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ALFA ROMEO GIULIA TB VELOCE

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ABARTH 595 COMPETIZIONE 2017-17. 19,215 miles.

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ALFA ROMEO GTV V6 LUSSO

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he picture above tells a story that sums up 2020 for me: a car being swallowed by a trailer, going from lockup to lockdown. This was pretty much the only moment during 2020 when my Alfa SZ actually emerged into the wild. While events this year have prevented most of us enjoying our cars, I really do hope things will look up with happier times ahead.

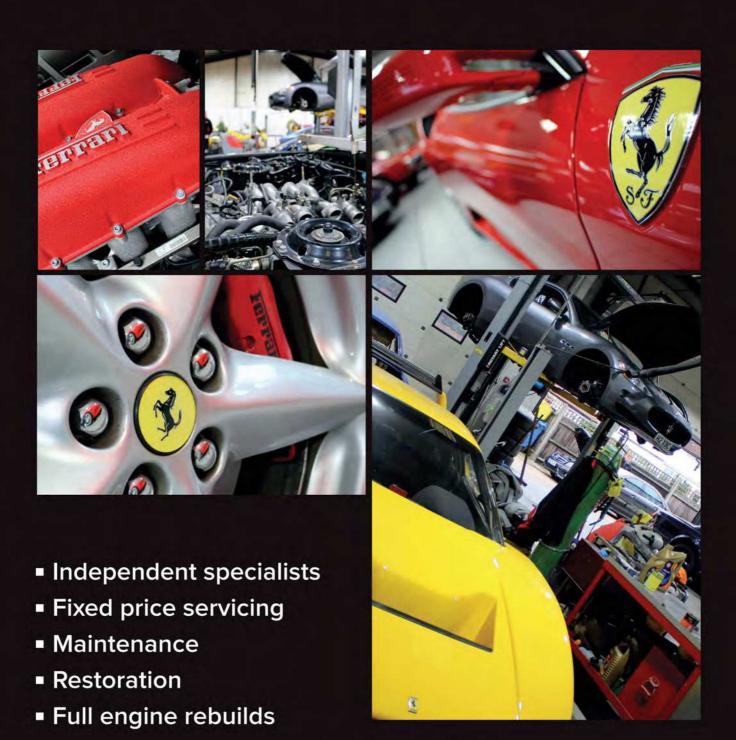
Actually the pic above does have a happy ending. It's my SZ being picked up by Adrian Jardine of Alfa Aid, who said he wanted to borrow it. Considering he has his own SZ (and RZ, come to that), what could the reason be? It was down to the particular exhaust system on my car, he explained, which is the nicest sounding of any SZ he's heard. I don't have his huge experience but in my view, if an Oscar were awarded for best original soundtrack (Busso V6), surely this SZ's tailpipe would be in with a shout.

Trouble is, it's a one-off system made long ago by an unknown developer. To cut a long story short, off my SZ went and, after a process of multiple trials. Adrian succeeded in reproducing its particular roar, rasp and crackle. And he's now making it available to other owners, which makes me happy at the end of this difficult year. Cheer yourself up by listening to it on Adrian's excellent YouTube video entitled 'Alfa Romeo SZ Performance Exhaust by Alfa Aid'.

Sorry to say that 2020 has ended with another terrible blow: the death of legendary engine builder Guy Croft (see page 12 for Phil Ward's tribute). At a time when we're all looking for rays of brightness, perhaps Fiat's new 500 is one. Not everyone likes the move to electric but let's face it: it's unstoppable. If the all-electric 500 is the future, then I'm not unhappy. I think it's a great car, and you can find out why on page 18.

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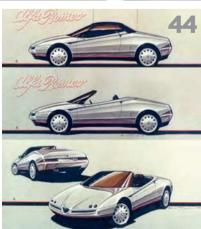
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JANUARY 2021











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ITALIAN CAR NEWS

Ferrari SF90 Loses Its Roof

new open-roof version of Ferrari's SFgo has been unveiled. The SFgo Spider is the sister model the SFgo Stradale coupe, using the latest version of Ferrari's patented Retractable Hard Top (RHT).

The design by Ferrari Centro Stile features a tonneau cover with head fairings and flying buttresses, and the V8 is still clearly visible through the engine cover. Special flaps on the head fairings smooth the airflow.

Developed alongside the SF90 Stradale, some rigidity changes have been made, while the exhaust sound has been specifically tuned for the Spider.

The RHT takes 14 seconds to lower, which can also take place when the car is in motion. When folded, it takes up only 100 litres of space, while its aluminium construction means it is 40kg lighter than a conventional steel folding hardtop. An extra electric rear window behind the cabin allows for extra comfort or extra noise.

The SFgo's plug-in hybrid system remains the same: a 78ohp V8 engine with three electric motors for peak power of 100ohp. Four power modes (eDrive, Hybrid, Performance and Qualify) are available via the *eManettino*. All-wheel drive helps deliver the same 0-62mph acceleration claims as the

coupe (2.5 seconds), although the 0-124mph takes 0.5sec longer, at 7.0 seconds.

Weight has increased by 100kg compared to the coupe, at 1670kg. This can be reduced by 21kg if you opt for the track-focused Assetto Fiorano pack. A new gold colour is launched for the SFgo Spider – Giallo Montecarlo – while a two-tone livery is optional with the Assetto Fiorano pack.

The price in Italy is €473,000, around 10% higher than the Stradale. Deliveries begin in spring 2021 in European LHD markets and shortly after elsewhere.





WILD, LIFE & SPORT JOIN PANDA RANGE

New badges – including Wild, Life and Sport – have been added for the refreshed Fiat Panda range. The 2021 model year updates the bumpers and adds new colours, 16-inch alloy wheels and an improved cabin with upholstery made from recycled materials.

Only one model, the Panda 4x4, is still offered with the 85hp TwinAir engine, the using Fiat's new 70hp mild hybrid engine.

The new entry level is the Panda Life with its body-coloured bumpers, steel wheels, air conditioning and DAB radio. One up is the City Life, adding fog lights, new front bumpers, alloy wheels, roof rack, side protection, leather steering wheel and Uconnect.

The new Panda Wild 4x4 shares the Panda City Life's look and spec but adds all-wheel drive, rear diff lock and skidplates front and rear. Cross versions continue with their off-road look. The Cross 4x4 adds all-wheel drive, red tow hooks, processed waste wood dashboard and recycled upholstery.

A Sport model (pictured) joins the range for the first time, featuring 16-inch alloy wheels, red brake callipers, darkened rear windows, and body-coloured door handles/mirrors. Matt grey paint is an exclusive Panda Sport colour, while inside are a titanium-coloured dash, eco-leather trim and red stitching.

The new Panda range is available to order now priced from £11,895, with the Sport at £13,295 and the Wild 4x4 at £16,295.



CROSS STARS IN REVISED TIPO RANGE

Fiat's Tipo has been given a mid-life refresh, featuring different bumpers, redesigned grille, new badging and two new colours (Paprika Orange and Oceano Blue). Inside are a revised steering wheel and air conditioning controls, while a new seven-inch digital instrument cluster becomes optional.

The revised range consists of Tipo, Tipo Life and an all-new Tipo Cross. The Cross has a raised ride height, different grille, silver skid plates front and rear, side skirts, roof rails and black wheelarches. The regular Tipo is offered in hatchback and estate forms, while the Cross is a hatchback only. The sole engine choice is a 1.0-litre 100hp petrol. The new Tipo is available now November priced from £17,690, and £21,690 for the Cross.



LAMBO'S SHOCK NEW COLOURS

Lamborghini has launched an eye-poppingly bright range of new colours under the 'Fluo' banner. Offered on the Huracán Evo, the Fluo range consists of new matt paints and complementary interiors. Inspired by classic colours of the past, the five options are Verde Shock (green), Arancio Livrea (orange), Celeste Fedra (blue), Arancio Dac (orange) and Giallo Clarus (yellow). These combine with a matt black roof, front bumper and sideskirts with Fluo detailing. Inside are new optional sports seats, while Fluo colours pick out the start/stop button cover and headrest badge.





BIZZARRINI REVIVAL

The famous Italian sports car brand, Bizzarrini, is to be revived by a group of former Aston Martin executives led by Ulrich Bez, and financed by Rezam Alroumi of Kuwait. Bizzarrini was set up by ex-Ferrari engineer Giotto Bizzarrini in 1964 and was active until 1969, being best known for its 5300 GT Strada coupe (pic left). The new company will enter the high-end collector market with cars priced in excess of £1 million but it's not yet known whether it will make continuation versions of original models or all-new designs. Bizzarrini's first prototype is due to debut in 2021.





AZNOM LAUNCHES 'HYPER-LIMO'

Coachbuilder Aznom has revealed its new Palladium, described as a "hyper-limousine" that's designed and manufactured in Italy. The size is immense: six metres long, two metres wide and weighing 2.65 tonnes. Based on a Dodge Ram, it uses a 5.7-litre twin-turbo V8 engine with 710hp and 950Nm of torque, enough for o-62mph in 4.5 seconds.



ALFA SPIDER WINS HSCC

Antony Ross's Alfa Romeo 1750 Spider has topped off a successful 2020 season by winning the HSCC Road Sports Championship. Following class wins at Brands Hatch, the title came down to the very last round at Silverstone. Passing Roger Sparrow's 2.0-litre Porsche 911 after a race-long battle was enough to secure the title. The HSCC is the same championship that the car and driver won precisely 27 years ago. Antony commented: "Hopefully this will encourage more Spiders to venture onto the racing circuits next season." Antony's Spider was featured fully in Auto Italia September 2020.



GERHARD BERGER'S F40 FOR SALE

A Ferrari F40 belonging to ex-F1 driver Gerhard Berger is up for sale.
Originally sold to the Far East, this F40 was registered by Berger in Austria in 2019. It's Ferrari Classiche certified, the sole modification being a Le Mans Quicksilver titanium exhaust. The F40 failed to sell at auction recently but is still for sale via RM Sotheby's at £925,000.







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BATS MAKE \$14.8 MILLION

The celebrated Alfa Romeo Berlina
Aerodinamica Tecnica trio of concept cars,
BAT 5, 7 and 9 (as featured in last month's
Auto Italia), have sold auction for
\$14,840,000. Widely regarded as among the
most adventurous car designs of all time, the
aerodynamic designs by Franco Scaglione of
Bertone were originally shown over three
consecutive years (1953, 1954 and 1955) but
were never displayed together when new.
The three cars were sold as one lot at RM
Sotheby's New York contemporary art
auction, the hammer price representing a
record for the most valuable ever post-war
Alfa Romeo auction lot.





FIAT COLLECTION ACHIEVES BIG PRICES

A large car collection including many Fiats has been sold by RM Sotheby's at its recent Elkhart Collection auction. Notable among these were three coachbuilt Fiat 8Vs: a 1953 Supersonic that sold for \$2.04 million, and two further 1954 examples that fetched \$907,000 and \$775,000. A 1960 Fiat-Abarth 750 GT 'double bubble' achieved \$168,000, while a 1970 Dino 2400 Spider got \$145,600.

More humble Fiats also sold for substantial amounts. A 1970 Fiat 850 Spiaggetta fetched \$109,200 and a 1958 600 Multipla \$71,680. A 1967 Fiat 1500 Convertible reached \$36,400, while other Fiats included a 1965 Abarth 595 (\$29,120), 1966 850 Spider (\$25,200), 1953 500 C Belvedere (\$23,520) and 1971 850 Special Idroconvert (pictured) at \$21,280.

Other Elkhart sale highlights included a 1952 Ferrari 225 S Berlinetta (\$2.81 million) and a 2010 Zagato Alfa Romeo TZ3 Stradale (\$489,000).



A unique 1969 Lancia Fulvia HF Competizione built by Ghia is for sale. Designed by Tom Tjaarda, the aluminium body design is highly unusual, featuring a big adjustable rear spoiler. Ex-Lamborghini engineer Giampaolo Dallara was employed as a consultant on the project, which features a forward-mounted Fulvia V4 engine and different doublewishbone rear suspension. The car was intended to race at Le Mans but never did so. The Ghia Fulvia HF Competizione failed to sell at auction recently but is still offered via RM Sotheby's priced at £140,000.

PININFARINA LAUNCHES DESIGN COMPETITION

On its 90th anniversary,
Pininfarina has launched an
international design
competition called Design
Reset: New Dreams for a New
World. It's aimed at students
aged over 18 who are already in
design academies, including
Coventry University and the
Royal College of Art in the UK.
The award will be chaired by
Pininfarina's UK-born head of
design, Kevin Rice, and closes
on 31 March 2021.





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Berkshire-based Alfa Aid has produced "the best sounding SZ in the world" with a new exhaust system for the Alfa Romeo SZ ES30. Made from 304-grade stainless steel with a high chromium and nickel content, the system features tig-welded joints, CNC bends and flexible joints in stainless steel. All the original mounting points are used and it fits standard SZ manifolds.

The brief was to produce the best possible sound, with deep burble at rest, a high-performance howl under load and crackle on the overrun. The result, says Alfa Aid, is "a vastly superior exhaust system that delivers more performance, power, driveability and a fantastic sound". It's available exclusively from Alfa Aid (www.alfaaid.co.uk).

REPLICA GTAM CARBON

Kosovo-based carbonfibre specialist Koshi is launching new carbon items to replicate the look of Alfa Romeo's latest Giulia GTAm. Prices are as follows: front bumper €2800; front wing sides €1800; rear wheelarch extensions €1200; and rear spoiler €1790. More info at www.koshigroup.com



TWINZ HOSES

Twinz Motorsport, a supplier of silicone hoses, is offering air, oil, fuel, water and breather system parts that are suitable for many Italian engines, including Fiat, Lancia and Alfa Romeo. Custom one-off builds are also accommodated.

Using innovative medical-grade silicone with a unique crossply reinforcement, the hoses come with a lifetime warranty. A 20% discount is being offered by using the code **AIDEC299**, valid until January 2021. More info at twinzmotorsportltd.co.uk, tel 07307 610009.



GAZ FULVIA DAMPERS

GAZ has launched new adjustable dampers for the Lancia Fulvia that enable the damping rate to be adjusted via a knob on the side. They can be set for general road use, track days or full-on racing and feature a zinc-plated body with a plastic sleeve. Both front (GT7-5186) and rear (GT7-5187) are offered, retailing at £71.32 each plus VAT, covered by a two-year warranty. Find out more at www.gazshocks.com



GUY CROFT: A TRIBUTE

We are sad to report the death of legendary engine tuner, Guy Croft, about whom Phil Ward writes: "I first met Guy back in 1983 when we were founder members of the fledgling Fiat Twin Cam Register. We had both recently left military service and were starting out on new careers. Little did we know that our lives were to run in parallel, myself in publishing and Guy in engineering. The commonality was our enthusiasm for Italian cars and notably the Fiat Twin Cam engine. We joined forces on my first book and he later produced his own detailed engine preparation manuals. In recent years Guy was diagnosed with a life-threatening illness but despite this he continued to immerse himself in his work. In his last few months he was determined to complete all outstanding projects to avoid letting his customers down. His superb engines are his legacy. I am privileged to have known Guy both as a brilliant engineer and a good friend."







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Roaming Bulls

Lamborghini is celebrating
Italian life with
an arresting new
photo project called
'With Italy, For Italy'

f a picture says a thousand words, these new images of Lamborghinis in their native homeland might contain a whole novel within them. Part of a new project called 'Lamborghini With Italy, For Italy', the aim is to cheer everyone up in this year of lockdowns by celebrating the treasures of Italy in all its regions.

Lamborghini asked 20 of Italy's top photographers to "highlight the ethos, uniqueness and excellence" of each of the country's 20 regions, featuring 20 different Lamborghini models, both classic and modern.

Art director, Stefano Guindani, oversaw the project, including scouting for locations. The photographers chosen come from a wide variety of different skill sets and disciplines, including fashion, design, reportage, documentary, social issues, travel, architecture, art, cars, music and landscape.









Sardinia: Miura (Davide De Martis)



Abruzzo: Huracán Spyder (Valentina Sommariva)







Calabria: Urus (Guido Taroni)

Tuscany: Huracán Evo RWD Spyder (Gabriele Galimberti)

Puglia: Aventador Roadster (Gabriele Micalizzi)



Marche: Diablo (Wolfango Spaccarelli)





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Cinquelectric

It's finally here! But how well does Fiat's all-electric 500 perform? We find out on UK roads

Story by Chris Rees Images by Michael Ward



transport in Covid times. Maybe it could. But

So Fiat's long awaited all-new 500 is finally here. Bravely, it's being sold solely as a pure electric car. Did Bravely, it's being sold solely as a pure electric car. Did I say all-new? Actually Fiat says it's 96% new and for the life of me I can't work out what the remaining 4% might be from the old 500; parcel shelf, maybe? But here's the good news for electric-sceptics: the new 500 is great to drive.

Let's get straight into our Celestial Blue 500 Icon test car. Approach the new 500 and it certainly looks like a 500. It's a fair bit bigger than the old one, at 60mm longer and 60mm wider, and it has a wider stance. But the biggest change is at the front end, which is much more bluff-fronted and effectively grille-less. There's a

that works electronically (they're not handles, says Fiat, but 'e-latches'). You instantly clock the more spacious cabin, which comes courtesy of a zomm longer wheelbase and extra width. Swing yourself in and you'll also notice the lower seating position, which provides better headroom up front (it remains a real squeeze in the back though – if you're above 175cm/5ft 8in tall, your hair swishes the ceiling). The cabin floor is completely flat, by the way, while luggage capacity remains the same as the old 500 (185 litres). Appreciating the swoopy shape of the new dashboard, it's time to press the 'on' button. As the



instruments light up, a little tune plays (Amarcord by Nino Rota); the same ditty is also transmitted on external speakers to warn pedestrians that you're silently approaching. If you don't like the tune (and it is a bit twee, to be honest), alternatives can apparently be downloaded.

