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SHORTLISTED
FOR NEWSPRESS
MAGAZINE
OF THE YEAR



GIRL* POWER

SISTERS ARE DOING IT FOR THEMSELVES IN AB FAB AND G'BUSTERS



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ISSUE 37 / 2016

This week

Girl Power. We know all about that because Free Car Mag has more girls on the staff than boys, which is a good thing. That slightly explains why we are Ab Fab this issue. Free Car Mag has always adored Edina and Patsy and their misadventures, although we do make the point that there was always rather a lot of cars in the TV show. The great news is that with an increase in budget there are now Bentleys, south of France locations and best of all, as you can see on the cover, there's a Mini Moke. We can't wait to see the film.

We are not so sure about the new women only Ghostbusters. That may be because we still remember the 1984 original as if it was yesterday. At least it has plenty of exciting new ghost busting vehicles to get excited about.

This issue, I've just noticed, seems to be choc full of films. That's handy because one of our favourites so far this year has been Hi-Rise. The great news is that we have some copies to give away. Answer a simple question and you are in the hat to win a DVD of the film. See more details on page 22.

And as for the cover, *OK they are not exactly girls, but strong women.



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David Gandy styles Norman Dewis OBE for Top Gear

Legendary Jaguar test driver Norman Dewis OBE made his first appearance on BBC Top Gear. In preparation for his debut on the famous show set, Dewis was fitted for a bespoke suit – complete with special Jaguar lining – at Savile Row’s Henry Poole & Co., with British supermodel and car collector David Gandy on hand to offer style advice. Norman Dewis OBE said: “I visited London thanks to my friend David Gandy who kindly introduced me to his tailor, Henry Poole & Co., who made a suit for me ahead of my appearance on this week’s episodes of BBC Top Gear and Extra Gear. It was also an opportunity for me to visit the Jaguar showroom on Berkeley Street just around the corner from Savile Row – so David joined me to take a look at their ‘new’ Lightweight E-type. A car very close to my heart.”

David Gandy said: “When I learned Norman was going to be on TV I thought it would be great to have him fitted for a new suit so he can look his best in front of the cameras. Our friends at Henry Poole & Co. stepped in, so we came in together for a fitting. Norman also kindly invited me to join him to take a look at a couple of really wonderful Jaguars from his era with the company – a stunning C-type and Lightweight E-type. To hear about these cars from the man fundamental to their development was a rare treat for a petrol head and Jaguar enthusiast like me.”



SPOTTED
OUT AND
ABOUT



Jimmy Carr & Andy Murray

British comedian, Jimmy Carr, and ‘Team Murray’ joined forces to pull off a prank on Andy Murray as he warms up for his second round match against Lu Yen-Hsun at The Championships. Andy Murray, who is the face of this year’s #FeelWimbledon campaign, said: “We have a really close team and are often playing practical jokes on each other – this was definitely one of the better ones. Jimmy is one of my favorite comedians, I’ve been to see him live before but to have a front-row seat to this show was amazing!”



Get the look

It has to be Sophie Ellis Bextor. Her summery look is perfect and we think you can get a similar look easily if you follow our guide.



1 Dress, £100 Zolando.co.uk

2 Shoes, £27.99 New Look

3 Bag, £24.00 ASOS

4 Heart Locket, £23.99 H Samuel

5 Maserati Levante, £54,335
www.maserati.co.uk/Levante



Maserati Levante

The launch event was hosted by TV and radio presenter Lisa Snowdon and was attended by a host of celebrities and VIPs, including Sophie Ellis-Bextor, Alex James, Olivia Grant and Leigh-Anne Pinnoch. Celebrations began with the unveiling of the Levante to the audience with the party continuing afterwards with music from celebrity DJ duo, Amber Le Bon and Becky Tong. Guests were also enthralled by the talented reportage artist Anna-Louise Felstead who painted a real-time canvas depicting the Maserati Levante with a London skyline backdrop in her signature style.

Absolutely Fabulous

FAB





FILM

Coming to a massive multiplex screen near you, Edina Monsoon and Patsy Stone will be causing mayhem. The stars explain why Ab Fab is going to be brilliant, Sweetie Darlings...

Before we get to Absolutely Fabulous The Movie, it's worth remembering that there always were rather a lot of cars in the television show. Quite often this involved Patsy and Edina falling out of a limousine, usually a Jaguar XJ6 or Mercedes S-Class, but we are pleased to see that in the film they have moved up rolling out of a Bentley Flying Spur. That's the perfect automotive demonstration of what a big screen budget can do.

