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Duncan McClure Fisher, Founder and CFO

WARRANTY I SERVICE I MOT I REPAIRS I GAP | LEASING I TYRES









▼illing Eve. Maybe Free Car Mag watches far too much telly, but when there are magnificent Moto Guzzis to look at. We've been enjoying the story, the often dark humour and the set dressing, which includes one of Italy's most charismatic motorcycles. So, if you haven't seen it, the series is still on the BBC and obviously every episode is on the iPlayer.

Anyway, Killing Eve inspired us to look at a few automotive and even push bike options, I hope you enjoy the weird wheels we have looked at. Actually, the new Atom 4 is an absolutely amazing and does not look as odd as it first did. No, it is unique and remains so, with no other manufacturer getting close when it comes to uncompromising and focused sports cars.

There is more TV with Sick of It. Karl Pilkington is very funny, but we also perked up when we saw a Skoda Octavia estate in bright yellow working as a taxi and a Series Land Rover on the beach. If you are really into cars that's what you do all the time. It is the same at the cinema. Bohemian Rhapsody is more than just a film about Freddie and Queen, it's also got cars in it, classic ones. Oh and while we are at the flicks, MKFZ is incredible. It is now too late to see it on the big screen, but if you can buy the DVD or catch it on a download service, then you are in for a visual treat.

Too much film and telly, quilty. Mind you, we do spend an awful lot of time driving cars and mucking about with them, which is pretty much the whole point of Free Car Mag.



James Ruppert

EDITOR PREACHERMAN james@freecarmag.com

THE TEAM

Editor James Ruppert **Advertising** Daniel Williams **Publisher** Dee Ruppert **Photographer** Andrew Elphick **Product Tester** Livy Ruppert Web Design Chris Allen **Sub Editor** Marion King **Reporter** Monica Gill **Tel** 0788 540 1977 Email contact@freecarmag.com Phassouri House, School Road, Norfolk IP25 7QU

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- **News Events Celebs**
- 8 **Killing Eve**
- 10 **Moto Guzzi**
- 11 **Pashley Morgan Bicycle**
- Lamborghini Urus 12
- 14 **Aerial Atom 4**
- 16 **Arkonik**
- 18 Formula W
- 19 James Cracknell & Vauxhall
- 20 Sick of It - Karl Pilkington
- 22 **Bohemian Rhapsody**
- 23 MKFZ
- **Back Seat Driver**
- 25 **Land Rover 70 Years**
- 26 Fashion - AMG Collection
- 27 Wanted - Seiko Watches
- 30 **Buy Now - Abarth, Vauxhall** and Mitsubishi
- 32 **Car Choice**
- 34 **Bangernomics**
- 36 **Next Time - Christmas**
- 37 Spencer Haze - the Supercar **Superhero Comic Strip**



ZARA TINDALL HINTS AT OLYMPIC D

The Olympic silver medal winning rider opened up to sports pundit, David Flatman, Zara reveals that she has already ridden in a couple of competitions since giving birth to Lena in June. "The first time around my body was in so much shock. It was like, what have you done to me?" said the 37-year-old. "But I've recently done a couple of competitions and it feels good actually." Zara reveals her desire to compete at another Olympics Games. Reflecting on her experience at the London Olympics, she said, "To be in London, the crowd, the whole Olympic experience, I can't tell you, it gives me goose bumps talking about it. It is incredible." View the Open Range Episode here: https://youtu.be/gRoBa-KBSQ0



SUZUKI GOES BACK TO ALL STAR DRIVING SCHOOL

Hollyoaks actress Ruby O'Donnell is in E4's All Star Driving School. The 15-part programme sees nine celebrities get behind the wheel of the latest generation Swift supermini to try and pass their driving test. The famous faces who will be participating in the show have been confirmed as TOWIE star James 'Arg' Argent, Coronation Street actor Mikey North, pop songstress Vanessa White, Made in Chelsea's Victoria Baker-Harber, Comedian Mark Watson, singer Tallia Storm, The Vamps' Tristan Evans, and Famalam actor Tom Moutchi.



GRAND SLAM CHAMPION NAOMI OSAKA + NISSAN

Armed with her powerful groundstrokes and strong serve, Osaka became the first Japanese player to win a women's singles Grand Slam. "This week has been a dream come to life, and I'm so honored to represent Japan and Nissan on the world stage," Osaka said. "I was drawn to partner with Nissan because of its strong Japanese DNA and global competitive spirit. The brand is always challenging expectations, and I look forward to bringing its vision for driving excitement to new audiences around the world."



