

# Autoh!

The North East's own motor magazine

**NORTH EAST EDITION**

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ISSUE 11



## HONDA GOES **HYBRID** WITH CR-V

**Michael Gray...**

**His life in cars** page 6

**We try the latest**

**Range Rover Sport** page 14

**Geneva motor**

**show preview** page 32

We take the new Jaguar F-Pace S for a spin and try three of latest offerings from Volkswagen... the e-Golf, Tiguan and brand new T-Roc. There's a close look at the Audi A6 and we check out the new Ford EcoSport. Mitsubishi are having terrific success with their L200 pick-up and Outlander PHEV so we find out why. Peugeot are on the crest of a wave with their 3008 SUV, and Citroen unveil their latest C5 Aircross. We also check out the used car market.



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# Welcome to **AutOh!**

*This is the eleventh edition of AutOh! the North East's own motoring magazine, delivered to carefully chosen households across NE, SR and DH postcodes. We are the region's leading magazine for anyone who is interested in cars or fancies buying one. AutOh! is used regularly by the area's top car companies. We'll keep you fully up to date with what's going on at your local franchise dealers.*

In this edition we're joined by a North East footballing legend, Michael Gray. He tells us about his life in cars.

Land Rover and Jaguar have seriously upped their game in recent years. They had to because of the onslaught from German manufacturers. So, how do the very latest Range Rover Sport PHEV and Jaguar F-Pace S stack up?



The future is electric. Well, that's what it looks like in the upcoming Geneva motor show. We take a peek at some shiny machinery that'll be unveiled in Switzerland.

We'll be looking at some of the best places to go for top quality used cars as well as focussing on some of the region's top dealers from the mainstream manufacturers. They've got some very tasty deals on offer.

And in a new feature, we speak to some of the key people in the region's motor trade. There'll be some names that you recognise in future editions. First up is Billy Taylor from Vertu Honda. He's been selling cars for.....err....a long time.

AutOh!...we're motoring.

Graham Courtney, Editor.

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# SPECIAL DEALER FOR SPECIALIST CARS

It's all very well selling hugely desirable cars, but if the customer service isn't up to scratch, then buyers will look elsewhere.

Which means it's no surprise that Vertu Specialist Cars at the Silverlink in Wallsend is always busy. Need some proof? The Judge Service organisation surveyed the dealership's customers and found a staggering 98 per cent would recommend the garage to their friends and family.

The showroom was previously home to the region's main Infiniti Centre. They were so good that they were the UK's biggest seller of Infiniti cars. This means they now have a terrific supply of previously owned Infiniti models because owners are coming back to the same dealership to trade them in.

As well as the wide selection of Audi, Jaguar, BMW, Mercedes, Lexus, Volvo and Range Rover models on display, Vertu Specialist Cars has access to the entire Vertu network around the UK. In other words, if there is something you really fancy, Jeff Aynsley and his team will find it for you. Perhaps you fancy something slightly smaller like a MINI, VW, Toyota or Mazda. And don't forget, Vertu Specialist Cars can service and maintain any car.

**You can check out what's available via their website.**  
[www.vertuspecialistcarsnewcastle.com](http://www.vertuspecialistcarsnewcastle.com)

**or just call into their showroom on the Silverlink and have a chat with the sales team.**



## COMPASS POINTS IN RIGHT DIRECTION

When it comes to off-road vehicles which can also cut-it on Tarmac, Jeep has been doing it for donkey's years.

However, their latest models are specifically tuned to European tastes ...largely down to the influence of Fiat.

The latest example is the Jeep Compass and we think it looks rather smart.

In terms of engine choice, any Fiat owners will recognise the names and the line-up. This is no bad thing because the engines are tried and tested and are reliable, economical and with a decent chunk of power.

If you want refinement, go for the petrol engines. They're 1.4 litre MultiAir units developing either 138bhp (45.6mpg) or 168bhp. For economy, try the MultiJet diesel engines. There's a 1.6 118bhp engine (64.2mpg) and a 2.0 litre diesel with 138 and 168bhp on tap. The bigger engines get 4x4 drive and the most powerful versions also get an auto box.

The best all-rounder is arguably the 138bhp diesel. You'll get 54.3mpg and a 0-60 time of around 10 seconds. Bearing in mind this is a chunky vehicle which has all-wheel drive and an ability to climb mountains, these are impressive figures.

There are four levels of trim...Sport, Longitude, Limited and, very shortly, Trailhawk which will be fully loaded and sit at the top of the range. Prices for the range start at £23,755.

Every Jeep Compass comes with air con, DAB radio, Bluetooth, powered and heated door mirrors, cruise control, electronic parking brake, lane departure warning and an impressive list of safety kit. We'd recommend moving up to Longitude trim which adds sat nav and a rear camera.

The interior of the Compass is a step up for Jeep. There's a premium feel about everything. The seats are comfy yet supportive, there's a stack of interior space and loads of cubby holes. The Compass is also rewarding to drive. The ride is on the firm-ish side at town speeds, but once you get out and about, everything settles nicely. In other words, if you want to take the family to the beach or strap some bikes, surfboards, skis etc to the roof, and chuck a load of gear into the boot, then the Jeep Compass will be ideal.

When it comes to a family sized SUV with serious off-road ability, the Jeep Compass is a really good choice. Go and give it a test drive. If you've not driven or sat in a Jeep lately, you're in for a pleasant surprise.



# IT'S SHOWTIME

March is a key month for the motor manufacturers because, not only do we see a new registration plate arrive (19) but it's also the Geneva Motor Show from 5TH -17TH March.

It tends to be THE show where new cars appear. Some are concepts, but many are on the way to a showroom near you.

Fancy going...it's open 10.00am - 8.00pm  
Monday-Friday, 9.00am-7.00pm  
Saturday-Sunday

Adults about £12.50, concessions about £7.00.

Anyway, here's a pick of what's on offer.



1

## 1 Audi EV SUV

Here's a photo of the new Audi e-tron. It's their chunky all-electric SUV. Now imagine it shrinking to the size of something like the Audi Q3 and you will get an idea of what Audi's latest all electric car will look like. You will find that electric will be a big theme of this year's Geneva show.

## 2 BMW 7 Series

Can front grilles really get any bigger? They're starting to look like the chrome from the American 1950s cars. Anyway, this is the latest Beemer flagship. You can expect a host of interior changes which will all be incredibly hi-tech. There may be an appearance of the X7 too which BMW sees as their Range Rover rival.



2



3

## 3 Volkswagen Buggy

Remember the Dune Buggy from the 1960s which generally had a VW Beetle engine strapped onto the rear? Well this is the latest take on that theme from Volkswagen. It will be an electric car and, although it's being designed as a concept, VW is keen to move into any area where it feels as though sales can be gained. Underneath will be something that could easily become a new Up!



4

## 4 Bentley Centenary Edition

At the moment, all we have is a photo of the car's grille. It looks like a Bentley Continental GT. It's to celebrate their landmark centenary year in 2019 which takes place on 10th of July. You can expect an absolute flying machine which is likely to be a limited edition. It's interesting that there appears to be a number 9 painted onto the grille which harks back to the famous Blower Bentleys



5

## 5 Renault Clio

This is such an important car for Renault and is the fifth generation of the Clio which regularly tops the sales charts across Europe for its particular size. An RS version will be available from launch. Renault is aiming to follow a popular trend which allows customers to create a unique car. There will be 8 different interior design schemes and 10 exterior colours.



6

## 6 Toyota Supra

The return of a legend. The Supra is finally going to officially break cover in Europe. You can actually place an order now....deliveries start late summer. Power comes from a 3.0-litre in-line six-cylinder engine, producing up to 335bhp. It promises terrific performance. 0-60 takes just over four seconds. Prices start at £52,695.

## 7 SKODA Kamiq

This will be SKODA's smallest SUV. We actually saw it for the first time last year when it was called the Vision X. You can expect a choice of petrol and diesel power and, as with all SKODA's it'll be cracking value. It's due to go on sale late summer / early autumn.



