

**free
car
mag**

**Off
Road**



Best 4x4s Far⁺



Defender Landcruiser Jeep...



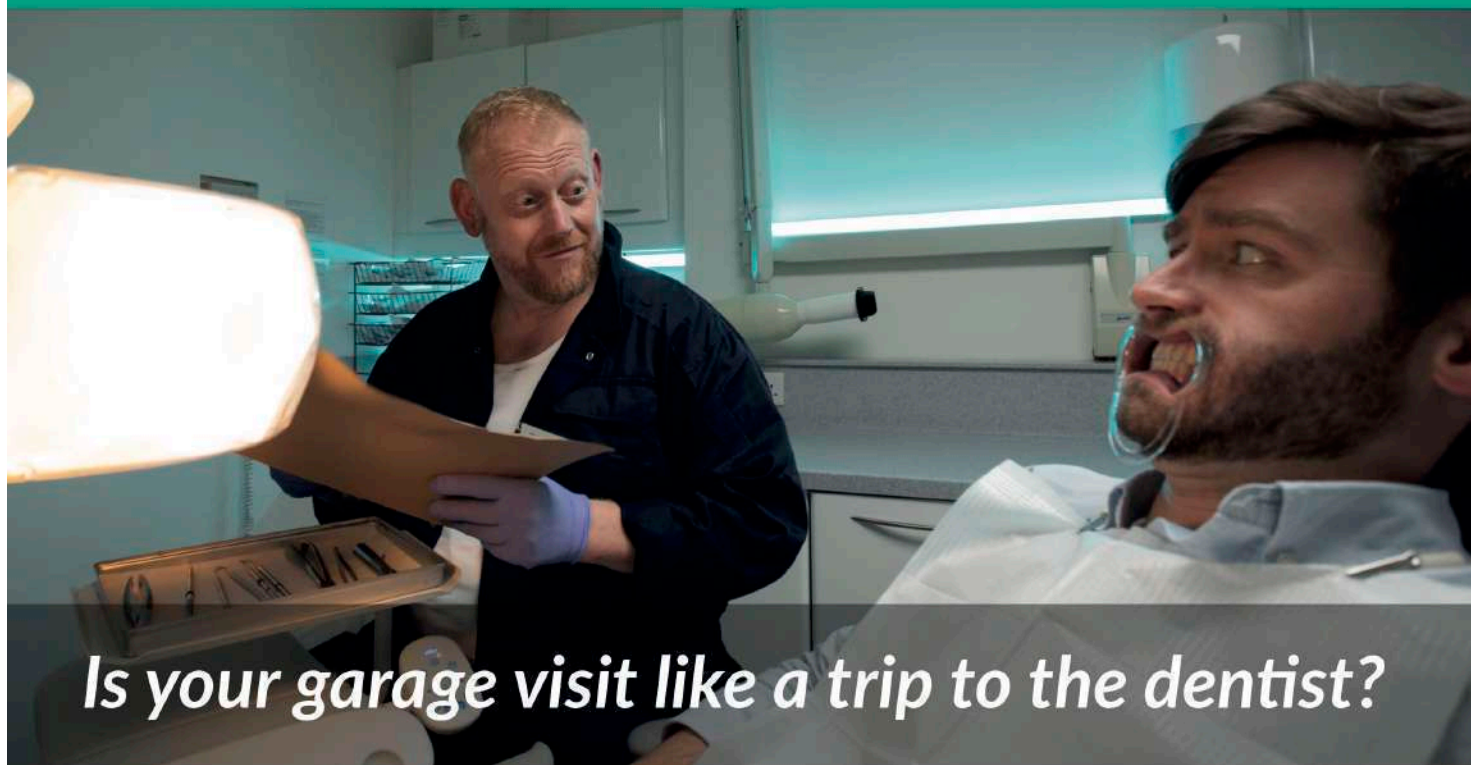
Winter is coming.
The good news is that we have a plan
for dealing with it...



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Excellent: 4.7/5



freetorial

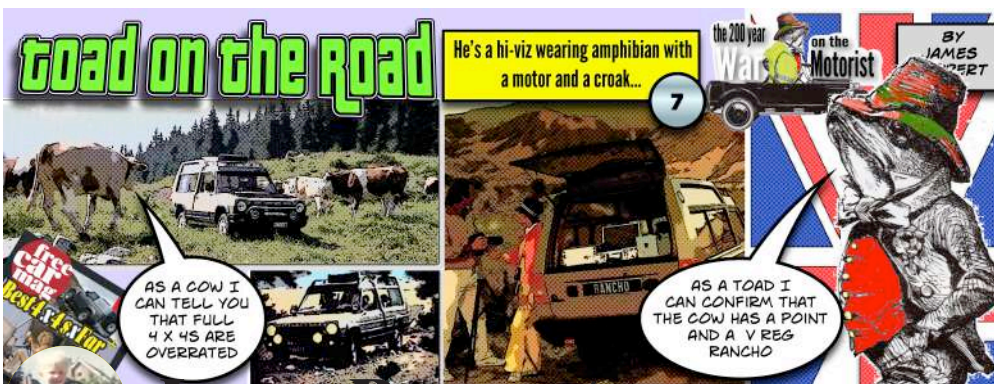
Let's off road shall we? All at once there seemed to be an awful lot of 4 x 4s around. Certainly the smaller, commercial Defender looks the part, even though it will be very expensive. We rather like the look of the Grenadier which many would argue is just what the Defender should have morphed into. Then there is a Jeep Wagoneer, arguably doing the posh on/off road thing several years before the Range Rover. It will be cheaper too. Then there's the Suzuki Jimny, back on the price lists as a commercial. We have forgotten to include the Ford Bronco, so maybe next time and anyway our columnist, Shahzad Sheikh has already said he wants one. Read his reviews, they are the best in the business.

Kiran Parmar prepares us for winter, which is nice. Meanwhile we are following a Golf Cabriolet restoration carried out by Hunters Lodge Car Sales. If you like what you see you can actually buy it. Thanks for turning up and reading this.



Marc Bolan and the Matra Simca marketing team descend on the Free Car Mag offices...

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**FUELLED
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VALERIE SINGLETON OBE ON SENIORS DRIVING

She helps to kick off this year's Project EDWARD (Every Day Without A Road Death) Research shows that older drivers are more likely than their younger counterparts to adopt safe behaviours such as wearing a seatbelt and complying with speed limits. However, those age 55 and older have twice the risk of dying in a work-related crash than younger workers. Valerie Singleton has a long and successful relationship with GEM. As well as presenting the organisation's 'Still Safe to Drive' web resource for senior drivers and their families, she remains a regular contributor to GEM's quarterly membership magazine, Good Motoring.



