

free car mag

SHORTLISTED
FOR NEWSPRESS
MAGAZINE
OF THE YEAR

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MOTORING MADE EASY

The **Big Bang Theory**

THE CLEVEREST COMEDY ON TV
+ THE BRAINIEST CAR ON THE PLANET
+ SCIENCE OF DRIFTING EXPLAINED



SIMON CARTER SHIRTS
MEET THE WINDSORS
ZENITH EL PRIMERO WATCH

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This week

ISSUE 34 / 2016

We love The Big Bang Theory on E4 which makes us feel much cleverer than we really are when we pretend to understand a particle theory gag. It is not too late to catch up with the funniest sit com on telly and we even use the show as an excuse to celebrate a drifting record and how nice the new BMW 7 Series smells.

I don't think we dress like nerds at the Free Car Mag office, actually we are always very well turned out, which is why we would like to draw your attention to Simon Carter. We have some of his swanky suits, several colourful shirts and those cufflinks with a sense of humour, so enjoy our brief fashion spread.

We have a lovely chat with H.R.H. Prince of Wales, a.k.a. Harry Enfield. He's in a wonderfully amusing 'The Windsors' on C4 which also seems to have some wonderfully naff '80s saloons in it.

Also, say hello to our new sponsors motoreasy. You will be hearing a lot more about their innovative new products in the coming months as they reinvent the way we look after our cars.

Meanwhile, as The Big Bang Theory celebrates 200 episodes, I think we can only dream of getting to that many editions of Free Car Mag. Just 166 to go.



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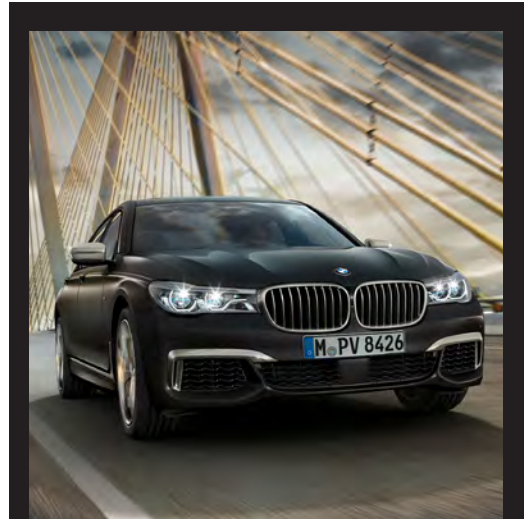
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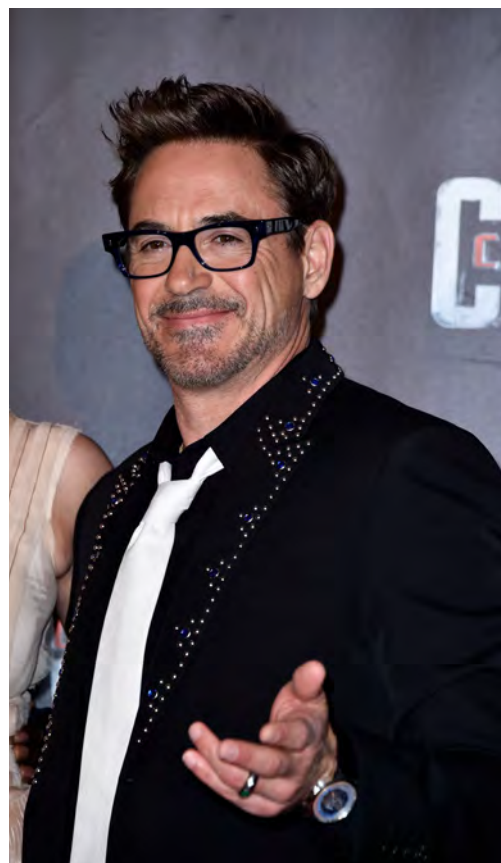
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Perry (The original Stig) McCarthy

Some say his tuning company only uses state of the art equipment, and that it has remapped over 20000 cars. All we know is, former BBC Top Gear 'The Stig' Perry McCarthy has big plans for his tuning company following the launch of its new website. Topgear Tuning. When it comes to cars, engines and performance, racing drivers are notoriously difficult to please. www.topgear-tuning.com

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SPOTTED
OUT AND
ABOUT



Don Cheadle, Emily VanCamp and Robert Downey Jr.