Fiat's president, Olivier Francois, had teed me up for my drive by saying: "Our aim is the make an impact on new customers in the first five minutes. We've designed our car to be 'anti-nerdy', unlike some electric cars which take people out of their comfort zone. The 500 is a more human, warmer car."

And I have to say, all the interior twiddly bits seem very intuitive. This being a top-spec Icon, it has a huge 10.25-inch touchscreen in the middle of the dash (less trim grades make do with either a smartphone cradle or a smaller screen). The letterbox format does make it less legible than a comparable-size tablet-style screen but its high-definition display is very easy to see and operate. The seven-inch digital instrument display ahead of the driver is also superbly clear.

Hang on, where's the gear lever gone? You just get 'PNRD' buttons instead. Since the gearbox is a single-speed automatic, those buttons are extremely straightforward: stab the 'D' and you're good to go. Straight from the off, the 500 gives you a good feeling. If you've never driven an electric car before, your first reaction is always the same: gosh, isn't the acceleration instantaneous? Thank the fact that 100% of torque is available from the off for that.

It's genuinely quick, too. The Icon has 118hp and 220Nm (162lb ft) of torque to play with. Despite the press conference claims of "racing car acceleration", it's not quite that quick. You can muster a little chirrup of wheelspin when setting off, with 31mph coming up in 3.0 seconds and 62mph in 9.0 (comparable with my Fiat Panda 100HP actually). Top speed is limited to 93mph, and unlike some electric cars, there's still plenty of puff at the top end. And as for engine noise, there really isn't any.

For a small car, the 500 is pretty heavy (1330kg), but unlike a conventional car, 25% of the total weight is made up of batteries. Since these are sited very low down and entirely between the axles (for the record, the weight distribution is 52% front, 48% rear), there are benefits in terms of handling. Body roll is almost non-existent, for instance.

This brings me to my one big bugbear with the new 500: the steering. It's very light at all speeds – and far too light out of town, when you really want a lot more heft. But that's not my main beef; it's the lack of any sense of connection with what the wheels are doing. Turn into a bend at speed and there's almost zero feedback. That immediately sets you on edge and erodes your confidence in the chassis. That's a real shame because once you're into the bend, the 500 actually corners very well: flat, grippy and predictable. It's such an odd sensation, and I would dearly love a Sport button to press to give you a bit more steering feel.

There is a button to press to choose between three driving modes – Normal, Range and Sherpa – but these are simply about how the car uses its electricity. Normal is the default mode. Switch to Range and the biggest difference you feel is throttle-off braking, as the car uses decelerative





Bluff 'smiley' nose houses a 118hp electric motor. Car plays a tune at low speeds to let pedestrians know you're coming energy to recharge the batteries. It feels like the brake pedal is being applied, which it kind of is, and Range mode is perfect for slow-moving traffic as you can effectively use just one pedal. Meanwhile, Sherpa is a get-me-home mode that turns off things like air con to maximise range.

in Normal mode, the claim seems accurate. And if you do mostly urban miles, you can expect the range to rise to 285 miles, says Fiat.

To recharge the batteries, you flip open the flap on the offside rear. A 3kW cable is standard but you'll need to buy an optional home Wallbox and 7kW

You can muster a little chirrup of wheelspin off the line and acceleration is comparable with my Panda 100HP

Ah yes, range. This is the one thing, according to surveys, that puts prospective owners off buying an electric car. Here the 500 scores a victory, with a class-leading quoted range of 199 miles for high-power models. When I started my drive, I had 100% charge and an indicated 161 miles of range (which went up to 183 miles as soon I pressed the Sherpa button). Despite driving quite a lot of dual carriageway

cable to get the recharge time down to six hours. Using a commercial rapid charger, an 80% charge can be accomplished in 35 minutes, or 30 miles' worth in five minutes.

One other big step up from the old 500 is more sophisticated safety gear, like adaptive cruise control, lane-keep assistance, blind spot monitoring, driver attention monitor and a 360-degree camera.



TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

ENGINE: Electric motor Electric motor BATTERY CAPACITY: 24kWh 42kWh	
POWER OUTPUT: 70kW (93hp) 87kW (118ht) TORQUE: TBC 220Nm (162t) TRANSMISSION: Single-speed auto, front-wheel of 3631mm (L), 1687mm (W), 1508t WEIGHT: TBC 1330kg	tor hp) 2lb ft) drive
TOP SPEED: 84mph 93mph 9.5 sec 9.0 sec	
RANGE: 115 miles 199 miles PRICE: From £19,995 From £23,49	95

VERDICT

Some people of this parish were prepared to dislike the electric 500. I think it's fair to say they've been persuaded otherwise. The new 500 is just so likable: it's rapid and refined, funky and fun. Yes, the petrolhead in me does miss changing gears, listening to internal combustion revs and – most of all – feeling what the steering's doing. But in every other way the new 500 is utterly convincing. It really is a great little thing, and I'm sure that its sub-£20k price point is going to entice a whole load of buyers.



There are three grades in the new 500 range:
Action, Passion and Icon.
The entry-level Action model (£19,995) has a 24kWh battery and 93hp motor, giving 115 miles of range. The higher-spec Passion (£23,495) and Icon (£24.995) will undoubtedly be more popular, with their bigger 42kWh battery, additional power (118hp)

and 199-mile range. If you want the Convertible, that costs £2650 extra (it's not available in Action trim, by the way). As for colours, only solid white is free; black costs £450 extra; metallic green, grey, blue or rose gold is £600; tricoat blue and matt grey are £1000. UK orders open in December, with the first deliveries in March 2021.





WHAT ABOUT THE CENTOVENTI?

If you're wondering what's happened to Fiat's Centoventi EV concept – effectively the next-generation Panda – that's somewhat in hiatus. It does continue to be worked on but currently no time frame has been made public. When it arrives, Centoventi will slot in below thje 500 in Fiat's electric car line-up. The company says it's working on a larger EV model, too.

Fiat has said that there will never be an internal combustion version of the new 500. However, when questioned at the 500 press conference, officials would not specifically rule this out. In the meantime, the existing pop-bang internal combustion Fiat 500 will continue to be sold alongside the new 500 for at least two more years, in both petrol and hybrid forms.



500 3+1 - INGENIOUS BUT NOT FOR UK

Just like Mini did with its Clubman, Fiat has produced an additional version of the 500 with a tiny extra door, dubbed 'magic door', on one side of the car only. The new model's name – 500 3+1 – recalls the Trepiùno (3+1) concept of 2004. The third door is rear-hinged, opening in 'suicide' fashion like the original 1957 Cinquecento, at a very wide angle of 83 degrees. With no B-pillar to get in the way, the rear passenger can get in and out very easily, although the front door needs to be opened first. The 500's external dimensions are unchanged but overall weight goes up by 30kg.

Sadly the 3+1 is only being made in left-hand drive for now. It's possible that it may come to the UK in RHD, but that decision hasn't yet been made. Obviously the door opening into traffic may be an issue here but Fiat says it definitely won't swap the rear door over to the nearside on RHD cars. If the 3+1 ever does come to the UK, expect a mark-up of around £2000.



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Fortissimo

In Part Two of our celebration of peak Italian engineering, we nominate our favourite 'big format' engined cars with eight, ten and twelve cylinders

Story by Chris Rees Photography by Michael Ward

taly makes the world's most beautiful cars. Superb styling, elegant interiors, world-renowned handling. But there's something else, perhaps above all, that makes Italian cars special. Yes, hidden away under the bonnets of countless Italian classics lies their beating heart: the engine.

This is a heartland we started to explore last month in our two-part voyage into Italian engine excellence. In December's issue we had a blast in Italy's small-engined classics; the best twins, fours, fives and sixes by Abarth, Fiat, Lancia and Alfa Romeo. Now it's the turn of the big boys: beasts with eight, ten and twelve cylinders.

Luckily, in this department Italy is a giant treasure chest containing a true embarrassment of riches. With regret, we're choosing to pass by Alfa Romeo's eights. The pre-war 8C straight-eight was truly glorious but in truth it's from an entirely different age. Alfa's first ever



V8, Carlo Chiti's V8 for the Tipo 33, is marginal to say the least. As for that engine's development into the Montreal V8, you can read all about that on page 34.

It may come as a surprise that 'eights' have only recently started to form the backbone of the upper end of the Italian car industry, since supercar manufacturers initially shied away from the eight-cylinder format. Lamborghini only made V8s for 17 years (between 1971 and 1988), while Ferrari didn't start making V8s until 1973 with the Dino 308. Maranello's wonderful line of V8s since then – including such greats as the F4o and SF9o Stradale – has made our choice of 'the best' extremely difficult.

The ten-cylinder format is far easier, for the simple reason that there's only ever been one Italian V10: Lamborghini's Gallardo/Huracán unit.

Then at last we come to the arena of 12-cylinder engines, which is an absolute Italian speciality. Enzo Ferrari's first engine was a V12; Ferruccio Lamborghini's first engine was a V12; and between them the 12-cylinder engine format has consistently been at the heart of Italy's supercar story ever since. And despite reports claiming time and time again that V12s are on their way out, they're showing no signs of going anywhere, as today's Ferrari 812 Superfast and Lamborghini Aventador confirm. Signore e signori, start your engines!

EIGHT CYLINDERS: FERRARI 458 (F136 V8)

Given that Ferrari's current F154 V8 has been voted International Engine of the Year for the last four years in a row (and indeed the best engine of the last 20 years), you might expect that we'd make a beeline for this mighty powerplant as 'peak V8'.

But no; instead we've gone for its predecessor, the F136. Why? The main reason is that it's top of the V8 heap in what was, for us, a much more romantic nonturbocharged era. Yes, we do appreciate the low-rev torque that only a turbo engine like the F154 can deliver, but for us, a naturally aspirated V8 always wins the 'sense of occasion' battle. And without doubt the F136 was Ferrari's best non-turbo V8.

This sensational go-degree V8 actually debuted in a Maserati (the 4200 Coupe of 2001). It has only just gone out of production following the axing of the Maserati GranTurismo. Maserati arguably extracted the best exhaust note from this engine (one that also, incidentally, echoed from the tailpipes of the wonderful Alfa Romeo 8C).

But most memorably the F136 V8 graced three Ferrari models: the F430, California and 458 Italia. Of those, it's undoubtedly the 458 that hits the sweet spot for most Ferraristi: it's the hard-edged, raw, uncompromising choice, beloved of true enthusiasts who want to focus on driver involvement above all else. And the association of a certain Michael Schumacher in the 458's development gives it that extra star quality.

The last mid-engined Ferrari to use a non-turbo engine, the 458 comes with a 4499cc V8 (up from 4.3 litres in the F430) using twin overhead camshafts, variable valve timing, four valves per cylinder and direct fuel injection (a first for a midengined Ferrari). Result: 570hp - or 125bhp per litre at a searing goodrpm. More than 80 per cent of peak torque is there for you at 325orpm, so you don't need to rev the nuts off it to maintain good progress, but the sheer joy of the upper rev range will see you spending time there as often as you possibly can. It starts off with a purposeful growl, growing to a hyper-intense banshee scream as the triple exhaust tailpipes reach peak noise. Intoxicating stuff. The 458 is deliciously quick, too: 62mph arrives in 3.4 seconds and it'll reach 202mph tops.

There was never a manual gearbox option for the 458, but the F1 automated 'box is so good, you never feel short-changed. The shifts at full throttle are supersmooth and super-fast, with rifle-shot snaps between ratios - all in all, a perfect match for the V8.

In any of the manettino's

three positions, the driving

experience is very intense.

Other reasons to love the 458 are Pininfarina's taut

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

FERRARI 458 ITALIA

ENGINE: POWER: TORQUE: TRANSMISSION: WEIGHT: 0-62MPH:

562bhp at 9000rpm (Speciale: 605bhp) 540Nm (398lb ft) at 6000rpm 7-speed dual-clutch 1485kg (Speciale: 1395kg)

3.4sec (Speciale: 3.0sec) MAX SPEED: 202mph

design, its low weight (1380kg dry) and the way it handles. Select your mood via the steering wheel manettino - Sport, Race or Traction Control Off - and you can drive just as your heart dictates. Even in mild-mannered Sport mode it's an intense experience. In Race mode, oversteer is available on demand; yet the E-Diff and F1-Trac systems flatter you with easy on-limit control, which the very quick steering makes a delight.

Without doubt the 458 Speciale, with its lighter weight, extra horsepower (605hp), higher redline (9400rpm) and better aerodynamics, is the one to have. But given the huge price premium the Speciale attracts, and with the regular 458 Italia offering 95% of the same experience, we reckon you can't go wrong with the 'entry' level 458. For us, this is peak Ferrari V8.





TEN CYLINDERS: LAMBORGHINI HURACÁN V10

There really aren't many engines with ten cylinders. And some might argue that, in an article about the best Italian engines, the V10 we've chosen shouldn't count. After all, it's an engine shared with parent company Audi's R8 supercar, and it isn't manufactured in Italy but at an Audi factory in Hungary.

But come on: you would never dismiss Lamborghini as a mere outpost of Audi any more than you would have called a Ferrari a Fiat during the Agnelli era. And the evocative Lamborghini script on the V10 cam covers of the Huracán we've brought along is entirely justified: its specification is unique to Sant'Agata.

Let's not forget, either, that Lamborghini has owned the V10 format since the 1980s, when it developed a 3.9-litre V10 for the abortive P140 and Calà projects. It would take until 2003 for Lamborghini's first production V10 to arrive: the 5.0-litre unit that debuted in the Gallardo.

Arguably that V10 has only recently reached its true potential in the Huracán. In its original 2014 guise (the four-wheel drive Huracán LP610-4), it offered 610hp. The Performante then boosted that to 640hp. Now with the Huracán Evo that we've brought along to our little party, the Performante's power unit is tweaked even further with titanium intake valves and a lightweight exhaust system.

This is one very special engine. Press the dramatically shrouded, aircraft-style start button and the engine explodes into life with a bark of angry intent. As it warms, it settles into a more subdued tone, but one that will still wake the neighbours from any sort of sleep, deep or otherwise. This is the main reason why we've selected the V10 as one of the alltime greats: it might just have the best sound of any engine ever. The off-beat grittiness is unique to the 10-cylinder format, while its ability to rev unfettered



BEST EVER ITALIAN ENGINES

and instantaneously all the way to its 8000rpm redline never disappoints.

Even in the most relaxed 'Strada' driving mode, it feels so alive. But to get the best out of the smooth-changing seven-speed gearbox, you'll want to switch to Sport and Corsa modes as often as possible. In either of these, an extra dimension is added to the soundtrack, too, with a delicious crackle between far more explosive gear changes.

The version we have here is the all-wheel drive Evo (a rear-drive-only Huracán RWD has been added recently). Yes, there is occasionally a hint of understeer here, but turn-in is ultra-sharp thanks to the four-wheel steering system, grippy Pirelli P Zero tyres and highly effective torque vectoring system. Lift-off oversteer, which so

demands your attention in RWD Huracáns, is firmly reined in here. In full-on Corsa mode you can fully appreciate the grip and adjustability on offer while never losing confidence, since your driving is always flattered by the chassis.

The Huracán is convincing in other areas, too. The cabin offers as much of a sense of occasion as the drive, with its Millennium Falcon aesthetics, superbly supportive seats and dramatic letterbox view out.

Indeed, 'sense of occasion' is exactly what this car is all about. If this really is an era-ending V10, what a great way to bow out. But we very much hope not: Lamborghini's predilection for naturally aspirated tens and twelves remains one of the true joys of the art of motoring.







TWELVE CYLINDERS: FERRARI 365 GT4 2+2 V12

Vee-twelve. Let's not be equivocal here: 12 cylinders is the best engine format ever devised, full stop. Whether from the standpoint of power, smoothness or sound, V12s are top of the pile. And nobody has ever done V12s better than Ferrari.

When Enzo was looking to make the first ever car to bear his name in 1947, he had one clear vision: he needed a V12. Turning to his old friend from pre-war Alfa Romeo racing days, Gioacchino Colombo created an absolute firecracker of an engine. Perfect balance was assured by a 60-degree angle between the banks of cylinders, while the short-stroke pistons resulted in a capacity of just 1.5 litres, or 125cc per cylinder (hence the model number, 125 S).

What made Colombo's V12 engine so remarkable was how flexible its design was. It grew steadily in capacity and for years, retaining essentially the same block. It progressed through 166 (1995cc), 195 (2341cc), 212 (2563cc), 225 (2715cc) and glorious 250 (2953cc) guises. The V12 was then substantially reworked for 1966's 275 GTB4, the '4' indicating the innovation of four overhead camshafts. In 1966 came the first 365 model, with 4.4 litres, as fitted to the legendary 365 Daytona and GTC4. It grew in size again in 1976 (400) and 1986 (412), in which form the Colombo V12 ended its remarkable career in 1988, after more than four decades in service.