KIA + RAFAEL NADAL LIVE-STREAM

Aired from the Rafael Nadal Academy in his hometown of Mallorca, Spain, the live stream aimed to #GetRafaMoving with fans joining to vote in real-time and test Nadal on the court. Through a series of emojis, fans had total control and tailored the session based on what they wanted to see most from Nadal. Throughout the unique training, Nadal took on a range of drills from knocking down targets to returning over balls with amazing trick shots. After taking on the fan-led training session, Nadal commented, "Fans have been without tennis for months now, particularly mine since besides my practice routines at the Rafa Nadal academy I haven't been active, so I really enjoyed putting on a special event for them." "Kia has been by my side since I was 17 years old and has played a big part in my journey as a professional tennis player."



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Crowned World Champion in 2016, Nico has embarked on a career as sustainability entrepreneur.

RIMAC AUTOMOBILI + NICO ROSBERG

Founder and CEO, Rimac Automobili said: “For us, it’s an honour that Nico chose to become a part of the Rimac Automobili family. Nico is a great guy through and through – as a driver, sustainability entrepreneur, tech lover and future-focused individual, he understands exactly what we want to achieve with the C_Two; simply, that we want to set new standards for performance by using advanced electric technology developed entirely in-house here at Rimac Automobili. The car we have created is built almost from the ground up by the team here in Croatia. And to have one of the world’s best drivers give us the ultimate seal of approval on that design and engineering by buying one is an amazing feeling.” The Rimac C_Two will deliver a 0-100mph (161km/h) time of 4.3 seconds and a top speed of 258mph in final production form. These performance figures have been achieved through development of the original C_Two concept and subsequent prototypes. In parallel with the development of the C_Two, the Rimac Automobili business has continued to scale up, with Porsche increasing its ownership stake in the business to 15.5% and Hyundai Motor Group investing 80M EUR into the business.



WATCH NICO’S SUPERCAR REVEAL ON YOUTUBE

Nico is one of just 150 people worldwide that will own a C_Two, having ordered his car in early 2019, following a viewing with the founder and CEO, Mate Rimac. Just recently, Nico visited the team – now numbering more than 700 – in Sveta Nedelja, Croatia, to decide on the bespoke configuration of his car, which will be delivered along with other customer cars in 2021. Following an 11-year career in Formula One that saw him crowned World Champion in 2016, Nico has embarked on a career as sustainability entrepreneur and investor in green technologies. He is invested in more than twenty mobility start-ups as well as the all-electric Formula E championship. Watch his supercar reveal right here: <https://youtu.be/EFAu2xquedk>

SPOTTED
OUT AND
ABOUT



HYUNDAI + REN HARVIEU RELEASE 'ELECTRIC FEELS'

Hyundai announced an exclusive new track called 'Electric Feels,' written and performed by critically acclaimed UK artist Ren Harvieu. The song, performed by Ren, was co-written with Romeo Stodart. Ren said: "When I was approached by Hyundai about the concept of Electric Feels, it resonated with me immediately. "I'd already been thinking about the changes that I've seen in cities across the country, quieter roads, less air pollution and I think we've been given a small window into what a more sustainable future could look like. "This campaign is about getting people to think about the environment and make that switch to electric. For me this is a really important message."

In the
Studio





Get The Look

HYUNDAI + REN HARVIEU 'ELECTRIC FEELS'

Apparently, co-Research by OnePoll for Hyundai, whose alternatively fuelled cars include the NEXO Fuel Cell and KONA Electric, revealed that pop music was the most popular genre listened to by Brits during lockdown, followed by rock, classical, indie and dance. Four in ten (41 per cent) said they listened to music to cheer them up, while 32 per cent tuned in to take their mind of things and 31 per cent said music helped to calm them down, which is nice to know. However, what we really want to do is get Ren's super cool lookl, so the Free Car Mag team have been on this for 24/7 to find out just what glad rags you can buy. Meanwhile. You can download the track right here. http://smarturl.it/rh_electric.

Ren Harvieu

- 1 Hyundai KONA electric SE £32,511
- 2 Boots - Shoe Zone £14.99
- 3 Jeans - New Look £25.99
- 4 T Shirt - Shein.co.uk £6.99
- 5 T Blazer - ASOS £55.00



Land Rover



Commercial Travellers

The only Land Rover we really care about is back. The legendary Hard Top is ready for work.





Available in both 90 Hard Top and 110 Hard Top body designs, the durable interior of the new commercial model combines a two-seat passenger compartment – with the option of a third central jump seat – and a flexible, hard-wearing rear load bay that provides 1,355 and 2,059 litres of loadspace respectively.

By incorporating clever lockable underfloor storage solutions and a secure bulkhead partition, Land Rover Special Vehicle Operations have taken every step to maximise the space and practicality of the Defender in its transformation into the most usable and hard-wearing commercial Land Rover ever produced. The Defender Hard Top is powered exclusively by Land Rover's strong and efficient Ingenium diesel engines, including D200, D250 and D300 in-line six-cylinder variants. All make use of the latest advanced Intelligent All-Wheel Drive (iAWD) system to distribute power and torque for optimum performance and efficiency. The Hard Top's load area is accessed via the side-hinged rear tailgate, while the rear side doors on 110 variants boost practicality and give customers the flexibility to access smaller items located towards the front without the need to move bulky objects out of the way. The interior rear door panels also feature a unique slimline profile to maximise loadspace inside. If required, the 110 Hard Top can accommodate a standard Euro Pallet thanks to its wide-opening tailgate and generous proportions. The maximum load length measures up to 1,472mm in the 110 and lashing points ensure large loads can be safely secured in place. Not only that Customers can add bespoke signage to the Defender Hard Top's iconic silhouette, thanks to the Exterior Signage Panel behind the front row of seats that runs to the rear of the vehicle, while a variety of roof racks and accessories provide added scope for load carrying. Free Car Mag wants one. Possibly two. Or more.



Landcruiser

Legendcruiser

The greatest offroader ever has been revamped with new engines and specifications to make it even more, well, legendary. Free Car Mag can't wait to drive one.





Toyota's mighty Land Cruiser gains even more power with the introduction of a new and efficient 2.8-litre engine, leading a series of performance and equipment updates for both the passenger and commercial versions of the SUV.

The new four-cylinder turbodiesel unit adds plenty of extra muscle to the world-famous Land Cruiser, delivering a maximum 201bhp/150kW at 3,000rpm and producing peak torque of 500Nm from 1,600rpm*. This marks an increase of 27bhp and 50Nm on the previous engine, gains that are reflected in a 2.8-second reduction in the 0-62mph time to less than 10 seconds.

This additional strength brings no penalty in terms of fuel economy or CO2 emissions. With the benefit of a stop-start system as standard, fuel consumption is in fact slightly improved.

The engine meets the UK's RDE2 (Real Driving Emissions) standard, so qualifies for a lower Vehicle Excise Duty charge – down by £325 in the first year compared to the current Land Cruiser.