Robert Downey Jr., wearing a Jaeger-LeCoultre watch, attend the "Captain America: Civil War" Paris Premiere. Held at Le Grand Rex Paris, France. (Photo by Bertrand Rindoff Petroff/Getty Images)



Joe & Caspar

We have been enjoying Joe & Caspar Hit the Road on E4 and reckon it would be even better if we could dress like our Euro travelling heroes. Well, here goes...



Get the look

Caspar

- 1 Black T-Shirts, £7.99 H&M
- 2 Grey Shorts, £6 Sports Direct
- 3 Pants x3, £28.70 Calvin Klein
- 4 Scarf, £9 House of Fraser
- 5 Flip Flops, £12 Debenhams



Joe

- 1 White T-Shirt, £7.99 New Look
- 2 Denim Shorts, £25 River Island
- 3 Patterned silk scarf, £7.99 H&M
- 4 Black Pumps, £7 Wysors



Big Bang Theory

NERDVANA

How a sit com about a bunch of clever dicks took over the Universe.



In case you don't know, The Big Bang Theory is a comedy series about four young scientists who know all about the world of physics, and initially one girl, who is reassuringly down to earth. Since then additional, equally clever girls have been added to the cast to give the nerds some real competition and it has to be said, love interests.

Leonard Hofstadter (Johnny Galecki) and Sheldon Cooper (Jim Parsons), are two roommates and Caltech physicists aerospace engineer Howard Wolowitz (Simon Helberg) and astrophysicist Rajesh Koothrappali (Kunal Nayyar). They are joined by waitress/actress Penny (Kaley Cuoco), Melissa Rauch who plays Bernadette Rostenkowski a microbiologist, and Mayim Bialik as neuroscientist Amy Farrah Fowler.

On the face of it there isn't much for the car fan in The Big Bang Theory. They don't seem to care about cars and have boringly generic hire cars and saloons. However, in the early part of the series Penny had a rather wonky

Volkswagen Golf (Rabbit in the USA), which always had the engine light on. At one point Sheldon did attempt to drive it, but frankly that sort of manual task is way beneath him.

One reason to love The Big Bang Theory is that it has the best theme song since Dad's Army, or Minder. It's called 'The History of Everything' by Barenaked Ladies. You cannot help, not singing it.

The Big Bang Theory deservedly has the highest paid actors. When Forbes released its annual list of the world's highest paid actors Jim Parsons topped it with \$29 million between 2014 and 2015. He gets about \$1 million per episode and a cut of the show's profits. Not only that Kaley Cuoco-Sweeting tops the Forbes list of highest paid actresses, with \$28.5 million.

The Big Bang Theory is all about big numbers and really big laughs.

The Big Bang Theory is on Thursdays at 8:30pm on E4.



Cosmically Smart Car

THE NEW BMW 7 SERIES IS HERE AND THE TOP OF THE RANGE M760LI XDRIVE V12 (PICTURED) IS COMING, POSSIBLY FROM ANOTHER PLANET LATER THIS YEAR. SO HERE IS WHAT WE NEED TO KNOW...

Cleverest Car in the Universe?





Is carbon based, like us...

The Carbon Core body is based on technology transferred from BMW i car development. The new BMW 7 Series is the first ever vehicle in which industrially manufactured CFRP is used together with steel and aluminium. It combines with the use of aluminium for specific sections of the body and chassis. Apart from the doors, the bootlid is also made from aluminium for the first time, and its use for assorted suspension components reduces weight which improves suspension comfort. The vehicle's centre of gravity is now even lower, and the load is distributed 50:50 between the two axles for perfect balance.

Knows what you are thinking...

The iDrive system's operating concept has been expanded to include the method so familiar from consumer electronics devices: when combined with the standard Navigation system the iDrive operating system's monitor comes in the form of a touch display for the first time. The system can furthermore be specified with the addition of BMW Gesture Control, which is also being premiered in the new BMW 7 Series. By making specific hand movements in the vicinity of the centre console - where a 3D sensor registers them - commonly used infotainment system functions can be controlled intuitively. The various gestures serve, for instance, to adjust the audio volume, control the 3D view display and accept or reject incoming phone calls.

Smells great...