FUZZ TOWNSEND & HIS NEW SSANGYONG MUSSO

'Car SOS' television presenter, Fuzz Townshend has become a UK brand ambassador for the Korean car manufacturer "I'm proud to become a brand ambassador for SsangYong in the UK and look forward to working with the team," says Fuzz. "I love the new Musso - it's perfect for my lifestyle. I drive a lot of miles and live deep into the countryside where a proper 4x4 pick-up is essential. Always tough and well-engineered, SsangYong is a growing brand in the UK, and its products are very good now in terms of styling, comfort and equipment. This new vehicle is seriously impressive."



CANDICE BROWN RECREATES ŠKODA FABIA CAKE

Great British Bake Off winner Candice Brown re-imagines a delicious, small-scale replica of the iconic Fabia cake. It comes more than a decade after ŠKODA's advert, which saw a life-size version of the Fabia car made entirely out of cake. Candice drew inspiration from the new sporty ŠKODA Fabia Monte Carlo that launched in September. The car's 'interior' was built from six layers of fluffy lemon sponge sandwiched together with a mouth-watering citrus-infused buttercream, before being carved to form the shape of the car. For the 'exterior', Candice used fondant icing to sculpt the newly designed LED headlights, wheels, windscreen wipers, front grille and the detail of the ŠKODA badge to create a perfect imitation of the car.



CANDICE ON THAT ICONIC CAKE

"Everyone remembers and loves the original ad so when I got the challenge through to recreate the new Fabia out of cake, I jumped at it. We're encouraging everyone and anyone to have a go to see if they can recreate the car. The beauty of baking is that it doesn't matter how good or bad you are, regardless of what it looks like cake is always delicious, so you can't go far wrong...hopefully."

Watch Candice whip up the Fabia cake: https://youtu.be/yTYbhMrdF9Y



We've been watching Killing Eve and so should you. Not least because there are some fabulous outfits. So before we get

to our picks, Jodie explains what the costume department did. "The costumes are absolutely incredible; every time you see her she could be a different person. Costume Designer, Phoebe De Gaye's been amazing - she's the brains and the vision behind it all. To be honest, I didn't really know what I thought Villanelle would wear, and then Phoebe brought all this remarkable stuff in, and I was like, 'yup, perfect'. I don't think she has a particular style, it's just anything goes, depending on the mood. Big, bright and bold, I don't think she cares as long as it's expensive."

Jodie Comer

- 1 Moto Guzzi V7 Anniversary £9,000
- 2 Shirt Shien £13.99
- 3 Shorts Boo Hoo £15
- 4 Boots ASOS £29.99
- 5 Bell Custom 500 Deluxe Matt Black Get Geared.co.uk £149.99













A bored MI5 drone vs a sassy assassin - the star of the show Jodie Comer tells us everything we need to know about Killing Eve and her wicked character

What sort of world will the audience be entering with Killing Eve?

The series follows Villanelle's assignments, with Eve becoming aware of a possible link between these kills. Eve and Villanelle's lives are very, very different. I feel like when you' re with Eve, it feels like a totally different world to the one that Villanelle is in. Villanelle is very high-paced, and energetic, and she's always in some extravagant place, wearing ridiculously fancy, eccentric clothes. And she's pretty much always on her own, she's a bit of a lone wolf.

What drives Villanelle to do what she does?

I think what drives Villanelle is her freedom. I feel like she's had very little freedom in her life before now. She lives in Paris in this amazing apartment and she gets a kick from doing these kills - it excites her and gives her purpose. She's got control. She does her kills, she gets her money, she spends her it on what she likes, and she has no one around her to take that from her, or tell her what to do - she has total freedom. She has very little remorse, and she's cool with that.

Do you have anything in common with your character?

I'm scared to say yes because she's so crazy! She likes to spend her money on clothes, and she always seems to be eating, I'm guilty on both counts. I see her as an actress in many ways because she has so many different personas, so my way into her was to think of it as an act. She thrives off being an actress. She speaks so many languages, and often has a set costume or hair depending on her mission, just a totally different life that she morphs into.

How has the Costume Department been helping create the look of

The costumes are absolutely incredible; every time you see her she could be a different person. Costume Designer, Phoebe De Gaye's been amazing - she's the brains and the vision behind it all. To be honest, I didn't really know what I thought Villanelle would wear, and then Phoebe brought all this remarkable stuff in, and I was like, 'yup, perfect'. I don't think she has a particular style, it's just anything goes, depending on the mood. Big, bright and bold, I don't think she cares as long as it's expensive.



