

# COMPASS

# POINT

Issue 17

# Revealed - the fastest roads in the world

**Also**

- Your chance to test drive some of the most desirable cars on the market
- Four cars for the price of one
- Four pages of the latest deals

# **Your chance to test drive some of the best cars in the world**

**Which cars deliver the 'holy grail' of performance, fuel economy, comfort, and cost-efficiency in their class?**

**On the afternoon of Thursday 10th October, at Cams Hall, Fareham (just off the M27), in conjunction with Compass Contract Hire, DECISION magazine are inviting company directors to road test the cars - including the Bentley Flying Spur, Aston Martin Rapide S, Jaguar F Type V8, Jaguar XJ Portfolio, Jaguar XJ Sportbrake Tourer, Range Rover Sport, Range Rover Vogue, Range Rover Evoque, Audi A7, Audi Q7, Audi A6, and the new BMW electric car.**

**in between drives, we'll evaluate the cars over a continual round of light refreshments for the purposes of a report to appear in DECISION.**

**Obviously the numbers are restricted to ensure there's no waiting around between car swops, so if you would like to join us (there's no cost whatsoever), register your interest please at your earliest opportunity -**

**[mail@decisionmagazine.co.uk](mailto:mail@decisionmagazine.co.uk)**

**or contact Larry Dillner, Publisher, DECISION magazine  
on 023 9246 5631**

# Fast but not necessarily furious

Imagine. Late at night you turn onto the motorway, the open road with not a car in sight. Except, as your speedometer flicks up to ninety, for that police patrol vehicle on its tarmac plinth.

Of course that wouldn't be any concern of yours on German autobahns - they have no statutory speed limit but an advisory one of 81mph. And the Isle of Man, Nepal, and three states in India have no speed limits at all, although their notion of a road is rather different.

So which are the fastest roads in the world? Let's start with the A81 from Gottmadingen to Weinsberg in Germany, a distance of 121 miles (photo below). EU regulators have always been pressing the German government to speed cap unrestricted portions of the country's famed autobahns, but Chancellor Merkel has so far upheld her citizen's right to velocity. Construction delays and heavy traffic plague parts of the system, but not this quiet leg: speed-limit-free miles of >



>Teutonic tarmac. Due to its proximity to Stuttgart, it's reputedly one of Porsche's favourite testing routes.

Then there's the Mumbai-Pune Expressway in India (left), covering a distance of 55 miles. Completed in 2002, this road links India's largest ports with inland farms and factories and is one of the country's first access-controlled expressways, with six lanes of virgin concrete. An exorbitant toll and a ban on three-wheeled vehicles and tractors makes it an ideal place for the sub-continent's nouveau (tech) riche to unleash their Ferraris. One local car club reports that speeds of 170-plus mph are common.



The Goudies Road in Reporoa, New Zealand (below) covers but 9.1>







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# BMW 518D SE 5 Dr 2014 Model Year

## INTRODUCING THE NEW SHAPE BMW 518D



The NEW BMW 5Series is a sleek, streamlined and elegant mid-size executive car that sits pretty happily near to the top of the tree that includes the Mercedes E-Class, the Audi A6 and the Jaguar XF. The latest BMW 5Series range is even more efficient than its predecessor; if you are looking for an executive saloon car that oozes comfort, power and efficiency then this could well be the car for you. *Read the key points below:-*

- The new 181bhp 518 D SE is so economical with a massive 62.8mpg combined cycle
- The 2014 BMW 518 offers class leading emissions, making it ideal for company car use.
- The NEW 518 offers space, comfort and refinement.
- The 518D SE has the lowest P11D value so it will have the lowest benefit in kind taxation implications for any company car driver.
- With emissions at 119g/km CO<sub>2</sub> it puts the car in RFL Tax Band C.
- If you are a 20% tax payer you will pay £1072 per annum BIK tax or 40% tax payer £2144 per annum.
- Acceleration is good too with official 0-62mph being 8.1 seconds

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>miles, but the flat strip of two-lane blacktop on the North island has serious racing pedigree: Owen Evans set the New Zealand land speed record there in 1996, reaching 216.385 mph before blowing a tyre and crashing spectacularly (he survived). But while few police patrol Goudies, there is one potential speed deterrent: fog.

The wide open spaces of America have a certain romantic lure, epitomised by the Jack Kerouac novel *On the Road*. But the police kind of take a less rose-tinted view of any speed limit transgression.

