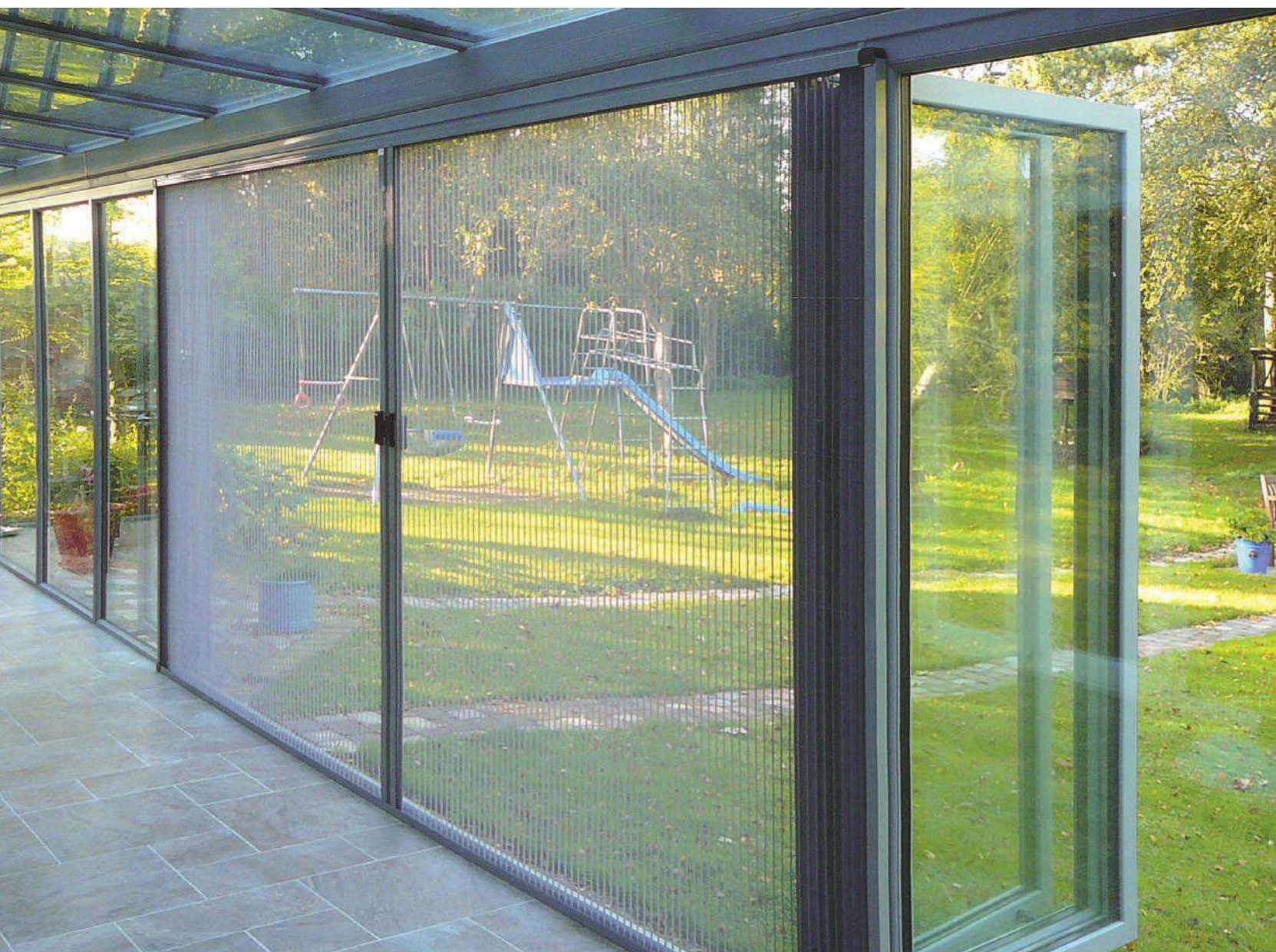


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