The occupants sense of smell has not been neglected either, with the availability of the optional Ambient Air package. It comprises functions for ionising the air and releasing fragrance into the vehicle interior with selected scents, both of which can be controlled from the air conditioning control console or the iDrive menu. Three levels of intensity can be set, and there is a choice of eight scents, two of which can be installed in the vehicle at the same time.

And is self parking...

The new BMW 7 Series is the first production car in the world that can be manoeuvred into and out of forward parking or garage spaces without the driver even having to be sitting inside the vehicle. The process is activated by the driver from outside the vehicle using the new standard BMW Display Key and then performed semi-autonomously by the vehicle. In addition, the new version of the optional Parking Assistant makes light work of selecting and manoeuvring into parallel or forward parking spaces.

Prices start at £64,530



CONTINENTAL DRIFT

A Nissan GT-R slides impressively sideways into the record books.

Nissan has set the GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS title for the fastest drift using the specially tuned MY16 Nissan GT-R NISMO by entering a drift at a speed of 189.49 mph. Masato Kawabata, the Japanese drift champion and title holder for the DI Grand Prix series.

Fujairah International Airport was strategically chosen for its 3km long airstrip which was deemed to be sufficiently long enough for the challenge. From the outset, Nissan wanted to perform the drift at a speed of more than 186mph and Kawabata, who leads in the DI Grand Prix series for Team Tokyo, was chosen from a group of highly specialized competition drivers.

GReddy Trust's technicians worked on the specially tuned Nissan GT-R NISMO setup on site in the three days leading up to the event and had only three attempts to break the record as per strict guidelines set by Guinness World Records. Support was also provided by technicians and logistics personnel from the Prodrift Academy, Recaro for the driver's seat, RAYS for the supply of special, lightweight alloy wheels and Toyo Tyres for the drift tyres that were specially designed for this stunt.





THE SCIENCE OF DRIFTING

According to Newton's first law of motion, the car's natural tendency would always be to go straight, but when a driver turns the wheel, friction between the two surfaces pulls the car onto a curved path rather than a straight one.

On an icy road that would be difficult, as the coefficient of friction (the value that tells us how smooth or rough a surface is) is very low and, subsequently, the centripetal force which allows it to turn, would be almost zero.

The idea is to turn the steering wheel away from the direction of the turn in order to lose traction and drift. This is why the wheels point in the opposite direction when drifters negotiate a turn.

Royal Flush

We bump into Harry Enfield who plays Prince Charles in the Windsors while his TV wife Camilla (Haydn Gwynne), cavorts around in the family Ford Orion.

What do you see as being your main responsibilities as the Prince of Wales and heir to the throne?

Waving's very important – from cars or balconies as circumstances demand. Keeping alive traditional hedge laying methods and taking small talk to strange and exciting places. "And what do you do?" – that was one of mine.

Yours is a hugely pressurised role. What do you do to relax?

I like to paint – Angela Merkel said I was almost as good as Hitler.

How do you make sure you can relate to the concerns and lives of your subjects?

Well I have a subscription to Countryfile. I also listen to the LBC phone ins – sometimes I put on a pretend voice and phone in myself – I'm actually Doreen from Nunhead who's addicted to Meaow Meaow

How are you enjoying life as a grandfather?

I love it – I can't wait 'til George is a bit older and I can see the look on his little face when we tell him he's going away to boarding school for thirty six weeks a year.

What do you and Camilla get up to in your spare time?

We love to go to the Chelsea Flower Show and to Polo matches – both of which count as official engagements so double-bubble.

Where are you most at home?

Tibet. Or in my panic room at Highgrove.

What's the best thing about being the Prince of Wales?

Well I do love a leek!

And the worst?

Going to Wales. That bloody language – it's like nails down a blackboard. Of course you can't say that. Oh and it's always raining.

Describe your ideal day?

Start by getting a royalties cheque for my Duchy Originals. Listen to an archive recording of the Goons Show whilst looking at old photos of Susan George. Launch a ship, then a Bond premiere followed by dinner with the surviving members of the Three Degrees.

Who would you have to your ideal dinner party?

The Dalai Lama, Frankie Boyle, Brian Eno, Pele and Shaggy from Scooby Doo. And because we need some good strong women, The Pussycat Dolls. The conversation would be most stimulating! Oh and Jacob Rees Mogg of course.

