

NEWS & EVENTS



Clockwise from top left: wild Fiat Turbina; Alfa F12 tour bus; Fiat 1100 Desirée; Stola Diamante; Alfa SS; ex-Loren B52

## Exotic rarities light up Bologna classic spectacular

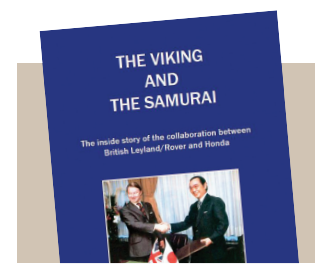
Billed as the largest historic-vehicle show in Europe, Auto e Moto d'Epoca attracted more than 7000 classic cars, commercial vehicles and motorcycles from 24-27 October.

Showgoers in Bologna were greeted with the 125 Years of Fiat exhibit upon arrival. This expansive area spanned from an 1899 1½hp to the one-off 1954 Turbina from the Museo Nazionale dell'Automobile di Torino, via more prosaic fare. Other manufacturer involvement stretched to a large Volkswagen stand celebrating 50 years of the Golf, while Lamborghini Polo Storico displayed a 1968 Miura S in the throes of restoration and a 1994 Diablo SE.

The Automotoclub Storico Italiano pavilion comprised a raft of displays. These honoured 110 years of Maserati and historic hillclimb racers, along with cars boasting cinematic connections

– the ex-Sophia Loren, Vignale-bodied Lancia Aurelia B52 and a Triumph TR3A that appeared in *La Dolce Vita* among them. Elsewhere, another major exhibit honoured the V12 engine, with an unusual mix of cars including a Lamborghini LM002 in Leyton House colours, a Ferrari 312B F1 car and a (W12-engined) Bentley Continental GT. The newly inaugurated Museo Moretti Enonsole displayed a 1500 SS Coupé nearby.

The expanded sales area this year comprised six large halls along with an outdoors area. Here you could conceivably buy anything from a pink Fiat Argenta support vehicle used on the 1984 Giro d'Italia, via a pre-war Horch to a Marcello Gandini-styled Bertone Fiat 850T 'Visitors' Bus'. Judging by the number of 'venduto' scrawls featuring across windscreens, sales were brisk despite some egregious asking prices.



### HISTORIAN HONoured

John Bacchus won this year's Michael Sedgwick Award for his book *The Viking and the Samurai*. He was given the trophy at the Society of Automotive Historians in Britain's Autumn Seminar on 20 October. His book tells the saga of Rover's tie-up with Honda, which he oversaw from 1979-'94.



### FORECOURT FORAYS

The MG Owners' Club, Cumbria Classic Car Club, QS Car Club and Glasgow Moggies were among the groups participating in the first Gulf Road Trip. On different days from 12-27 October, more than 70 classics travelled 300-plus miles between Gulf fuel stations across England and Scotland.



### STATESIDE LATIN EPIC

The Alfa Romeo 6C-1750 Gran Sport of Shawn and Leanne Till won the 1000 Miglia Warm Up USA for the second year in a row. The event, which returned from 22-27 October, included time trials, a night-time challenge and a head-to-head competition.



### HELP TO GET OVER THE LINE

GSF Car Parts has launched a new competition that will help three enthusiasts finish their classic project or restoration. Winners of 'Get Your Motor Running' will land £1k-worth of parts. You can apply for yourself or a friend before 31 December. See [gsfcarparts.com/getyourmotorrunning](http://gsfcarparts.com/getyourmotorrunning)



## Veterans take to the streets of London

The Royal Automobile Club's new location for the St James's Motoring Spectacle proved a huge success on 2 November. It had always been the famous club's plan to close Pall Mall and finally, after lengthy negotiations, the dream came true with a superb display that ranged from an Abel horse-drawn removal van to six spectacular hypercars. Fiat and Renault presented a colourful range of classics to celebrate their 125th marque anniversaries, while Volkswagen highlighted the Golf's half century with a set of iconic hatches.

A highlight for many was the chance to get close to an original 007 Aston Martin DB5 (above left), which marked the 50th anniversary of the *Goldfinger* première just a few streets away at Odeon Leicester Square. Complete with all the gadgets, this was one of two produced in 1965 and was brought from Switzerland by Fritz Burkard.

Another silver sensation was a factory-built replica of the Mercedes W196 with Monza bodywork.

The most powerful car to enter the London to Brighton Run, the 16-litre 1907 Fiat, attracted major interest. "It's almost impossible to drive slowly, which will be a challenge through London," said Biscaretti museum curator Davide Lorenzone, "but it's a great way to celebrate Fiat's birthday."

The display gave visitors a chance to study the L2B veterans, while a celebrity group judged the concours. Best of Show was Bill Wood's 1901 Panhard, but American Rob Walton's debut with the Mercedes-Simplex 60hp Roi-des-Belges (above) was the talk of the day. This magnificently preserved veteran supercar was last driven by Jim Clark on the '67 Run and deservedly won the Historic Award.