The Land Cruiser line-up now offers two equipment grades, in line with customer preferences.

The Active grade is the new entry point to the range, available in three and five-door formats and with five or seven seats.

The specification gains wireless smartphone integration via Apple CarPlay and Android Auto as standard, together with an improved multimedia system. Operated via an eight-inch touchscreen, this benefits from faster software and

command response and offers a customisable home screen so that owners can prioritise their most frequently accessed functions.

The Active grade's established features include 17-inch alloy wheels, cruise control air conditioning, smart entry and push-button start, roof rails and heated power door mirrors.

At the top of the range, the seven-seat Invincible also adopts the smartphone integration package and is newly available with an optional Black Pack. Customers who opt for black leather upholstery can also specify an all-black exterior, including the front grille, door mirror casings, rear light surrounds, side mouldings and rear garnish, plus clear lenses for the rear light clusters. The look is carried through to the cabin with black finish for the centre console and transmission tunnel. Black alloy wheels can also be specified, as an additional option.

The Invincible comes with a comprehensive, top-quality specification including systems to tackle the demands of different off-road conditions. Multi-Terrain Select, a rear differential lock, centre Torsen limited-slip differential and Crawl Control are all part of the technically advanced suite of control functions, plus Adaptive Variable Suspension with electronically modulated rear air suspension.

While being able to deal with challenging conditions, the Land Cruiser Invincible also offers a wealth of comfort and convenience features, including triple-zone climate control, power steering column and front seat adjustment, heated and ventilated front seats, heated second row seats, leather upholstery, multi-view monitor, 14-speaker JBL Synthesis premium audio system, LED headlights, 19-inch alloys, rear privacy glass and illuminated side steps.

Jeep Wagoneer



Premium Americana



The Wagoneer returns. It's a seriously upmarket offroader which does everything rather brilliantly..



Born in America in 1962 for the 1963 model year, Wagoneer was the first four-wheel-drive vehicle mated to an automatic transmission, pioneering the first modern SUV. The 1984 Grand Wagoneer marked the beginning of the premium SUV, giving buyers an unheard-of combination of standard features, such as leather upholstery, air conditioning, AM/FM/CB stereo radios and added sound insulation, with a dramatic increase in horsepower and torque.

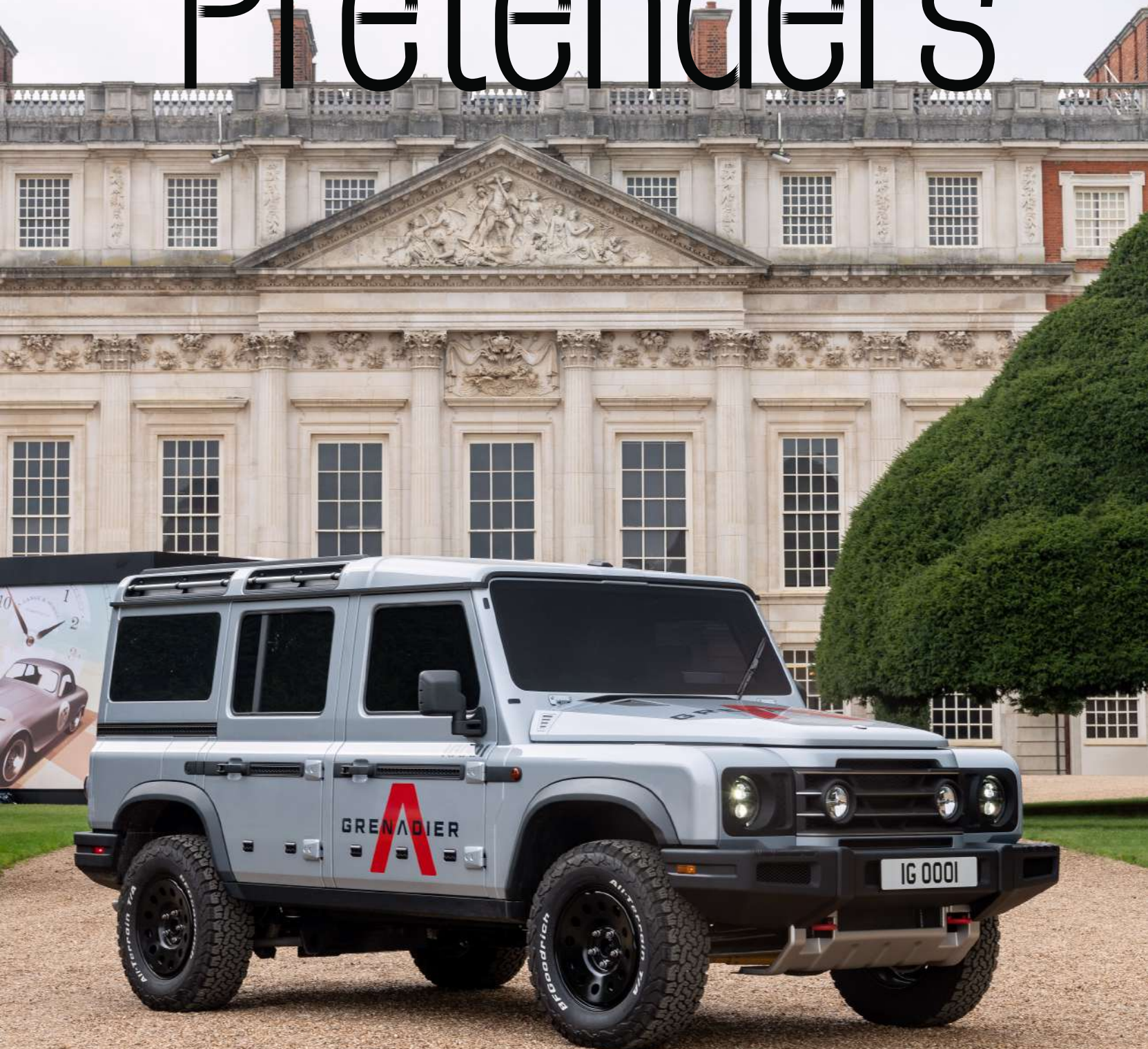
When the production version of the Grand Wagoneer arrives next year, it will boast class-leading capability courtesy of three available 4x4 systems and the renowned Quadra-Lift air suspension, premium driving dynamics with an independent front and rear suspension, unmatched towing capability, powerful performance, advanced technology, safety and connectivity, a new level of comfort and best-in-class overall passenger volume – all wrapped in a stunning, elegant new design. True to its name, the Grand Wagoneer Concept offers a grand interior for up to seven passengers thanks to its spacious, comfortable front- and second-row captain's chairs, as well as its third row – a first for the Grand Wagoneer nameplate. The relaxed atmosphere of the interior – accentuated by the use of customisable ambient lighting, both in colour and intensity – offers a liberating feeling of tranquility for everyone on board.