What would you say to the people who think we should abolish the Royal Family?

I'd say 'Be careful what you wish for – do you want a President Blair? Or Presidents Ant and Dec?'

And what contribution do you think your brothers Andrew and Edward have made to the country?

They've been invaluable. Without Edward there'd have been no It's A Royal Knockout or that documentary series on the Queen Mother. Do you want to live in a world where those things never happened? Because I don't. Andrew though has been a tremendous embarrassment.

There's a new series coming up on Channel 4, making fun of you and the lives of your family. How do you feel about that?

I don't mind a bit. I'll be sure to watch – I have a tremendous sense of humour. As I mentioned I still listen to the Goons Show, eight or nine times a day. 'Bring it on' that's what I say, we can take it... As long as they don't mention my ears.

Do you watch much TV yourself?

Just Countryfile – Julia Bradbury's quite the fox. Oh, and 'Help! My Mum's a Hoarder.'

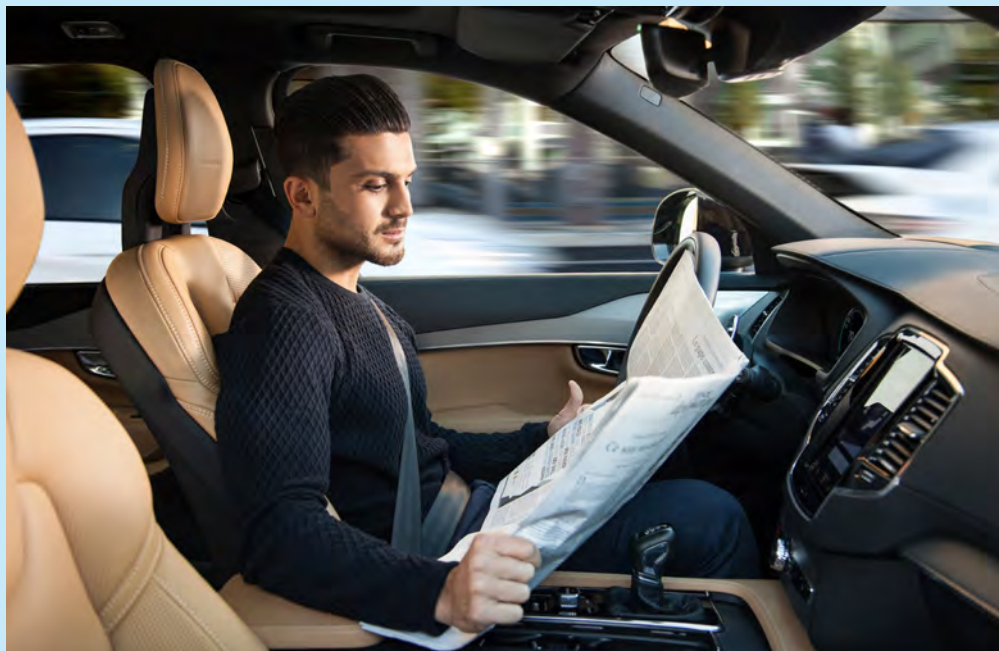
Thank you, Sir.

Charles: Please, call me Your Royal Highness – it's less formal.

The Windsors starts on Friday 6th May at 10pm on Channel 4 with a double bill of episodes 1 and 2.







Robot Volvos are coming

Brit families will be Guinea Pigs

Volvo Cars is to begin the UK's most ambitious autonomous driving trial next year to speed up the introduction of a technology that promises to massively reduce car accidents as well as free up congested roads and save drivers valuable time.

The Swedish company, whose name has been synonymous with automotive safety ever since it invented the three-point seatbelt in 1959, is pioneering the development of autonomous driving (AD) systems globally as part of its commitment that no one will be seriously injured or killed in a new Volvo by the year 2020.

Volvo's UK-based test will be called 'Drive Me London' and will differentiate itself from other AD programmes by using real families driving AD cars on public roads.

Volvo will source its data from these everyday users and use this data to develop AD cars that are suitable for real-world driving conditions, rather than the more unrealistic conditions found on test tracks. Thatcham Research will be providing the

technical data analysis and any professional test drivers needed as part of the trial.