WHAT I LOVE IS THE BALANCE OF HUMOUR AND DARKNESS WITHIN THE SERIES: THERE IS SO MUCH HUMOUR. BUT THEN THERE ARE SO MANY MOMENTS WHICH ARE QUITE SHOCKING AND BRUTAL.









"We've been all over the shop! We've been to Paris, Berlin, Tuscany, London and Romania - we were filming the Russian element of the story there. We really wanted to have a sense of scale, and how Villanelle could be thrown into any corner of the world to do a job and then for Eve to follow and show the realities of travelling" - Sophie Waller-Bridge - Screenwriter - Killing Eve







Atom 4 features the latest Honda Type R turbo engine giving 320bhp as standard, all-new chassis, suspension, steering and brakes, all-new bodywork with significant aerodynamic improvements, new seating and instrumentation together with a host of design improvements and changes. Each car will be built, as they are now, by one technician and to order for each individual customer. Having earned its reputation as the 'Savile Row of the Automotive World' Ariel has a tailor-made approach to building vehicles that isn't possible at high volume and reflects the opportunities achievable only in low volume production. Atom 4 will also be made, under licence, by Ariel North America based in South Boston, Virginia serving North and South American markets. The cars will have identical specifications, combining the best high and low volume engineering, materials and production values together with an option list and bespoke build system that gives each customer exactly the car they need. From fun sports car to track weapon, the Atom 4 will deliver, whether you are an international assassin. Or not..







W Series is a woman only, free to enter racing programme, which will accelerate off the starting grid in spring 2019 with a prize fund of US\$1.5 million.

he first season it will be based in Europe on some of the world's most iconic circuits. Each of the twenty entrants will be in identical racing cars. It all sounds very exciting, but should there be a series that excludes men? The last time a woman scored any points in a Grand Prix was the Italian Lella Lombardi who between 1974 and 1976 scored half a point in the 1975 Spanish Grand Prix.

The good news is that the W series free-to-enter single-seater motor racing series for women drivers only, with a prize fund of US\$1.5 million (US\$1,500,000). Not just any women will get behind the wheel as they will be subject to a rigorous pre-selection programme/examination involving on-track testing, simulator appraisal, technical engineering tests, fitness trials etc. The successful applicants will then be given a thorough training programme centring on driving techniques, simulator exposure, technical engineering approaches, fitness and media skills, all of it carried out by a group of experts with decades of Formula 1 experience.

According to David Coulthard "In order to be a successful racing driver, you have to be skilled, determined, competitive, brave and physically fit, but you don't have to possess the kind of superpowerful strength levels that some sports require. You also don't have to be a man. That's why we at W Series firmly believe that female and male racing drivers can compete with one another on equal terms given the same opportunity.

"At the moment, however, women racing drivers tend to reach a 'glass ceiling' at around the GP3/Formula 3 level on their learning curve, often as a result of a lack of funding rather than a lack of talent.

"That's why an all-new all-female single-seater motor racing series is required – W Series – to establish a competitive and constructive motorsport habitat in which our drivers will be able to equip themselves with the necessary skill-set eventually to move on up to existing high-level mainstream racing series and compete with the best male drivers on equal terms."

However some female racers disagree. Rebecca Jackson a TV presenter and has raced at the highest level, Le Mans sports in 2016. She said, "Women only racing series is a step backwards and it's painful to read. Gender is not holding anyone back in motor racing. Men, women, boys and girls all face exactly the same challenges and I used to be proud of being in a sport that does not segregate us."

At Free Car Mag we are huge supporters of all racers and we recently had an interview in Issue 63 with Susie Wolff and Rebecca has also answered reader's car buying questions. We have signed up for W Series to see how close we can get to the grid.



n an age where children spend more time roaming their screens than the outside – over 50 per cent of parents say their children have no outdoor skills, according to new research from Vauxhall Motors.

When asked what skills parents feel the next generation had lost, lighting a fire and map reading were some of the highest-rated outdoor activities that their children didn't know. While 83 per cent of parents claim they think it's important to teach their kids these skills, almost half admit they wouldn't feel confident teaching them the basics including reading a map or identifying a flower.

Showing a bigger reliance on technology in their everyday lives than ever – nearly 60 per cent admit they'd turn to the internet to show them the basics. 32 per cent would even rely on their grandparents to show them what to do.