Also, Patsy and Edina have a rather fine taste in open top cars. An Alfa Romeo Spider (Jennifer Saunders owned one in real life!) was regularly parked illegally outside Harvey Nicks and in one episode a pretty red Peugeot 205 CJ looked the fashionable part. We are pleased to report that convertibles are back (and we even put them the cover) mucking about in a Mini Moke. Surely the Moke is the ultimate swinging '60s trendy convertible? Except that this film is set right now. However, the Moke still looks lovely, but what is the film about...?

**AB FAB IS ABOUT...
A COUPLE OF HOURS LONG
AND HERE'S THE PLOT**

When they accidentally push Kate Moss into the river Thames at an uber fashionable launch party, Eddy and Patsy become entangled in a media storm surrounding the supermodel's untimely demise and are relentlessly pursued by the paparazzi. Fleeing penniless to the glamorous playground of the super-rich, the French Riviera, they hatch a plan to make their escape permanent and live the high life forever more.

**AB FAB IS ABOUT...
NOT GROWING UP**

Jennifer Saunders says Eddy and Patsy, "Can't, and won't, ever admit to being old. Ever. So they have to find a different dream; they have to retreat into the past, into something sentimental and nostalgic that they love and know. And, for them, that is the idea of the South of France, of somewhere halcyon where their idea of glamour is still clinging on for



“Kate Moss...She doesn’t age or fade she blazes a glorious rebellious trail”





dear life.”

**AB FAB IS ABOUT...
BEING POSITIVE**

“The truth is that times are quite dark,” says Joanna Lumley. “People are tired and lives can sometimes feel dull. But Patsy and Eddy don’t feel that. They are positive forces, life forces, forces for fun. And they believe that, whatever happens to them, they are going to survive and come out on top.”

AB FAB IS ABOUT... KATE MOSS

“Kate represents the old souls,” explains Saunders. “No, she’s not going to give an interview, no, she’s not on social media and yes, she’s still bloody gorgeous. Kate Moss is the one person that defies everything about the modern world and that is precisely why the world loves her. It is certainly why Patsy and Eddy love her. She is the one that they would like to live like. Because she has fun, and she doesn’t play by the rules, and she manages to be herself, however she wants to be, and gets more beautiful with every day that goes by. She doesn’t age or fade; she blazes a glorious, rebellious trail and, in the sweetest, coolest, most gorgeous way pays no heed to what anyone thinks.”

“She was just fab,” says Saunders. “So sweet, so funny, with absolutely no airs and graces.” “I’ve never met anyone who tried so hard and wanted to do it so right,” says Director Mandie Fletcher. “Before she got there, we said to ourselves, ‘She’s a multi-millionaire supermodel. She could arrive and be difficult. She could have done anything and we would have sucked it up’. But not a bit of it. She was completely charming and professional. An absolute delight.”



AB FAB IS ABOUT... CELEBRITIES

A dream sequence in which Eddy fantasizes that Kate and her cool friends beg her to come to Goa with them - Saunders found herself sitting amongst some of the most beautiful faces in London.. As the likes of Lara Stone, Alexa Chung, Lily Cole, Daisy Lowe, Stella McCartney, Suki Waterhouse and Nick Grimshaw said goodbye to her at the end of filming, each and every one of them thanked her for having them in her film. “Quite lovely, quite hot face making,” says Saunders.

Indeed, the celeb count doesn’t end there, the audience will also spot Lulu, Emma Bunton, Dame Edna Everage, Joan Collins,

Janette Krankie, Sadie Frost, Abbey Clancy, Alesha Dixon, Orla Guerin, Bruno Tonioli, Jerry Hall, Kelly Hoppen, Jean Paul Gaultier and Dame Joan Collins also make cameos, plus there are several more Hollywood stars.

**KATE MOSS HAS THE
LAST WORD ON AB FAB**

“I grew up with ‘Ab Fab,’” says the supermodel. “When it started, I was right at the beginning of my modelling career and I always found it to be such an amazing take on the fashion business. It made me laugh, which was a good thing, because the fashion world isn’t always funny.”

VISION Next 100



Fabulous

FUTURE

BMW WILL BE BUILDING MINIS, BMWs AND ROLLS ROYCE CARS THAT ARE FIT FOR EVERYONE, INCLUDING PATSY AND EDINA.





Happy Birthday BMW who is not only looking back at their greatest hits, but also forward at what the future holds. Unfortunately there is plenty of pretentious nonsense in their plans so we have just stuck to the rather fascinating facts. Here's the good news, or rather promises they have made for their motoring future.