7



# All-New CR-V

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CR-V 1.5 VTEC Turbo EX AWD Manual	£35,305.00	£9,652.66	£1,000.00	£24,652.34	£319.00	£17,072.50	£17,082.50	£39,219.16	6.2%	£10.00	10,000	10p	6.05%



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**Model Shown:** 2019 CR-V 1.5 VTEC Turbo EX AWD Manual in Premium crystal red metallic at £35,305 On The Road (OTR). **Terms and Conditions:** 19YM retail CR-V 1.5 VTEC Turbo ordered from 01 January 2019 to 31 March 2019 and registered by 31 March 2019. Subject to model and colour availability. Offers applicable at participating dealers (excluding Channel Islands) and are at the promoter's absolute discretion. Not to be used along with any other offers currently available. **\*Honda deposit contribution:** £1,000 Honda deposit contribution on 2019 CR-V models purchased through Honda Aspirations. **6.2% APR representative Honda Aspirations (PCP):** Maximum customer deposit 30%. You do not have to pay the Final Payment if you return the car at the end of the agreement and you have paid all other amounts due, the vehicle is in good condition and has been serviced in accordance with the Honda service book and the maximum annual mileage has not been exceeded. **Excess mileage charge includes VAT at current rate.** Indemnities may be required in certain circumstances. Finance is only available to persons aged 18 or over, subject to status. All figures are correct at time of publication but may be subject to change. Grantham Motor Company Limited are credit brokers, not lenders. Credit provided by Honda Finance Europe Plc. Cain Road, Bracknell, Berkshire RG12 1HL. Honda Financial Services is a trading name of Honda Finance Europe Plc. Cain Road, Bracknell, Berkshire RG12 1HL a company registered at Companies House No 03289418. Honda Finance Europe plc is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority, Financial Services Register number 312541. **5 Years £599 Servicing:** Please visit <https://www.honda.co.uk/cars/campaigns/599-servicing.html>



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# HONDA SAYS HELLO TO HYBRID CR-V

The Honda CR-V first appeared on our shores in 1995. It reigns as the world's best-selling SUV. However, even Honda say this latest development is one of their biggest steps ever in the model's history; Honda has dumped diesel engines and replaced them with a petrol hybrid which will be sold alongside the other CR-V models, all of which are powered by a 1.5 litre petrol i-VTEC engine.

The hybrid system combines two electric motors, a battery and a 143bhp 2.0-litre i-VTEC petrol engine. It gives the CR-V Hybrid lively performance with 0-60 mph taking under 9 seconds for the front wheel drive model, and just over 9 seconds for the AWD. Top speed is 112mph.

But when it comes to economy, you can understand why Honda has ditched diesel. Not only does the Honda CR-V Hybrid have low emissions, it has low fuel consumption too in the region of 53mpg. It's also impressive to note that the CR-V Hybrid is only £800 more than its 'standard' petrol stablemates of similar trim.

The electronic gadgetry continually switches the CR-V Hybrid between running purely on electric battery power, and a combination of battery and petrol engine. At town speeds, you glide away

in silent EV (Electric Vehicle) battery mode. You can travel for 1.2 miles on battery power alone before the petrol engine cuts in. At this point you move into Hybrid Drive, where the engine supplies power to a generator which supplies the electric motors. If you need a serious burst of power or are travelling at higher speeds, the hybrid system will use the engine to power the wheels. The driver is completely unaware of all this... you simply drive along and the CR-V hybrid system takes care of everything... seamlessly.

At a steady 40mph, the CR-V Hybrid will typically run in EV mode for more than half of the time. At 62mph the car will be in EV Drive for approximately one third of the time, whilst achieving the CR-V's maximum speed, the car will run in Hybrid Drive.

The new model raises the bar in terms of interior quality. There's a seriously



premium feel. It's comfortable and loaded with hi-tech kit. All versions of the CR-V Hybrid are equipped with 18-inch alloy wheels. Top-grade cars get a panoramic glass sunroof.

There are four levels of trim S, SE, SR and EX.

To experience the future of modern day motoring book your test drive at your local Vertu Honda dealership. Prices for the Honda CR-V range start at £25,995 with the CR-V Hybrid available from £29,105.



## Vertu Honda Sunderland

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Also at Newcastle, Durham, Morpeth and Stockton [vertuhonda.com](http://vertuhonda.com)



Vertu  
Honda

# Talk of the Trade

Billy Taylor - General Manager for Vertu Honda

In a new feature for AutOh! magazine we're going to talk to some of the top people in the North East motor industry.

They've either made a difference in some way, or have started at the bottom and worked their way to the top, or perhaps they've, well, been around a while and will be instantly recognizable to many new car buyers in the region.

First up is Billy Taylor who works as General Manager for Vertu Honda looking after Sunderland, Newcastle and Morpeth Honda.

## How did you get into the car trade?

Straight from school and, at the age of 15 started an apprenticeship as a car paint sprayer at Reg Vardy. I moved into car sales when I was 24.

## Were you always into cars?

From being an early teenager I would tinker with cars, do them up and sell them. I loved it and made some money from a hobby.

## Did it run in the family?

Yes my dad was in the motor trade and I guess that's what got me hooked. My uncle, David, is also in the car trade.

## What was the first car you can remember?....

My dad had a Maserati Ghibli in bright red. It made a big impression on me. The registration was 6I TE which looked like Bite! The car was awesome and sounded amazing.



## Did you go on family trips in the cars?

As a family we were into water sports/skiing so we would travel to the Lake District.

## What was your first car?

The first car I ever bought was a Zephyr Zodiac when I was 12. I bought it from a neighbour for £100 and did it up. The first car I drove was a Ford Capri 2.0s in black OBB812X. It was awesome!!



## Tidy car or mobile skip?

I try to keep my car as immaculate as possible.

## Any motoring nightmares?

Loads. I had a Lotus Esprit Turbo. I was driving along and went passed some friends. They were all waving and I thought they were admiring the car. I then looked through my rear view mirror I could see that they were trying to tell me that the car was on fire!! A burst fuel pipe! Luckily the car had a fire extinguisher in it or I would have been toast!

## Best road trip you've ever done?

When I first met my wife-to-be, we went to Edinburgh in my M3 I was trying to impress her with my driving skills (or lack thereof) on the A68.



## Gan canny or gan fer it?

I used to be gan fer it but now I kinda have a happy medium if that makes sense.

## Favourite road in the North East?

The coast road from South Shields to Seaburn.

## Best car (s) you've owned?

I've been luckily enough to have owned some nice sports cars, Porsche 911 Carrera 4S, BMW M3 and I loved my Ford Escort RS turbo D130UVO but the older I get I feel like I'm more built for comfort, I currently drive a Honda Civic EX and can honestly not find any fault with the car; it's a pleasure to drive.

## Worst car?

Lotus Esprit Turbo...by far.

## And finally, what is your dream car?

Has to be an Aston Martin, my wedding car!





PEUGEOT



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# PEUGEOT - A CAR FOR ALL REASONS

Have you looked closely at Peugeot lately? No....well...you don't know what you're missing because the rate at which Peugeot is launching new models is staggering.

For example, almost every model has now got an SUV in its range. Only the funky 108 hatchback city car misses out.

At the top of the Peugeot range, there's the 508 and the imposing 7-seater 5008 SUV while at the other end of the range you'll find the 208 and it's versatile 2008 SUV stablemate.

Need something in between? Go and check out the Peugeot 308 and, you guessed it, the 3008 SUV.

The Peugeot 3008 has been a terrific success. It manages to combine the school run, shopping trips and the daily commute, with long holiday jaunts and outings to the beach loaded to the gunwales with the family and all of its inevitable clobber.

As with every Peugeot, the 3008 is

supremely comfortable, but don't assume that it's gone all soft on the fun scale; it is thoroughly enjoyable to drive. The chassis manages to soak up lumps and bumps at low speed while remaining sufficiently controlled to allow a keen driver to have some fun. The interior is a work of art and the i-Cockpit fascia works really well. It looks very 21st Century. You'll find loads of room for 5 people and there's a premium feel to all of the materials used.

The Peugeot 3008 SUV starts at £24,575 for the petrol engine 1.2 litre PureTech Active model. If you prefer diesel, the 1.5 BlueHdI Active 3008 starts at £26,495.

However, although the GT-Line and rapid GT models are very tempting, we reckon the best value, and the best compromise, is to be found in the 3008 Allure.

We'd go for the powerful 130bhp 1.5

BlueHdI engine with Allure trim. You get additional kit including sat nav, tinted windows, reversing camera, parking sensors front and rear, Bluetooth, powered windows and mirrors (heated), and the Peugeot driver safety pack which includes blind spot detector and lane departure warning. You will get 67mpg and a 0-60 time of under 11 seconds, although the car feels quicker thanks to the low-end torque which means you get effortless performance.

Since its launch, the Peugeot 3008 SUV has won more than 60 international awards, including the prestigious European Car of the Year Award. This is one of the best cars Peugeot has ever produced and it's available now for a test drive at Wingrove Peugeot on Benton Road in Newcastle.