Drive Me London will begin in early 2017 with a limited number of semi-autonomous driving cars and expand in 2018 to include up to 100 AD cars, making it the largest and most extensive AD testing programme on Britain's streets.

The introduction of AD cars promises to revolutionise Britain's roads in four main areas – safety, congestion, pollution and time saving.

Independent research has revealed that AD has the potential to reduce the number of car accidents significantly, in some cases by up to 30 per cent. Up to 90 per cent of all accidents are presently caused by driver error or distraction, something that should largely disappear with AD cars.

In terms of congestion, AD cars allow traffic to move more smoothly, reducing traffic jams and by extension cutting dangerous emissions and associated pollution. Lastly, reduced congestion saves drivers valuable time. Welcome to the future, courtesy of Volvo.

Have your say  @freecarmag1

QUOTES OF THE WEEK

“We are always careful not to cause an inconvenience to our neighbours, some of which are classic car enthusiasts.”

PARKING WARDENS SLAPPED A PENALTY NOTICE ON THE WINDSCREEN OF A £10 MILLION FERRARI 512M – THOUGHT TO BE THE MOST EXPENSIVE CAR EVER TICKETED. CLASSIC CAR DEALER FISKENS IN SOUTH KENSINGTON ACQUIRED BY CLASSIC CAR DEALERS FISKENS WILL PAY THE £120 FIXED PENALTY NOTICE.

“I think the Government should work with motor manufacturers to encourage all cars and vehicles to have linings which stop their doors making noises when they are slammed shut.”

MP MARK PRITCHARD HAS URGED MANUFACTURERS TO FIT ALL CAR DOORS WITH A BIT OF RUBBER IN A BID TO REDUCE NOISE POLLUTION IN THE NATIONS TOWNS AND CITIES.

“He was a lovable rogue - a bit of a wheeler dealer.”

A FORMER SECOND-HAND CAR TRADER HAS LEFT £1.5M IN HIS WILL TO THE HOSPITAL WHICH TREATED HIM FOR HEART DISEASE. PETER GIBBONS DIED LAST YEAR AGED 90 AT IPSWICH HOSPITAL, FOLLOWING A SIX-YEAR BATTLE WITH THE DISEASE.

VAUXHALLS

FIVE TO BUY

Here is a working class car brand that delivers reliability, practicality and just a little of fun if you find the increasingly valuable VX220. Otherwise it is hard to go wrong with a Corsa, Astra or Insignia.



ASTRA

Easy to live with and very good value, plus there is loads of space. Economy perhaps, so the 1.7 Dti delivers a useful 58.9 mpg. There are millions to choose from. Most owner complaints concern electrical issues such as emission control sensors, seatbelt warning lights and power windows. Petrol engines are generally reliable provided the 40K timing belt change is kept to. Diesels engines that drink a lot of oil can show their age by smoking and rattling.



INSIGNIA

It is smart, well finished and several classes apart from the dated old Vectra. Yes it is comfortable, spacious and economical with a great range of engines, the diesel returning up to 49mpg. As it is a mass market Vauxhall designed for companies which means that it depreciates massively, making it brilliant value for money. However there can be electrical issues with the indicators going on the blink and the dashboard information display may need replacing.



VX220

The 2.0 litre turbocharged unit tugs the lightweight body along so that it gets to 60mph in less than 5 seconds. The gearbox is well matched too, being usefully slick on twisty country lanes or even cruising on the motorway. Even so you will still get around 30 mpg overall. Fixing body damage is jolly expensive and it is important to check that this isn't a track day car that's been written off, look for uneven tyre wear, suspension clonks and evidence of repainting.



ZAFIRA

A very versatile seven seat cabin that is suitably spacious which got even better with the revised model in 2005. Well finished inside the rearmost seats fold flat into the boot floor and the middle row folds in half and slide up against the front seats. Early models are quite basic in Comfort specification, so Elegance the better buy for kit. Seat latches can fail. Is the spare wheel still underneath the rear of the car? Check for water leaks into the front of the cabin.



CORSA

A smart looking little car, which is affordable, practical and easy to run. A bonus is the great little petrol engines, which cleverly combine performance and economy. Around town the light steering means that parking is really easy and at speed on a motorway it isn't half-bad. Reliable in, but service history is vital to tick the 40K mile cam belt change. Shopping cars may have sticky clutches and rusty brake discs.