To inspire families to rediscover these dying skills, the British car manufacturer has teamed up with adventurer and Olympian James Cracknell to encourage parents to get their kids roaming for real to reignite their passion for the outdoors.

To celebrate alongside the launch of the new versatile and practical vehicle, Combo Life, perfect for getting out with the family, James and his two children, Kiki (9) and Trixie (7) put down their tablets and took to the Great British outdoors to try their hand at some of the nation's top lost skills.

Speaking about their adventure, James said: "such busy lives, for us as a family it's really important to get outside for some quality

time together, whether its jumping in the car for a Sunday adventure in the country or a weekend away at our house in North Devon.

It's been great to explore more of the outdoors with my girls, showing them a few skills has shown them how much fun you can have when you go back to basics."

James Cracknell has also worked with Vauxhall driving the new Combo Life to share his how-to tips for some easy outdoor activities with the family. Across the nation, families are eager to head to the great outdoors and set up camp. With 60 per cent of parents from the East Midlands and Wales saying putting up a tent is one the highest rated skills they would want to pass on to their children. That's why Snowdonia, the Brecon Beacons and rolling Pennines of the Peak District, is the perfect place to pitch up - there is an abundance of scenic countryside to pitch up camp and enjoy the great outdoors the UK has to offer.

While the majority of families opting for the car for a family day out (64 per cent), Combo Life comes with an abundance of storage, ample boot space, high levels of safety equipment and enough room for the whole family, as well as the state of the art touchscreen infotainment system including Apple CarPlay $^{\text{TM}}$ and Android Auto $^{\text{TM}}$ – making it the perfect partner for a family weekend away.

For outdoor tips, information about the new Combo Life and to watch the Cracknells get back to basics, visit Vauxhall.co.uk/BackToBasics



Pillington

This is a scary concept. but a very funny one. As the star explains what it is all about, Free Car Mag gawp at the fabulous supporting vehicles.





THIS IS YOUR FIRST SCRIPTED DRAMA. WHAT MADE YOU WANT TO WRITE?

Karl thought I'd had enough of telly. I'd bought my house and once I got it paid for I thought, well that's all we're working for. But after having a bit of time off, I just got bored. After doing all the travel stuff for God knows how long, I'd had enough of hanging around airports and feeling jetlagged. But then I met up with Richard. He directed some of the trips in An Idiot Abroad and The Moaning of Life and he asked me if I wanted to have a go at writing something. And we sat down and chatted about the programmes I liked and it just sort of went from there. It was just something to do.

AND DID YOU ENJOY BEING IN IT?

Karl It was hard work but I think I did enjoy it. My girlfriend Suzanne said I did because when I do the travel stuff I call her and moan. And with this, I was only a bit pissed off for two days in eight weeks so that's pretty good for me. The writing part was good. I'd just do three days a week so I still had time to do the garden and the little jobs around the house I like doing. But once you're filming, that's proper stress time because I am just rubbish at not worrying about stuff. It's not like the travel series when you are just winging it – you turn up, you see something, you say something and then you get on a plane home. With this, I'd spend a lot of time writing it and then the night before I'd be awake changing stuff. Richard would be getting emails from me at four in the morning. So I was really knackered and running on adrenaline. I was playing two roles all the time and I am in every scene. And then I wasn't sleeping so it was pretty mental.

WHAT DIFFERENCES ARE THERE BETWEEN KARL AND THE VOICE IN HIS HEAD?

Karl We wanted them to be slightly different. The idea was that the inner self would be more confident most of the time while Karl is a bit sort of downtrodden, a bit nervous and unsure. The inner self is trying to push him on so there is an energy difference between the two. But apart from that, they look the same, they sound the same. Yeah, there's not much acting going on.

And is it fair to say there isn't much difference between your personality and the Karl we see in the show? Yeah. Well, it's

obviously made up, it'snot a biopic thing based on stories of my life or anything. But when we were writing it, I was saying this is what I think about that or this is how I might react to that. I have tried to keep it true to me because it makes it easy when writing. You don't have to sit there and think what would he do in this situation, what would he say, how would he take that?

YOU DON'T THINK YOU ARE A GOOD ACTOR. WHY IS THAT?

Karl No, I don't know how it works though. Maybe if you speak to Robert De Niro, he'd say he's not very good too. When you are watching yourself, you just know it's you.

WHY SHOULD PEOPLE WATCH THE SERIES?