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CITROËN prefers TOTAL Fuel consumption figures for New Citroën C5 Aircross SUV: MPG (l/100km): Combined 35.2 (8.0) to 47.1 (6.0), CO<sub>2</sub> emissions: 132 – 118g/km.

The grouped figures shown above show the lowest and highest performing results for this model. Consult your dealer for information on specific examples. The fuel consumption you achieve, and CO<sub>2</sub> produced, in real world conditions will depend upon a number of factors: including the accessories fitted (post registration), variations in weather, driving styles and vehicle load. There is a new test WLTP (Worldwide Harmonised Light Vehicles Test Procedure) used to measure fuel consumption and CO<sub>2</sub> figures. These CO<sub>2</sub> figures, however, are based on the outgoing test cycle NEDCeq (New European Driving Cycle Equivalent), calculated using an EC correlation tool which converts WLTP figures to NEDC. These figures are used to calculate tax for first registration. You should only compare fuel consumption and CO<sub>2</sub> figures with other vehicles tested using the same technical standard.

\*Offers apply to retail sales of qualifying models ordered & registered 02/01-31/03/2019 or until such time as offers/prices may be withdrawn by Citroën at its complete discretion & include VAT, delivery to dealer & number plates, Government Registration Fee & 12 months' graduated vehicle excise duty. Optional paint available at extra cost. \*Conditional Sale finance available on all New Citroën C5 Aircross SUV models. Deposit varies by model & term. Finance subject to status. Finance provided by and written quotations available on request from PSA Finance UK Ltd (company registration number 01024322), RH1 1QA. PSA Finance UK Ltd is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. Over 18s only. A guarantee may be required. All of the following retailers are acting as a credit broker and not a lender: Wingrove Motor Company Ltd trading as Wingrove - Wallsend (Silverlink), Wingrove Motor Company Ltd trading as Wingrove (West Road). To finance your vehicle we may introduce you to a limited number of lenders. Commission may be received. Offers & specification correct at time of going to press from participating Dealers. Terms & conditions apply. Please ask us for details. Subject to stock availability.

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# SPACE CRUISER

If you place comfort and refinement at the top of your requirements when looking for a new car, then you needn't go any further than Citroen.

Every one of their models thrives on giving occupants a cushy ride.

Sometimes though, you need some serious space to take an entire family, plus their baggage on a holiday trip. Of course, you still want some style and you like the SUV convenience of a chunky appearance but with hatchback versatility.

If those are things you look for, you'll love the brand new Citroen C5 Aircross.

Prices start at £23,225 which means it already looks like decent value for what is a sizeable vehicle. Inside there is loads of room for five people; a 7-seater is in the pipeline. You're surrounded by top quality materials and loads of storage space.

In terms of engine choices you can go for petrol or diesel. There are two petrol

engines; 129bhp 1.2 litre and 178bhp 1.6 litres. If you prefer diesel, you also two options; 129bhp 1.5 litre or 158bhp 2.0 litre. Both diesels will crack 60mpg. The 2.0 litre model is lively with 0-60 taking a shade over 8 seconds.

If economy isn't your ultimate target, then we'd recommend the petrol engines because they are uncannily quiet and very smooth. They make for relaxed cruising. Having said that, the 1.2 litre petrol motor is really thrifty, managing 55mpg. 0-60 takes just over 10 seconds and, for the majority of owners, it will be the ideal car. However, if you intend to travel regularly with a full load of passengers and gear, you'd be better off with the bigger engines. The 1.6 litre petrol unit will still achieve 49 mpg, but your 0-60 time drops to around 8

seconds. It makes for effortless motoring with loads of pulling power and effortless overtaking.

In terms of trim, you can choose from Feel, Flair and Flair Plus. Every C5 Aircross has a high level of standard specification with air con, smart touchscreen with DAB radio, rear parking sensors, and powered windows and mirrors all included. We'd go for Flair trim though because it adds sat nav, really smart alloy wheels, tinted rear windows, front foglights which feature a clever cornering function, and a host of safety items. It's worth the extra outlay.

The best idea is to go along to Wingrove's Citroen dealerships at the Silverlink in Wallsend or the West Road in Newcastle. Take a C5 Aircross for a drive. See what all the fuss is about.



# *In conversation with* **Michael Gray**

It rarely happens these days in top flight football...local youngster, grows up supporting their local team....ends up playing for them...and becomes a legend with the supporters in the stands where they once sat, or stood as is more likely.

That's what happened to Michael 'Micky' Gray.

Although it might not have happened because while he was playing schoolboy football, he was taken on by Manchester Utd and signed schoolboy forms. However, the lure of playing for his home town club was too strong and he returned to Wearside. He continued playing for Fatfield Juniors F.C. in the Hetton Youth League until, when he was 16, he joined Sunderland.

On the 21st November 1992, Michael made his debut for Sunderland at Derby. Sunderland won 1-nil...Don Goodman got the goal.

By 1996 he was a regular and had the experience of not only being in the side that won promotion into the newly formed Premier League, he also scored Sunderland's first goal in the top flight. He scored the opener in a 4-1 win at Nottingham Forest.

In the following seasons he would win three England caps after being picked by Kevin Keegan. He would rack-up a total of over 550 games in a career which took him from Sunderland to Celtic, Blackburn Rovers, Leeds Utd, Wolves and Sheffield Wednesday.

Nowadays, Michael talks about football. He's frequently seen on TV with BT Sport,

ITV and beIN sports who're based in Doha, and can be found on a regular basis covering football matches and appearing as a studio guest on talkSPORT radio.

He still plays on a regular basis in various 'Legends' tournaments. He's also a regular at the Great North Run.

But, what about another of his passions away from football. Cars. We caught up with Michael and fired a few motoring questions in his direction.

## **What is the first car you can remember?**

I can clearly remember my parents Datsun Sunny. It was brilliant white and I thought it was wonderful. I used to sit in it while parked outside our house pretending to drive it thinking I'm gonna own one of these someday. To a young lad it looked so cool and I can still remember what it smelt like inside.

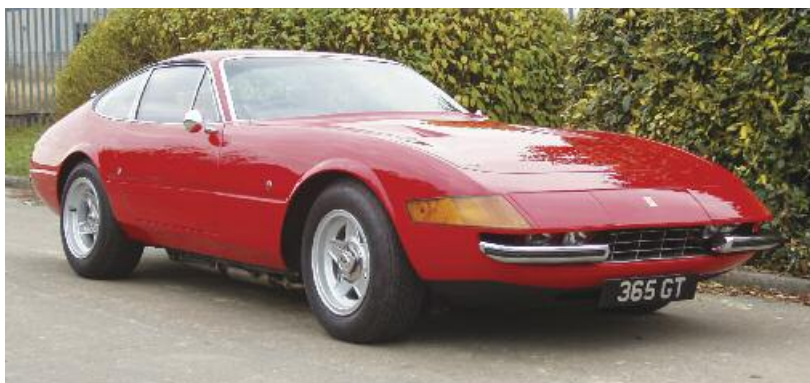


## **What was the first car you owned?**

The first car I actually paid my own money for was a Ford XR2. It had extra driving lights at the front and natty white alloy wheels. I was only 17 years old when I bought it and I think the insurance was more than the cost of the car. I suppose I wasn't a very good risk...young lad, footballer, sporty car...not a good mix. And I think the XR2 had a reputation of being nicked too easily. Anyway, I thought it looked great and fitted loads of extra loudspeakers so that I could blast the music. Good God... what was I thinking?







### Smart car or a mobile skip?

Don't tell my parents this one...they were really proud of their cars (still are) and keep them in immaculate condition. I have to confess that my car interior is a bit of an embarrassment. You should see the look on people's faces when I offer to give them a lift. They have to shovel a load of junk off the seat. To say it's a messy car is being polite. Here's my excuse. Working in the media means you spend a lot of time driving to grounds so everything just gets thrown in the back...coffee cups are the main culprit. It's not a good look.

### And motoring embarrassments?

On the very first day I'd picked up my XR2, I collected my mates and went out driving. Obviously I wanted to show them how quick it was. I drove up to a roundabout going far too quickly and left the braking too late. You won't be surprised to know that the outcome was inevitable. We went straight on and hurtled over the top of it and back onto the road on the other side. A lesson learned.