The car we've chosen to represent the Colombo V12 - the 365 GT4 2+2 - may seem a leftfield one, but bear with us. In our eyes, the V12 that fits so snugly under its bonnet is the pinnacle of the Colombo line. This was still the heart of the carb-fed era; the later 400i, launched in 1979, got Bosch K-Jetronic fuel injection, which worked fine but was only fitted to satisfy emissions rules rather than the dictates of fun driving. No, you simply can't beat the sight, sound and feel of a



TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

FERRARI 365 GT4 2+2

ENGINE: 4390cc V12 POWER: 340hp at 6200rpm

422Nm (311lb ft) at 4600rpm TORQUE: Five-speed manual

TRANSMISSION:

WEIGHT: 1500kg 0-62MPH: 6.7sec 152mph



1976, identifiable by its six taillights, knock-off alloy wheels and absence of front spoiler.

As pretty much the most expensive car on the planet in its day, the GT₄ 2+2 serves up the full smorgasbord of performance, elegance and comfort. It may not be the fastest V12 ever made (0-60mph takes 6.4 seconds and the top speed is 152mph) but you can enjoy the GT₄ 2+2 in a more relaxed manner than you would a Daytona, taking in the effortlessness of its power steering and power brakes, enjoying the air conditioning and well-damped self-levelling suspension.

In its carb-fed 365 guise, the V12 offers plenty of torque and if you want to explore the upper rev band, it has the flexibility to match. Want some fun around corners? The feelsome (if light) steering encourages you to explore handling that can switch happily from gentle understeer to a bit of mid-corner hoofing and power oversteer.

One thing in the 365's favour is that it comes with Ferrari's superb five-speed manual as standard, rather than the GM automatic that most buyers were persuaded to buy in the 400 successor. The manual 'box just feels so right to use, despite its long lever.

I'm sure we're not the only ones to 'get' this elegantly poised Ferrari. In our view, its engine represents the pinnacle of the long Colombo V12 line, and nothing else offers you such an affordable route into Colombo ownership (this stunningly immaculate GT4 2+2 is being sold by Foskers for £85,995). And let's not forget that under the bonnet lies - and we'd welcome your arguments if you think otherwise - the best road car engine of all time. There, we said it.

Many thanks to the Ferrari Owners' Club for their assistance with this feature and in particular to Rob Leach and Peter Critchell of the Kent Ferrari OC. Many thanks also to Foskers (www.foskers.com)



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SINGING SWINGERS

Two coupes styled by Bertone in the swinging 'Sixties; two cars powered by wonderfully vocal racing-derived engines. But which Italian junior exotic would we take home?

> Story by Simon Charlesworth Images by Michael Ward



another at Bertone's Caselle plant - but the story of how the Fiat Dino 2000 Coupé and the Alfa Romeo Montreal came to be graced with two of the greats in racing engine history does differ considerably.

The Dino engine was driven by Enzo Ferrari's need to 'borrow' Fiat's industrial capacity to meet homologation production requirements for Formula 2 in 1967. Whilst Maranello's recipient of its homedeveloped all-alloy 1987cc 65-degree quad-cam V6 the Dino 206 GT - is today lauded to near-demigod

status, Turin's non-identical twins (the Fiat Dino Coupé and Spider) have had to be far more

Although designed under Franco Rocchi, it was his mentor Aurelio Lampredi that Fiat asked to refine the Dino 206S engine for road use. Mounted up front in the Fiat Dino, the 16ohp V6 drove the coupé's rear wheels via a five-speed all-synchromesh 'box, whilst its double wishbone coil-sprung front suspension was followed by a live-axle, semi-elliptic leaf springs and radius arms. Completing the technical menu were servo-assisted four-wheel brake discs nestling behind tastefully subtle alloy wheels.

Giorgetto Giugiaro's crisply elegant four-seater

coupe body sat on a longer wheelbase than Pininfarina's Dino Spider. Both cars were intended to be launched simultaneously, at the 1966 Turin Motor Show, but Fiat prioritised the Spider's production to get the V6 homologated, meaning that the Coupé's launch would have to wait until the 1967 Geneva Show. The Dino 2000 remained in production until 1969 when it was superseded by the larger-engined 2400 Coupé.

Whereas the Fiat's development was driven by Ferrari's racing plans, it was the striking penwork of Marcello Gandini that guided the Alfa Romeo Montreal's birth. Created for Expo '67 – an international exhibition held in Montreal to mark Canada's 100th birthday – Gandini's then-nameless concept was christened 'Montreal' by the visiting public. Based on the Tipo 105 Giulia GTV floorpan and running gear, it was so well received that Alfa decided to build it.

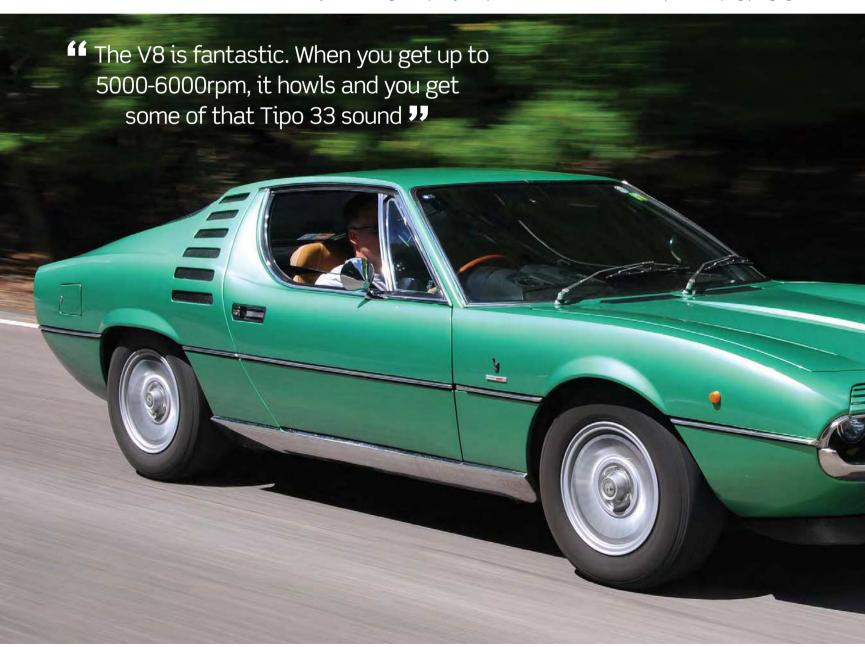
By the time the Montreal was launched at the 1970 Geneva Show, the car's specification had evolved considerably in terms of exterior, interior and under the bonnet. Given the lack of production engine choices for its new big GT, Alfa turned to Autodelta for the Montreal's power unit. As with Gandini's later concept, the influential 1968 Alfa Romeo Carabo, the Montreal would also be powered by the Tipo 33 racer's V8. Well nearly...

The starting point may have been Carlo Chiti's 1995cc V8, but the all-alloy, dry-sump, quad-cam, go-degree V8 was much modified to make it more useable on the road. The 2.0-litre's 10,000rpm appetite would be traded for greater mid-range torque, which was achieved by boring and stroking the V8 to 2593cc. The flat-plane crank was exchanged for a cross-plane one, and fuel was delivered by Spica mechanical fuel injection, though it kept dry-sump

lubrication. The resultant bottom-line was 200hp at 6400rpm with 173lb ft at 4750rpm – enough to mean that Alfa's five-speed gearbox was overwhelmed and a ZF five-speeder installed instead.

Other mechanical differences included a slower ZF recirculating ball steering box than the GTV's (along with a larger-diameter, thinrimmed 2000 berlina steering wheel); ventilated disc brakes; wider wheels; and different anti-roll bars (all due to the Montreal's greater weight). In addition there was a unique limited-slip differential which resembles the 2.0-litre 105 unit but with an oil cooler incorporated in the bottom, providing greater oil capacity.

The Montreal's launch was delayed by development and labour problems, so the two-seater wasn't available in quantity until 1971 (it's believed most right-hand drive Montreals were built in 1972 in one batch). The build process – ping-ponging



ALFA ROMEO MONTREAL V FIAT DINO COUPÉ

from Alfa to Bertone and back again – also elevated its price to roughly twice that of the 1750 GTV. It was pricier than the Dino, too, at 5.4 million lire in 1972, versus 4.7 million for the Fiat.

Unlike the Dino, the heavy, softly sprung, understeer-prone Alfa was damned with faint praise by the press. Customer interest was further hampered by the mechanical fuel injection's complexities and the run of fuel crises in the 1970s. By the time the Montreal passed away in 1977, production had not even reached 4000 units. It's therefore hardly surprising that Alfa's big GT has had more false dawns than a talent show contestant when it comes to experiencing its big moment in the classic car spotlight.

Richard Norris of Classic Alfa has only had this 1975 right-hand drive Montreal for six months, although he has owned a Montreal before (used as a daily car for seven years, some 20 years ago). "I bought this car from a























customer who'd owned it for the best part of 20 years – and he bought it from the first owner. This is the first car we've ever had which has had a carburettor conversion, running four twin-choke Weber 36IDFs from a Tipo 33. The Spica fuel injection is good when it works, but when it starts to go wrong it can get very expensive because there are a limited number of people who understand it. The thermostatic actuator (a kind of choke) can cause issues and the injectors themselves allow too big a range of fuel pressure delivery."

So overall then? "I love Montreals. They've got a lot of character and if you understand that they were built as a GT – not as a fast, agile sports car – then they're great. The engine sounds fantastic, they've got a really, really lovely noise. They rev quite high, so when you get up to 5000-6000rpm they howl and you get some of that Tipo 33 engine sound.

"You've got a big heavy engine with essentially standard Tipo 105 suspension on the front. The ZF steering is different; it's very low-geared, which is another reason why people misunderstand the car. It won't change direction as quickly as a result, so you have to get used to that lazier style of driving but on a long distance it will cruise beautifully at 90-100mph. It's a lovely car, it has lots of character."

It's one of just 180 right-hand drive Montreals built and benefits from Classic Alfa's handling kit, which consists of heavier-rated springs, different dampers and fatter anti-roll bars. The result is a lower, more befitting ride height when it's stationary, plus flatter, faster cornering and



ALFA ROMEO MONTREAL V FIAT DINO COUPÉ







less nose bowing and scraping when accelerating and stopping.

From one Alfa Romeo specialist to another, we move to Alex Jupe of Alfa transaxle specialist, Alex Jupe Motorsport, who has brought along his treasured 1967 Fiat Dino 2000 Coupé. Our first question has to be: why a Dino?

"The Italian Job is what did it initially, seeing the black ones with the Mafia and hearing the noise. I'd wanted one ever since then. Dad had a Ferrari 308 GT4 which was all tricked up for trackdays but he wrote it off at Goodwood. As he was getting older, he decided to slow down a bit, and I suggested that the Dino might make a good replacement – and he went along with it.

"I've owned it since 2010 when dad passed away and left it to me. At that point I put it through a big restoration. It had been bought it in the mid-1990s for £7500, which at the time was at the top of the price bracket. It was originally a US car (I've got photos of it with all the LA registration documents) and came into the UK in 1991. I've been in contact with the guy who brought it into the UK, rebuilt the engine and got it back onto the road. So it's been with us for a long time."

Nosing around the Dino, its condition has to put it up there amongst the best in the country. The two-tone 'office' is both airy

and unmistakably Italian. Ahead of you lie two cowled Veglia Borletti dials, a gooorpm tachometer (with an 8000rpm redline) and a 250kph (155mph) speedo. Arms outstretched, the driving position is straightforward and comfortable. There is a troupe of toggle switches parading on the centre console, and a sensual Nardi wood-'n'-alloy wheel – angled just so – which picks out a few tasteful wooden accents.

Above 2000rpm the V6 perks up, its voice beginning to warm up after gargling and clearing its throat at lower revs. On the over-run the exhaust cracks and pops, while the gears throb and whine. Don't overwhelm the carburettors; feed the power in gently; and at 4000rpm Maranello's miniature V6 starts to tickle your trousers. At 5000rpm it's singing its heart out, filling the cabin with such a presence it feels as if it's sat next to you, stroking your thigh. The Ferrari-developed V6 is completely bewitching. This is the majesty of noise: Weber carburettors, chain-driven quad camshafts, gears and exhaust - a warble and howl overlaid by a keening, building to a whistling crescendo.

The unassisted worm-and-roller steering is anything but vague; in fact, it's ideally geared and weighted with a hearty amount of feedback humming through the Nardi wheel. The servo-assisted disc brakes are

surprisingly powerful and decades ahead of 1960s contemporaries. Corners are an unfiltered joy, thanks to the chassis' minimal yaw, generous grip and faithful sense of neutral poise and balance. The fivespeeder's gearchange echoes the steering in terms of weighting and precision.

The Dino easily and merrily cruises in top at 75mph with 4000rpm on the clock, and will reach 124mph tops, but the pleasure is really in the acceleration – working the ball-topped lever and that sensational V6. As someone whose automotive predilections centre around steering and chassis response, it takes something truly special to become completely fixated by in the 'suck, squeeze, bang and blow' department.

Moving from Turin to Milan and there is none of the Fiat's airiness in the Montreal's interior, which has a sportier, less roomy cockpit, and thanks to its chunky vent-peppered B-pillar, it's also darker. At first the dashboard, with its heavily cowled instruments, appears to be Alfa business as usual, but those two main pods are crowded and almost chaotic. On the left is a 16omph speedo and on the right is a gooorpm tacho, both sitting in cowls that resemble oversized spectacles. That's just as well, for each of the main dials endures a game of sardines with a range of auxiliary dials, instruments and warning lights.

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TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

ALFA ROMEO MONTREAL FIAT DINO COUPÉ

 ENGINE:
 2593cc V8
 1987cc V6

 POWER:
 200hp at 6400rpm
 160hp at 7200rpm

 TORQUE:
 234Nm (173lb ft) at 4750rpm
 163Nm (120lb ft) at 6000rpm

 WEIGHT:
 1330kg
 1270kg

 TOP SPEED:
 136mph
 124mph

 0-62MPH:
 7.8 sec
 8.1 sec

Alfa's V8 takes longer to show its special side. It will cruise all day at 70mph and roughly 3750rpm in top, but to do so is to miss the point. As the heavily stylised tacho passes 4000rpm, then 5000rpm – ye gods! Instantly those earlier moans are forgotten. The V8 revels in being suckled by those downdraught Webers and the Dino engine suddenly has a serious challenger for today's impromptu and utterly unofficial *Auto Italia* song contest. The faster the Alfa spins, the richer and more intoxicating its warble becomes – as it does so, it hones a glinting menacing edge to its voice. Like the

Dino, entertainment seductively lingers in the tacho's stratosphere.

The suspension upgrades to this Montreal – alongside the Webers – lift this car to what it should always have been. Yes, there is more weight at the front and the Tipo 105 underpinnings do still feel a bit roly-poly and not as sharp-witted as the Dino, but you can't criticise the speed of the steering. The Montreal tackles corners, twists and turns surprisingly well. Its initial turn-in is pleasantly alert for a big GT, but there is always the slightest sniff of roll-induced understeer to tame driver ambition. The

change of the dog-leg five-speeder – which the Alfa shares with the later Dino 2400, incidentally – is slightly heavier and more chunky, but it engages cleanly and without any hesitation. The brakes, though, can't hope to match the Fiat, even if they do their job satisfactorily. Drive within its parameters, play with the gearbox and this Montreal has the talent to turn every outing into a Targa Florio adventure.

VERDICT

The flawed Alfa Romeo is brawnier, more imposing and almost caddish; the Fiat is lighter, sharper, more practical and it has that utterly beguiling V6. The Dino may be the better car overall but this Alfista can't turn his back on the Montreal's haunting V8 soundtrack. Little wonder, then, that picking a favourite is impossible for yours truly. Instead, what occurs to me is what a great classic two-car collection this pair would make.



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OPC 36E



ENRICO FUMIA

Signor Pininfumia

WE INTERVIEW THE MAN WHO DESIGNED THE ALFA ROMEO 164, GTV/SPIDER 916 AND LANCIA Y - AND DISCOVER HIS IDEAS FOR A FUTURE ALFA LOOK

Images by Enrico Fumia/Fucina Editore/Erik Bulckens/Chris Rees



The 164 was a true Alfa Romeo, a fresh step, and not just in terms of styling

he name Enrico Fumia may not, perhaps, be as deeply carved into car enthusiasts' minds as that of Giugiaro or Gandini but his CV certainly puts him at the forefront of modern Italian car design. Enrico Fumia's talent was clear from the outset: in 1966. aged just 18. he won the Grifo d'Oro design prize, run by Bertone. Having graduated as an aeronautical engineer, he was hired by Pininfarina in 1976 - very aptly, as his childhood nickname of 'Pininfumia' reflected the passion he always felt for the design house. Fumia swiftly moved into management roles within Pininfarina's research and development departments.

But his talent for designing cars was ever present, among his most celebrated being the 1981 Audi Quartz concept, Alfa Romeo 164. Alfa Romeo GTV/Spider 916, Lancia Y, Lancia Lybra and the interior of the Maserati 3200GT. In recent years he's worked extensively for Japanese companies (Mitsubishi, Subaru and Suzuki) and for Chery in China, his last production road car being the Cherv QQme (Shanghai Show 2005). Even now, at 72 years old, he remains active after closing his own independent company, Fumia Design, in 2012.

Can you tell us how you began designing at Pininfarina?

I was actually a manager at Pininfarina but the company had a very open attitude. Everyone in the team was encouraged to put their sketches up on the wall. It was then up to clients to decide which design best suited their needs, without knowing who did the design. At Pininfarina I did designs for Ferrari and Alfa Romeo, although never Peugeot.