The spaciousness of the premium interior is enhanced by large glass windows that offer greenhouse-like views, a feature that distinguished the original Grand Wagoneer and does the same for today's modern Grand Wagoneer Concept. As the original Grand Wagoneer provided a window to the world, the new Grand Wagoneer Concept is inspired by premium transportation and architectural design, creating an exclusive environment for each passenger. We look forward to driving one.



Grenadier & Jimmy

The Great Pretenders





This is interesting. Buyers in the market for a traditional brick shaped 4 x 4 that isn't a Land Rover are going to be spoilt for choice. Right now they can order a two seat Suzuki Jimny. Then from the end of 2021 the INEOS Grenadier is a full size multi seat alternative to the old school Defender.

In 2017, INEOS Chairman, Sir Jim Ratcliffe, a car enthusiast and experienced adventurer, identified a gap in the market for a stripped back, utilitarian, hard-working 4x4 engineered for modern day compliance and reliability. INEOS Automotive Limited was formed and a senior team of automotive professionals assembled to bring the vision to reality.

Combining rugged British spirit with German engineering rigour, the Grenadier will be a truly uncompromising 4x4 built from the ground up. Engineered to overcome all conditions, it will provide best-in-class off-road capability, durability and reliability to those who depend on a vehicle as a working tool, wherever they are in the world.

On the engineering front, they are now in the series development phase, supported by their engineering partner Magna Steyr, with prototype testing under way. The INEOS Grenadier will go into production in late 2021.

INEOS Automotive is a subsidiary of INEOS Group (www.ineos.com), a leading manufacturer of petrochemicals, speciality chemicals and oil products. It employs 23,000 people across 34 businesses, with a production network spanning 183 manufacturing facilities in 26 countries. From paints to plastics, textiles to technology, medicines to mobile phones, materials manufactured by INEOS enhance almost every aspect of modern life. In 2019, INEOS had sales of circa \$61bn.

To find out more about Grenadier, visit www.ineosgrenadier.com

Suzuki has introduced a new 2-seater light-commercial vehicle version of its small and lightweight off-roader, the Jimny. Since its launch in 2018, the model has attracted both private-users and professionals who seek for an authentic off-road performance.

To further meet the needs of professionals, the new Jimny light commercial vehicle model comes with a large luggage compartment with a flat floor and safety cargo partition.

Authentic off-road performance The light commercial vehicle model features the same authentic, uncompromising off-roading performance desired by professionals as the passenger vehicle model with key essentials – a ladder frame, the three angles, 3-link rigid axle suspension and ALLGRIP PRO, a part-time 4WD system with low range transfer gear.

Practical luggage space For enhanced utility, the light commercial vehicle model has a large 863-litre capacity, 33 litre more than the passenger vehicle model when rear seat seats are folded down, with a flat floor for better practicality and safety partition that protects cargoes moving into the cabin.

Advanced safety features For enhanced peace of mind on driving both on- and off-road, the light commercial vehicle model comes equipped with the same safety features as the passenger vehicle model including Dual Sensor Brake Support (DSBS) which employs automatic brake to help avoid a collision, and hill hold and descent control that support driving on slopes. In addition, eCall, an emergency messaging function in case of a collision is newly added.

KIRAN PARMAR SHOWS US
HOW TO PREPARE FOR
WHAT'S COMING

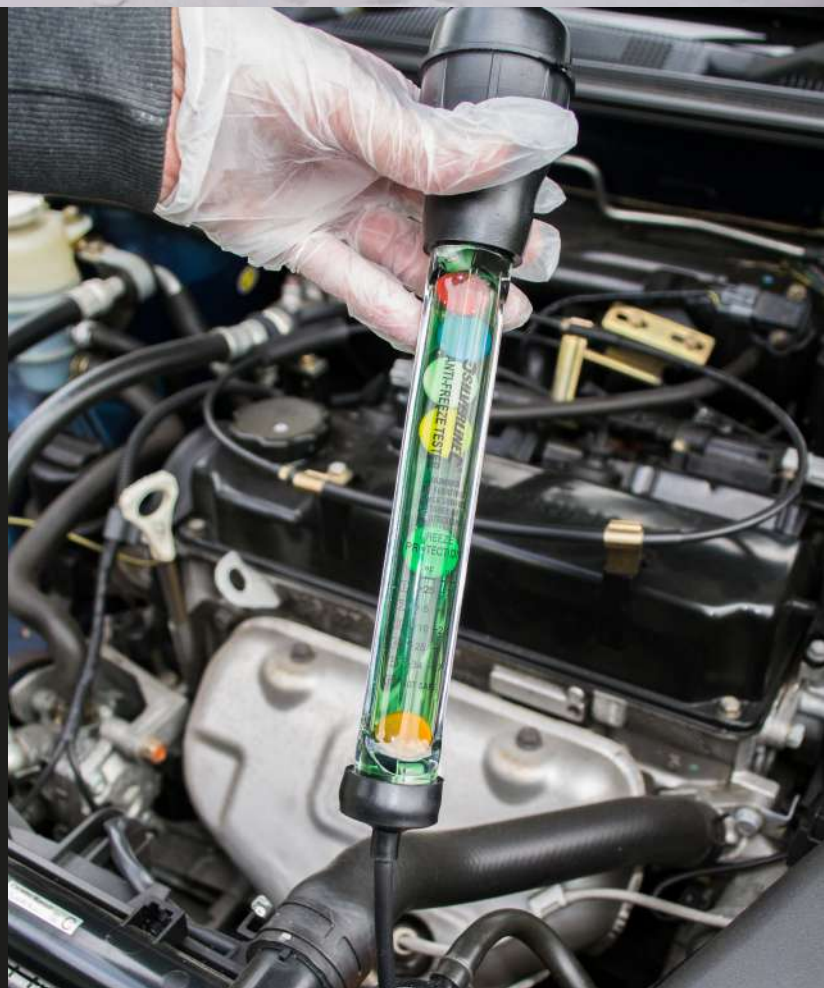


Winter Warmers

It is this time of year that most of all dread – Winter. Days are getting shorter and darker; nights are getting longer and typical unpredictable bad British weather awaits us. So let's see what we can do to get our cars ready for winter; spending some time now getting our cars ready could save us the heartache of a breakdown; being stranded on the side of the road on a freezing cold, rainy, or worst still – a snowy winter day.

