

## Roadrunner's lawn in Guinness Book of Records

A new world record was set yesterday for 'grass growing' by a PistonHeads contributor. Roadrunner unintentionally picked up the title after being nominated by his next door neighbour.

The grass, which hadn't been cut in at least 18 months, measured a staggering 4 m 36 cms in height, as tall as many small trees. 'Most people keep their lawns to a manageable height,' explained a spokesperson for Guinness Book of Records, 'but Mr Roadrunner has simply let his supergrass shoot up'.

### Unbelievable

The reason for the lack of herbaceous attention has been attributed to the unlikeliest of reasons.

'I started looking for my perfect lawnmower about 18 months ago,' explained Roadrunner, 'but the search took far longer than expected.'

'First I wanted a Qualcast, which really suited my needs and budget. But then I saw a Flymo which had a whirly blade underneath. I joined both owners' forums and chatted at length to people who had both types of machine.

'All was going well, until someone then mentioned Atco. So I started looking into Atcos, and even went to a few Atco meets. Decision made, I thought... until a friend bought a Qualcast and persuaded me to try it out. I was all set on the Qualcast again. But then a pal in the pub uttered the dreaded words 'ride on'. I'd never even considered that a ride on could fit my style of mowing, but the John Deere salesman convinced me otherwise. Then it was just a question of that or a Hayter. Or a Honda. They're quite good as well.'

### Green today, gone tomorrow

Despite the accolade, Roadrunner doesn't see a long future for his award-winning lawn. 'I have nearly made my mind up about the mower, so the superlawn won't last long,' he mused. 'To be honest, I need to devote a little more time to deciding which sports car I am going to buy.'

## Racer's granny sold to leading insurer.

TVR insurance experts Ann Manning claim to have purchased the grandmother of rookie racer Griff2be in a bizarre sponsorship auction.

The auction, held at PistonFest 2003, saw Griff2be auctioning off every square centimetre of his car and the shirt he was wearing, before bringing a little old lady from the crowd and thrusting her towards the auctioneer, PetrolTed.

"I couldn't believe it," said a shocked Ted after the event. "I've auctioned off everything from Mungo's mojo to Iguana's sheepskin coat, but never an old lady."

Bidding started slowly at 50 GBP, but quickly gathered momentum as Ann Manning entered the fray. The item, described as 'Maude, 83, makes a lovely cup of tea' was finally knocked down for 320 GBP to the leading TVR insurer.

Commenting on the sale, Griff2be revealed: "I know that Gran wanted to help my racing career, and she's done just that. I'm sure she'll give Ann many years of excellent service. She makes a mean strawberry shortbread and can pick up the phones if her hearing aid is on a low setting.

"In fact, it was just one highlight of a very successful day. A few moments later I managed to get Insane Racing to sponsor my forehead."

## Noble owners angry at key fob upgrade plans

Demonstrators have been picketing Lee Noble's suburban semi last week, after Autocar leaked plans that owners would have to pay for a planned key fob upgrade.

Joust stormed: 'This is typical of the factory. They discover that the yellow enamel on the badge could be made even more yellow, and it will only be the future owners who will benefit. I am one of the loyal first wave of customers, who have put up with pale lemon key fobs for as long as we remember. Now that a bright mustard key fob has been introduced, we must wait 6 weeks for an upgrade, and – to add insult to injury – pay £4.99 for the privilege.

The factory deny that they are being unfair to current owners. 'It's just a sodding key fob,' muttered Lee Noble's wife as her Fiesta was stoned on the way to Sainsbury's.

## Bentley victory 'doesn't count' say Le Mans officials.

The organisers of the Le Mans 24 hour race suspended the results yesterday after a major flaw was discovered in the scoring system. The Bentley Team, which enjoyed an historic first and second placing were understood to be distraught.

"The problem stemmed from the fact that the lap counting officials were stationed in a raised seating area, which overlooked a mobile ice cream stand. A young French lady wearing extremely tight and somewhat see-through clothing happened to be serving at this mobile merchandising unit, much to the distraction of the officials perched above her," said a spokesman today.

"We just can't trust the results. When Monsieur Le Directeur asked one lap counter for the Bentley team's position at 10h34mins, the man replied: 'Who cares? Just look at the arse on that.' When he asked the other member of the lap counting team, the man shrugged and admitted that he hadn't been counting laps for the last 2 hours."

With all placings set to become null and void, this scandal is sure to shake the world of French motorsport from the top to the bottom. And my God, what a bottom. Une glace pour moi, s'il vous plait, mademoiselle!

## Dear Derestrictor

**Every issue, Derestrictor answers your motoring queries in his own inimitable style.**

### Question:

I am famous for being a bit of a studmuffin and my reputation with the ladies is legendary on PH. However, I am sure my pulling power could improve with the right vehicle. I currently cruise the Southampton nite spots and kebab emporia in a Seat Leon VVTi. What do you recommend as being the ultimate Lurrve Machine?

*[Name and address withheld at Mungo's request]*

### Answer:

It would seem that your present location suggests a maritime connection and this has caused me to contemplate suitable alternatives for one with such a proximity to the scent des poissons, as it were.

Thus, land based craft might be missing the point entirely. A fumble 'neath the hood of some inadequately confined sports or supercar may be of limited use as you head inland but assuming no domestic relocation may I humbly suggest you switch your attentions to seacraft?