Karl You might as well give it a go. You've paid for Sky so you might as well watch it. And at least watch two episodes, because episode one is kind of setting it up with me, the voice in my head and my backstory. It really gets going in episode two.

HOW WOULD YOU SUM UP THE SERIES?

Karl It's little simple and relatable stories about a man who's a bit lost in life. There's something that carries on through the series but it's not hanging on a whodunit. It's nothing too heavy – I liked the idea of making something that you could watch on the train or on the bus. Each episode is just 23 minutes but you'll get something out of it. It's about that relationship you have with yourself, how much we worry about what we say and do and how much we are truly being ourselves. Life can be complicated. And even though there are major things going on in the world, you are still caught up in your own bubble. You still have your own daft worries and it's about dealing with them. Do you know what I mean?





Bohemian Rhapsody is a foot-stomping celebration of Queen, their music and their extraordinary lead singer Freddie Mercury. Free Car Mag though could not take their collective eyeballs off the '60s and '70s classics we spotted in the trailer.





FKZ focuses on young Angelino and his skulland-flame pal Vinny, who live in a seedy tenement in an L.A.-inspired dystopian metropolis – a burnt-out, gang-and-cockroach-ridden, neo-urban hell. Following a scooter accident Angelino starts experiencing migraines, strange hallucinations and fits of rage-inspired superpowers, as he slowly awakens to the truth of his origins: he is half human and half Macho, a supernatural alien race that is bent on taking over the planet.





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Back-Seat Driver



DoMoov'in.Paris with Renault

No subscription, at a rate of €0.39 per minute

ravelling to Paris? Well, the Moov' in. Paris application is now available for download from the Apple Store, and Google Play. The new user can create his account very simply and associate the requested documents (pictures of his identification document, driving licence). One hundred Renault ZOE and 20 Renault Twizy will be put into service throughout the capital, as well as in Clichy (Hauts-de-Seine). The number of vehicles put into service will quickly increase to follow the customer demand, while guaranteeing optimal service quality.

The reservation process is simple: the customer locates an available vehicle nearby, reserves it via the application and then has 15 minutes to access and connect to the vehicle via Bluetooth®. The user checks the reference inventory to verify the condition of the vehicle on the application, modifies it if necessary and provides pictures to indicate new damage, and validates it. They are then free to make their journey.

At the end of the journey the customer

parks the vehicle on the road in an authorized location in Paris or Clichy. They validate the electronic inventory of return to complete the rental. The invoicing is then triggered, at a price of 0.39 euro per minute of rental, with a minimum of 10 minutes. The customer does not have to worry about paying for parking nor charging the vehicle.

Renault supplies the vehicles and carries out maintenance and repair. ADA offers its expertise through its digital application dedicated to very short-term rental. It will also carry out the removal, recharging, cleaning and repositioning of electric vehicles.

Moov' in. Paris is part of the strategy of the Groupe Renault and ADA to develop new mobility services accessible to all in a single application, both for very short periods (less than 4 hours) and for short periods (more than 4 hours). Yes there are different kinds of 'shorts'.

Be ready, download Moov' in. Paris now.

https://www.moovin.paris/

MOTORING QUOTES

"Obstructed view, driver not in proper control of the vehicle and insecure load "

Greater Manchester Police stop a Toyota Corolla stuffed to overflowing with garden waste.

"We can confirm that customers around the world will be taking delivery of and enjoying Defender again from 2020."

Land Rover being rather cagey after the next Defender is spotted in the wilds (The Midlands).

"70.875"

Incredibly, that's how much a restored 1972 Ford Escort RS1600 sold for at Silverstone Auctions

"Because the car isn't homologated [not roadlegal], engineers and designers didn't have to follow the usual rules and thus had freedom in development."

Dr Frank Steffen Walliser Porsche vice president comments on the 935, £750K retro racer. You had better hurry though, because only 77 will be built







LAND ROVER CELEBRATES 70 YEARS: Launched in 1983, the Land Rover Defender 110 became a popular motorway patrol vehicle in many police forces. Able to carry equipment to assist motorists in trouble, the 110 would often be seen towing heavy trucks with traction problems in snow.



AMG EXCLUSIVE COLLECTION

et the sporty look of the AMG Collection from Mercedes-Benz by dressing the part. The polo shirts with AMG embroidered onto the chest and printed in 3D on the back. Light padding in the shoulder areas makes the white/grey/black men's version in pure cotton piqué and the black women's version with white and red highlights in soft single jersey particularly comfortable on a long car journey.