### What's your favourite road trip?

I'm not really a road trip person...I wouldn't go on a driving holiday abroad. It doesn't appeal. I tend to see a car as a means of getting from A to B as quickly and as comfortably as possible. Having said that, I've driven in a few foreign countries not knowing where I'm going and got horribly lost without being able to speak a word of the local lingo. I have to admit though on a gloriously sunny day.... shorts on...roof down... and I'll drive until the petrol light comes on.

### Steady Eddy or a bit of a speedster?

I've always been a bit of a speed junky... still am. Give me an open road and my foot gets heavier. All of this probably explains why I'm sitting on 9 points right now and have had to ease off.

### Favourite road in the North East?

Got to be the A19, except at peak times. It's not really the road itself, it's more of the occasion. When I'm on it, it invariably means I've been back home on Wearside. And I know it sounds naff, but you can't beat winding down the window and breathing in some good North East fresh air.

### What have been your favourite cars?

My favourite car has to be the Range Rover. I've had about 6 of them. They're the best car on the road by day. You've got a commanding driving position,

plenty of oomph and loads of space. Brilliant. In my younger days I had plenty of sports cars such as the Aston Martin Vanquish, 4 Ferraris, a Porsche 911 Turbo but I have to confess that I'd probably need a crowbar to get me out of them these days. Which is another reason why I like the Range Rovers.

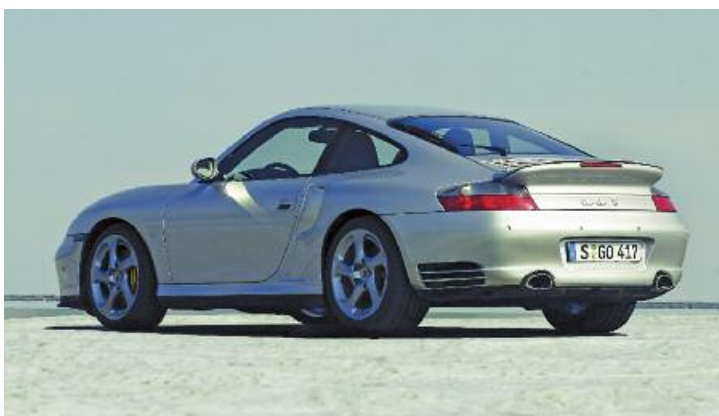
### Worst Car?

I had an old BMW 325 Cabriolet. It looked great on the day I bought it. Somehow, before I knew it, it was just a heap of rust. Huge mistake. It got scrapped.



### And finally....your dream car?

Right now it'd have to be the Mercedes AMG G63 in white. Massive presence and they sound fantastic. I love them.



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Model shown is an EcoSport Titanium 1.0 EcoBoost (125 PS) with optional 18" alloy wheels and rear privacy glass. Combined Fuel Consumption (WLTP) 41.5 mpg (6.8 L/100 km). Combined CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions (NEDC Equivalent) 125 g/km<sup>†</sup>.

Figures shown are for comparability purposes; only compare fuel consumption and CO<sub>2</sub> figures with other cars tested to the same technical procedures. These figures may not reflect real life driving results, which will depend upon a number of factors including the accessories fitted, variations in weather, driving styles and vehicle load. † There is a new test used for fuel consumption and CO<sub>2</sub> figures. The CO<sub>2</sub> figures shown however, are based on the outgoing test cycle and will be used to calculate vehicle tax on first registration.

\*\*Deposit contribution available when financed with FordOptions. #Finance subject to status. Guarantees/Indemnities may be required. Freepost Ford Credit. Terms and conditions apply. **You will not own the car until all payments are made.** At the end of the Personal Contract Purchase there are three options: (i) Renew: Part exchange the vehicle, where equity is available, (ii) Retain: Pay the GFV (optional final payment) to own the vehicle or (iii) Return the vehicle, further charges may be made subject to the condition of the vehicle. **We can introduce you to a limited number of carefully selected finance providers. We may receive a commission from them for the introduction.** This offer supersedes any previously advertised offers/discounts. Subject to availability. Retail customers only. Model year restrictions may apply. May exclude 2019 model year offers.

† 1 year Manufacturers Warranty and no fee customer option of 2 years extended warranty. Car not necessarily as illustrated. Offer ends 31st March 2019. E&OE.

# CHANGE UP TO AN ECOSPORT

The demand for Sports Utility Vehicles (SUVs) has soared over the past decade. No surprise therefore that Ford has upped its game with their new EcoSport.

Put it this way, if you drove or sat in the previous EcoSport, forget everything. This latest model is a massive leap forward in terms of interior design, exterior features and driving enjoyment.

Some things haven't changed. The interior is still roomy and the raised ride height still gives you a commanding view of the road.

Prices for the Ford EcoSport start at £17,495. You can choose from a 1.0-litre EcoBoost petrol engine which is available with three outputs from 99bhp to 138bhp, or a 1.5-litre EcoBlue diesel engine which delivers 99bhp or 123bhp.

The one we like is the 123bhp diesel engine. It offers a really good blend of performance and economy. 0-60mph takes a shade over 11 seconds, and you'll manage 47.1 mpg. You can choose between manual and auto 'boxes. There's even all-wheel-drive as an option. This will



be really handy for anyone who lives out in the sticks because AWD and the lofty ground clearance will be useful on country lanes or in bad weather.

If you want outstanding economy, head for the 99bhp 1.5 litre diesel and you'll get close to 60mpg. Wow.

In terms of how the new Ford EcoSport handles, this is where you spot a big difference in the latest model. The entire suspension set-up has been re-engineered to fit our European roads. It will now happily soak-up potholed city streets on the school run, or easily cruise along at motorway speeds, loaded to the

gunwales for a family outing.

In terms of trim, there are four levels; Zetec, Titanium and, for the first time in the EcoSport ST-line. There's even an ST-Line Black edition. Unless you want the sporty appearance of the ST-Line, we'd recommend the Titanium trim which gives you an 8inch, centrally mounted infotainment screen, sat nav, air con, powered windows and mirrors, cruise control, auto lights and wipers, rear view camera, rear parking sensors, leather trim, and really smart alloys. The audio system, which also concludes DAB radio, is terrific.

The new Ford EcoSport is the sort of car that will become a family friend or a commuter and shopping tool. It's well priced, well equipped, comfortable and good to drive. In other words, if you're in the market for buying an SUV, you need to go along to your local Lookers Ford showroom and check out the Ford EcoSport.



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# KIA SOWS THE CEED OF SUCCESS

Kia is a company on a mission. Over the past twelve months, a large chunk of their range has been updated.

Gone are the days when the chief reason for buying a Kia was because of their 7 year / 100,000 mile warranty. Their cars are comfortable, well priced, roomy and reliable, and come with a decent level of kit as standard. They're good to drive and stylish.

Take the brand new Kia Ceed for example.

The Kia Ceed is designed and built in Europe so it suits our roads perfectly. You can choose from petrol or diesel power. In terms of petrol engines, there's a 118 bhp 1.0 litre, 3-cylinder (from £18,295) or 138bhp 1.4 litre turbo and, most recently, a 1.6 litre unit which develops a punchy 201bhp. If you prefer diesels, there's a 1.6

litre unit which starts at £19,545. Don't be fooled by the size of the 1.0 litre petrol engine though. It packs a punch with 0-60 taking around 10 seconds yet still managing over 50mpg. The 1.4 litre model is likely to be the main seller in the UK. With a 0-60 time of 8.9 seconds, it feels quick. If you prefer stunning economy, head for the 1.6 diesel and you'll get 74.3mpg. Both bigger engines have an auto gearbox option.

In terms of specification, every Kia Ceed comes with air con, electric windows all round, reversing camera, DAB radio, Bluetooth and a stack of safety kit. It represents great value for money. There's a terrific choice in terms of trim but we'd recommend that you don't go daft; opt

for the level 3 which adds sat nav, bigger and seriously handsome alloy wheels, dark tinted rear windows, heated and folding door mirrors. It's all you really need to make a good package feel a bit more special.

If you need extra space, go for the Sportswagon (Kia's word for what the rest of us call an estate) which starts at £19,295 and if you want a Sportswagon with additional style and sporty handling characteristics, go for the ProCeed. (£23,835).

Along with the new Ceed, Kia has recently introduced new Sportage, Optima, Stinger, Stonic and Sorento models. Go and check them out. You'll be surprised.



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# Blackshaws celebrates centenary

A locally-based family car dealership is celebrating its Centenary this year.

Blackshaws of Alnwick and Morpeth has been established in the area for ten decades during which time the world has changed beyond all recognition and early 'automobiles' have completely transformed into the technologically-advanced hybrid, electric and even driverless vehicles we see today.