For more used car information and buying tips go to freecarmag.com

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LATEST DRIVER FOCUSED SPORTS COUPE

PORSCHE 718 CAYMAN

The fourth generation 718 Cayman is here with a four cylinder engine and turbo assistance. With PDK (automatic) and optional Sport Chrono Package it sprints from zero to 62 mph in 4.7 seconds. The more powerful gets to 62mph in 4.2 seconds. The top speed of the 718 Cayman is 170 mph, and the 718 Cayman S gets to 177 mph. To cope with all that power the suspension has been revised, the steering configured to be ten per cent more direct. Yes this is the thinking drivers sports car. Order now, enjoy in the Autumn.



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LAND ROVER DISCOVERY SPORT

The new Discovery Sport is designed to make forgotten wallets and missing bags a thing of the past. The app uses Tile tags, tiny Bluetooth trackers that can be attached to important items and used to track their whereabouts using smartphone technology. Jaguar Land Rover's updated InControl Touch Pro infotainment system is at the heart of the technological additions. The new set-up provides a larger 10.2-inch touchscreen and intuitive menus. There are Advanced Safety Systems including Driver Condition Monitor, Intelligent Speed Limiter and Lane Keep Assist. Plus buyers can specify a designer Graphite Pack.

AVAILABLE:
SUMMER

PRICE:
A6:£32,995
A7:£46,865

EXECUTIVE SALOON, HATCH AND ESTATE, GETS SPEC UPGRADES

AUDI A6 & A7 SPORTBACK

There have been a raft of changes to these models, so where do we start? Well, all A6 models get more kit as standard and the front end has a new, bolder look courtesy of a revised front apron incorporating more pronounced air inlets with gloss black horizontal struts, more sculpted side sills and a restyled rear bumper now housing a new diffuser at its lower edge. Golly gosh. Meanwhile, the A7 Sportback receives a new wheel design as part of the SE Executive specification.



Precision Performance



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Wanted

GARMIN DRIVE

Drive Smarter and Safer with Garmin's new range.

The entire Garmin Drive lineup boasts a number of driver alerts to encourage safer driving and situational awareness. This includes warnings for upcoming sharp curves, railway or animal crossings, alerts for users driving the wrong way on a one-way street and more. Drivers also receive red light and safety camera alerts as well as vital timesaving traffic information with fast-approaching traffic jam notifications. For longer routes, a fatigue warning alert suggests potential break times and available rest areas or places to stop.

In addition to new driver awareness features, Garmin Drive includes preloaded data from Foursquare® POIs, adding millions of popular shops, restaurants and more. All models offer lifetime maps. Other features designed to simplify navigation include Garmin Real Directions™, which guides drivers using recognisable landmarks, buildings and traffic lights; and Easy

Route Shaping that lets drivers modify a route to include preferred cities or roads by touching the navigation screen.

The Garmin DriveSmart boasts all of the features from Garmin Drive and adds customisable smart notifications that allow drivers to display calls, text messages and app notifications on the navigation screen. Voice-activated navigation and Bluetooth® wireless technology for hands-free calling allow drivers to keep both hands safely on the wheel. Garmin DriveSmart can also access Live Traffic information through the Smartphone Link app or out of the box with our Digital Traffic solutions, the fastest traffic avoidance solution offered by Garmin. With updates as often as every 60 seconds.

Garmin DriveAssist builds on the Garmin DriveSmart and includes a built-in dash cam to serve as an eyewitness. The device continually records and automatically saves video footage on impact with the included microSD card. The

integrated camera brings in more advanced driver awareness alerts, such as the Forward Collision and Lane Departure Warnings. Additionally, Garmin DriveAssist integrates the new "Go" Alert, a camera-assisted feature that notifies distracted drivers when traffic ahead of their vehicle begins to move. As drivers approach select destinations, Garmin Real Vision™ unveils a camera view on the screen of the device and an arrow points out the specific destination.

The stylish Garmin DriveLuxe is an impressive premium sat nav housed in a beautiful forged metal design. Powered with a sleek magnetic mount, the Garmin DriveLuxe offers automatic dual orientation and innovative navigation features for more driver awareness.