FUTURE BMW

BMW drivers will be able to let their cars do the work – but only when the driver wants. The way humans and technologies interact will be transformed: screens and touchscreens will be replaced by more intuitive forms of human-machine communication and interaction. Technology will become more human. Technologies such as rapid manufacturing and 4D printing will produce not components or objects but intelligent, networked materials and could soon replace conventional tools to open up unimagined possibilities in design and engineering.

Translation: Don't panic, BMWs will still be great to drive.

FUTURE ROLLS ROYCE

the Rolls-Royce VISION NEXT 100 is based on an advanced lightweight platform equipped with a high-performance electric drive. From the wheelbase to the design of the body, its various specifications and equipment can be tailored specifically to suit the needs of the individual customer. The Rolls-Royce design team expects that further progress in composite materials and technologies will have a decisive influence on how production can be customised in the future. Advances will also unlock new creative possibilities for the brand to meet the discerning wishes of its customers and achieve its goal of producing the bespoke automotive equivalent of haute couture.

Translation: Rich people can still have exactly what they want.

FUTURE MINI

"Every MINI is my MINI" describes a particular take on car-sharing. In the future, fans of the brand will be able to call on a MINI tailored to their personal requirements where ever they are, day or night. The MINI of the future will be available 24/7, able to pick its driver up from their desired location in a fully automated way and will adapt itself to the driver's individual tastes, interests and preferences. At the heart of this concept is fully connected digital intelligence.

Translation: MINI will be your obedient pet car.



Ghostbusters



GHOST



THERE'S A NEW GHOSTBUSTERS FILM, BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY THERE'S A NEW ECTO-1 AND ECTO-2. FREE CAR MAG SCARILY EXPLAIN THE GHOSTLY GOING'S ON.



RIDES

Forget all the about the Ghostbusters of your youth because this is a proper reboot. Kristen Wiig and Melissa McCarthy are nerdy friends who are in the paranormal business. Kate McKinnon's character gets invited to help them build ghost-catching technology and then Leslie Jones joins as the down-to-earth, no-nonsense member of the ghost busting team. Oh, almost forgot, Chris Hemsworth gets recruited as the receptionist, clearly the token beefcake.

Which brings us to the important business of what the team will be driving. The thing is that the original Ecto-1 was the really rather cool 1959 Cadillac Fleetwood which was modified into a Futura ambulance by coachbuilders Miller-Meteor. It would be hard to top that, but just as the 1959 Cadillac looked like a clunky old ambulance in '84,

the producers of the film have pulled the same trick by featuring a 1989 Cadillac Fleetwood Brougham hearse. Compared to the earlier winged Ecto, it is rather square and brick-like. However, for today's audience it should now look just as retro and supercool.

The real motorised ghostbusting development has to be the introduction of Ecto-2. Fans of the animated television version, there must be some, The Real Ghostbusters, will know Ecto-2 was an autogyro. Now it is a motorcycle. However, it is not a very easy to identify. A little digging through motorcycle encyclopedias finally reveals it to be a middle 1970s Harley Davidson SXT125. This will be ridden by Chris Hemsworth in some anti-ghost operation. We can't wait to see it in action.

Watch the trailer here: <https://youtu.be/w3ugHP-yZxw>





If your car audio is rubbish, then listen to the experts at Harman.

HARMAN's chief engineer of acoustics, Arndt Hensgens explains what is involved when testing your own audio: "At HARMAN There are four key 'tests' to assess the audio experience that can make the difference between having an exhilarating or exhausting in-car experience," says HARMAN's chief engineer of acoustics Arndt Hensgens.

Before you begin: Setting-up the controls - make sure that all the audio controls (bass, treble, balance, fade) are set to '0' or normal (setting to '0' ensures the most accurate music reproduction from the system) Playing the audio - play the tracks from your smartphone or other device, try to use high quality sources Create your playlist - playing short 20-30 second segments of several different tracks, spanning genres, will show the system's capabilities for handling a variety of music styles

Bass Response - Power Listen for the presence, balance and extension of low frequencies. The listening experience is not only heard, it's felt. The bass should be punchy and tight so that each note is distinctly present and physically moving

The low frequencies should be balanced with good, deep bass extension to facilitate a smooth and natural response

Spectral Uniformity Listen for the balance of

frequencies (bass, midrange, treble)

Each spectral region (bass, midrange and treble) should be distinct and balanced.

The bass, such as bass drum and bass guitar, should transition smoothly into the midrange, which includes vocals, piano, electric and acoustic guitar, to give a sense of warmth and intimacy. The high frequency should complement the midrange providing accurate detail and clarity without a sense of harshness or irritation.

Spatial Imaging Listen for the perceived location of instruments. The listening experience in a car should be comparable to attending a concert, sitting towards the right of centre stage.