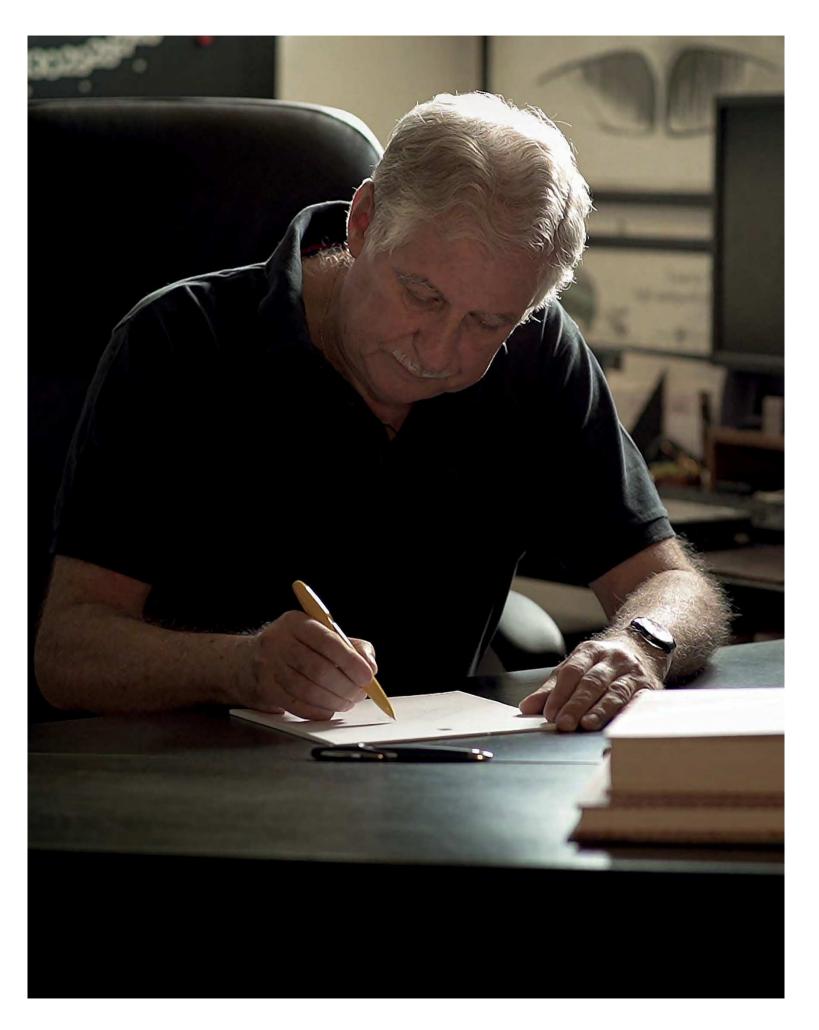
Your first production design was the Alfa Romeo 164. Looking back, how do you feel about it now?

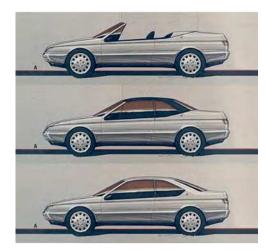
I recently discovered a BMW project I did for Pininfarina in 1980 which looks very similar to the 164. But the project really started in 1981 as the Alfa Romeo 154, a rearwheel drive car with a shorter wheelbase and smaller overall dimensions. But then the Type 4 project was agreed between Fiat and Alfa Romeo, so we had to scale the design up in size in 1982.

The 164 was a true Alfa Romeo, a fresh step, and not just in terms of styling. The flat surfaces looked new in every sense, while the distinctive waistline groove went almost all the way around the car. If you look closely, the lines of this groove are not parallel, so it feels more dynamic.

The front end, where the scudetto extends into the bonnet, was also something new, as was the 'trilobo' triple grille design. The rear lights were also an original idea, actually quite tricky to homologate. My design for the lights was pretty extreme - only 7 centimetres tall - but luckily this was adopted unchanged in production. It was an innovative, 'Made in Italy' solution that the 145, 146 and 155 continued. When I got to see the other Type 4 designs, the Fiat Croma and Lancia Thema. I was happy that we had had





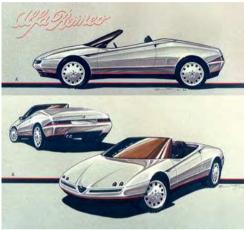












done something very good.

I developed two-door Coupe and Cabriolet versions of the 164, too. I think the 164 Cabriolet was a bit heavy and tanklike but the 164 Coupe wasn't so bad. A 164 Station Wagon was also in preparation right from the beginning, but after Alfa Romeo was absorbed by Fiat, it was abandoned because Lancia had the Thema SW in development. You're perhaps most famous for the Tipo 916 GTV and Spider. They still look good today, correct? I think the 916 GTV and Spider have emerged as timeless designs, more so than the 164, which is much more of its era. This project became known as the Tipo 916 but its original codename in 1987 was D2-169 - the D2 was for 'Duetto Mk2' and 169 was the internal Alfa Romeo project number, whose digits were simply

rearranged to 916.

In fact the plan was for a Spider only at first; the coupe came later. The differences between the Spider and GTV are all at the rear, with the groove continuing right to the back of the GTV. The headlamps were of course the major innovation, more or less what I had done back in 1981 with the Audi Quartz concept. I discovered that Carello had developed lights like this, so I knew it

was feasible. When I made enquiries in 1989 about these lights, the technical team said it was impossible. I suppose change always feels risky.

Then I saw similar headlamps on the Nissan Cefiro. Pininfarina had good connections with Honda at the time so I telexed Honda in Japan to ask who manufactured the lights. To my surprise, we received a package from Honda with the actual Nissan light unit!

ABOVE: 164 coupe, spider and estate proposals. Tipo 916 was initially a Spider only. BELOW: Midengined 916 & Lancia Y







ABOVE: Enrico with some of his scale models. BELOW: ideas for Lancia Y Coupe and Lancia Skema – an upmarket 'new Flaminia' This led Alfa Romeo to ask Bosch if they could produce a light like this but in the end it was Hella that said yes. By the way, the rear light panel was originally not going to be full-width, to distinguish it from the 164.

You designed the Tipo 916 in 1987. Why did it take seven years to reach production?

Paolo Cantarella [Fiat's CEO] always preferred Fiat to Alfa Romeo and

Lancia. It was like football teams for him, a rivalry, and he was Fiat through and through. The Fiat Coupé was then in development so the Alfa GTV had to wait.

You also worked with Giorgio Stirano on the 916, I think?

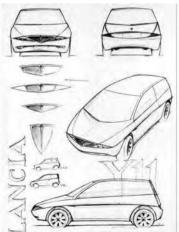
Yes, Giorgio and I were actually school friends so we go back a very long way. The platform was the Fiat Tipo but we spent six months working on new multilink rear suspension to replace the Tipo's beam axle, making it much sportier.

In 1991, you left
Pininfarina to head up
Centro Stile Lancia.
Yes, I resigned from
Pininfarina and the terms
of my departure still feel
raw today, but I left
Sergio and all the
Pininfarinas on good
personal terms. Very soon
after I met Paolo Scolari
at Fiat who proposed that

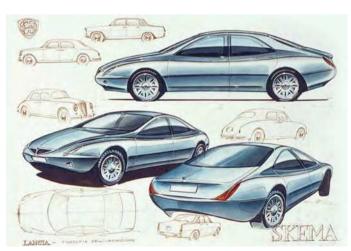
I manage the all-new Lancia styling centre. At Lancia, I was in charge of a team but I regarded myself as a 'player-manager'. Yes I designed cars, but if I saw better ideas from someone in the team, I was always happy to adopt them. In that regard, I am not like Giugiaro, who describes himself as a 'dictator'.

What does Lancia mean to you?

For me, Lancia always









represented innovation think of the Lambda with its integral chassis - and sophisticated, perhaps even baroque, styling. I used elements of the baroque for the 1995 Lancia Y, if only to give the car a feeling of history. This was not easy. It's the only car whose body side tangents touch both the front and rear wheelarches. The risk with this is that the car looks too narrow, so it took time to adjust it to make it right in detail.

Sadly Cantarella didn't take care of Lancia, which he regarded as for retired people. Then Sergio Marchionne really killed it off with those rebadged Chryslers. Of course brands must die, as we die, but you constantly need to invent a new image, to innovate.

What's your view of retro design?

I don't like déjà vu clones and remakes, like the new Stratos. The new Mini, Fiat 500 and VW Beetle are what I call 'siliclones' – fattened versions of the past. The original Mini was an intelligent car; the new one is not.

You need to take risks and try new approaches but it's OK to be inspired by the spirit of the past, like I was with the Lancia Y. I try to feel like Scaglione, Michelotti or Revelli, who all looked to the future.

We can see an interesting single-seater scale model here – what is that?

This is my homage to the 'reborn' Ferrari F1 in 2000, after over 20 years with no World Championship title. This is why it's on the same wheelbase as the Ferrari F1car of 2000 and Giorgio Stirano prepared a layout around a V8 engine. Even the wheels are F1-inspired.

So it is a single-seater like an F1 car but my idea - which has been patented - was to turn it into a two-seater by swivelling the seat around and revealing a pair of seats behind. The central steering wheel and controls would then move either left or right, so you could easily make it LHD or RHD. It also has suicide doors to ease exit, while the front and rear wings could be removed to transform the F1 car into a berlinetta.

This would have been a really original and crazy 'Made in Italy' project. You know how gondolas are not straight, how the Tower of Pisa leans? This would have been in the same vein.



After Ferrari launched the Enzo, I proposed this one/two-seat idea to Ferrari, with whom I was in discussions for five vears via Amadeo Felisa [then CEO of Ferrari], who is a good friend. I even suggested the name Scaglietti. In the end, I was told that if I could find a client for a car, I would be permitted to use the Ferrari badge. And while I have indeed designed special Ferraris for clients, this idea never came to fruition.

Let me add that that the homage was a presage, too. Ferrari won six World Championships and Michael Schumacher five, all consecutive – a kind of a miracle. Even so, nothing happened.

Which current designer do you really admire?

For many decades, it has been impossible to know who really designed a car, so I prefer to say what and who I really do not admire about the current car design world. I am disgusted by how many car design 'myths' have appeared with no evidence, by which I mean no proven hand-made drawings. In my book I mention many famous designers who have never designed a car in their career, but it is better I

stop here and I go back to your question. In my opinion Ken Okuyama is one of the very few 'real' current designers, unlike the many who I would like to put into the 'Hall of Fa…kes'.

What are you working on today?

I continue to design cars every day - it's like a drug. I always do sketches first, both exterior and interior. But it's impossible to understand a car from a sketch. You need to see it and touch it. which is why scale models are so important for me. I'm currently talking with Leonardo Frigerio, who runs a small company making the Effeeffe Berlinetta, about creating something fresh.

And I am considering using my own 916 Spider

to make a new one-off to demonstrate my ideas for a new Alfa Romeo image. It would involve a new bumper and bonnet with all-new lights, and losing the scudetto. Tom Tjaarda did something similar, restyling his own Fiat 124 Spider to look more like the Pininfarina Rondine that inspired it. We'll see.

Coming soon – exclusive to Auto Italia magazine – the surprising story of Enrico Fumia's Ferrari F90 (below), the virtually unknown special series Ferrari built uniquely for Brunei









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HIDDEN TREASURES

It seems scarcely
believable but some of
the most coveted Italian
cars of all time have been
unearthed hiding in
garages, basements –
and yes, barns – as a new
book, SuperFinds, reveals

Story by Michael Kliebenstein/Auto Italia Images by Corrado Cupellini/Michael Kliebenstein/Auto Italia

magine opening a rotten old garage door and finding, among discarded boxes and perhaps the odd chicken, a forgotten classic car. Not just any old car, either, but a Ferrari, Maserati or Alfa Romeo.

And let's go even further: it happens to be a superrare, ultra-desirable model.

This is the stuff of pure fantasy; or so you might think. But sometimes dreams do come true. Over the years, many amazing discoveries have been made of lost classics. From barns to basements to scrapyards, amazing treasures have lain forgotten and neglected, often for decades, before a ray of light illuminates the treasure – and gives the hunter a flutter of the heart.

We have one particular treasure hunter to thank for many of the lost classics that you see on these pages. Over many years, Italian enthusiast Corrado Cupellini made it his mission to rediscover and rescue lost classics. He has saved literally dozens of absolutely iconic cars. As a new book, *SuperFinds*, written by Michael Kliebenstein and published by Porter Press relates, thankfully he made a photographic record of his journeys and discoveries.

Important and often unique cars were uncovered, from Ferrari to Alfa Romeo, Lancia to Lamborghini, Cisitalia to Stanguellini. Rare coachbuilt bodywork by Pinin Farina, Zagato, Touring, Vignale, Bertone, Ghia and others was rescued – as well as legendary Grand Prix cars and racers like Birdcage Maseratis and Ferrari Testa Rossas and GTOs, some owned by the likes of Nuvolari, Chiron and Fangio.

We've selected just a few of the most striking of goo-plus photographs in this remarkable new book, as well as a few from our own archive. What you see here are some of the most remarkable cars ever to be saved from oblivion.



Corrado Cupellini's first big discovery was this Ferrari 250 GT SWB Competizione, found shabby and neglected in Lima, Peru.



Desiccated by the dry climate of Phoenix, Arizona, this Ferrari 250 GT SWB California Spyder was discovered with its nose and tail modified.







A Ferrari 250 GT LWB Tour de France Series IV languishes next to a Lamborghini Miura S in a scrapyard in Munich, Germany.



African queen: this Ferrari 340 MM, found in Niger, was once used in Casablanca in Morocco.



This 1961 Ferrari 250 GT SWB Competizione was discovered in the house of the mayor of Lima's son. It was driven to the port in Peru and then transported by sea and train. Here it is close to Monaco station.



This Ferrari 166 Le Mans Berlinetta by Touring (chassis 0048/MM) sits forlorn outside Pierre de Siebenthal's garage in Switzerland.









This Ferrari 166 Inter Cabriolet by Stabilimenti Farina (chassis 033S) was discovered in a garden near Vicenza.



A scrapyard near Monza was the unlikely location for this handsome Ferrari 212 Inter by Pinin Farina.

ITALIAN BARN FINDS



Incredible as it may seem, a scrapyard in Venezuela was the resting place for this Maserati A6 GCS.



The original Ferrari 312P wire-form buck as found near Modena.



Originally a works 250 Testa Rossa (#0716TR), a crash led to a 1964 rebody *a la* GTO by Piero Drogo.



This Ferrari 166 Inter by Vignale (chassis 0193EL) was found in Morocco.



This is the ex-Volonterio Alfa Romeo TZ2 (chassis number 10) from the Lucchini collection. It's seen here in Count Lurani's famous garage.



Barchetta-bodied Alfa Romeo, apparently on a Disco Volante chassis.



This is the first OSI-built Alfa Romeo Scarabeo prototype, today safe and sound in the Alfa Romeo museum.



In 2014, a pair of Alfa Romeo Giulietta Sprints were found in a Yorkshire garage after 20 years of hibernation (read the full story in *Auto Italia* September 2014).



This one-off Ghia-bodied Maserati 5000GT, long thought lost, was found abandoned in the Arabian desert and – thankfully – rescued (full story in *Auto Italia* October 2019).



In 2015, this Maserati A6G Frua Coupe emerged after 55 years of slumber in France, where it shared space with the ex-Alain Delon Ferrari 250 GT California Spyder (full story in *Auto Italia* August 2018).



Seen here up for auction at the 2018 Padova Show is this 'barn find' 1961 Maserati 3500GT. It's chassis 1011714, as used by Juan Manuel Fangio as his everyday transport whenever he spent time in Italy (full story in *Auto Italia* February 2019).



This Lamborghini Miura P400 was discovered abandoned in a French field. It sold at auction in 2019 for €560,000.



Discovered after 40 years hidden away in Japan, this remarkable 1969 Ferrari Daytona is the one and only alloy-bodied road example ever built (full story in *Auto Italia* November 2017).





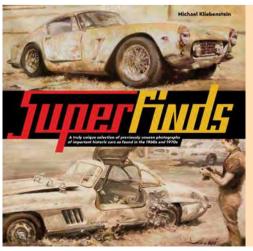


After being discovered half-buried in a garage near Rome, this Alfa Romeo 1900 Super Sprint Zagato was rescued by the celebrated Italian collector Corrado Lopresto and given a full restoration (read its story in *Auto Italia* March 2014).





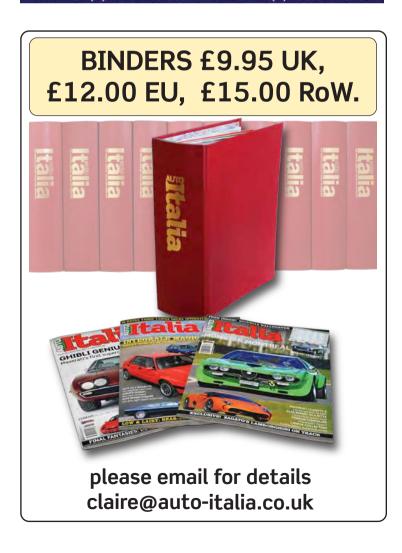
This sensationally original Alfa Giulietta SZ emerged in 2019 from 25 years entombed in an underground vault. It needed to be hoisted out of its crypt (full story in *Auto Italia* August 2019).



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RALLY REP

We get behind the wheel of a 1975 Group 4 works replica Lancia Beta Coupé and discover just what handling balance really means

Story by Simon Charlesworth Images by Michael Ward

host of stickers – some *verificato*, some not – are emblazoned in or around the rear windows of this tantalising Alitalia-liveried Lancia Beta Coupé Group 4 rally replica.