Check Under Bonnet

Check your engine oil, brake fluid, power steering fluid, automatic transmission fluid, coolant and top up if needed, test the strength of your coolant antifreeze with a tester so you know that your engine and radiator will be protected when the temperature drops. Add 'winter screen wash' to your washer bottle as it has a much lower freezing point. Test your windscreen washer to ensure the jets are all working and spraying the windscreen evenly. Use an adjustment tool if any one of the jets is not reaching the glass sufficiently. Check the rear wash wipe works properly if you have one. If your car has headlamp washers, ensure they are working also. Check the condition of your air filter and replace if clogged. If you have a high-performance reusable air filter, check it and clean if necessary as we mentioned in last month's issue. Whilst you are there look at the condition of your battery, if the terminals are corroded this is a good time to replace your battery. A fully charged battery should read 12.6 volts or above. When the engine is running, that number should be between 13.7 and 14.7 volts. Anything lower than 12.2 volts means you have a bad battery. You can check your battery voltage with a multi-meter. Also check the condition of the battery leads. Finally, check the condition of all the rubber hoses and belts, including the radiator hoses. If you have a modern diesel, make sure your 'AdBlue' tank is topped up.



Check Bulbs

Check all exterior bulbs are working including your fog lamps. If you have halogen bulbs, consider upgrading to brighter high-performance versions such as 'Osram Nightbreakers.' Check the condition of all light clusters.

Check Rubbers and Locks

Check condition of your wiper blades and all rubber door and boot seals. Spray silicone spray on rubber seals to prevent doors from freezing shut in cold temperatures. Clear all leaves and debris in boot, bonnet, and door shut lines. Ensure all water drainage channels are cleaned. Check the condition of your tyres. Check the pressures and tread depths are good. Consider switching to winter tyres. Don't forget to check your spare tyre. Look at the condition of your brake discs, pads and callipers. Check all your exterior locks are working. If your electronic key fob dies for whatever reason, then you will still be able to get into your car. Spray a small amount of WD40 into locks to ensure they are operating smoothly.

Wash and Wax

Give the bodywork a thorough rinse, pay attention to wheel arches. If your pressure washer has a under chassis adaptor jet, use it. Use snow foam and a good quality shampoo in a bucket of warm water and a microfiber mitt. Use a filter grate in your bucket to catch grit and keep it at the bottom of your bucket. Rinse the shampoo off and don't forget to clean your wheels with a suitable alloy wheel cleaner. Use a large microfiber drying towel to dry your vehicle. Use a wax with carnauba to protect the entire body. This will help repel rain and dirt and keep your car looking cleaner for longer during the winter months.

Glass Care and Interior

Use a quality glass cleaner and micro fibre cloth to clean all your exterior glass including your wing mirrors. From the inside, use another clean micro-fibre cloth to clean all glass including your rear-view mirror and sunroof glass. Vacuum all seats, carpets and mats including those in your boot. If you have a leather interior, clean the leather with a suitable leather cleaner then apply some leather cream. Install heavy duty rubber floor mats to protect your interior throughout winter.

Be Prepared

Kit your boot with an ice scraper and de-icer spray. Carrying a warning triangle and hi-vis jacket is also a good idea in the event of a breakdown. Make sure you have a bright torch plus extra batteries. A mobile phone charger, power bank, jump leads or battery booster is also a must. If the weather gets icy and snowy, keep a folding shovel in your boot. Make sure your First aid kit is up to date and pack it with any spare prescription medication. Also keep emergency food and water. Winter gloves, hat, coat, warm clothes, and a blanket could also be a lifesaver. Store hand sanitizer/ wet wipes and spare masks in your glove box in easy reach. Finally ensure your breakdown cover is up to date and the breakdown number is stored in your phone or make sure you have downloaded the emergency breakdown app.

Prepare Yourself

Doing a skid pan course is great fun. It will prepare you for what you need to do if ever you get into a skid and also teach you how to prevent getting into a skid by driving safely in snowy and icy conditions. On the skid pan, you will learn what understeer and oversteer feels like and how to correct the problem in a safe environment. If you wish to take your driving skills every further, consider doing the Advanced Driving Course as I did. It will take your enjoyment of driving to another level.

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Back-Seat Driver



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Citroën UK is now offering customers the opportunity to complete their entire purchase, exclusively and simply, from the comfort of their own home – from browsing the website and using the car configurator, to personalising their finance options, valuing their part exchange, selecting their preferred retailer, and placing an order online.

The entire process can be completed in 20-30 minutes through the dedicated web portal, with experts on hand via phone, email and live chat to help guide customers through the process. What's more, potential customers are able to enjoy key models at exclusively lower Citroën Store prices.

Following a successful pilot in France, the UK is the first market to enable customers to complete their purchase without visiting a retailer, before the service is made available worldwide later this year. Citroën introduced its new Virtual Showroom last month, offering a

detailed live walk around of models, including C3 Aircross Compact SUV and C5 Aircross SUV. The brand's new electric, plug-in hybrid, petrol and diesel models, including Citroën C5 Aircross Hybrid and New Citroën C4 and all-electric ë-C4, are set to be added in the coming months. Buyers can book live walk-around tours of the vehicles via the web portal, during which an expert Product Presenter will use the latest video technology to introduce the vehicle and answer any questions over a secure video link. The vehicles are displayed in a bespoke showroom viewing area fitted with high-definition cameras

visit: www.store.citroen.co.uk/



Have your say  @freecarmag1

COP FORD RAPTOR



Police forces across the UK are set to trial Ford's latest blue-light vehicle – a 105mph all-wheel drive Ford Ranger Raptor. With its FOX shock absorbers and Baja desert race mode as standard, it has more than enough to keep up with crims making a getaway across gravel, mud and sand.

South Wales Police are among the first to trial the Ranger Raptor pick-up – capable of travelling off road almost as quickly as on it – which may prove to be the perfect tool to access some of the UK's most rural locations. A specially engineered, bi-turbo Ford 2.0-litre EcoBlue Diesel works with a 10-speed automatic gearbox and paddle gear shifters. And equipped with an impressive All-Terrain Management System, the Raptor is a 4x4 pick-up truck that delivers the ultimate experience, both on and off-road. Ranger Raptor is a double cab pick-up, also known as a crew cab pick-up, meaning it has a full-size cab and benefits from 4 doors and extended legroom.

The spacious second row seating means you can comfortably bring friends + family along for the ride. Be careful out there, or at least get yourself a Raptor if you are planning on doing bad things.



TUSCON TESTED...




The all-new Tucson has completed the last steps of testing and quality assurance. Following an intensive development period in Hyundai testing centres, proving grounds and roads across the globe, the all-new Hyundai Tucson has been fine-tuned in the Czech Republic and Austria ahead of its market launch. The all-new Tucson is the fourth generation of Hyundai's best-selling SUV. It is the first Tucson to be developed under Hyundai's new design identity, Sensuous Sportiness. It is also fun-to-drive, thanks to responsive engine and transmission choices, paired with practical characteristics for everyday usage, from four-wheel drive to towing capabilities. Vehicle quality is a priority for Hyundai. In recent years, the company has consistently been recognised with awards reflecting this. In the 2020 U.S. Initial Quality Study, consumer bible J.D. Power ranked the third-generation Tucson the best compact SUV on the market.