The Garmin Drive lineup has models in different display sizes with various map regions and navigation features. Suggested retail prices range from £99.99 to £299.99. garmin.com/en-GB



ZENITH EL PRIMERO CHRONOMASTER 1969 TOUR AUTO EDITION FOR THE GENTLEMAN DRIVER WITH ATTITUDE

Partner of the "Tour Auto Optic 2000" for the past two years, Zenith presents an exclusive series of 500 El Primero chronographs dedicated to this classic car rally. For 25 years, the "Tour Auto Optic 2000" has seen authentic collector's cars vie with each other across an approximately 2,000 km stretch between Paris and Cannes.

El Primero 4061 automatic chronograph movement has 36,000 vibrations per hour driving a tenth-of-a-second display, its COSC chronometer-certified precision and its integrated column-wheel construction. Fitted with a silicon lever and escape-wheel, this 282-part movement drives central hours and minutes hands, along with chronograph and tachymeter functions, while ensuring a 50-hour power reserve.

Its high-performance mechanism is housed in a 42 mm-diameter brushed steel case featuring two round pushers and a fluted crown. Fitted with a domed sapphire crystal, the slender polished bezel provides a generous opening onto a slate grey dial decked out in vertical blue-white-red vertical stripes – a reference to the French rally banner.

This tricolour touch echoes the pushers and the small seconds trident. Surrounded by a tachymeter scale, the distinctive dial is punctuated by two snailed counters, swept over by a red central sweep-seconds hand and ensuring optimal legibility in any lighting thanks to the luminescence of its hour-markers and its faceted hours and minutes hands. The case is water-resistant to 100 metres and its exhibition back bearing the engraved race logo reveals an oscillating weight adorned with a "Côtes de Genève" motif.

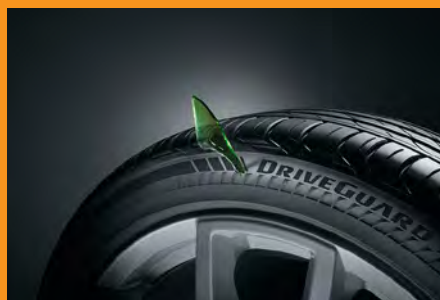
www.zenith-watches.com



AA MULTI-FIT 'SPARE'

It comprises a slim-fit wheel and tyre with an ingenious range of interchangeable hubs and stud sets that will fit up to 90% of cars that don't carry a spare, as well as caravans and some trailers.

All AA roadside service patrols carry the bright yellow wheel, which has a speed limit of 50mph. It can be fitted quickly at the roadside by the Patrol. theaa.com



BRIDGESTONE DRIVEGUARD®

Bridgestone, the world's number one rubber and tyre manufacturer, has announced the launch of Bridgestone DriveGuard, a new touring tyre which boasts additional benefits and safety for all motorists, including the ability to drive for 50 miles at 50mph following a puncture. From £47. bridgestone.com



SIMON CARTER CUFFLINKS - £30+

Simon Carter cufflinks are wheely round like the patriotic West End Union Jack or the moddy West End Target although we do love the angular, utilitarian perfection of "Cog" a brilliant twist on the usually dull luxury dress cufflinks. We went for these round ones to fit in with the rest of the circular items in Wanted.

simoncarter.net

Get Carter

If you want to look super stylish and cool this summer then there is only one British designer who can make that happen.

British croquet champion, classic car collector and general connoisseur of life's finer things, Simon Carter's blend of style, affordability and quality have won him a dedicated following. His brand strikes a chord with the sophisticated consumer who relishes the passion and provenance of the product ranges, coupled with a dash of British humour.

www.SimonCarter.net

Liberty Leaf Print



Ladybird Print





Liberty English
Cottage Print



Royal Blue Mohair
Suit and Jungle
Leaves Shirt



Ice Cream Scoop



Royal Blue
Mohair Suit and
Ladybird Shirt

NEXT ISSUE

Gigi Hadad will be appearing on our cover, which has to be a good thing. She will be joined by BMW M2s which is a double good thing. Here is a great excuse to take a closer look at BMW's brilliant M Series models that have thrilled and excited us over so many decades. There will undoubtedly be even more things to get excited about and all will be revealed in the next issue of Free Car Mag.