Worn with pride like campaign medals on a veteran's chest, they come from all sorts of events.

Some are from the Revival Rally Club Valpantena (from 2017-2019); there's the 19th Snow Trophy (2017) and Coppa Dei Lupi (2018); and runs from Rewind, Lessinia Sport and Campagnolo Rally Storico (all 2019), right up to the most recent Winter Marathons (2019 and 2020) – the last Marathon starting in Italy's stunning northeastern ski resort, Madonna di Campiglio. All bear testament to the rallying antics of the car's former owners, husband-and-wife team Peter and Sigrid Arndt.

Tony Rosewell from Fulvia Classics explains how he and the Beta got here: "I've just driven it back from Latina, which is just south of Rome. I bought two cars from an avid Lancia collector, including an HF, and he offered me this particular car. It's a replica of the 1975 Group 4 works car which he had built because he wanted an exact replica, or as close as it could be. It's a proper full-on rally car with FIA HTP papers. He certainly used it in anger, as you can see from all the entry stickers on it."

Introduced in 1973, the Beta Coupé initially replaced the Fulvia Coupé and later, the Fiat 124 Coupé. The Beta Coupé sat on a shorter wheelbase than the berlina (2350mm versus 2535mm) and its bodywork was designed by a team under Aldo Castagno with the Fulvia's designer, Piero Castagnero, as a consultant. Lancia's Coupé was revealed at the 1973 Frankfurt Motor Show but thanks to the fuel crisis sales were delayed until 1974. During its life it evolved into







different series, had engines ranging from 1.3 to 2.0 litres, fed by carburettors or fuel injection, and even supercharged in the VX model. By the time the end came in 1984 nearly 112,000 Coupés had been built.

The Beta was homologated for both Gp3 (with a 175hp 189occ eight-valve engine) and Gp4 (running the Abarth 16-valve head, as per the works 131 Abarths) in October 1974, but it was always intended to play second fiddle to the star of the show, the Lancia Stratos HF.

In Gp4 trim and in its first event, the Beta Coupé finished a fantastic fourth in the 16th Rallye Sanremo of 1974 with Shekhar Mehta and Martin Holmes aboard. This was followed by an even more impressive result in the snow, ice and gravel of Canada's Rally of the Rideau Lakes, where Cesare Fiorio's team orders compelled Simo Lampinen and John Davenport to ease up and let the Stratos of Sandro Munari and Mario Mannucci take the lead. The Stratos posted a final time of 4:54:31.8, with the Beta finishing closely behind in just 4:56:50.4. The Beta continued to be campaigned into 1975, when it helped Lancia secure the title, prior to the works Betas being sold off in 1976 to privateers.

How did Tony find bringing it back to the UK from



Car is currently powered by a mildly tuned 2.0 singlecarb twin-cam engine with an estimated 130hp

Italy, especially given the Covid-19 situation? "No problem at all, I just went over there, jumped in it and drove it back from Latina. We did about 2500km (1553 miles) with a bit of sight-seeing on the way. We came back through multiple borders, all of them open, there were absolutely no problems at all. Straight in to Dover, they just waved us all through. I brought three cars back in convoy and they just waved us straight through – all on Italian plates.

"It was a stifling 37 degrees over in Italy but the Beta behaved itself perfectly. It used a bit of oil, as they all do because they are made to do that. About half a litre of oil I guess, but it was spot-on. We didn't cane the cars, we sat there doing 60-70mph at a push, and the Beta did about 34mpg, which I think is good.

"This is a fabulous car. On the road it drives just great and I should think that on the track it's properly sorted, too. You can see the camber on the rear, it does turn in very quickly. It's just a very enjoyable and striking-looking car."

Tony caught the Lancia bug after starting to work for Nigel Hargreaves at HF Automotive as a mechanic. He joined aged 17 and has since had a history of car ownership peppered with Lancias – especially Fulvias.



Wheelarch extensions are quite modest, bumpers are retained, Carello Megalux lamps look perfect For the past three years, he has been buying Lancias and bringing them back to the UK.

"I remember the first time I drove one when I was working for Nigel. It was the first one we had in and at the time, I had a Fulvia 1600HF. I jumped into one of these Betas – an absolutely standard 1600 S1 Coupé – and it was great. I thought, 'Jesus! This is fantastic.' It was smooth and quiet – that engine was just brilliant and I loved it. I bought one in the end and sold the HF. These are great cars, but they have been sort of forgotten. That's probably because, although they made loads, few survive."

After such a recommendation, I really need to have a go. Dear old Longcross Proving Ground has been the site of many different great personal encounters – from a re-engineered Aston Martin DB4 to a Honda Integra DC2 to an MG Metro 6R4 – and I sense another one is about to join the list in these perfect conditions.

This 1976 Coupé certainly looks the part sat on its black berlina Cromodora alloys. OK, its wheelarch extensions are more modest, possibly more Gp3 than Gp4, whilst the retention of bumpers does dilute some of its Gp4 attitude, but this isn't really noticeable unless you make a direct comparison. What is

noticeable is the amount of negative camber the Beta is running at the rear – a tell-tale sign that this car has been fitted with different springs, adjustable dampers and polybushes. Another nice touch is the fitment of genuine Carello Megalux lamps at the front.

The Lancia may have left the factory with a 1.6 engine but it's now powered by a mildly tuned 2.0 lump. Believed to realise around 130hp, the 2.0 engine retains its single twin-choke Weber carb, has probably benefited from some mild head work and the flywheel has also likely been lightened and balanced. Remembering that modifications should be curtailed by homologation papers, something has also been done to the gearbox, with the gearchange being far more accurate and requiring more effort to slot into gear.

On board, buckled in and rolling, I check out the Coupé's fairly minimal instrumentation. The main Jaeger clocks consist of a 200km/h speedo on the left and a 7000rpm tacho on the right (with the red paint kicking in at 6250rpm). Acting like a warm handshake, the chunky slotted three-spoke Luisi wheel effectively introduces you to this Coupé's character.

Which is full of joy and sparkle. The speed and weighting of the controls are all in synch, and the







Beta's responses are deliciously sharp-witted. Having driven examples of the Beta berlina and HPE, this cheeky short-wheelbase ruffian manages to outshine its longer-wheelbase kin – cars which, when handling bends, esses, corners and complexes are far from being butter-fingered nincompoops.

Above 4000rpm is where the twink starts to boogie and the interior is filled with the superbly urgent fizzing bark of an Italian four-pot breathing through a spicy exhaust. The single-carb 2.0-litre engine acts as a 'carrot' to the gearchange's 'stick' when it comes to encouraging your mastery of gear shuffling. Gone is the slight rubbery dithering when swapping ratios in the five-speed gearbox – instead, you have to be very precise and know where you're going with the gearchange. If you don't, it will vocally rebuke you.

The fun and entertainment factors are proving far too much of a distraction to bother looking at the speedo. The 130hp twin cam feels one step beyond nippy and certainly produces enough shove to allow the chassis to shine and your facial muscles ache from marathon bouts of smiling.

This car is a chuckle on four wheels. Pumping



through the gears and on the alloy pedals, the Beta just grips. It doesn't really roll and it changes direction quicker than a politician in a focus group. The lateral g-force almost teases and bullies your middle ear. However, a line-up of tempting traffic cones can't be resisted. The rear end – wearing that extra-large chunk of negative camber – is so agile and responsive, it almost feels as if it's mastered the art of passive rear-steer. The rack-and-pinion steering bubbles with information while the minimal heft and effort makes you curse the invention of power steering. It is so superbly chuckable and eminently neutral, that the only way to visit the limits of adhesion would be to fit full bucket seats and trouser-crushing harnesses.

That, though, is not the thought which preoccupies my mind on the way home. By no means is this car the fastest one I've driven around this track, but its lack of electronic interference means that this particular analogue bubble from yesteryear has to be amongst the purest. Luckily – or perhaps that should be sadly – this car has already been sold.

Wonderfully balanced set-up and lots of negative rear camber for handling neutrality



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Milano AutoClassica

The Milan show celebrated Alfa Romeo, Fiat Panda and more

Story & images by Matteo Licata



t seems like yesterday that Milan finally got its high-profile classic car show,
AutoClassica, yet amazingly 2020 marked the 10th edition of the event. The last decade has seen the Milan exhibition growing steadily in importance, but we should perhaps be grateful that we got to enjoy a 2020 edition at all.

The uncertainty around Covid restrictions led the organisers to move the show from its traditional November slot to September, which seemed a cunning move at the time.

Unfortunately, this decision put the Milan show in direct competition with another well-established event, the Modena Motor Gallery, forcing several exhibitors to choose between the two venues.

This situation only partly explains why this year's AutoClassica barely managed to fill two pavilions of the sprawling Fiera Milano complex, leaving quite a lot of empty space in both halls. In fact, the event as a whole has been, somewhat predictably, a far cry from the highs of 2019's edition: there was

much less to see, from the smallest spare parts sellers right up to manufacturer level.

The absence of FCA's Heritage division loomed large at this year's AutoClassica, and manufacturers' presence was limited to Porsche, Lamborghini (both represented by their Milanese dealers) and Pagani, although Ferrari did make its presence felt through its Maranello and Modena museums.

Pininfarina turned go in 2020, but the company decided to postpone all its celebratory events until 2021, leaving it to









ASI (Italy's largest club federation, whose vice-president is Paolo Pininfarina himself) to represent the company's history on its stand. Together with significant production cars loaned by private enthusiasts, the display featured several important prototypes from Pininfarina's own collection, like the 1969 Sigma Grand Prix, the Cambiano from 2012, and the 2013 Sergio. But the one I was happiest to see again was the Alfa Romeo Duettottanta, a modern two-seat Alfa sports car that looks every bit as good now as it did

when it was revealed 10 years ago – all very much in keeping with Pininfarina's tradition for timeless beauty.

The *carrozzeria*'s long history was discussed on the ASI stand by president Paolo Pininfarina, joined for the occasion by the company's Chief Creative Officer, the British designer Kevin Rice. This was Rice's very first public appearance since taking on the role in March, and I must say his mastery of the Italian language was quite impressive.

Milan's Portello and Arese factories may

have been bulldozed long ago, but the city still means Alfa Romeo to many enthusiasts. The Alfa Club Milano dedicated its space to the 35th anniversary of the much-loved Alfa 75, with a display that made my heart stop for a moment: pretty much every variant of this model was represented in highly original, pristine form. None of these cars were for sale, but there were several dealers present at the venue willing to satisfy the desires of even the most demanding Alfisti... at a price.





retention standpoint. While 1960s and 1970s
Alfa Romeos are still hot – and will likely
continue to be for the foreseeable future –

masterpieces around.
Milano AutoClassica ha
about glitz and style tha

Compared to previous years, the number of cars for sale was smaller, as dealers overall seemed to have brought along smaller inventories. That's understandable given that, with international travel still tricky, they couldn't count as much on buyers from abroad as they used to. Still, the stock's overall quality was as high as it's always been at the Milan show, something that's becoming more important than ever.

With less money circulating around, people have been showing a preference for pristine, unmolested cars that are less likely to require significant expenditures down the line and therefore probably a safer bet from a value

retention standpoint. While 1960s and 1970s Alfa Romeos are still hot – and will likely continue to be for the foreseeable future – most of the action on the Italian classic car market is turning to so-called 'youngtimers', with the number of 1980s and 1990s cars regularly increasing at shows, AutoClassica being no exception.

Among 1980s cars, it was not all just about integrales and Ferraris. The Fiat Panda turned 40 years old this year, and with good original pre-1985 survivors now thin on the ground, prices are firming up. That's good news because it's likely to encourage more people to keep these Giugiaro-designed

Milano AutoClassica has always been more about glitz and style than finding elusive new-old-stock parts for your restoration. This year, though, even I felt that there wasn't much in the way of spares and automobilia around, and I really hope that the reason is merely the coincidence with the Modena event mentioned above.

While 2020's Milano AutoClassica may have struggled to justify its entry fee, it felt great to be around cars once again. For the Italian classic car scene, this Milan show was a tentative step back towards normality, and a very welcome one at that.





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VIVE LA FRANCE

Tour Auto was a rare survivor of event cancellations in 2020. The entry list for the French tour was packed with Italian classics, including some spectacular rarities

Story by Johnny Tipler Images by Johnny Tipler/Julien Hergault/Mathieu Bonnevie









he Tour de France Automobile was an event that ran more or less every year from 1899 till 1986, with a few short interruptions and a couple of World Wars thrown in. Relaunched in 1992, its modern incarnation is organised by Peter Auto, and known as the Tour Auto Optic2000. It's a retrospective rendition of the original event, and similar in extent and character to the ongoing eponymous bicycle race, only with four wheels instead of two - that's to say, an itinerary that encompasses much of France, with 300 or so cars covering at least 2000km in the course of a week. On this occasion it was a round of the World Championship for Makes and the European Rally Championship, attracting factory teams' participation

including Ferrari, Alfa Romeo, Lancia, Citroën, BMC (Minis), Porsche, Mercedes-Benz, Matra, Alpine-Renault and Ford.

The modern Tour Auto is for cars produced between 1950 and 1974, and the entry list reads like a feast of top-class historic race and rally cars, with a smattering of top-line drivers behind the wheel, such as Thierry Boutsen, Gérard Larrousse and Stephane Ortelli this year. Among some extremely rare and special cars were Porsche prototypes such as the 904, 906 and 910 models, reflecting the nature of the competition cars that ran back in the day. Just as then, a plethora of different cars forms the mix today, featuring prototypes, GTs, sports and saloon cars, with two main categorisations – Competition and Regularity.

Whereas historically, the Tour Auto was a series of flat-out blasts, the current five-day event is regularity-based, relying on navigator co-drivers to monitor their driver's speed on the stages; to arrive too early at a checkpoint incurs penalties. Hence, cars often travel faster on the transit sections than on the regularities and race circuits visited en route.

This year's Tour Auto Optic2000 started off, traditionally, in Paris on 31 August at Le Grand Palais – a kind of Crystal Palace. 294 entries were then dispatched at 30-second intervals heading for Linas-Montlhéry racetrack south of Paris for the proper start on 1 September. One of the attractions here is the awesome banked oval that forms a significant part of the circuit, and all the

Tour Auto cars had a lap of that before being sent off towards another famous circuit, Magny-Cours, which held the French Grand Prix from 1991 to 2008.

Some competitors had mechanical problems, like the 1961 Alfa Romeo Giulietta Sprint #181 driven by Luis Delso/Carlos De Miguel, fixed overnight in a local garage. Already, the regularity section was dominated by the Porsches, monopolising the top places in the VHC classification, though with the valid excuse that Porsche prototypes were designated as the 'theme' cars of this year's event. At Magny-Cours, victory in the H-I classification went to a BMW 2002Tii.

From here, the retinue transited south-east to Clermont-Ferrand, congregating at the town's parc fermé. Enthusiasts lining the roadside predominantly wore masks, with teams notionally in bubbles when stationary, though these things are relative, especially on a socially gregarious event such as this.

At daybreak, the cortege headed out of town for the gorgeous Charade circuit in the heart of the Auvergne region. The 3.9kilometre circuit, which staged the French GP in 1965, '69, '70 and '72, is set in the Parc Régional des Volcans d'Auvergne, and while reminiscent of the Nürburgring Nordschleife, it is the only 'mountain' circuit in Europe. Participants love the racetrack stages, especially those of a racing disposition rather than a rallying one, and the special stages on closed-off country lanes are fundamental to events like Tour Auto. Their location and layout are only handed to entrants at the very last moment, placing the onus not just on the driver but the co-pilot to figure out when to tell his driver to speed up or slow down - not to mention making it tricky to second-guess where to hang out as a photographer; there were two special stages after the laps of Charade, and being a nimble Alpine or Lotus doesn't necessarily count for much here: a Corvette C3 ended the day in





















the lead of the regularity section.

It was an early start at Limoges Exhibition Park, the event's halfway point, and at 7:30am as the sun rose, the first competitors started the third leg of the rally, heading south for Toulouse. Three special stages bisected the route, with a lunchtime stopover at the magnificent Château d'Aynac.

The cars entered Toulouse under escort from the Gendarmerie Nationale, assembling in the 'pink city' – so-called because of its terracotta brick buildings. On Saturday morning, after an overnight halt at



Avignon's Pont-du-Gard, competitors motored east to a special stage on closed roads near Mont Ventoux in the Vaucluse region. Famously painted by Paul Cézanne, Mont Ventoux was a venue on the European Hillclimb Championship, 25km long and rising to an altitude of 1912 metres. A BMW 3.0 CSL won the regularity, while Jean Florent and Yves Jean took the competition category in a 1981 Ferrari 308 Gr4 Michelotto (#253), four seconds ahead of their closest challenger – no mean achievement in an event brimming with



heavy metal V8s and lithe sportscars.

Host to the French GP intermittently since 1971, the Paul Ricard circuit at Le Castellet was the setting for the Tour Auto showdown. The wining driver was no stranger to top spot on the podium, either: Raphaël Favaro scored his third success, co-driven by Lucien-Charles Nicolet in his E-type Jaguar. After a total of 1986km, the regularity was won by fatherand-son Jean-François and François Nicoules in a Ford Mustang. However, as with many events of this type, it's not so much the result as the taking part that counts.