But near the increasingly crowded Interstate between Austin and San Antonio, Texas, a the toll

road has opened with an 85mph speed limit. That's 15 miles faster than the highest speed limit on neighbouring Interstate 35. The desire for speed though will cost motorists \$6.17 one-way.





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# Short back and very little sides

No roof, no doors, no windscreen, no carpet, no stereo, but it is an awful lot of fun.

As a sales slogan, it's right up there with "Volvos - they are boxy but they're safe", although that came from the film Crazy People. What we have here is the pitch from the Ariel Motor Company for their Atom sports car.

There aren't many manufacturers which only provide seatbelts, brake, tail, and reverse lights as part of the optional road pack.

The Atom is the world's first road-going exoskeletal car - in other words it has no bodywork or roof and is built entirely around the tube chassis, making it weigh less than 500kg, with the high performance supercharged model producing 600 bhp. With the Honda two-litre engine, it accelerates from 0-60 in 2.7seconds, from 0-100mph in 6.8 seconds, which is quicker than a Ferrari Enzo.>





>Prices depend on choice of fixtures and fittings, but a secondhand Atom 3.5 with 9000 miles on the clock was available this month at £49,950.



The Ariel Motor Company, based in Crewkerne, Somerset, are one of the UK's smallest automotive companies, with less than ten employees, and producing fewer than 100 cars per year.

And they're strictly for the aficionado. The Atom proffers exactly no protection from the elements: your legs are separated from the rapidly onrushing road by a few metal tubes, while a credit card-sized slip of acrylic passes for a windscreen.



If it rains, you get very wet. If it's cold, you get very, very cold. In winter, full wet-weather biking gear is a must. Heater? You probably can guess the answer.



# Four (and more) for the price of one

Arguably it was one of the first global cars. It was in April 1959 that the British Motor Corporation launched the last of its Pininfarina-designed models, the Riley 4/68. Clearly the 'catchy name' department was out of the office at the time, and again when BMC produced a version for their Wolseley brand, the 15/60.

Not content with one derivative, BMC produced the Morris Oxford, and then the Austin Cambridge (the respective estate car versions were called the Traveller and the Countryman).

Then some more re-badging took place to produce the MG Magnette Mark 3, which managed to move from a stand-still to 60mph in a time which can best be described as eventually (19.7 seconds). Fuel consumption was 31.4mpg. Curiously, the version carrying the less sporting Riley brand was almost a second quicker, but recorded 27.3mpg. For some reason, the vehicle was fitted with a rev counter, unusual at the time. But that wasn't the end of re-badging. From 1959 to 1965, Siam Di Tella of Argentina produced a

sedan, the station wagon, and a pick-up (never produced in England) version under the name Di Tella Argenta. All of them were fitted with the 1498cc engine and 3 speed manual column change. In Australia, the car was manufactured with the distinctly un-British name Austin Freeway.



*Large photo - Riley. Four smaller photos (clockwise) - Austin Cambridge, MG Magnette, Wolseley, Morris Oxford.*



# Volkswagon Caddy C20 Diesel 1.6TDi Trendline Van

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# PHIL'S PAGE

## As time goes on.....

As soon as school holidays come to a close, the road network takes on the characteristic of a car park during peak hours. Junctions on major A roads and motorways in the south have seen significant business and residential development in close proximity, with thousands of motorists negotiating for space on the one road in and out.

On a particular business park, with more than 3000 people and that one access road, visitors are told that if they're not away by four-thirty in the afternoon they'll have to endure a 45-minute traffic queue.

Rush-hour on the M27 results in mile-long queues to get in and out of Whiteley, with one access road serving several thousand houses and one of the south's largest business parks.

The result is that the inside lane of the motorway in both directions is a queue of stationary traffic, which means that everything backs up as approaching motorists adjust to three useable lanes being reduced to two.

Longer journey times at rush-hour and congestion is nothing new. The difference is not just that it's getting significantly worse, with potentially damaging consequences for the economy and our quality of life. It's that despite the ever-increasing number of motorists, there is no