AMG caps give protection from the wind and midday sun, which is good. The white model in robust polyester is lined with pure cotton with an easily adjustable metal clasp for size. The black cap AMG in comfortable mixed fabric with dynamic white and red highlights has a stretchband for a good fitting. The new sunglasses in Maybach design from partner MAYBACH ICONS OF LUXURY are a stylish and elegant all-day

accessory for him and her. Fully in line with the Maybach quality philosophy, these new sunglasses excel with unconventional high-quality material and all the attributes of the optician's art. The buffalo horn rims of the "The Bold I" women's model have a classic geometrical shape and the light-brown, high-quality Carl Zeiss lenses with a slight colour graduation provide reliable sun protection. The metal decorations on the arms are typical Mercedes-Maybach designs, with a diamond decor and "flowing lines" reminiscent of a car dashboard. Alternatively the "Bold II" sunglasses are available in a playful cat's-eye design with decorations in rosé-gold. The men's Maybach sunglasses, "The Observer I", are a modern interpretation of the Aviator design.

www.mercedes-benz.com/fashion







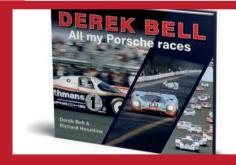
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www.seiko.co.uk



DEREK BELL - ALL MY PORSCHE RACES £45

The British driver won the Le Mans 24 Hours four times for Porsche, the Daytona 24 Hours three times, and he twice claimed the World Sportscar Championship. Bell documents every race that he drove for Porsche. Illustrated with superb images from the Porsche archive as well as Derek Bell's own collection.

www.porterpress.co.uk



BUGATTI CHIRON 1:18 £50

This superb Official Licenced Bburago model of the Bugatti Chiron is highly detailed and pays homage to the Monaco driver Louis Chiron who caught his first victory with a Bugatti. The Chiron will be a dream for those who drive it, and also for those who can only admire it, even if it is only on their desk!

Product Spec: Colour - Le Patron / Bugatti Light Blue Sport, Scale 1:18, Diecast metal, Suitable for ages 3+ www.prescott-hillclimb.com



OMOLAGATO MONZA £350

Official Timepiece Partner of Autodromo Nazionale Monza. This elegant watch has been designed to evoke the track itself, as well as colours associated with it. It features a sun-ray white dial, with a Monza logo on the lower sub-dial, a 'smoked' case to emulate a racing car's exhaust after a grueling race, and a leather strap in signature Monza Blue.

www.omologatowatches.com



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MILERA



CELLET

Roadster with serious attitude wearing a hardtop

ABARTH 124 GT

This rocket of a sports car comes as standard with a carbon fibre roof, 17" OZ Ultra-Light alloys, Bose® sound system and Visibility pack including; dusk and rain sensors, rear parking sensors and adaptive front LED headlights and is limited to just 50 cars in the UK. The carbon fibre roof weighs just 16kgs maintaining the optimum 50:50 weight distribution of the 124. The hard top is lined on the inside and has a large rear window and efficient defroster to clear it in less than three minutes. It guarantees thermal insulation and soundproofing, while ensuring ample rear view. The Abarth 124GT is fitted with a 1.4 MultiAir Turbo 170hp engine reaching 62mph in 6.8 seconds and a maximum speed of 144mph while returning a combined cycle and emitting 148g/km CO2 for the manual. The Abarth 124GT is available for £299per month on a 2 year PCH offer for a limited period. For us thi is the best looking 124 we have yet seen.

Free Car Mag starts saving right now.



VAUXHALL INSIGNIA

Have you seen a prettier looking Vauxhall recently? Never mind that, lift the bonnet and you will find an excellent new engine. Available in Grand Sport and Sports Tourer body styles, the lively four-cylinder engine produces peak power of 200PS at 5,500 rpm and develops 280Nm of torque from 1,650-4,500 rpm. In Grand Sport body style, the Insignia 1.6-litre Direct Injection Turbo can achieve a top speed of 146mph and 0-60mph in 7.2 seconds. For the Grand Sport model, fuel economy is 44.8mpg* (combined) with CO2 emissions of 146g/km. Vauxhall's flagship Insignia range features numerous state-of-the-art technology such as adaptive cruise control, IntelliLux LED matrix headlights and ergonomic seats. Multimedia and Multimedia Navi Pro infotainment systems are also available. Prices start from £25,610 on-the-road for the Insignia Grand Sport SRi VX-Line Nav.