As Blackshaws takes a moment to look back over the last century, it would like to share its fascinating story with the local community.

The company's long and enviable heritage began in Tower Lane, Alnwick in 1919 when it was founded by brothers John Charles and Edward Warren Blackshaw at a time when the horse and carriage was still the most common form of transport.

Six years later the business which sold Riley, Clyno and Leyland Trojan cars, moved to Bondgate Without in the centre of Alnwick where it remained as a familiar landmark to town residents for almost 80 years.

After the Second World War, John Charles's son William Dixon Blackshaw inherited the business and gradually expanded the site which was by now a British Leyland dealership. In the 1950s 'Dick' as he was better known, acquired additional land in front of the garage and promptly converted it into a Cleveland petrol station.

Tragically Dick Blackshaw passed away prematurely in 1977 after a short illness and the Blackshaw business was handed over to his relatively young sons Stuart and David who became the third-generation owners, while the adjoining petrol station was left to youngest son Richard.

Over the next two decades the Blackshaw brothers changed the dealership franchise and formed strong new business partnerships with the Japanese car manufacturers Nissan (formerly Datsun) and Suzuki.

In the 1990s there was also a change in the company ownership when Stuart and David decided to dissolve their 25 year partnership with Stuart leaving to set up a used car business in north Northumberland.

The approach of the new millennium saw fourth-generation family members Jill



and William Blackshaw join the business followed by Richard who by then had sold the adjoining petrol station.

In the 2000s due to access difficulties and lack of space in Bondgate Without Blackshaws took the momentous decision to relocate the Alnwick dealership into a purpose-built site on the Lionheart Enterprise Park at the edge of town.

In the first decade of the 21st century the company also established a successful Vauxhall and Suzuki dealership in Berwick-upon-Tweed which was later sold as a going concern after the company was approached with an offer to buy the site in 2010.

In 2016 following several years of buoyant trading as a single-site dealership fourth-generation owners William and Jill Blackshaw felt the time was right for further expansion and a new Mitsubishi car dealership was opened by the company on the Coopies Lane industrial area on the outskirts of Morpeth.

Reflecting on 100 years of history William and Jill Blackshaw sum up the feelings of the six members of the Blackshaw family who still work in the business today and also describe how they hope to commemorate the company's Centenary.

"We feel very proud of our heritage and although Blackshaws has grown significantly over the years we are still very much a friendly, family business routed in the local community.

"We are immensely grateful for all the support we've received over the last century from our employees, customers, suppliers, franchise partners and also the community in general.

"So much so, that during our Centenary year we'd like to give something back. For many years we have undertaken fund-raising activity in aid of HospiceCare North Northumberland and this year we hope to raise more than we've ever done before by donating a Suzuki Swift as a raffle prize.

"One hundred per cent of the ticket money will go to HospiceCare to help with the wonderful work they do caring for people in our area in times of most need."

In addition to Blackshaws 100th Year Celebration Raffle the company plans to mark its Centenary with a series of special events throughout the year.

A spectacular party for staff and their partners at Alnwick Castle Guest Hall is taking place in February followed by a party for customers in the spring to mark the opening of Blackshaws expanded car showroom and the launch of the Mitsubishi range at its Alnwick dealership.

In the summer Blackshaws will also host a vintage car and stunt driving event with motoring stunt celebrity Paul Swift and the year will culminate in a charity Winter Fair when the Suzuki car raffle prize will be drawn.

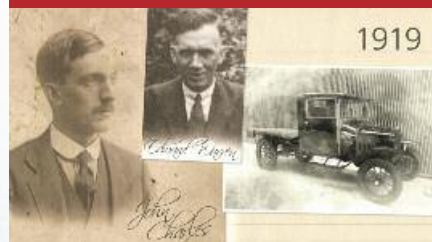
The company certainly intends it to be a year to remember.

[www.blackshaws.net](http://www.blackshaws.net)

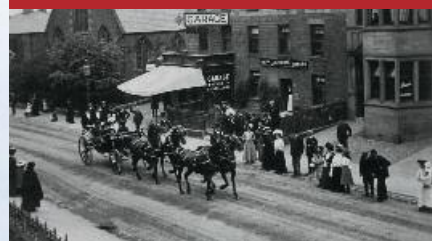
To find out more about Blackshaws' Centenary celebrations visit [www.blackshaws.net](http://www.blackshaws.net). 100th Year Celebration raffle tickets are available from HospiceCare North Northumberland or from Blackshaws Alnwick showroom.



Blackshaws has donated a Suzuki Swift as a raffle prize to raise money for HospiceCare



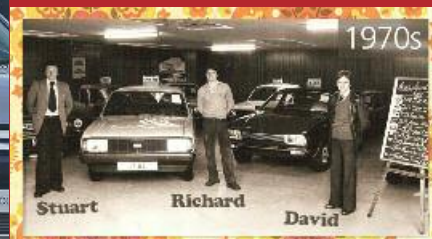
Founders John Charles & Edward Warren Blackshaw



Blackshaws in Bondgate Without, Alnwick in 1925



William Dixon Blackshaw expanded the Blackshaws' site in the 1950s



The Blackshaw brothers in the 1970s



# RANGE ROVER SPORT GOES ELECTRIC

The latest Range Rover Sport has been given a host of upgrades which, quite frankly, has made it better than ever.

At the top of the range you'll still find the totally nuts 567bhp SVR 5.0 litre V8 Supercharged petrol model. You'll hurtle to the horizon with a 0-60 time of 4.3 seconds and a top speed of 176mph.

Further down the engine range, if you want a smooth petrol engine and decent economy, try the 296 bhp 2.0 litre petrol engine. 0-60 in 7 seconds. For even better economy...you'll crack 30mpg...go for the 3.0 litre V6 diesel which does the 0-60 dash in 6.8 seconds.

However, the latest model to arrive is the Range Rover Sport PHEV (Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicle). If you want performance AND economy, this is the one to go for.

As with most hybrids, you get a clever set of gadgetry which sees a 2.0 litre petrol engine working in tandem with batteries and electric motors. You can charge the battery at home, at work or at one of the charging stations which are now available across the country, or you can let the hybrid do its stuff and allow the battery to top-up as you go along.

The result is a powerful car producing 398 bhp (0-60 in 6.3 seconds) yet still, in



the ideal conditions, managing a staggering 87.3mpg. Not only is this a huge saving in your pocket, but business drivers are likely to benefit in terms of allowances. It will make huge sense if you fancy a hunky SUV as a company car. You can choose three driver modes; comfort, eco and EV (Electric Vehicle). If you select EV, you can travel for up to 31 miles on battery power alone and at speeds up to 85mph.

Build quality is terrific. If you've not sat in a Land Rover for a few years, you really should take a refresher course. Land

Rover has upped its game and is now on a par with the German manufacturers. The interior is hugely inviting; it's much better than something like a BMW X5. It's also remarkably quiet.

It doesn't matter whether you are blasting to your favourite Swiss ski resort, taking the kids to school, towing a horse box across a muddy, rutted field, or heading out with friends to the theatre, the Range Rover Sport Hybrid will cope. You will also have a load of fun while your passengers enjoy the comfort.

Priced from £72,185.





# CLIFTON CAR SALES OF MORPETH



# Clifton Car Sales

Clifton Car Sales in Morpeth is something of an institution. Not only have they become a landmark for the area ("When you leave the A1, you'll see Clifton Car Sales on your left and then in five minutes you're in Morpeth"), they have also earned a fine reputation with the standard of their cars and the unrivalled quality of service.

Privately owned under the original management, on the same premises since 1992, every car on sale is sourced with utmost care, each one individually presented and advertised to perfection.

If you go onto their website, [www.cliftoncarsales.co.uk](http://www.cliftoncarsales.co.uk) you'll see that every car has a large selection of interior and exterior photographs and there is a full description of the cars history and a detailed inventory of what sort of standard equipment and optional extras are included. Many of the cars still have their manufacturer's warranty, but if it has expired, Clifton will provide their own warranty. Oh, and it's not just any warranty, it's what Clifton call a 'Bumper to Bumper' warranty. In other words, it doesn't matter what the problem is, Clifton will sort it.

You will also see on their website what type of cars Clifton Car Sales specialise in. There's a large selection of low mileage executive and sports marques from premium German and British manufacturers like Audi, BMW, Jaguar, Land Rover, Mercedes and MINI, plus a terrific choice of popular family models from Ford, Vauxhall, Skoda, Toyota and Nissan. You can even reserve your next car via their website and request a part-exchange price for your current vehicle.