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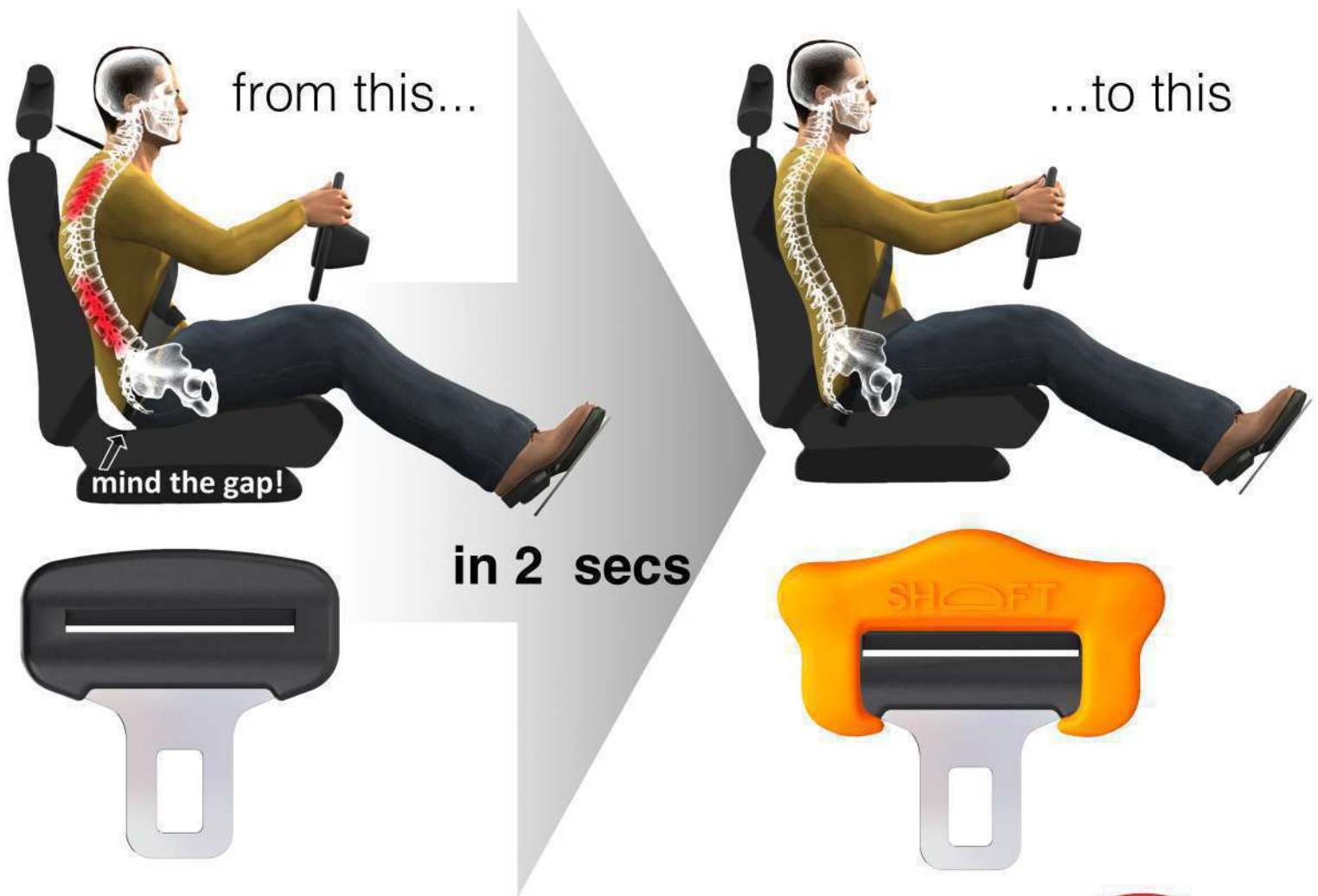


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Land Rover Book

PICTURE PERFECT

LAND ROVER

GRIPPING PHOTOS OF THE 4x4 PIONEER

GILES CHAPMAN

Iconic Land Rovers as you have never seen them before...

The original Land Rover evolved for almost seventy years, from the ground-breaking Series I model in 1948 to the final Defender in 2016. Now there is a totally new Defender for the 2020s. Land Rover charts the history of the authentic bloodline in striking, carefully compiled and, in some instances, very rare photographs. It presents the memorable mileposts – and bizarre diversions – in an astonishingly long life. This is a rich visual tribute to the genius and guts of these legendary vehicles written by one of the country's leading automotive authors.

Land Rover
Gripping Photos of the 4 x 4 Pioneer
Giles Chapman, 9780750993197,
£20 hardback - The History Press.



Wanted



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Land Rover x Elliot Brown

Land Rover and watch maker Elliot Brown are right behind a team rowing 2,000 miles around the UK coast for charity.



Land Rover x Elliot Brown: Land Rover and watchmaker Elliot Brown create one of the world's toughest watches **GB Row Challenge:** Land Rover x Elliot Brown Holton Professional watch is official timekeeper for Team Exe Endurow, for the 2,000-mile row around UK coast for the British Red Cross and JustOneOcea **Tough conditions:** Challenge is the perfect test for a tough timepiece that will be available as a hero piece of Land Rover's Above and Beyond collection. The tough new Land Rover x Elliot Brown Holton Professional watch is the official timekeeper for Team Exe Endurow, taking part in one of the world's greatest rowing tests, GB Row Challenge. Four rowers are taking on the seas to raise money for the British Red Cross and environmental charity JustOneOcean. The Land Rover x Elliot Brown watch is based on the original Elliot Brown Holton Professional watch that was developed with a specialist branch of the UK armed forces. Built to withstand extreme military field tests and harsh environments, it was the first British-designed military watch supplied to the unit in more than a decade.

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SE Technology, Xperience and Xperience Lux all cheaper than outgoing models. Diesel engines benefit from Selective Catalytic Reduction with dual-AdBlue injection to minimise NOx emissions. CUPRA Ateca priced from £39,050 with high-powered 300PS 4Drive system and Adaptive Chassis Control: 0-62mph in 4.9 seconds.



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All models gain a revised air intake system, improved cooling, two-piece floating disc brakes for increased performance, revised suspension geometry and bushings for improved ride compliance, and minor cosmetic changes to the interior and exterior. The Civic Type R GT will benefit from blind spot information including cross traffic monitor, dual zone climate control, auto dimming rear view mirror, Honda CONNECT with Garmin Navigation, wireless charging, high power audio, and LED front fog lights. Inside, all models feature revised tactility and improved touch points, with a new Alcantara wrapped steering wheel, a counterweighted teardrop gear knob and physical controls for the infotainment and climate systems. The Limited Edition is sold out.