MITSUBISHI OUTLANDER

Powered by a 2.0-litre MIVEC petrol engine it joins the plug-in hybrid and turbo diesel models. As with all Mitsubishi Outlanders, the new Outlander Petrol is also equipped with electronically-controlled 4WD as standard which combines with Active Stability Control to offer excellent traction and stability even in the most challenging of conditions. The standard Drive Mode Selector lets you easily select the most appropriate drive mode when desired: 4WD ECO mode for maximum economy, 4WD AUTO mode for normal driving conditions or 4WD LOCK mode for rough terrain or low-grip conditions. It also seats seven and the extra ones fold flat into the boot.







Without any hesitation, the best compact 4 x 4 would be the Honda CR-V. These are excellent vehicles, which are great to drive, spacious and well equipped. The CR-V comes across as a comfortable and practical family estate car with that all-important off road ability. Unlike so many 4 x 4s it is just a stylish and refined way to travel, which I think, would be perfect for Martin. We found an automatic 2004 2.0i-VTEC SE with 86,000 miles for £2690. It was at a dealer with history and warranty.

A CAR FOR THE HEART SUZUKI VITARA

Simon should stick with Japanese models and as he specified 'small' then the Suzuki Grand Vitara would be ideal. This is a rugged and stylish vehicle, which is well built and also well equipped. There is the option of three or five doors, however the diesel engine is only available with the extra doors. Specification includes electric front windows. Automatic air conditining and reclining rear seats. The 1.9DDis engine returns 40mpg. A revised model from 2007 with 92,000 miles for £2995.



A CAR FOR THE HEAD HONDA CIVIC

Olivia's first car was a Polo and she rather fancies a Golf, but we will come onto that. The Honda Civic would seem to fit her requirements, although she is not at all sure about the styling. She should enjoy the made in Britain build quality and the fact it is comfortable and relaxing to drive. It is certainly spacious, so lots of room for friends and luggage. The 1.4i-VTEC should manage up to 50mpg overall. We found a 2015 45,000 miles example in white for £10,498 with a full Honda history. Perfect.

A CAR FOR THE HEART VOLKSWAGEN GOLF

Trading up to a Golf is the logical thing to do and no one ever made a mistake buying one. The early '90s ones were not great, but the revamped models from 2013 are brilliant all rounders. Golfs are certainly spacious and the Bluemotion Technology models are incredibly fuel efficent. The 1.4 TSI, that is a petrol engine incidentally, which returns around 66mpg overall thanks in part to the engine stop/start technology. We found a 2013 example with 41,000 miles at a car supermarket which had three previous owners for £10,799.

Bangernomics



Brilliantabishi

itsubishis are rather excellent as used car buys. The Japanese built vehicles are pretty indestructible. Today there are more 4 x 4s to choose from on the new and used market than you can shake a low range gear stick at. Back in 1983 though there was sod all to cross the sod in. Land Rovers came in just two exciting flavours, basic Series III or luxobarge Range Rover. There was absolutely nothing in between, save for a few Jeep shaped, but mostly left hand drive Jeep Wagoneers. As for the army surplus Mercedes G Wagen, it didn't cut much of a dash. Because If you really wanted a good value, well equipped, comfortable and capable 4 x 4, then tough. Hence the Far East invasion which was led by the magnificent Mitsubishi Shogun.

Called a Pajero back in the Orient, and Europe for that matter, the UK importers took a leaf out of James Clavell best seller and badged it Shogun. That was a smart marketing move that helped this big off roader established a strong image and an equally firm reputation and resale value. It was tough, as the Paris-Dakar victory in 1984 proved, but it was also usefully civilised on the road thanks to standard power steering and independent front suspension. By 1985 Shogun had over

20% of the UK off road market.

Another Mitszubishi badged legend is the L200. It started life as the 1-ton pickup. The first models were named FORTE, although other badges used included L200 and to ensure customers could go even further afield, Mitsubishi Motors built on its four-wheel-drive heritage by adding a 4x4 version to the range in 1980. This became the foundation for modern Mitsubishi 4WD vehicles, leading directly to the SHOGUN.

over 20% of the UK off road market. The Shogun Pinin was a tiny tot 4 x 4 which was brilliant off road. Otherwise below par interior and only average to drive under normal conditions. So it's a pocket sized Shogun but on the road it was always crude, not very refined or comfortable. Obviously not that spacious but the 5 door from 2001 is slightly more practical.



Watch our Bangertorials on You Tube

YouTube

The variable height suspension system must work properly. Off road carelessness is going to be the cause of broken or sagging springs, also look out for any other serious damage. Look for leaks from the power steering pump too. Tow bar? Look carefully at the rear end and find out what the Shogun towed.