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Goodwood Speedweek

Goodwood circuit may not have been able to welcome spectators for 2020's SpeedWeek but the action was as captivating as ever

Story by Adam Wilkins Images by Nick Dungan/Dominic James/Matt Sills/J Fong

he still of a cool October evening is about to be ripped apart by a Lancia Stratos, spotlights ablaze and exhaust blaring. It emerges from the track tunnel, arriving in a cacophony of noise and gets sideways just the other side of some hay bales before crossing the finish line. This is Goodwood, but not like we've ever seen it before.

You-know-what meant that the Sussex estate was unable to stage its Members' Meeting, Festival of Speed or Revival in 2020, so all the events were rolled into one to create SpeedWeek. Rather than attend in person, enthusiasts could watch the action from home, either online or on television. Minimal numbers of people were allowed on site, but we managed to get behind the closed doors to see the event up close. It made for a strange atmosphere: as much as you may curse crowds, when they're not

there you realise how much of Goodwood's feel-good atmosphere is generated by likeminded spectators. As an event designed to be shown on screen, though, it couldn't be faulted. In difficult circumstances, Goodwood pulled off an utterly spectacular show.

The absence of spectators meant that the circuit could be used in ways never before seen. That's why there was the aforementioned rally stage right through areas that, at Revival, would usually host a throng of spectators. Ditto the 'Driftkhana' that saw oversteer merchants tyre-smoking their away around previously pedestrianised areas of the site. Meanwhile, the on-track timed shootout could include cars far faster than normal. There was no doubt that the challenges were successfully turned into opportunities. The usual favourite races from the Members' Meeting and Revival completed an unforgettable programme.

Without the usual razzmatazz and side shows, the focus was even more firmly on the cars and the competition than usual. With an entry list cherry-picked from all three flagship Goodwood events, there was something for everybody. From Duncan Pittaway's now infamous – and unmissable – Fiat \$76 'Beast of Turin' to the very latest Ferrari Roma, the Italian flag flew throughout the three-day event.

The newly renamed Stirling Moss Memorial Trophy – formerly the Kinrara Trophy – was enhanced by no fewer than three Ferrari 250 SWBs. The race for 1960s GT cars has often been cited as the world's most beautiful racing grid, and the inclusion of SWBs certainly contributed greatly to that. Is there a better GT shape? Dario Franchitti and John Hugenholtz brought their 250 home in fourth place. The Rob Walker Racing-liveried SWB also made an appearance during the Duke of

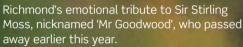












The Prancing Horse also made an appearance in the Richmond and Gordon Trophies race. Two 246 Dinos faced competition from a stunning Maserati 250F. The Trident highlight for us, though, was in the Lavant Cup, which featured a Tipo 61
'Birdcage'. If that wasn't enough for Maserati
fans, there were also a 300S and 250S in
action, joined on the grid by a Ferrari 500 TRC.
Alfa Romeo was also well represented



throughout SpeedWeek. The 308C featured in the Goodwood Trophy, while the familiar form of the Giulia GTA added some beauty to the St Mary's Trophy for 1960s saloon cars – not that they both went home in quite the same shape that they started the race.

Unlike the timewarp Revival, where all the cars are pre-1966, SpeedWeek included the kind of new metal you would expect to see at the Festival of Speed. It was Ferrari that best represented Italy with new cars in the Supercar Run. We've already name-checked the Roma, but there was also a brace of F8s



(Spider and Tributo) and an 812. Completing the Ferrari line-up was the windscreen-less Monza SP, which looked very much at home on track. Looking even more the part on Goodwood's fast curves was the duo of 488 race cars in both GT3 and Challenge forms.

SpeedWeek served up three days of close racing, brought together some top-drawer machinery and attracted top names - just as Goodwood does under normal circumstances. As we continue to adjust to a 'new normal', it's reassuring to know that some things can be depended upon.



WHAT'S ON YOUR DRIVE?

AUTO ITALIA READERS REPORT ON THEIR WHEELS

Your cars, your stories - tales of Italian car ownership in the real world



ALFA ROMEO ALFETTA

VERNON MARSTON

acquired my Alfetta berlina in 2016, seduced by its specification: iconic all-alloy Alfa twin cam, rack and pinion steering, perfect weight distribution (thanks to the rear-mounted clutch and gearbox) and de Dion rear axle ensuring zero camber change under varied load, superbly located by long radius arms and a Watts linkage. Few cars of the period could measure up to that, never mind a roomy four-door saloon – and it was an Alfa.

First registered in December 1974, GPH 555N is believed to be one of the first Alfettas imported into the UK. Through some miracle of abstinence, by the early 1990s it had done only 11,000 miles. Owned by AROC member, Peter Clark, it became a regular and successful concours entrant. By the mid-1990s it had been sold to a less dedicated owner, used as a daily driver and left in a garden to fend for itself in an unequal struggle with corrosion.

Fortunately, a serial Alfetta owner rescued it in

2005 and commissioned a restoration by Alex Jupe Motorsport. The work required was extensive and took until 2010. One or two minor departures from originality included a thicker front anti-roll bar and adjustable Koni shocks. It was resprayed in the original colour of Faggio (beech leaves) and trimmed in cream leather (the original vinyl fabric could not be sourced). Alex Jupe also worked his magic on the suspension and steering geometry.

When it landed in my hands in 2016, it had still done only 32,000 miles. Low mileage can mean lack of regular use and several steering joints were partially seized, the brake pads were glazed, the dampers were on their hardest setting, the front ride height was too low and some interior fittings were missing. The most challenging problem was the appalling gearchange, cured by fitting new synchro rings from Alfaholics.

Having mostly worked on British cars from the 1960s and 1970s, the Alfa is a joy to work on. The elegance of the engineering and the passion clearly evident in the detail design make tackling difficult jobs more satisfying, and the effort involved



thoroughly worthwhile.

My interest in classic cars has always been about the response and communication between car and driver. When driven as a classic car in a respectful fashion the Alfetta is a comfortable, sprightly drive and very good by the standards of its era. But if you release your inner Italian, things can be very different. Given a clear 'fun' road, its whole character changes. In 1779cc form the engine may lack the torque of the 2.0-litre twin cam, but it pulls strongly and revs far more freely than the bigger engine. Acceleration times may not be exciting, but the audio track from the exhaust and the gorgeous muted intake roar of the twin Dellortos more than compensate. The steering is precise and accurate with loads of feel, albeit lowgeared. Body control is superb, making the car beg to

be pushed really hard when it comes to the bendy bits. There is little roll and matchless balance, quite staggering in a car which is a relatively tall and bulky saloon. Turn-in is sharp, and cornering speeds are high and so secure that they can be fully exploited. The handling is as predictable as my Westfield Seven, similarly flattering those of us with limited driving skills. Not only does the old girl pick up her skirts and fly, but she dances too. There is no doubt, then, that this is both a real Alfa and a true driver's car.

Yet the Alfetta is a family car, able to cruise on motorways, carry five in comfort plus their luggage and keep you warm and dry in bad weather. After a good drive in the Alfa, I find myself with a silly grin and an inclination to give a fond pat to the car as I leave it in the garage.







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NO LANCIA V4?

Great to see some superb cars and engines represented in your 'Best Italian Engines' feature (December 2020). Interesting to have a view from the writer defending the 2.0-litre Alfa GTV engine, as opposed to the 1750 that's often lauded as the better, though I think I do prefer the smaller, revvier Alfa engine myself.

I have one question, though: where was the Lancia V4 in the feature? In my humble opinion, not only is this one of the best Italian engines of all time, but it also performs well and sounds lovely, and is very unusual in having a 'V' format with four cylinders. With its front-driven wheels, my

Fulvia HF can run rings around an Alfa GTV. I know I'm biased, but I reckon the V4 should be up there with all the other engines in your feature. **David Guscott**

CHAMPIONSHIP COVERAGE

First of all, can I say how much I enjoy Auto Italia magazine. It's always full of interesting stuff and beautifully presented. There were just a couple of comments I wanted to make about the Festival Italia article in the latest edition. I would of course have liked more coverage of the Alfa Romeo Championship but appreciate that space is limited and that racing

isn't the only part of the event. However, I was surprised that your writers led with the nonevent that was the Italian v Allcomers race (in terms of Italian participation), which they reckoned was the most exciting of the day. A matter of opinion, of course, but I certainly don't think the dice they were thrilled with was any more exciting than what was happening in our races.

The driver of the gorgeous Alfa 75 that won Race One was George Osborne, not Mark Osborne. Also, earlier in the article they referred to the 'BRSCC' Alfa Romeo Championship, which I don't imagine the 750 Motor Club with whom we now race would be very thrilled about. It would have been nice to have read something about the glorious sound of Busso V6 engines flying down the start/finish straight, dicing Twin Sparks. Andy Robinson, Alfa

Romeo Championship Coordinator

We always welcome contributions from race championship coordinators, from simple race calendars to full event reports - Ed



BE NICE TO BRERA

In the latest mag, there is a sly dig at the Alfa Romeo 159/Brera engine. I'm getting fed up of this negative attitude towards Alfas of this era. If people like myself didn't buy these cars, Alfa would be no more. I can't remember much positive vibes on these engines, just remarks like 'not a proper Alfa engine'. Sorry to have a pop but I'm a true Alfa Romeo fanatic.

Carlo Panfranchi

FERRARI V LAMBO

Thanks for an interesting article about Ferrari and Lamborghini in the latest issue (December 2020).

I must say, I have always thought Pininfarina's designs to be the best of the era from the mid-1960s to the early 1980s, the best of all in my eves being the Berlinetta Boxer for Ferrari.

But you rightly point out how good Bertone was during that era, which was all, of course, down to Marcello Gandini. Some of those designs he did for Lamborghini – the Miura, Countach and Marzal - were absolutely top drawer. When he left Bertone, for me that was the beginning of the end for the design company. Rarely has one man had such an impact. Farina continued to spot great talent and went from strength to strength.

Jeremy Jules



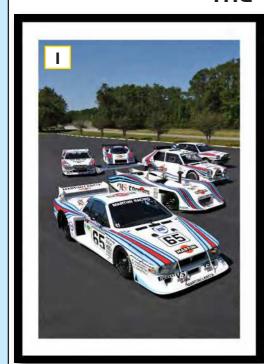


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THE LANCIA RALLY COLLECTION











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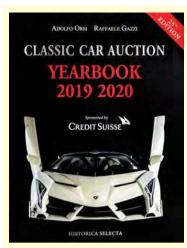








*Frames for illustration only



Classic Car Auction Yearbook 2010-2020 By Adolfo Orsi & Raffaele Gazzi Historica Selecta €80

This annual guide to the collector car market is now, remarkably, in its 25th edition. The heart of the book remains very much the same as it always has been: an exhaustive listing of every car auctioned by a major sales house during the year, which in this edition means 1 September 2019 to 31 August 2020. For the record, there's a total of 5066 cars across 335 makes.

But this book is much more than a simple listing. There's a lot of analysis here, giving you indepth detail on how well each margue and model has performed. The text is entirely in English, by the way, with plenty of graphs to make the data easily digestible.

There's a more detailed version of the annual Top 10 sales this year, in which - as always - Italian cars dominate. Unusually, number one this year is a Lamborghini: the Veneno Roadster sold by

Bonhams for £6.79 million. Pagani and Ferrari also feature in the ten most valuable sales this season.

There's a nice 25th edition retrospective, too, with a spread for every year since 1993 featuring the most interesting sales results. A little tear is sure to roll down your cheek as you read just how little you could have bought your favourite cars for back then (how about a Miura for just £39,400 in 1993?). Also fascinating is a list of the Top 100 for each make and country over the past 27 years.



Pininfarina oo Years Preface by Paolo Pininfarina Giorgio Nada Editore £go

If you don't have the huge - and hugely expensive -Pininfarina Catalogue Raisonée in vour possession, here is a fabulous substitute. And unlike that older book, this new work brings the story of Italy's most famous carrozzeria right up to date, since it celebrates Pininfarina's 90 years of activity, as the 'official' book of the 90th anniversary.

The format is very much a model-by-model account, like the Catalogue Raisonée. With 632 cars to describe, that means it's a huge volume,

consisting of 528 pages and around 800 images. The text is bilingual (Italian and English) but sadly the English translation is somewhat clunky and the word count is scant; true anoraks won't have their appetites fully whetted. Nevertheless you do get decent descriptions for the most part, and we certainly learnt a few



before - as well as a few cars that we haven't previously seen. The breadth of

Pininfarina's work is brillianty demonstrated, from the aerodynamic Tipo Bocca of 1936, through icons like the 1947 Cisitalia 202, to countless Ferraris and important concept cars like the Sigma Grand Prix. Ferrari 512 and Modulo. The current Battista concludes a design tour de force that's unparalleled in the car world.

The book's quality is stunning, with superbly reproduced images throughout. Even very early creations from the 1930s are represented with excellent period photographs. One slightly odd omission is anything hand-drawn: not a single sketch by any designer is included, which would surely have given greater depth to the design story. But overall this has to qualify as one of our alltime favourite books on



Alfa Romeo Berlina By Patrick Dasse **Dingwort Verlag** £70

German publisher Dingwort Verlag made huge waves two years ago when it published a vast swathe of volumes about classic Alfa Romeo models, from the Giulia GT to the Tipo 33. The series continues to expand, the latest being the Alfa Romeo Berlina the Tipo 105 saloon that followed on from the Giulia. We're talking Alfa's saloons made between 1967 and 1976, from the 1750 Berlina to the 2000 Berlina.

While the Berlina may not be the most passionately appreciated Alfa of all time, it does have a loyal following, and it certainly deserves a good book. Luckily, this very much is a good book. Like all of Dingwort's Alfa volumes, it's beautifully produced. The content is

principally photographic: 131 black-and-white shots and 47 colour ones contained within its 216 pages. These are all period images from the Alfa archive in Arese, and many of them have never been published before.

Author Patrick Dasse's text sometimes feels like a secondary consideration – there's not an awful lot of it. but it still does justice to the Berlina's story (it's in both English and German). Also included is information on chassis numbers and production numbers (did you know that only 253 automatic 1750s were made?). We're delighted to see the Pavesi-built 1750 Giardinetta Veloce estate car in the book, too, as well as images of the Arese production line.

Berlina owners and Alfa Romeo completists will be delighted by this book, which absolutely does justice to a littlecovered model.

BIALBER

All the cars powered by the legendary twin cam engine by Phil & Michael Ward

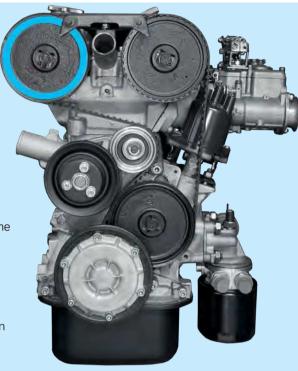
new 304 page fully illustrated colour book with over 900 photographs, many never before published, based on all the Fiats, Lancias and Alfa Romeos that are powered by Aurelio Lampredi's superb twin cam engine.

While some elements of the book are an expansion of the earlier works by the same author, the early chapters now include extracts from road tests by Auto Italia's writers.

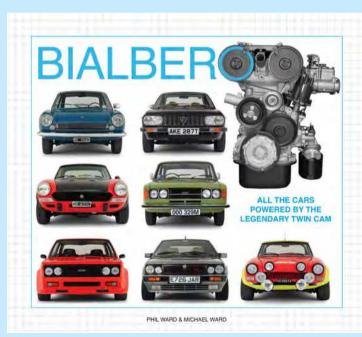
Also included in the first part of the book are one-offs and concepts like the Stola Dedica, Lancia Magia and Grama 2 'Puntograle', while modified cars include a 180bhp twin cam-engined Lada '124' and a superb Abarth OT1600 tribute.

The second half of the book is dedicated to hands-on maintenance and restoration advice of a selection of popular classic twin cams. There is also the added bonus of invaluable, expert tuning information by the renowned and sadly recently deceased twin cam race engine preparer, Guy Croft.

This much anticipated publication is prolifically illustrated throughout with high quality photography of real world cars from collections and dynamic images from Auto Italia's archives. Many of the featured cars are owned by the magazine's readers, in addition there is also a gallery of restored twin cams from around the world.



Bialbero will be available exclusively via Auto Italia magazine and www.bialbero.co.uk or for multiple copies pre-order with claire@auto-italia.co.uk













Lancia Delta Unintentional Supercar We want for the second secon



Part 2: Special Twin Carns Concepts & Customs

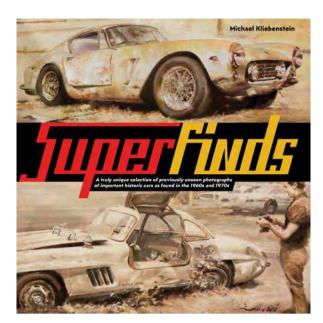








BOOKSHELF



SuperFinds
By Michael Kliebenstein
Porter Press
International
£go

Let's say straight up: this is quite some book. It's the extraordinary account of an Italian enthusiast, Corrado Cupellini, who at a time when classic cars were viewed as simply 'old' made it his mission to research, discover and rescue important lost classics before they disappeared forever.

His mission took him right across the world, from Africa to South America. He had the forethought to take photographs of all the cars he found. Not pretty pics, but fascinating snaps of where the cars were discovered – scrapyards, garages, basements, fields and more.

We're not talking everyday cars here, but A1 classics. Italian car fans will be astonished by the quality and quantity of Ferraris in the book, up to and including a 250 Testa Rossa and 250 GTO. There are lost Grand Prix cars, sports racers and Formula 2 cars, and legendary racers like 'Birdcage' Maseratis, Ferraris and a Lancia D24.