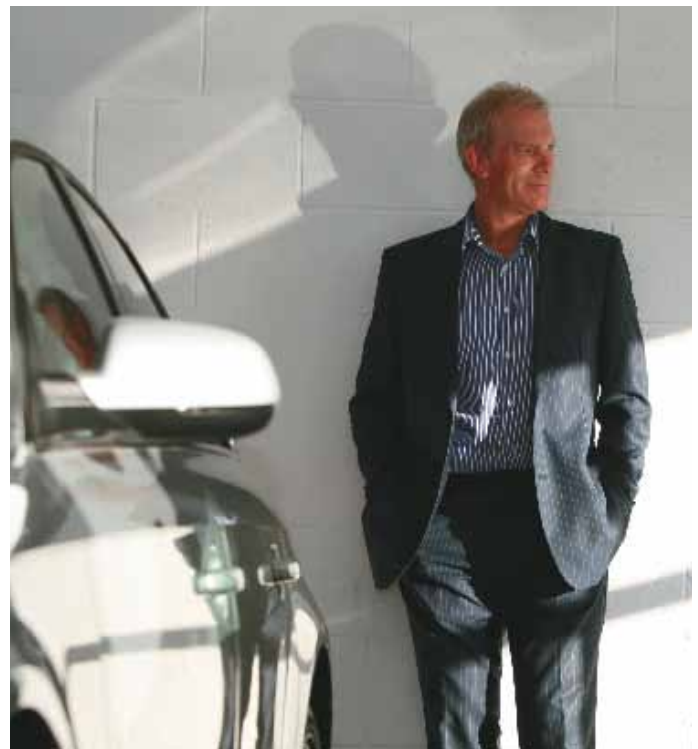
transport strategy which even hints at addressing the problem.

## Last line:

As the coffin was being lowered into the ground at a traffic warden's funeral a voice from inside is heard: "I'm not dead, I'm not dead! Let me out!" The Vicar smiles, leans forward sucking air through his teeth and mutters: "Nothing I can do I'm afraid; I've already completed the paperwork."

## Any questions?

If you ever need any advice about vehicle finance, procurement, management, or if you want a comparative price on a vehicle, email me personally: [philp@compassleasing.co.uk](mailto:philp@compassleasing.co.uk)



*Phil Page, Managing Director, Compass Contract Hire*



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## **ABOUT COMPASS**

Compass Contract Hire Limited, established in 1992, are specialists in providing competitive vehicle leasing and finance options for both business and individuals. With almost 20 years in business and as a Platinum Partner of Network Vehicles we are one of the largest vehicle leasing intermediaries in the UK with have over 4500 vehicles in the market place.

At our freehold purpose built offices and vehicle storage, our experienced team can quickly identify the most cost effective method of funding any car or commercial vehicle, as well as providing an instant quotation for any permutation of model, contract period and mileage to suit your specific individual requirements.

Our funding options include:- Contract Hire, Contract Purchase, Lease Purchase, Finance Lease and Hire Purchase for Businesses. Individuals can take advantage of the following options: - Personal Contract Hire, Personal Contract Purchase and Hire Purchase.

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# 10 REASONS WHY YOU'RE IN SAFE HANDS WITH COMPASS CONTRACT HIRE

The British Vehicle Rental and Leasing Association (BVRLA) is the trade association for companies engaged in the leasing and rental of cars and commercial vehicles. Established in 1967, the association represents the interests of more than 2 million business car drivers and the 10 million people who use a rental car each year. By operating a strict code of conduct for its members as well as conducting regular quality assurance inspections, the BVRLA seeks to offer customer assurance that wherever you see the BVRLA logo you will receive the highest level of service possible.

The BVRLA Leasing Broker Members code of conduct is intended to ensure that customers using them have the absolute right to expect and receive the highest level of service, honesty and integrity. The code states that Leasing Broker members must:

1. Conduct their business lawfully and comply with all relevant legislation, trading fairly and responsibly.
2. Provide clear quotations, pricing & payment profiles to customers.
3. Ensure that vehicles sourced and offered to customers meet the manufacturers current specifications and standards.
4. Ensure that prior to representing a customer they obtain their consent.
5. Ensure that customers are provided with clear terms of business.
6. Offer advice best suited to the customer's stated needs and requirements.
7. Provide clear terms and conditions of an order, including details of any cancellation fees as well as guidance of how to cancel — at the time of order.
8. Operate in a professional manner from an established commercial place of business.
9. Ensure all staff are adequately trained to the required standards.
10. Ensure they have a written customer complaint handling process in the event of customer dissatisfaction which adheres to the Financial Ombudsman Service's requirements and BVRLA Conciliation Service.



Compass Contract Hire Limited are an accredited franchisee of Network vehicles. Network Vehicles is a specialist division of LeasePlan, the world's largest fleet management company, providing small businesses and private individuals with vehicles leasing solutions through a network of franchisees. With over 30 years of experience Network are the market leaders when it comes to quality of service. As a commitment to this value the decision was taken several years ago to mandate that every Network franchisee is a BVRLA member which in turn guarantees every customer the highest possible level of service.