Old shape Shogun's have been known to break gearboxes at relatively low mileages, but the post '91 models don't seem to have given any trouble at all. Look carefully underneath the Shogun anyway for oil leaks and cracked cases as a result of enthusiastic off roading.

Early examples can have quite grim interiors with fairly horrible plastics which are at least tough.







FTO 1994 - 2005

FTO stands for Fresh Touring Origination, launched into the Japanese market in 1994 with a transverse front wheel drive engine layout, independent rear suspension and four-wheel disc brakes. It was voted Japanese Car of the Year. Although there is a four pot 1.8 16 valve at the bottom of the range, quite rightly the most popular model in the UK is a glorious twin cam V6. Poor idle performance seems to be an FTO weak spot, fun whilst trying to keep the revs up with a Tiptronic model when cold. That usually means that the idle control valve or sensor needs a clean.

3000 GT 1992 - 1999

Mitsubishi built a proper supercar. In technical terms this it was more sophisticated than a Honda NSX and also more powerful, but it was much cheaper and more challenging to drive. With four-wheel drive and four wheel steering the anti squat/dive/roll independent suspension helped to keep this hugely powerful V6 on the road. Indeed 'Active Airflow Control' involved all sorts of clever aerodynamic devices that operate automatically at just 50mph. Everything costs a fortune to fix. Also needs a proper specialist history and no evidence that it has been seriously kerbed or crashed.

GALANT 1997 - 2003

Good specifications, strong engines, underrated. Does not have the image of a BMW, which explains why it has always been cheap. Lots of equipment decent engines and a certain amount of exclusivity all help. So dare to be different for less. But which model should you choose? Well, the 2.4 V6 has all the charisma that the Carisma doesn't although the 2.0 GLS has similar performance and economy, but a lower insurance group. There are not many problems with the Galant apart from the cost of putting right worn out consumables like brakes and suspension, so make sure its roadworthy.

FCM 66

Believe it or not, next time you get your favourite Mag it will be Christmas. Our favourite time of the year. We'd love a Vespa scooter and if Santa could deliver it personally, with Sophia Loren... Meanwhile, we'll have an action hero A-lister on the cover. See you when the decorations are up.















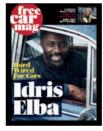
















































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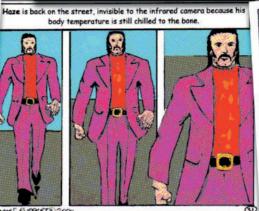




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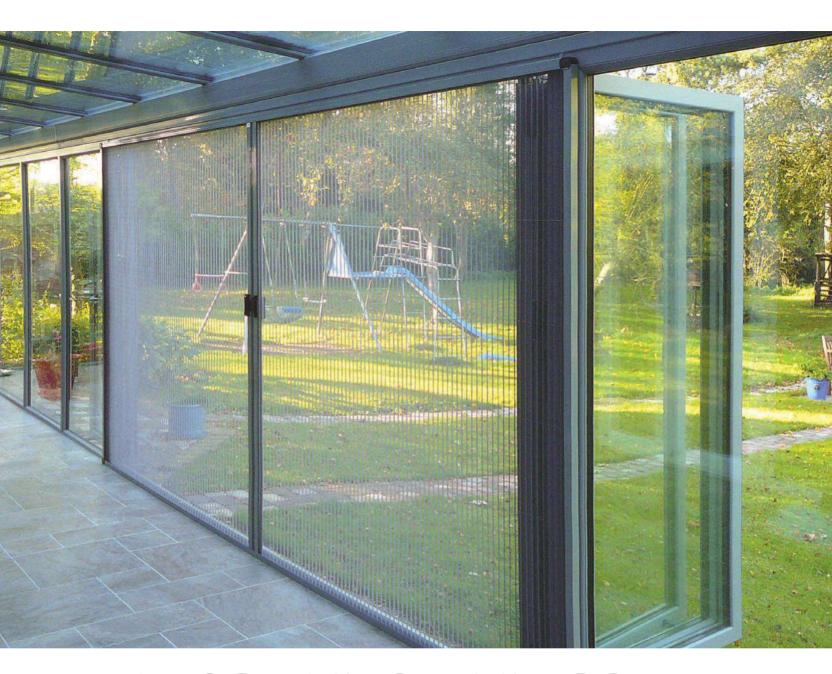
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