Financing your next car is a simple process too. Clifton will arrange this and the simple application takes minutes to complete.

Of course, you may prefer to physically view the cars on display. If you'd rather just browse on-site, they're open seven days a week and there is always a varied choice with in excess of 50 vehicles to choose from. You will be professionally and courteously attended to, making the whole experience an absolute pleasure. No targets. No pressure. No frustration.

What's the best recommendation for Clifton Car Sales? It has to be the number of customers who continue to return time and time again for their next car. A reputation that has taken years to achieve - providing honest, genuine customer care and value over and over again.

**Clifton Car Sales. Fine cars. Fine selection. Fine reputation.**



2015/65 Audi Q5 2.0TDI  
Quattro S-Line Plus Auto (190bhp)

Glacier White with full Black leather. Sat nav, alloys, bluetooth, DAB, privacy, cruise, front & rear parking 23,000m. FASH. £25,999



2015/65 Mercedes GLA250 4-Matic  
AMG Line Premium + Auto 5dr (211bhp)

Mountain Grey met with Full black leather. Sat nav, full glass sunroof, reverse camera and loads more. Only 16,000m. FSH. £22,999



2016/16 Mercedes C220d SE  
Saloon 6-Spd (170bhp)

Cavansite Blue met with Black full leather. Climate, bluetooth, reverse camera, cruise, dynamic drive. Only 7,900m. FMBSH. £16,999



2017/17 Skoda Octavia VRS 2.0TDI  
5 Door 6-Spd (181bhp)

CB Brilliant Silver met with Black cloth/leather. Sat nav, cruise, xenon, privacy, rear spoiler, DAB, 25,900m. £30 road tax. £17,999



2015/15 BMW 320d SE  
Saloon 6-Spd (181bhp)

Melbourne Red with Charcoal cloth. Sat nav, bluetooth, rear parking, heated front seats, DAB, 27,200m with FSH. £30 tax. £14,999



2017/67 Seat Leon 1.4TSI  
FR Technology 5 Door 6-Spd (125bhp)

Midnight Black met with Black cloth. Sat nav, 18" alloys, privacy glass, climate, DAB, cruise. Only 9,300m. FSSH. £13,999



2009/59 Mercedes SL350  
Convertible Auto (315bhp)

Iridium Silver met with Black leather. Sat nav, elec heated front seats with memory, airscarf, parktronic. 19,700m. FMBSH. £19,999



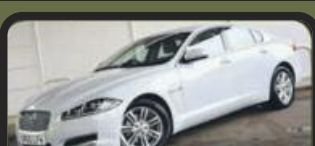
2017/17 Mercedes B200d AMG  
Line Premium Auto (135bhp)

South Seas Blue met with Black cloth/leather. Sat nav, bluetooth, cruise, 18" alloys, active parking. ONLY 2,600m. £18,999



2015/65 Mercedes A200 Sport  
5 Door 6-Spd (154bhp)

Obsidian Black met with full Black leather. Air con, DAB radio, reverse camera, bluetooth, 17" alloys. Only 22,200m with FSH. £15,999



2015/65 Jaguar XF 2.2d  
Luxury Saloon Auto (163bhp)

Ammonite White met with Black full leather. Sat nav, cruise, reverse camera, DAB, heated seats. 18,600m with FJSH. £16,999



2016/66 Volkswagen Golf SV 1.6TDI  
5 Door 5-Spd (108bhp)

Tungsten Silver met with Grey cloth. Air con, DAB, rear parking, 16" alloys, cruise, front armrest. 21,000m. FSH. £12,499



2013/13 Mini Cooper SD  
3 Door 6-Speed (141bhp)

Midnight Black met with full Black leather. Sat nav, xenon, cruise, privacy, heated seats, bluetooth. 37,600m. FSH. £30 tax. £9,999

**CLIFTON CAR SALES**  
CLIFTON, MORPETH, NE61 6DG  
**01670 514488**

TAKE THE MORPETH  
EXIT FROM THE  
A1 NORTH AND WE'RE  
JUST ON THE LEFT  
HAND SIDE

# BUSINESS EXECUTIVE



Audi can do no wrong at the moment. When it comes to premium executive cars, they've overtaken BMW, Mercedes and Jaguar. It doesn't matter which Audi you go for, the build quality is outstanding and the attention to detail is peerless.

Take the next Audi A6 for example. This is the eighth generation of Audi's executive saloon and Avant estate, and it continues to get better and better. It's loaded with an incredible level of hi-tech kit, yet it remains super stylish in a dignified way and wonderful to drive. The interior is a work of art.

By now you'll have gathered that we rather like the Audi A6.

So, what's on offer? At the moment, Audi offers both the A6 saloon and Avant with a choice of two diesel engines...there'll be a V6 petrol along later in the year, as will an allroad quattro version and the RS flying machines. The engines are a four cylinder 204bhp 2.0 litre and a 282bhp 3.0 litre V6 which sounds wonderful. The V6 gets quattro AWD as standard. Both



use a mild hybrid system which helps improve economy. Expect around 60mpg from the 2.0 litre while the seriously quick V6 model still manages a shade over 50mpg whilst giving you a 0-60 time of 5.1 seconds.

There are two levels of trim, Sport and S Line. The S Line gives you a more sporty ride while the Sport model is a tad more cushy.

In terms of kit, all you need to know is that every Audi A6 comes fully loaded with all of the essentials like sat nav, air con, reversing camera, parking sensors...in fact...there's no real need to dip into the options brochure. Turn-up, choose your colour, trim and engine, and then decide whether you want the saloon A6 or have the option of being able to carry everything, including the kitchen sink, in the A6 Avant.

And then drive off. Simple. It has to be the quickest route into one of the world's finest cars.

The Audi A6 Saloon starts at £38,640 and the A6 Avant starts at £40,740 and they're both available for test drive at Newcastle Audi, Tyneside Audi and Wearside Audi.

## The Audi A6 Streamlined. Luxurious. Intelligent.



Solutions Personal Contract Plan\* representative example from Audi Financial Services based on 8,000 miles per annum for the Audi A6 Saloon S line 40 TDI S tronic.

Cash Price	£39,796.06
Less: customer deposit	£459.00
Less: centre deposit contribution	£2,000.00
Less: Audi UK contribution	£3,000.00
Balance of cash price/ amount of credit	£34,337.06
Add charges	£3,939.94
Balance	£38,277.00
Balance payable by 48 monthly rentals of	£459.00
Followed by a final rental of	£16,245.00
Acceptance fee payable with first rental	£0.00
Purchase fee payable with final rental	£10.00
Duration of agreement	49 months
Total amount payable	£43,746.00
Annual Percentage Rate (APR)	3.9%
Total monthly payment	£459.00



**Newcastle Audi**  
NE4 7LA

0333 207 5691  
lookers.co.uk/audi

**Tyneside Audi**  
NE28 9NT

**Wearside Audi**  
SR5 1JQ

Official fuel consumption figures for the Audi A6 Saloon S line 40 TDI S tronic in mpg (l/100km): Urban 56.5 (5.0), Extra Urban 67.3 (4.2), Combined 62.8 (4.5). CO2 emissions: 117g/km. \*At the end of the agreement there are three options: i) own the vehicle: pay the optional final payment; ii) return the vehicle: subject to fair wear and tear, charges may apply; or iii) replace: part exchange the vehicle. Available on Solutions Personal Contract Plan. 18s and over. Subject to availability. Finance subject to status. Terms and conditions apply. Based on 8,000 miles per annum, 9.6p per mile excess mileage charges apply (incl. VAT). Offer available when ordered by 31 March 2019 from participating Centres. Offers are not available in conjunction with any other offer and may be varied or withdrawn at any time. Accurate at time of publication [January 2019]. Freepost Audi Financial Services. We can introduce you to a limited number of lenders to assist with your purchase, who may pay us for introducing you to them.

# S EXPRESS

When the Jaguar F-Pace was launched, it created a bit of a stir. This was a Jaguar that you could use to take your garden rubbish to the tip.

Even better, you could load it to the gunwales and take your entire family, including the Labrador, to the beach or on a fortnight's holiday to the South of France.

It has been a massive success. Our favourite? We like the F-Pace S.

The S model is powered by a 3.0 litre V6 twin turbo diesel which chucks out 296bhp. It comes with permanent 4-wheel drive and an 8-speed automatic gearbox. Prices start at

£54,440. Performance is good...0-60 takes 6.2 seconds; top speed is 150mph. Go steadily and you won't be far away from 40mpg.