Rediscovered relics include cars formerly owned by Nuvolari, Chiron and Fangio. And there are coachbuilt oneoffs by the likes of Pinin Farina, Zagato, Touring, Vignale, Bertone, Castagna and Ghia.

In its 420 large-format pages, the book will

delight you with its 900plus photographs, all of them astonishing in some way, from a time when crashed racers and topclass cars were simply abandoned. The only slight frustration is that the full stories behind each car remain untold: there are simple captions for most of the images which leave you wanting to know much more about the cars, how the discoveries were made and what happened to the cars next. But make no mistake, this is an extraordinary volume that comes highly recommended.





FraSca - Franco Scaglione By Paolo Giaconi Pacini Editore €28

It's always slightly frustrating when a book about car design or designers has clearly

been produced without any of the design aesthetic that the subject matter deserves. Sadly this is one of those books, which has the look and feel of 'fan fiction' rather than an exhaustive, serious work on the subject.

That's a shame because this new book about Franco Scaglione has an awful lot going for it, not least the cooperation of Franco's daughter, Giovanna. It also includes personal

correspondence and reprints of articles that Scaglione wrote for Italian magazines in the 1950s. There's much less detail on the cars he actually designed. Another quibble is that some of the 330 images in the book are poorly reproduced.

FraSca was the name with which Scaglione signed his early sketches. As the book's subtitle, *Il Poeta dell'Aerodinamica* (The Poet of Aerodynamics), hints, Scaglione was a pioneer of the science of airflow. His crowning glories were undoubtedly the Alfa Romeo Giulietta Sprint, the Alfa Romeo 33 Stradale and the extraordinary Alfa BAT



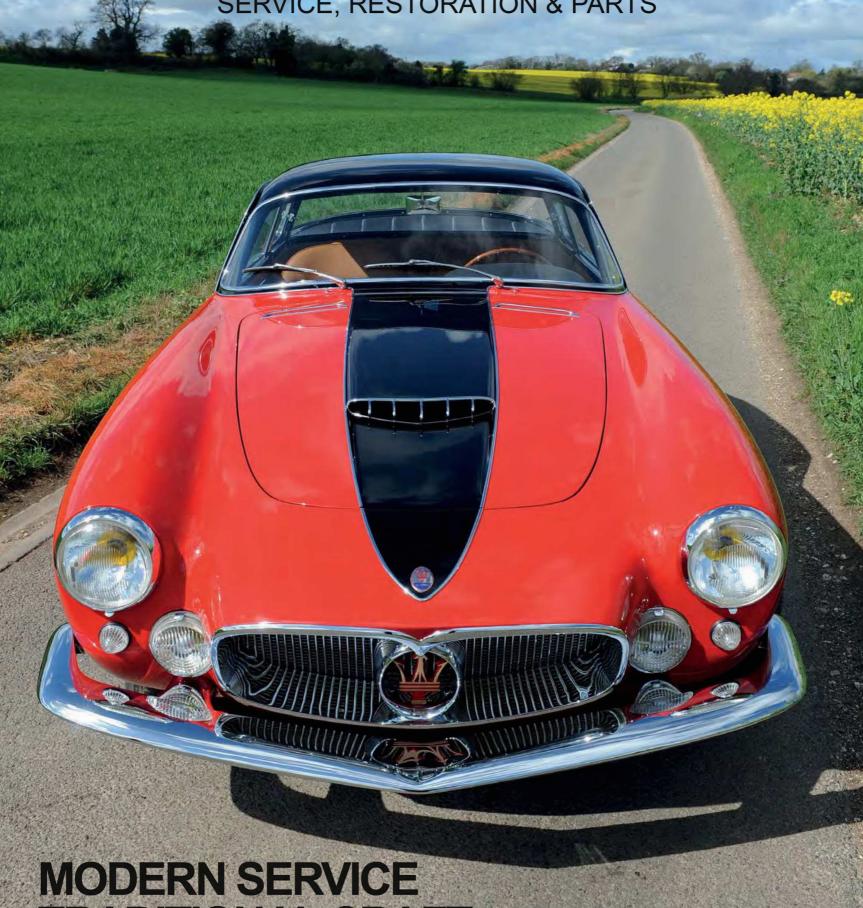
series of the 1950s.

But he was also the hand behind around 60 other sensationally beautiful cars, among them the Arnolt-Bristol, Siata 208 CS, NSU Sport Prinz, Lamborghini 350 GTV, ATS 2500 GT and a string of Intermeccanicas. Along the way he also designed many coachbuilt cars, mainly for Bertone but also Balbo, Motto and Allemano.

If you're looking for the definitive book on FraSca, Franco Scaglione Designer published by the ASI is probably a better bet overall. But this 200-page book (sadly with text in Italian only) is an interesting addition for the serious historian.

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Autosport International

NEC, Birmingham

www.autosportinternational.com

II January 14-17

Winter Marathon rally

Madonna di Campiglio, Italy www.wintermarathon.it

II January 21-24

Coppa Delle Alpi rally

Italian Alps coppadellealpi.it

February 3-7

Retromobile

Paris, France

retromobile.com February 5-7

Retro Classics Messe Stuttgart,

Germany www.retro-classics.de

February 26-27

Rally Revival

Glyndwr University, Wrexham www.rallyrevival.co.uk

February 19-21

Race Retro

Stoneleigh Park, Warks

www.raceretro.com

March 26-28

Restoration & Classic Car Show

NEC Birmingham

www.necrestorationshow.com

April 7-11

Techno-Classica Essen

Essen, Germany www.siha.de

AROC Spring Alfa Day Yorkshire Wildlife Park www.aroc-uk.com

May 7-9

Lancia Motor Club GNW 2020

Lancashire

www.lancia.myzen.co.uk

II May 28-30

Concorso d'Eleganza Villa d'Este

Lake Como, Italy concorsodeleganzavilladeste.com



June 9-11

London Concours & Supercars

Honourable Artillery Company, londonconcours.co.uk

July 10

Auto Italia Northern Italian Car Day

Raby Castle, Co Durham

www.rabv.co.uk

July 23-25 Lancia Motor Club National Rally

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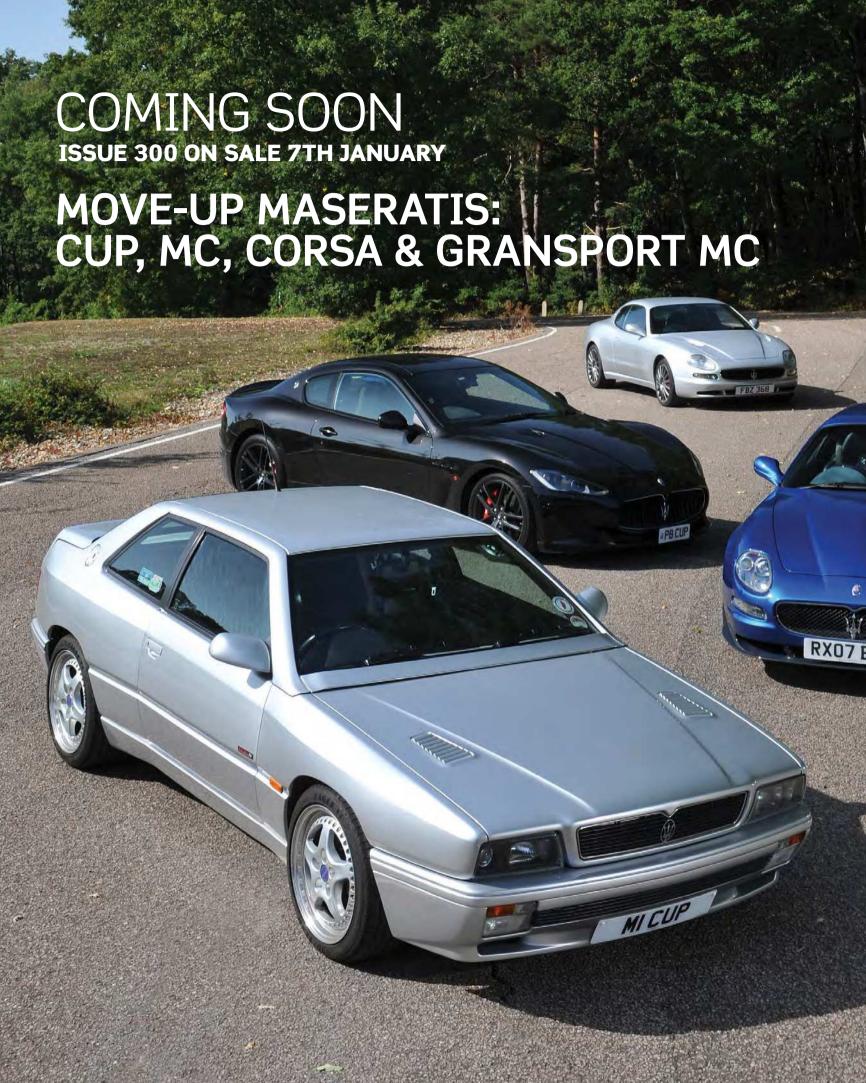








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ALFA ROMEO



1989 Alfa Romeo Spider Series 3 2.0 Cloverleaf. 63,000 miles, silver, excellent all round condition. Recent MOT with no advisories, extensive history file and always garaged. Genuine reason for sale from long time Alfa enthusiast and AROC member, further details and details on request. Also Series 4 for light restoration 51,500 miles, details on request, £11,500. Tel: Martin, 07703 327859. Email: martinaveyard1@gmail.com. A299/009



1991 Alfa Romeo S4 Spider. 75,000km, beautiful LHD spider, drives faultlessly (inc trips to Italy), dry use only. AROC member owner since 2013, bodywork is excellent, the car was resprayed in original Alfa Red in 2011, and maintained by Alfa restoration specialist DTR Racing. 2017 engine rebuild, interior trim work including new seat covers, brake calipers, suspension bushes etc. Some earlier paper history, original sale into Germany 1992 and UK imported 1997, £15,000. Tel: 07874 997458. Email: mtopip@hotmail.co.uk (car garaged in Caterham, Surrey). A299/058



1969 Alfa Romeo Spider Veloce 1750
105. 125,000 miles, red, imported from the USA in 1989, owned by present owner since. Fully restored and in beautiful rust free condition, full engine rebuild and new gearbox by Jamie Porter at 103,500 miles (currently reading 125,613), Alfaholics fast road kit, Koni dampers and springs, anti-roll bar and LSD. 5 new Pirelli Cinturatos, body rebuild and bare metal respray in 1993, second full respray in 2007, undersealed. Video of rust free underside on request, huge history file, £40,000. Tel: Robin Howe, 07778 593606. A299/059



2007 Alfa Romeo 147 JTDm 16v sport Q2. 143,000 miles, Alfa Red. My 147 Q2 is sadly up for sale for the good old reason of now being too small for recently expanded family, 2 previous owners, with me since 2016. Full Alfa history up to 120K then serviced by myself or local garage with genuine/branded items, MOT until Sept 2021, just SORN'd as I am now running a different car. Both original keys, good overall condition but far from perfect, usual age/mileage related marks, £1500 ono. Tel/text: 07813 090590. Email: kingdanhf@outlook.com (car in Wrexham). A299/008



2000 Alfa Romeo 156 2.0 T Spark.

135,600 miles, black. New car forces sale of our 156 that has been in the family since 2004. Bodywork requires some attention, no rust and generally in good condition for age, new cambelt at 109,000 miles, new battery 2018, drives well, all electrics working, MOT till February 2021, very nice red leather interior, £500. Tel: Adrian, 07709 951943 (Worcestershire). A29g/061



Alfa Romeo SZ no.382. 86,218 miles, red. It has been well loved and a joy to drive (when dry) during my 27 years ownership, been maintained regularly by Ferdi. Rear calipers overhauled 2019, cambelt service, MOT June 2020. Low mileage Avons, stainless steel exhaust, 2 keys, all tools, handbooks and history file, not concours but cosseted and much admired, £37,750. Quantity of spare parts available to purchase separately. Tel: Peter, 07774 694964. A299/057



2004 Alfa Romeo 156 Sportwagon
2.4 JTD M-Jet Veloce. 84,000 miles, red
Facelift model, professionally remapped
to 210bhp, 450Nm torque. New battery,
recent clutch and flywheel, 4 Michelin
Pilot Sport 4s, water pump and cambelt
20K, oil changed every 5000 miles,
£4250. Tel: 07788 422678 (Coventry).
A299/006



2008 Alfa Romeo 159 Sportwagon
1.9JTDM Lusso diesel auto. 38,000
miles, Grigio, full service history, major
service and cambelt in Nov 2019.
Outstanding condition with unmarked
beautiful black leather interior, some
paintwork undertaken in 2019 to
maintain the showroom appearance.
Extremely rare for a 159 with this
mileage and condition, £4500. Tel: David,
07799 417607 (location East Sussex).
A290/060

1997 Alfa Romeo GTV Phase 1 2.0 TS. 96,477 miles, 12 months' MOT, no advisories, Vela Blue/tan leather. Owned 5 years, brilliant, reliable drive, has never let me down. Not perfect paint but amazing from ten feet, two spots of corrosion but controlled and not visible, £2000 ono, ring Calvin for more details. Tel: 07811 461207. A299/066



89,000km, black, car garaged for last 13 years. Have spent 5K so far, some way to go, current MOT, bodywork, interior and hood in good condition. Ideal mini project for the right enthusiast, £7000 ono. Tel: Nick, 07908 010111. Email:

ngsheppard@gmail.com (based New

Forest, Hampshire). A299/007



2004 Alfa Romeo GTV Phase 3 1970cc JTS Lusso. 45,500 miles, Grigio, owned since Oct 2016. MOT until 26.02.21, full service history, recent interim service in July 2020 at 44,487, had brake fluid changed along with air and oil filters. Serviced in Feb 2019 at 41,756 had cam belt, timing belt, water pump, auxiliary belt and tensioners changed along with nearside lower suspension arm replaced, Waxoyl to underside and washer arm replaced. New battery fitted Jan 2020, 16-in alloy wheels, front Pirelli P7s fitted at 41K in Aug 2018. 10 CD multi changer, garaged overnight, 3 keys, £5850, offers welcomed and considered. Tel: Luke, 07467 147032 (located in west Berkshire area). A299/062



1998 Alfa Romeo 916 GTV 2.0L Twin Spark. 67K miles, MOT until June 2021, FSH. Cambelt changed at 62K/2018, new spark plugs at 63K, extensive paintwork restoration in 2015. Very good condition, no rust, a few minor chips. Owned since 2012 and still a joy to drive, downsizing hence reluctant sale, £2750 ono. Tel: Rob, 07526 746388. A299/063



2008 Alfa Romeo Brera SV JTS. Rosso Red very low mileage SV JTS, 2 previous owners including Alfa Romeo, only 14,500 miles from new, FSH, all the MOTs. Full panoramic sunroof with electric blind, ABS brakes, dual zone climate conditioning, electric windows (one touch), front fog lights, leather covered steering wheel, remote central locking, two keys, cruise control, adjustable steering column, heated door mirrors with powerfold facility, spacesaver spare wheel, black/grey leather trim, £11,500, more photos available on request. Tel: P.Wignall, 01969 623585 or 07715 377340. Email: pwignall@icloud.com. A299/056



2007 Alfa Romeo Spider 939 3.2 JTS V6 Q4 Qtronic. 30,200 miles, Alfa Red, MOT 15 August 2021. Frau Pieno Fiore black leather seats, adjustable heated seats and wing mirrors, graphite alloy dash multifunction sports steering wheel with shift paddles. 18" graphite wire spoke design wheels, new Avon 235/45 tyres at front. Dual climate control, cruise/traction control, bi-Xenon headlights with headlight washers, satellite navigation system with Bose sound system and CD autochanger, two electronic keys, £10,850, maintained with regular services by Turin Motors Leeds. Tel: Michael Johnson, 07939 035186 (West Yorkshire). A299/076 Alfa Romeo Brera 2.2 JTS.

1/12/2006, red, 61,000 miles, MOT to 11/9/2021, sat nav, Bluetooth, electric seat adjustment, climate control, 16-inch alloy wheels, new timing chains and front subframe 500 miles ago, new battery, £5350. Tel: 01252 715781 after 6.30pm (Surrey). A299/067



2007 Alfa Romeo Spider 939 2.2 JTS. 29,150 miles, red. Excellent condition, all usual spec, leather seats, 6 gears, cruise control, climate control etc, service history, £8500. Tel: 07753 422271. A299/064



Alfa Romeo 159 Ti JTDm 2011. Immaculate condition, 58K, twelve months' MOT, beautiful stitched leather seats, 'extras', Alfa carpets plus four Ti wheels, hands free Parrot, £10,295 ovno. Tel: 07816 335474 (Torquay). A299/005

IN THE TRADE?