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The new Barbarian + is fitted as standard with Mitsubishi Motors' renowned Super Select 4WD system with off-road modes, 18-inch alloy wheels, leather upholstery with heated front seats, illuminated door Barbarian door entry guards and LED mood lighting. Safety equipment includes Forward Collision Mitigation, Lane Departure Warning and automatic lights and wipers, along with Active Stability and Traction Control, seven airbags, Hill Start Assist and Trailer Stability Control systems that are standard across the L200 range. Based on the high specification of the Barbarian version, the Barbarian+ also offers customers the following premium load area package • GST PLUS II Hardtop (pop-out side windows and sliding bulkhead window) • Tailgate central locking integrated with vehicle central locking/ alarm • Load-bay lighting • Hardtop roof rails • Protective under-rail load bay liner.



HE Proposed Motorway Speed Limit Reduction to 60mph Borders on Economic Vandalism

Highways England is proposing to reduce the motorway speed limit for all traffic, including zero tailpipe- (but in practice geographically displaced) emissions electric vehicles, to 60mph on some stretches. This is ostensibly to curb emissions. But this will not yield **any** meaningful NOx, PM2.5 or PM10 emissions reductions.

It has already been shown that 2017 car and taxi traffic (c.30.5m vehicles; covering 409.4 BnVkm) represented nearly 78% of UK's annual road mileage travelled, but only generated respectively 13.5% of national NOx and around 5% each of national PM2.5 & PM10s (see figure below left, and: <https://www.abd.org.uk/political-establishments-persecution-of-car-drivers-is-totally-unjustified/>).

Meanwhile, 2017 public transport, heavy and light goods vehicle traffic (c.4.3m vehicles; covering 112.6 BnVkm) represented only 21.4% of annual road mileage, but respectively generated 18.5%, 6.85% & 6.28% of NOx, and PM2.5 and PM10s; each of these significantly more than the corresponding aggregate figures for car and taxi emissions; yet from numerically far fewer vehicles.

Most public transport, heavy and light goods vehicles are already electronically limited to less than 60mph by law, so their emissions will therefore be unaffected by any limit reduction.

What HE apparently totally fails to grasp [demonstrating a disappointing lack of: (a) comprehension of emissions science, and so (b) fitness-for-purpose] is that problem vehicle emissions peak at low speeds, not at elevated ones (see figure below right, and: <http://content.tfl.gov.uk/london-exhaust-emissions-study-developing-a-test-programme.pdf>, pp.18-35).

Substantially the highest emissions occur at speeds consistently below - and under acceleration to - 30mph.

Additionally, while motorways only represent 0.9% of the UK road network, they carry 21% of its road traffic.

Each 1 mph reduction in average traffic speed costs the UK economy in excess of £1Bn in lost productivity through extended journey times. A 10mph speed reduction for 78% (car/taxi) of motorway traffic is equivalent to £1BN x 0.78 (% cars/taxis) x 10(mph reduction) x 0.21% (% of annual mileage) = over £1.5Bn in annual lost productivity for no environmental gain. This at the very least amounts to economic mismanagement bordering on irresponsibility, just as the UK economy seeks to claw its way out of a deep, Covid-19 generated downturn.

HE should be facilitating enhanced traffic flow, supporting the introduction of a motorway speed limit at least 80mph, in line with 85th Percentile Principles. Instead it is proposing virtue-signalling, economically detrimental reductions.

Support The Alliance of British Drivers on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/allianceofbritishdrivers>
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REVIEW Audi Q3 Sportback



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REVIEW

Suzuki Swift Sport Hybrid

Knowing that this updated Suzuki Swift Sport is now a Hybrid, the presence of a full 6-speed manual gearbox and clutch takes you by surprise, albeit a pleasant one. In fact this is a mild hybrid 48-volt system with battery pack under the front seats and an additional motor. The electricker employed serves to aid power to the electronics rather than sapping energy from the engine, plus aids in the smooth stop-start and adds a little extra torque at lower revs.

And you do feel a sprightly initial acceleration when first moving off, although the

figures compared to the previous version might seem disappointing at first (a second down at 8.1 for the 0-62mph sprint), but while it has less horsepower (127bhp vs 138bhp) it's up slightly on torque. Fuel economy improves by 3.0mpg to 50mpg and CO2 emissions fall from 135g/km to 127g/km. The price however rises to £22k, up nearly four grand.

If not quite in the pocket rocket league, it certainly is a fun and lively little car to peddle around town - chuckable, tenacious, engaging - yet boasting big car features on longer runs - adaptive cruise control and auto-dipping high beam. And of course it retains all the charms of the Swift that endear it so much to owners - the compact size but eminent practicality, reliability and ease of use. The only fly in the ointment is the price which pits against the Ford Fiesta ST, a fight it will always lose.

The Audi Q3 Sportback is a sleeker, sportier looking version of the Q3 family SUV. The coupe-like profile reveals bulging flanks that give it a more meatier and muscular stance. It looks bigger than a Q3 but it's actually narrower and five centimetres lower.

On this 45 TFSI Quattro test car there's a 2.0-litre turbo four-cylinder putting out about 230bhp and 258lb ft (350Nm) of torque, which provides 0-62mph acceleration in 6.5 seconds and up to 145mph. Official combined fuel consumption is about 32mpg with CO2 emissions up to 204g/km.

There are lesser petrol variants available and diesel versions too of course, but if you're after real muscle you want the 400bhp RS Q3 Sportback which starts at around £54k. This model lines up at just over £39k initially.

There's a generous amount of boot space, and in the rear decent knee-room, foot space and overall comfort is complemented by adequate headroom, though you might just find the top of your head occasionally brushing the roof lining.

With reassuring Quattro grip, even in frequently wet weather, the acceleration is more than enough for most needs. The ride is very well composed and keeps you cosseted, though things do get a little livelier in sports mode, and of course the brakes and grip are beyond reproach.

Style wins the argument and this would definitely be a more desirable choice over the regular Q3 with hardly much compromise.



REVIEW

Toyota RAV4 Hybrid

This is the fifth generation of a model line that was launched back in 1994 and arguably kicked off the trend and set the standard for affordable family SUVs. Known for its robustness, reliability, all-round ability and practicality; what it might have lacked, particularly in the last few generations, is visual distinctiveness and appeal. The latest version of the world's best-selling SUV, is a highly chiselled evolution making it the most stand-out RAV4 since the original 90s offering.

Like most of the Toyota range now in the UK, the RAV4 comes as a Hybrid with a 2.5-litre four-cylinder producing 215bhp and 163lb ft of torque. It's available as either a front-wheel drive or all-wheel drive with a 0-62mph acceleration time of 8.4 seconds for the two-wheel drive, and 8.1 seconds for the grippier 4x4. Official fuel con-

sumption figures range from 47-50mpg and CO2 emissions from 126 to 131g/km.