The instruments should appear naturally separated and accurately spread throughout the dash, the driver's equivalent of the stage. It should have good width, extending from pillar to pillar with appropriate height and lifelike depth. The main vocal should be located towards the centre of the dash (stage)...there is so much more to this, but it is a good start, but maybe you should take a shortcut...

...Just make sure your motor is fitted with Bang & Olufsen, Bowers & Wilkins, Harman Kardon, Infinity, Lexicon, Mark Levinson, or Revel systems.

BEST AB FAB QUOTES



Patsy: "Eddy look, can I get away with this mouth?"

Eddy: "Only in LA, darling."

Eddy: "In this body there is a thin person dying to get out."

Gran: "Just the one dear?"

Eddy: "Sweetie what are you drinking?"

Patsy: "Oh this? Chanel No. 5!"

Eddy: "We'll go on public transport, Pats."

Patsy: "Are you mad? I've got nothing to wear on public transport."

Eddy (to Saffy)

"Why does everything you wear look like it's bearing a grudge? You've got a wardrobe full of little murderers."

Have your say  @freecarmag1

TOYOTA

FIVE TO BUY

Toyota. Car companies don't come much bigger or better. In just about every sector of the car market they have vehicle, which is usually the best. Not the sexiest to look at, rarely the coolest and possibly not the cheapest, but most importantantly, they won't break down.


TOYOTA RAV4

Providing it isn't pushed to hard it's a stylish estate for those who don't want to look silly in a giant 4 x 4 at the supermarket. Still regarded as the original and one of the best so-called 'lifestyle' 4 x 4s. So the RAV 4 is very at home on the road, with safe, predictable, car like handling. Not many issues, minor electricals such as airbag sensors and electric window motors.


TOYOTA PRIUS

It has a hybrid engine which means a conventional petrol and a unique electrical motor combine to optimise fuel consumption. This works incredibly well. Quick to accelerate from rest and with smoothly delivered power. Spacious, comfortable, refined and because of its unique powerplant very frugal. Listen out for transmission noises which suggest big expenses so avoid.


TOYOTA AVENSIS

Spacious, safe and fairly refined range of cars. Running costs are reasonable which is well equipped, practical with lots of safety features. A quality family car with an interior that is one of the largest around, with plenty of cubby holes and storage options. It easily takes four to five adults without any of them feeling the pinch. Very dull to look at, but at least it is really tough.


TOYOTA AURIS

As spacious and practical as you would expect, easy to drive and own too. Quality build and lots of equipment make up for the less than exciting looks. Drivers have a clear dashboard and it is all put together with some quality materials. On the road the petrol and diesel engines are all strong and effective, working well with the light and precise gear change. Tough as old boots.


TOYOTA YARIS

Part of its appeal is cheeky looks the Yaris still works best in town. The high driving position is great whilst the petrol and diesel engines are enthusiastic and economical. Downsides are limited luggage space limited and hard suspension. Nothing to worry about when it comes to reliability though as these keep on running with minimal maintenance.

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WIN DVD!

HIGH-RISE

HIGH ALTITUDE LIVING HAS NEVER LOOKED BETTER, OR MORE DISTURBING IN THIS BRILLIANT FILM, HIGH-RISE AND YOU CAN WIN THE DVD

This is our favourite film so far this year. All you have to do is contact us and say what car is on the poster and we will pick a winner (you have to be over 18 and resident in the UK). Then you may get to watch it on DVD. The basic story is that it's 1975 and the wonderful Tom Hiddleston stars. Being Free Car Mag, we rather adore the 1970s setting and vehicles on the roof top car park. Not only that, there is music by Portishead. It is worth watching the film to hear their brilliantly doomy take on ABBA's SOS.

What is the car on the poster?

Contact us through the usual channels.

We have just three to give away.



A FILM BY BEN WHEATLEY
HIGH-RISE
FROM THE ACCLAIMED NOVEL BY J.G. BALLARD
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Watch the Hi-Rise trailer

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HI-RISE DVD £9.99

We loved this film for all sorts of reasons, the style, the cars, the dialogue, the story. Tom Hiddleston is the charismatic lead and there are superb performances by Sienna Miller and Jeremy Irons. It is weirdly wonderful. If you don't win it in our brilliant competition then you must Buy it.

Available on Amazon.co.uk



PIRANHA FROM RICHIA £199.99

The Piranha jacket and trousers - priced at under £400 for both - are available in UK dealers now. The leather jacket features CE-approved D30 armour in the shoulders, elbows and back, as well as an outside shoulder cap as an extra protective layer. There is a removable thermo liner and long and short zips to connect the jacket to the trousers.