It looks really cool...stylish, with a mildly threatening stance. It has near perfect 50-50 weight distribution and handles superbly for a big car. The F-Pace is also surprisingly nimble off-road and will easily cope with hauling a horsebox across a soggy field or reversing a boat into a lake.

As for the interior, the quality of fit and materials used are top notch. The seats



are extremely comfortable and, for those in the back, don't worry about an obstructed view because the height of the seat has been raised. This is especially important for children who don't like to feel hemmed-in. Here's a good idea; the boot floor is reversible. One side is carpeted; flip it over and it's rubberised for when you throw in a heap of dirty gear. Neat.

In terms of kit, we shan't bother with the list because you get everything that you could possibly need including a really impressive standard of safety kit. The audio system is superb. There is also a huge options list which includes massive 22 inch wheels. Granted, they look good and fill the wheel arches, but they do tend to make the ride a tad more fidgety.

Overall though the Jaguar F-Pace S is terrific to drive and ride around in. It's also reasonably priced when compared to the competition, spec for spec.

You can have some serious fun on the way back from the tip.



# BACK TO THE FUTURE AT TOYOTA. ICONS RETURN

These are important times for Toyota because 2019 will see a raft of new vehicles appearing, many with names that you will recognise. Later in the year the thunderous Supra returns to these shores and, if you want a sizeable saloon, the Toyota Camry will be worth waiting for.





First up though are arguably the two most important cars...the new RAV4 and the iconic Corolla.

The RAV4 is already on sale starting at £29,635. Toyota has had huge success with their range of hybrid cars so it's no surprise that they're going to make the new RAV4 hybrid only. Power comes from a 2.5 litre petrol engine mated to their tried and tested electric hybrid system. All models come with an automatic gearbox. There are four trims available at the moment...Icon, Design, Excel and Dynamic...and they are all, apart from the entry level Icon, available with four-wheel drive.

0-60 takes a shade over 8 seconds. You'll crack 50mpg without too much trouble.

In terms of kit, every RAV4 comes with air con, front parking sensors, powered windows and mirrors, rear view camera, DAB radio, Bluetooth, height adjustment to the driver's seat and steering wheel, and really smart alloy wheels.

It's comfy, good to drive, looks smart inside and out, and should be a really good family SUV which will also scramble over boggy ground and rutted surfaces. And it'll be ultra-reliable.

As will the new Toyota Corolla. There are two body styles to choose from; five-door hatch or five-door estate called Touring Sports. Two engines are available in the Corolla range... both petrol hybrids. For economy, go for the 1.8 litre 121bhp engine. For extra performance, opt for the 2.0 litre 178bhp unit. All models have an automatic gearbox.

0-60 in the 1.8 litre model is 10.9 seconds, while the 2.0 litre model dips under 8 seconds. Fuel economy will be the name of the game so expect at least 80mpg from the ultra-efficient 1.8 litre model.

There are four trim levels - Icon, Icon Tech, Design and Excel. Icon trim includes

16" alloys, automatic LED headlights, heated front seats, 8" multimedia touchscreen, reversing camera, DAB radio and air conditioning. We like the Icon Tech trim because this adds satellite navigation, voice control and parking sensors.

The Corolla is great to drive. It corners with assurance and the ride is uncannily smooth. The 2.0 litre model is genuinely sporty. The hybrid system is conventional so, at town speeds you will ride along in silence. When the engine bursts into life, it's hardly audible at all. This is relaxed family motoring at its best. Prices start at £23,750 for the hatchback; add £1270 for the estate version.

As the Corolla replaces the Auris, later this year will see the Toyota Camry replace the Avensis. The Camry is a family sized saloon and returns to the UK for the first time in around fifteen years.



However, the Camry never went away from the Toyota range. It's one of Toyota's biggest sellers in the USA. However, don't assume that this is going to be American cars converted to right hand drive. Toyota promises that the new Camry will be tuned to European tastes where we experience faster driving on more twisty roads.

In terms of power, the trend for hybrids will continue. A 2.5 litre petrol engine will be mated to Toyota's clever hybrid system. This should suit the Camry really well because it promises relaxed motoring on faster roads with the advantage of excellent fuel economy figures. This should not only be of interest to families but also to fleet buyers. 0-60 in 8.3 seconds and 65mpg....what's not to like?

And finally, summer can't come fast enough for lovers of serious sports cars because that is when the new Toyota Supra arrives. Power comes from a 3.0-litre in-line six-cylinder engine, producing up to 335bhp. It promises terrific performance. 0-60 takes just over four seconds. Prices start at £52,695 for the Toyota Supra which, bearing in mind the hi-tech nature of the car and what it will deliver, is actually decent value. And it looks drop-dead gorgeous.

Fancy a new Supra?...form an orderly queue.



# ACKLAM CAR CENTRE



Acklam Car Centre established 2001 with huge motor trade experience. Our dedicated team of experts are on hand to provide support in all car sales and services. And we're happy to talk to you over the phone, online, or at our dealership.

- > **Over 100 cars always in stock**  
Explore our high quality stock from all the top manufacturers
- > **Sell your car**  
Get a free valuation of your vehicle
- > **Full finance facilities**
- > **Part exchange available**
- > **First class aftercare**  
MOT or service from our highly trained technicians

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**01642 813376**

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Middlesbrough,  
Cleveland, TS5 7AB

**BEST INDEPENDENT  
CAR DEALERSHIP 2018**

[www.acklamcarcentre.co.uk](http://www.acklamcarcentre.co.uk)

# THE NORTH EAST'S 5-STAR CAR DEALER ACKLAM CAR CENTRE

Finding a new car can be a bit of a minefield. You probably know what sort of car you fancy or perhaps there's a particular brand you prefer. You probably have a figure in mind that you can afford, either in terms of money up-front or on a monthly payment scheme.

## After that...where do you turn?

Well, here's a good idea. Check out whether the dealer has won any awards from recognised organisations and take a look at what sort of feedback they get on social media.

Like Acklam Car Centre in Middlesbrough for example.

They are Best Independent Car Dealer in NE England 2018 as voted for by CV Magazine.

They've been named Top Car Dealer for 2018 by CarGuru

And they have over 1000 5-star ratings on Google, AutoTrader, TrustPilot, Yell and Facebook.

It's a staggering recommendation from the motor industry and from customers.

However, the real wow factor starts when you study the cars on offer at Acklam Car Centre. You will find cars from

Lamborghini, Bentley, Porsche, Aston Martin, Land Rover and a huge selection of quality premium brands from top German and British marques such as BMW, Mercedes, Audi, Jaguar and Land Rover. If you are looking for a choice of popular family cars from Ford, SKODA, Vauxhall, Nissan etc, you will find them. There's even a selection of commercial vehicles and classic cars.

If you scroll through the 5-star reviews, there is a recurring theme; it's the standard of service you receive.

And it's plain to see that a lot of customers keep on returning to Acklam Car Centre which, to be honest, is the biggest recommendation of all.

They are a well-established dealership, set up in 2001, and have always put the customer first. They also have experienced staff who know what customers want and who ensure that the cars they sell are always of the highest

possible quality. Put it this way, if they get things right at their end, they'll have contented customers who'll return again and again.

The emphasis on customer service starts as soon as you walk through the door. You will be met and asked if you need any help. If you'd rather just browse...fine. If you want to ask questions...fine. If there's something you're not sure about such as finance, there will be someone to give you advice

The best idea is to go onto their website, [www.acklamcarcentre.co.uk](http://www.acklamcarcentre.co.uk). There are top quality photos and a detailed description of every car available. Don't forget, their stock changes by the hour so it's always worth making a regular visit to their website to see what's available. Call Acklam Car Centre on **01642 813376**, email via their website, or just drop into their showroom on **237 Acklam Road, Middlesbrough, Cleveland, TS5 7AB**

Go along to Acklam Car Centre in Middlesbrough and see what all the fuss is about



# The e-Golf. With £3,500 government grant. Plus £1,500 towards your finance deposit.

Available when purchased with Solutions PCP.\*

- Adaptive Cruise Control including Front Assist, and City Emergency braking
- Car-Net 'e-remote', which provides remote battery charging management and pre-trip interior climatisation
- Parking sensor, front and rear
- Range of 144miles from a full charge\*\*
- Batteries can be charged from empty to 80% full in just 45 minutes with a rapid charger†



Utterly irresistible offers from

## Pulman Volkswagen

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Telephone: 0191 541 2025.