With prices ranging from £30,000 to £38,000, all models are extremely well equipped with Toyota Safety Sense as standard and that includes pedestrian and cyclist detection, lane departure alert, automatic high beam, road sign assist and adaptive cruise control.

As you'd expect the squared off design allows for maximising the luggage space, so capacity is 580 litres with all the seats in place, but drop the rear

bench and you can treat it like a van with nearly 1700 litres of space. In the rear there is ample space for six-foot plus occupants with knee and headroom to spare, particularly if you take advantage of the reclining seat backs.

It keeps up with traffic, grips decently, responds accurately, and can be hustled along if you need it to. With a focus on ease and convenience the drive is not taxing with light controls and good visibility. The ride, whilst being firm and transmitting some bump and thump into

the cabin, keeps the suspension travel in tight control. The car doesn't float, bounce or wallow, but it does glide.

The assurance of a five-year warranty is hardly necessary, from the moment you open the door and step in to the RAV4, you know that it stays true to its heritage of solidity and surety. This car will never let you down and endeavours to be extremely accommodating as well as an amiable companion, albeit now rather more impressively dressed than it's normally known for.



BROWN CARGUY SAYS...

The Maserati MC20 supercar is a very important car for the luxury and performance Italian Marque, especially after its divorce from Ferrari. So how comes what should be yet another exciting new sportscar from a famed Italian company is so, well... meh?

They would argue it's subtle

and suave, taking styling cues from the mighty Maserati MC12 hypercar of 2004 (in fact the MC20 looks like a puppy dog version) and befits a stylish manufacturer that normally doesn't have to try too hard.

Well that's fine for the Quattroporte, Ghibli and Levante SUV, but not a

supercar that also happens to be such an important brand statement. Plus it only has a V6, a brand new one mind, but still.

I'm a Maserati fan, but they really needed to hit out of the park with this one. I fear the MC20 is simply not 'wow' enough.

Watch my video comment on this car

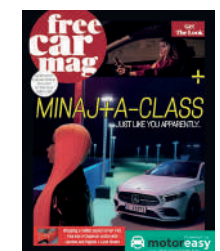
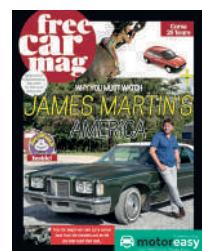
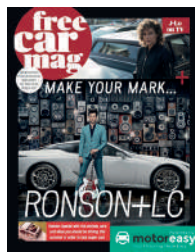
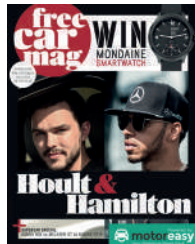
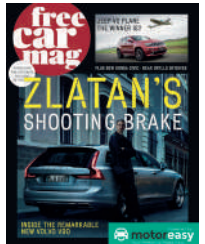


FCM 89

We are doing some more time travel in the next issue and will feature the wonderful London to Brighton Vintage Car Run and Vauxhall's long involvement with the event. There will also be proper Formula One drivers from the past. We look forward to seeing you next time...



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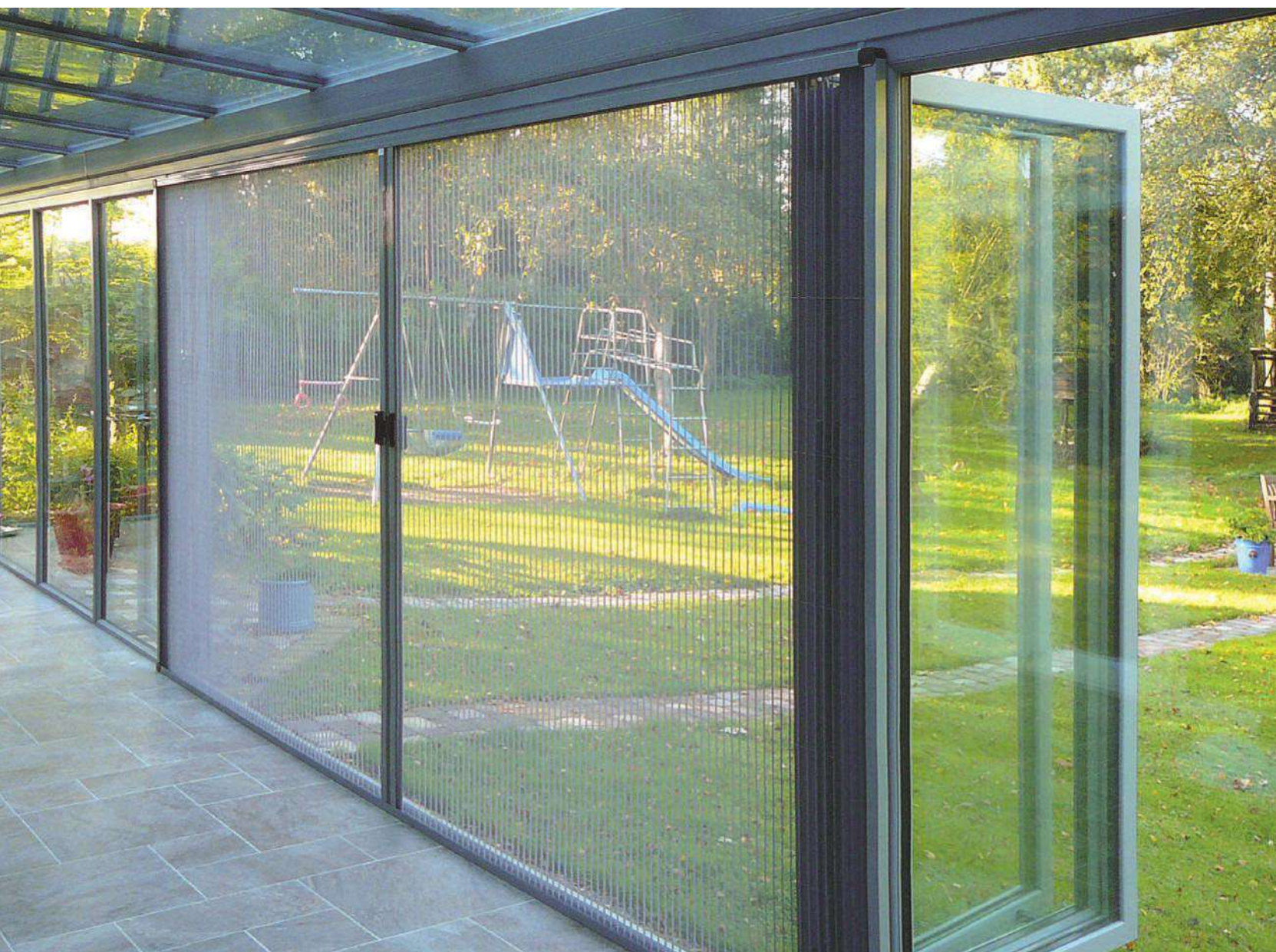


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