Available from www.nevis.uk.com

Freddie Hunt

To celebrate British racing driver James Hunt's illustrious career, his son Freddie is taking the wheel for the release of two new watches that mark his legendary achievement on the track

HUNT ON HUNT



WHAT DO YOU REMEMBER ABOUT YOUR FATHER?

I remember Dad around the house, doing family stuff; on skiing holidays; with our dog, an Alsatian; how he nearly burnt down the garden once when he made a bonfire too big and a silver birch tree caught fire. Then there was the mountain of spaghetti bolognese he always used to eat – he had his own bowl, which was just for spag bol. I do remember going to the Grand Prix, too – I remember Silverstone very well. My brother and I were in the hospitality bus, which was great – I imagine we were shut in there while the Grand Prix was on and Dad was commentating.

DID YOU HAVE ANY IDEA, BACK THEN, HOW HE WAS VIEWED AS A DRIVER?

I suppose it wasn't until I started racing myself that I realised the gravity of who he was. I mean, I knew he'd won the [Formula One] World Championship, but I didn't actually realise how loved and how famous he was. And then, obviously, more recently, they made a movie

about him [the 2013 film *Rush*], so awareness has grown a lot since then.

DO YOU THINK PEOPLE COMPARE YOU TO HIM? YOU DO, AFTER ALL, BEAR A STRIKING RESEMBLANCE PHYSICALLY.

I suppose so. I mean, I certainly do have a lot of attention on me as a result. And a lot of people do try and compare me to my father. But I like to think the people who know about racing don't compare me to him on the track, because of my lack of experience. You know, had I started when I was a young lad, and had funding behind me, it would be a viable comparison, but at the moment it's not. Personality-wise, however, it's a different story – we are pretty similar.

SO, HOW DID YOU GET INTO RACING?

It was at Goodwood. I was 19, so that must have been 2006, and I had no interest in racing at all, I didn't know anything about it. Horses were my life – Mum was from a horseracing background,



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“I suppose it wasn't until I started racing myself I realised the gravity of who he was”

so I was brought up around them. I actually became a professional polo player at 16. Then I came to the Goodwood Festival of Speed as a spectator and someone asked if I wanted to jump in a touring car, a Maserati GT, and have a go. I said yeah, great, I'd love to, and the bug bit, as they say.

WHAT SORT OF RACING DO YOU DO NOW AND WHAT IS YOUR RACING AMBITION?

I started in Formula Ford in 2007 and, initially, I was looking to race Formula One. But, really, I started too late for that, so it's endurance racing I'm turning my attention to. I'd like to drive at Le Mans, ultimately. This year, I'm racing in the Euro NASCAR.

TAG HEUER'S SLOGAN IS 'DON'T CRACK UNDER PRESSURE'. HOW DO YOU COPE WITH THE PRESSURE OF RACING?

I find the best way is to try to relax and to race as if I'm just going karting with my mates.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN WATCHES?

The whole process of working on these two new watches has greatly expanded my knowledge of timepieces and fuelled my interest in them. To be honest, I haven't actually worn a watch for a while. I was given four for Christmas when I was 13 years old and, by the following Christmas, I'd lost every single one of them. When I was 14 or 15, I got my first mobile phone, so I always had

a means to the time. But now I'm very much looking forward to wearing a Limited Edition TAG Heuer watch. It feels a bit like growing up.

HOW DID THE DESIGN PROCESS WORK WHEN IT CAME TO THESE NEW COMMEMORATIVE WATCHES?

TAG Heuer discussed the project with me and, because they're very good at their job and have great motor-racing credentials, they came up with a whole lot of ideas that I liked. I added some of my own, the most significant of which was to incorporate Dad's racing stripes.

SO WHAT DO YOU LIKE MOST ABOUT THEM?

It's probably the way they've applied Dad's colours – that's pretty cool. Red, blue and yellow. They come from his helmet – originally, they were the Wellington colours, those of Dad's old school. I use the same colours on my helmet today. One of the watches has them as stripes on one side of the strap, and both have Dad's name and signature on the back. And then, obviously, because they're chronographs, they look very racy and sporty, and I really like that.

AND YOU'RE BE WEARING ONE?

Certainly. I'm very much looking forward to it.

FCM 38

We plan to have Jason Bourne on board. We are not sure if there is going to be a car chase in it, but the chances are there will be. Suicide Squad is another major motion picture that we hope to have a bit more detail on. It is the usual drill then in that we are never entirely sure what will be in the next issue, but it will be fuelled by fun and we guarantee that there will be cars.



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