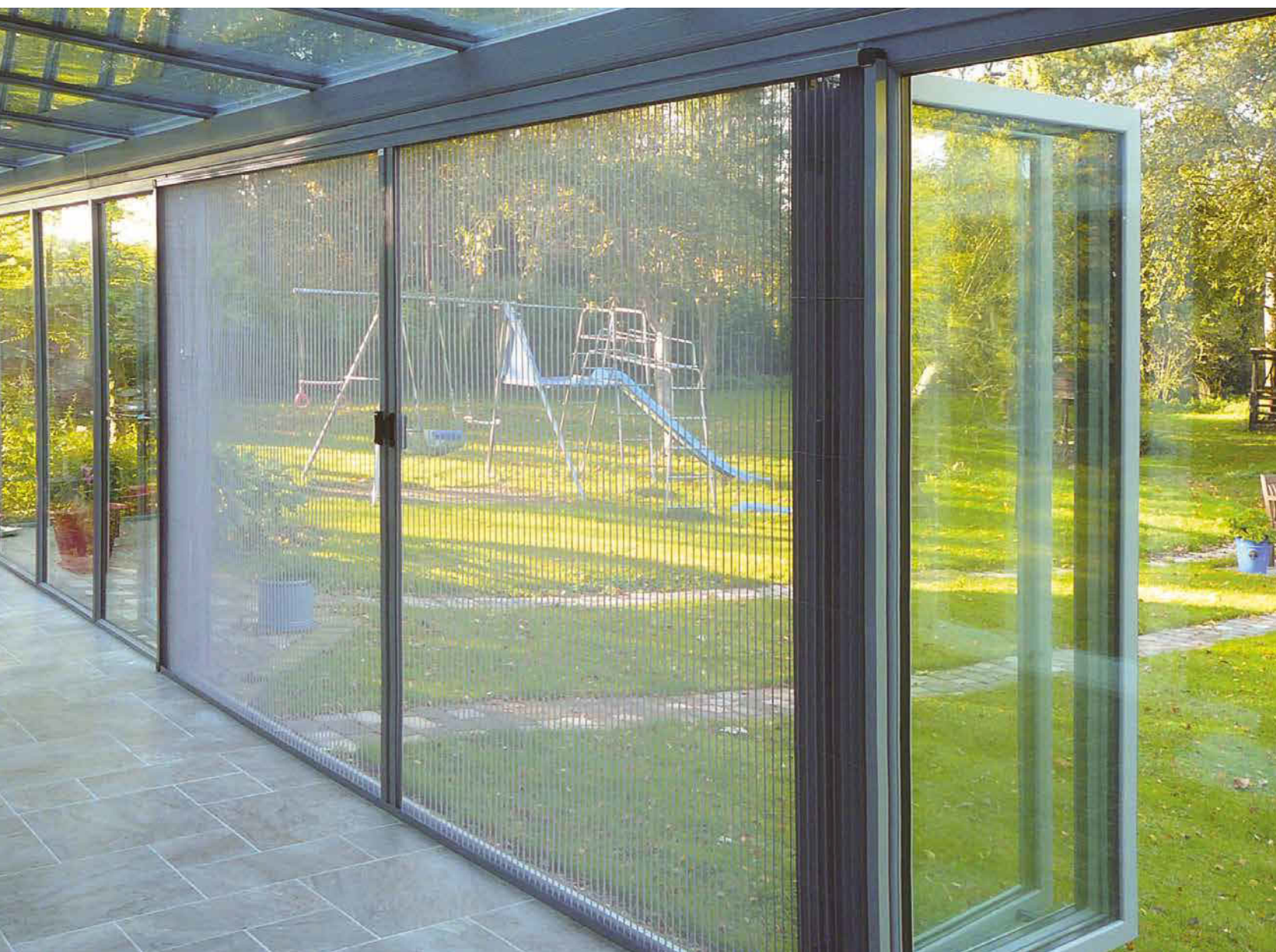


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TUMI TAHOE

A utilitarian, outdoors-inspired collection with clean architectural lines, Tahoe captures the freedom of movement between work and travel. Each piece has been skilfully constructed from a soft yet durable fabric to create a more casual aesthetic. Select styles were made by employing a seam-sealed finish to ensure superior water repellency and a polished look. This versatile backpack may be worn traditionally or carried by top handle. The sternum strap offers increased stability when you're on a bike, mountain climbing or simply out and about. £345.00 from uk.tumi.com



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