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2003 Alfa Romeo 916 Spider 2.0L Twin Spark. 57,000 miles, Safire Blue metallic, 5 owners from new, tan unmarked leather seats, 12 months' MOT, it has just been serviced by experts at Autolusso, Ferndown, Dorset at a cost of £3376. New cambelt, completely overhauled rear suspension, 4 new tyres, £7000. Tel: John, 01202 876272. A299/065

FERRARI



Ferrari 355 GTS. Very good manual 1994 GTS with FSH, red/crema, 34K miles, coded roof, Challenge, Larini. Mine for 8 years, considering 458 Spider, reg '355 FER' available at additional cost. RHD, UK supplied, £75K for car. Email: andrewbailey@dimatec.co.uk. A299/017



2003 Ferrari 360 Spyder. Rosso/Corsa, 6 speed manual, 19,500 miles. FSH, cambelts replaced at 18,236, clutch replaced at 19,018. Tubi exhaust, red brake calipers, Challenge grille, Scuderia shields, master key, all original wallets, toolkit, battery charger etc. Fuller details and photos on request, £79,950. Tel: David, 07977 911663. A299/020



F355 Challenge race car road registered (1995). Much loved and well known Challenge car, raced with the Ferrari Owners' Club since 2006. Road registered and ready to race, in fact just back from a successful race weekend picking up overall 1st, 2nd and 2nd results at Snetterton on 10 October 2020, and a total of 5 overall wins in 2020. I have owned the car since 2013 and raced within the Pirelli Ferrari formula classic, Pirelli Ferrari Open and Aston Martin Intermarque Championship. Notable previous owners include Jay Kay from Jamiroquai, Email: nefoc@tristec.co.uk . A299/025

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Ferrari 360 Modena. 2000 360 F1, such an impressive car, it was purchased by UK Ferrari Main Dealership by Tycoon, car has been in UK but it was taken to Northan Ireland in 2009 for job relocation and brought back in 2013, car has very impressive service history, 44,900m, pristine, Ferrari Red, immaculate black leather interior with red carpets, Bi Xenon headlights, air conditioning, electric windows/electric seats and mirrors, red brake calipers, £50,950, bargain. Tel: 07466 021553. A299/023



Ferrari California. 2011, presented in Azurro California metallic, recent service, full Ferrari service history, 22,568 miles. This very high spec example with optional extras includes: AFS system, cruise control, electric seats, diamond pattern seats, Grigio Scuro stitching, Grigio Scuro carpets, Gunmetal Grey seat belts, central tunnel + armrests + A-Pillars + headliner in leather, diamond style centre door panels, carbon fibre steering wheel with LEDs, aluminium driver and passenger footrests, comfort seats. Email: james@okanelavers.com. A299/026

Ferrari California T Handling Speciale. California T 2016, Grigio Silverstone with Nero Daytona roof, Rosso leather with blue stitching, 9500 miles with 3 years free servicing, Ferrari warranty till July 2021, 20-inch diamond cut alloys, carbon fibre driver's zone with rev LEDs, superb unmarked condition, may part exchange, £101,950. Tel: Les Coates, 07814 009595. Email: les.coates@tiscali.co.uk. A299/024



Ferrari 599 GTB Fiorano F1. 2007, Nero Daytona metallic black, Bordeaux leather/grey stitch interior. Carbon racing seats, dashboard inserts, centre console, steering wheel, door trims, sill covers, red calipers, yellow rev counter, Scuderia shields and unmarked polished Challenge wheels, V12 VFF, car cover and charger included in asking price. Full Ferrari service history, with JCT600 Leeds now for annual service, handbrake adjustment and factory flickering dashboard repair, £96,500. Tel: Jon, 07758 936009. A299/018



Ferrari 360 Michelloto. Factory built 360 Challenge on 22/12/2000, assembly number 39879, one of only 2 cars built to Carbon Michelloto specification. This particular car has had £80,000 spent over the last 6/7 years, including a new Stradale engine (invoices on file), and lightly used since then. Full air jack system, Ohlins fully adjustable dampers, Autotel Comms system, slicks and wets, plus a spares package. Always maintained to the highest of standards, £149,950, happy to p/x a road car. Tel: Robert, 07802 638618. A299/019



Ferrari 308 GTB Vetroresina for sale. The car has been left in a garage since 1987 with 69,441 miles. It is now in storage with a performance car specialist, they have got the engine running and it is holding good oil pressure. The car will need fully restoring, £65,000. Tel: 07957 752217.



Ferrari California 2014. In Tour de France Blue. Outstanding spec with full service history, just 32,150 miles, MOT July '21, free service to June '21, new tyres, new Pioneer audio system. Special handling pack, 20" forged diamond rims, ceramic brakes with yellow brake calipers, parking camera, front and rear sensors, carbon fibre spoiler. Carbon fibre drive zone, electric heated Daytona seats, £80,000 ono. Email: klein682842@gmail.com. A299/021



Ferrari F12 Berlinetta 2015. Grigio Silverstone, 14 months balance Ferrari warranty, full Topaz PPF, yellow calipers, yellow dial, black/Bordeaux Daytona comfort seats, Bordeaux carpets, carbon driver's zone and bridge, front lift, f&r parking cameras. A strongly specced car in top condition purchased from Meridian Modena, £175,995 ono, club member, first to see will buy, strictly no canvassers. Tel: Charles, 07919 046630 for more information. A299/012



Ferrari 456. Great condition 456 in silver Argento Nurburgring with blue hide and light blue carpets. This car has been meticulously maintained, having 20 stamps in the service book, an extensive file of invoices and old MOT certificates accompanies the car, and it is complete with the original tan hide tool case, leather owner's wallet and all of the original factory books and car cover. I am more than happy to put you in touch with the garage who have looked after it, who are well known in Ferrari circles. Email: ajcleeds@gmail.com. A299/011



2008 Ferrari 612 Sessanta Coupé.
Coachwork by Pininfarina, VIN/chassis no: ZFFJY 54B000157955. Engine no: 128351 / 5.7L V12, 7300km (4500 miles), LHD. Two tone Rubino Micalizzato (ruby red mica)/Nero Daytona (metallic black) with Rubino Micalizzato side line. Date of purchase: 15 April 2008. Fully serviced by Ferrari with all books. Dedicated to Michael Schumacher and Ferrari's 2000 F1 Championship (2000 Schumacher Ferrari F1 Champions). Email: clink.robert@gmail.com. A29g/014



speed manual, one owner for last 16/17 years. Full dealer service history with all upgrades and maintenance carried out with no expense spared, including a recent engine out cam belt service. Extensive history file, all factory tools and accessories are present and correct. Some main features include, at the rear: stainless steel Fabspeed headers with Challenge exhaust system, Challenge rear grille, carbon fibre air boxes with rear window intakes, SS flexi brake lines, upper and lower arms re-bushed and painted, cooling fans upgraded and extra radiator fitted for better cooling all hoses upgraded to silicone. At the front: new shocks, springs, brake lines, upper and lower arms re-bushed, headlights refurbished, all brackets and bolts replaced, new master cylinder. Interior: all handles and switches derubbered, carbon fibre door sills. The car is in excellent condition inside and out, and because of the upgrades it has, and a manual gearbox, it's the one to have. For further information email: tom@tbmotorsportlogistics.com or paul.goodge@sclconsulting.co.uk. A299/071



Ferrari 488 GTB. Atelier specified car, 2017, 4000 miles, FFSH, Rosso Corsa with Nero roof, Nero leather with Rosso stitching and central seat stripe and central tunnel, Goldrake carbon seats, HELE, Scuderia shields, NavTrak, parking cameras, parking sensors, yellow rev counter, forged diamond rims, full external carbon, carbon engine covers, carbon drivers zone/LEDs, carbon central bridge and dashboard inserts, yellow brake calipers, PPF. Showroom condition, £170,000. Email: a.davey@gardiner.com.



2010 Ferrari 599 GTB factory HGTE (LHD). Selling my immaculate 599 GTB with rare and desirable factory fitted HGTE pack, Grigio Silverstone with special order grey interior. 2010 car, 2 previous owners and very light usage in its 28,400 miles, clutch wear 16%, brakes 36%. Imported from Germany 2016, full main dealer and specialist independent service history. Many options, including shields, parking sensors, heat insulating screen etc, all books, covers, keys, battery charger, toolkit present, £109,995. Tel: 01327 261415. A299/022

FIAT



1966 Tornado Fiat 600D Lotus. Ex-David Render/Tony Castle-Miller, very rare historic car. Fully rebuilt by Middle Barton Garage, highly competitive in the right hands, enormous history file, £42,500 ono. Tel: 07941 556087 or 01279 499930 (Herts). A299/001



Fiat 1900A 1952. Right-hand drive, very rare car! Very good condition, original bodywork, very low mileage. Been in family for 22 years, featured in Auto Italia in November 1999 by Phil Ward, lots of spares included, sensible offers considered. Tel: 07925 904194. Email: miller221245@gmail.com. A299/010



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Email: doug@dmartin.co.uk. A299/004

PARTS



New 4 Carello RHD headlights - Alfa Bertone and others. New set of Carello headlights in original boxes, never fitted, 2 of part number - 08 480 800 and 2 of part number - 08 483 800. Fitted as original equipment to GTV 2000 and 1750 plus numerous others from the same period. Sensible offers, please email for photos and additional details. Email: richardwebb33@hotmail.com (Marlow, Bucks). A299/072



GT4 doors. Ferrari GT4 panels, new old stock. One pair of door frames and skins, £3000. Email: david.potter@live.com. A299/041



Ferrari F40 rear screen. Good used condition, sensible offers. Email: david.potter@live.com. A299/039



Original F360 split rim alloy wheels for sale. Complete with centre caps, wheels have been completely refurbished by Pristine Wheels and are literally as new, never having had tyres fitted since, £2450. Tel: Tony, 07854 994950. A299/037

Ferrari F40 body panels. Ferrari F40 body panels, email for details. Email: david.potter@live.com. A29g/040 Alfa 33 P4 headlights and interior. 2 brand new Carello headlights for series 3 Alfa 33, still in original boxes. Set of Recaro seats and door cards for 33 P4 in good clean condition, sensible offers, please email for photos and additional details. Email: richardwebb33@hotmail.com (Marlow, Bucks). A29g/068

OEM factory Ferrari 360 Challenge grille. Like new, no signs of use, only been on the car less than a year, for the 360 Modena, Spider and Challenge, original owner. Email: markstp@europemail.com. A299/043



Pair of Ferrari F50 front calipers. New and unused F50 Brembo calipers with pads for 330mm x 32mm discs. I have found them listed for F50 may fit others? The calipers have the s/no 20.7679.01 1A & 20.7679.01 1A. The pads have 07.4865.61 & 338414. Open to serious offers. Tel: Phil, 07443 851877. Email: philbrad73@hotmail.com (Liverpool). A299/050



Ferrari F355 wheels. The 1996 F355 was sold last year, going through the garage I have 2 wheels I found, 1 front and 1 rear. Both have light scratches and/or some kerb rash but are not bent from what I can see. Email: carlrobetr@gmail.com. A299/034
Ferrari F430 wheel bolts. Here is a set of genuine and original boxed Ferrari F430 wheel bolts x20. There is no corrosion on any of them. Email: michaeltcarr1965@gmail.com.

Ferrari Challenge Stradale/308 various. As new, perfect tool kit for Challenge Stradale. Also as new and again perfect, battery condition for Challenge Stradale, only opened to check contents. 308 starter motor, alternator and distributor from 1977 GTB, all used but good condition. New early 308 distributor cap in wrapping, new later distributor cap from twin distributor car in (tatty) box, offers invited. Tel: 01722 780275 (near Wilton, Wiltshire). A299/033

A299/032

Ferrari 365 rolling chassis. Includes wheels, suspension, 5spd gearbox, diff, driveshafts, torque tube and shaft + ZF power steering. Tel: John Lewis, 07879 810707. A299/031

Ferrari 4x tyres. Fronts 245/35/ZR/20, rears 305/30/ZR/20, only done 4000 miles on 488 model. Available as I bought a 488 from a dealership, they put 4 new tyres on under the purchase deal and I got to keep the old tyres. On the tyre gauge, new tyres have a 7 to 8 depth of tread, two of these tyres are 5 depth and the other two tyres 6 depth, therefore only a quarter used, £500 the four tyres. Tel: Johnny Vanner, 07956 365177. A299/044

Rear bumper and grille for Ferrari 430 Spider. In black, excellent condition and unmarked, bumper has been removed and replaced by Scuderia bumper and grille, sensible offers please. Tel: 07572 520655. Email: davidball360@ googlemail.com. A299/029

Ferrari 328 items. Original Ferrari supplied car mats in black with leather inserts in tan, £150. 12 FOC windscreen badges 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 2000, 02, 04, 05, 06, 07, 08, any offers. Please email for photos and information. Email: jmj550@gmail.com. A299/030

Ferrari 355 hi spec brakes. 4 discs and calipers I took off my 355 when sold, if you have ever tracked a 355 you know why I replaced them. Contact for any questions, reasonable offers, need the space. Tel: 07860 658429. Email: joe.sacco@talk21.com. A299/053
Roll hoop. Roll hoop to fit a Ferrari GT4/308/328, made by Safety Devices, with inertia belts fitted, please contact Robert, to discuss, £400. Tel: 07802 638618. A299/054

Set of Ferrari F430 wheels and tyres.

Set of 4 F430 wheels and tyres in excellent condition outside and in. Finished in correct Argento Nurburgring colour, three tyres are legal and the 4th has more tread than the rest, also suitable for a 360, bargain at £1500. Tel: John, 07860 600032. A299/038

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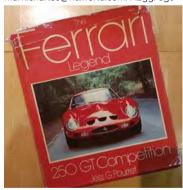


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Ferrari 360 car cover. Red Ferrari car cover to fit 360 Modena, will fit Spider, may fit 43 - will obviously not fully cover front bumper, picture shows it on my XKR, £200. Email:

mark.charles@ntlworld.com. A299/030



Ferrari 250 GTO - 3757GT. This classic volume is a must for any car library, my copy includes a double sided A4 hand written letter discussing 250s from Ronald Stern, the former owner to the new owner in 1977. The now current owner is Nick Mason, only £40. Email: Douglas, smithmearns@aol.com. A290/036

Huge literature collection. Genuine Ferrari factory brochures, handbooks, yearbooks and more besides, about a thousand items mainly 1975 to 2010, to be sold as one lot, located in London, if you are interested and have deep pockets. Email:

cardewlondon@gmail.com. A299/055



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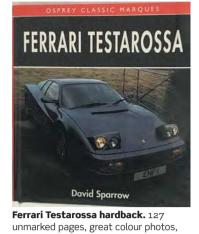
Ferrari brochures. Genuine Testarossa brochure (1989), £30; genuine Ferrari model range brochure (1990), including price list, £15; genuine Ferrari model range brochure (1989) 328, Mondial 3.2, 412, Testarossa, F40, including price list, £15. Email jon.leo@btinternet.com. A299/042



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OBSCURATI

CURIOSITIES FROM THE AMAZING WORLD OF ITALIAN CARS

Pininfarina Bentley T Coupé Speciale

A RICH NORTHERN TYCOON ORDERED THIS ONE-OFF BENTLEY FROM PININFARINA IN TURIN

Story by Richard Heseltine



he word 'tycoon' seems to have disappeared from our modern-day vocabulary. Scroll back to the 1960s and '70s and it was a different story. James Hanson was a defiantly self-directed wheeler-dealer who had a gift for turning around ailing firms either that, or an asset-stripper but certainly a tycoon. The future knight was rarely out of the dailies, and not only the financial pages. Referred to by the British media as 'Lord Moneybags', the northern industrialist certainly had the means to indulge his penchant for flash cars, including the oneoff pictured here.

Already a Ferrari 500 Superfast owner, Hanson approached Sergio Pininfarina in 1965 with a view to having a modern interpretation of the Bentley Continental built. There was a precedent, the styling house having clothed Bentleys as far back as 1948. Marque parent Rolls-Royce was initially a mite sniffy, but in time agreed to sell Hanson a brand new T Series saloon for £6000 (roughly £120,000 now, adjusted for inflation). Despatched to Turin, it was skinned and gutted to form the basis for project PF 917. Pininfarina was pretty much given a free hand, too, with only the occasional suggestion from the client.

The only real cause for concern arrived when the lofty radiator grille was lowered. With an air of predictability, Rolls-Royce's directors weren't happy and threatened to annul the warranty. It never came to that. After shelling out a cool £14,000 (around £280,000 in new money) in addition to the cost of the donor car, Hanson received his shiny new Coupé Speciale following triumphant displays at the 1968 Paris and London motor shows. Finished in a green so dark that it looked almost black, the car's outline was unadorned but far from empty.

The clearly-defined swage line was a neat visual trick that stopped it appearing slab-sided. The gracefully tapering roofline was pure Pininfarina, too, sweeping into the rear deck much like on the contemporary Ferrari 365 GT 2+2.

This being a Pininfarina product, thoughtfully-integrated proprietary parts abounded, not least the Fiat Dino Spider taillight clusters. Up front, the compressed corporate grille was flanked by rectangular lamps from an Opel. Unfortunately, the purity of the styling was perhaps sullied a little after the car was updated to Bentley T2 specification in the late 1970s, including mechanical upgrades (better brakes, different auto 'box etc), the latest polyurethane-edged bumpers and Rolls-Royce Corniche hubcaps in place of the specially-made originals.

Inside, the Coupé Speciale was equally distinct from a regular

Bentley. There were no traces of heavily varnished timber; the black dash, black leather and black tuck 'n' roll headlining lending a slightly gothic air to proceedings. Hanson clearly loved the car because he often drove it from his home in Huddersfield to London and back. He retained it until the late 1980s before selling it to Japan at the height of the classic car boom. It was repatriated in 2000.

While a one-off project, the Coupé Speciale episode did lead to collaboration between Pininfarina and Rolls-Royce on a new strain of luxo-barge; one that was intended for launch in 1969. Due to differences in outlook between the two companies, and the Crewe firm's financial problems, it didn't arrive until 1975. Named after a tract of French marshland, the resultant Royce-Royce Camargue didn't quite hit the mark, more's the pity.



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