[www.pulmanvolkswagen.co.uk](http://www.pulmanvolkswagen.co.uk)

## Pulman Volkswagen (Durham)

Abbey Road, Framwellgate Moor, Durham, DH1 5HA.  
Telephone: 0191 336 0030.



Volkswagen

## Representative 3.6% APR

Mike Pulman Limited is a broker and not a lender and can introduce you to a limited number of lenders, who may pay us for introducing you to them. \*At the end of the agreement there are three options: i) pay the optional final payment and own the vehicle; ii) return the vehicle; subject to excess mileage and fair wear and tear, charges may apply; or iii) replace: part exchange the vehicle. With Solutions Personal Contract Plan. 18s+. Subject to availability and status. T&Cs apply. Excludes Golf GTE. Offer available until March 31st, 2019. Indemnities may be required. Offers are not available in conjunction with any other offer and may be varied or withdrawn at any time. Accurate at time of publication. Freepost Volkswagen Financial Services. These figures were obtained after the battery had been fully charged. The e-Golf is a battery electric vehicle requiring mains electricity for charging. There is a new test for fuel consumption, CO<sub>2</sub> and electric range figures (known as WLTP). The electric range shown was achieved using the new test procedure. Figures shown are for comparability purposes. Only compare fuel consumption, CO<sub>2</sub> and electric range figures with other vehicles tested to the same technical procedures. These figures may not reflect real life driving results, which will depend upon a number of factors including the starting charge of the battery, accessories fitted (post-registration), variations in weather, driving styles and vehicle load. Official fuel economy figures for the e-Golf: mpg N/A; CO<sub>2</sub> emissions 0g/km. \*\*The actual range achieved in realistic conditions differs from this result during normal driving operation and amounts to approx. 124 miles on average annually and is dependent on driving style, speed, use of comfort features or auxiliary equipment, ambient temperature, number of passengers/load, choice of driving profile (Normal, ECO, ECO+), and terrain. †When using a rapid charging station minimum of 22kW DC.



# Our Golf's electric

Did you know that according to the Office for National Statistics, the average weekday commute for UK drivers is around 10 miles. Throw in a few diversions on the school run or to the shops and let's call it 120 miles per working week.

If that sounds about right for you, then you need to buy the Volkswagen e-Golf.

The e-Golf is Volkswagen's all-electric, battery powered version of one of the UK's most successful and popular cars. You have all of the traditional Golf attributes like quality of build, reliability, comfort, interior space and high standard of specification, but without a petrol or diesel engine under the bonnet.

Of course, trundling through traffic on your daily commute will ruin your fuel consumption under normal circumstances, but in the e-Golf, that doesn't matter. In fact, slow, steady driving will help matters.

Volkswagen admit that, okay, under perfect, warm conditions, the e-Golf has a battery range of 144 miles, but in the real world of miserable British weather, it's



likely to drop to somewhere in the region of 130 miles. However, for a lot of people that will easily cater for the Monday - Friday total.

And here's the clincher. If you set off on Monday morning with a fully charged battery, you won't need to do a thing until the weekend, and your total cost of 'fuel' will be in the region of £3. All you have to do on Sunday evening is plug the e-Golf into your household mains via a 3-pin plug, leave it to gently charge for around 12 hours...and bingo, you're ready for a working week of cheap motoring. You can have a fast charger installed or, if you have one at work, it allows you to reach an 80 per cent charge in 45 minutes.

You are also exempt from road fund tax and won't have to pay congestion charge tolls. Business users can benefit from income tax advantages too.

Apart from all of that, the Volkswagen e-Golf is just, well, like any other Golf. It's



lively too with 0-60 mph taking only 9.5 seconds because, unlike with a petrol or diesel engine where you need to allow the revs to rise before reaching peak power, you have 100 per cent power with an electric car...instantly.

In terms of kit, you get sat nav, air con, Car-Net App Connect which allows you to mirror your smart phone onto the Golf's touchscreen. There are parking sensors front and rear, powered windows and mirrors (heated), DAB radio and a host of safety kit.

Interested? The best idea to find out more is to go along to Pulman Volkswagen in Durham or Sunderland. Their experts will take you through all of the benefits of going electric.

**Prices for the Volkswagen e-Golf start at £33,240.**



Everything you love about the Golf, electrified.



# PERFECT ALL-ROUNDER

The Tiguan is a really important car for Volkswagen. It's their third biggest seller in the UK behind the Golf and Polo. Consequently, when the time came to launch the latest edition of the Tiguan, VW was cautious in terms of the exterior styling.

That's no bad thing because the Tiguan is instantly recognisable. It's a tad wider and longer but it has a lower roof line, all of which makes the new Tiguan look more hunky.

And, if you go for the R-Line, you end up with a Tiguan that also looks sporty. If looks are important to you, this is the one to go for.

The Volkswagen Tiguan range starts at £23,990. No matter which level of trim you go for, you will have access to most of the engine range, all-wheel drive and an automatic gearbox. Entry level models use a 1.5 litre 129 bhp petrol engine, 6-speed manual gearbox and front-wheel drive only. You can also opt for a 2.0 litre diesel engine developing 148bhp.

Further up the trim range sees the arrival of a 148bhp petrol unit, a 187bhp diesel engine and a powerful but smooth, 2.0 litre petrol engine which delivers 227bhp.



The recently launched Match trim will be the most popular using the 148bhp diesel engine (58.9mpg, 0-60 in 9.3 seconds and a top speed of 127mph), but there's something about the R-Line. It makes the Tiguan stand out from the crowd. You get 20inch alloys, side skirts, wheel arch extensions, sports seats, sat nav, air con, brilliant audio system with DAB etc. In fact, there's nothing you need to add expect deciding whether you want the

benefit of 4MOTION all-wheel drive. If you do you'll need a further £1890.

Everything else about the R-Line is as per the rest of the range. It's roomy, comfortable and, thanks to a large boot, will be ideal as either school run transportation or loaded to the gunwales for a trip to a holiday resort.

If you fancy some extra seating, try the Tiguan Allspace. Thanks to a longer wheelbase it has space for seven people.

If you need a car that becomes a cherished member of your family, the Volkswagen Tiguan will be ideal. Go along to your local Pulman Volkswagen showroom in Sunderland or Durham and take a look at the Tiguan and discover why it has become such a familiar sight on our roads.

Need a perfect all-rounder....you'll love the Volkswagen Tiguan.

The Tiguan Match. At Pulman Volkswagen Durham and Sunderland.



# VW + SUV = T-Roc

Volkswagen have become masters of SUVs, but they needed a smaller model to fit below the Tiguan and Touareg. Please welcome the T-Roc.

There are currently five levels of trim. Everything kicks off with the T-Roc S at £19,270, powered by a 1.0 litre 114bhp TSi petrol engine using a 6-speed manual gearbox. It's lively too. 0-60 takes 10 seconds but you'll still manage around 55mpg.

The S trim includes air conditioning, heated door mirrors, height adjustment to the front seats, electric windows all-round, remote central locking, tyre pressure monitor and a brilliant audio system which comes with DAB radio and the facility to play MP3s through the USB socket. The 8inch colour touch-screen looks really smart and very hi-tech.

You also get an extensive list of safety gadgetry including lane assist (it tells you if you're wandering from your lane), front assist (it applies the brakes automatically



in an emergency) and a host of air bags. The T-Roc is one of the safest cars ever built by Volkswagen.

For a bigger choice of engines, move up to the VW T-Roc SE (from £20,935). How about something like the seriously powerful 1.5 litre TSi petrol engine which whisks you to 60mph in a shade over 8 seconds yet will still crack the 50mpg barrier. You can also opt for a 7-speed automatic gearbox.

Our favourite trim is the VW T-Roc Design which sits below the top of the range SEL and R-Line. It allows you to customise your T-Roc with neat touches like a contrasting roof colour, different coloured alloy wheels and a variety of fascia and seat trims.

There is one option that we would seriously recommend; Dynamic Chassis Control which gives you variable suspension settings. You can choose Sport, Comfort and Normal. This allows



you to swap between a firm, sporty ride with increased response to the steering and accelerator...or a comfy, cossetting ride for long journeys or when the car is loaded to the gunwales with the family and all of their baggage.

If you want to fully appreciate the style and enjoyable drive of the Volkswagen T-Roc, go along to your local Pulman Volkswagen dealer in Durham or Sunderland. The sales team will give you a guided tour and the chance to take a T-Roc out for a test drive.

Fancy a stylish, compact Sports Utility Vehicle? That'll be the Volkswagen T-Roc then.



The T-Roc. At Pulman Volkswagen Durham and Sunderland.



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