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# CLASSIC & SPORTS CAR

November 2014 £4.70

## TRIUMPH SHOWDOWN

Bargain TR6 takes on TR5 in battle of the sixes

GOOD WOOD  
REVIVAL MEETING

PLUS  
UNMISSABLE  
REVIVAL  
SPECIAL



Saarbach

Objekt: 55951 CLASSIC & SPORT  
Nationalität: GB Remiaufwurf: kw45

VKP in EUR (D): 13,10



305bhp V4 16-cylinder

Abrahamson Ehlert

Alfa and Lancia Zagato  
Junior Z vs Fulvia Sport



Jeff Uren's wildest Capri  
5-litre V8 monster driven





Clockwise, from main:  
1962 Mini beach car sold  
at Bonhams' Quail Lodge  
auction in August;  
Philippe Starck's Fiat  
Shellette made £33k



## SERIOUS PRICES FOR 'FUN' CARS

Perhaps the most bizarre recent market trend is for fantastic sums being shelled out for what have traditionally been novelty cars based on common-or-garden underpinnings. Beach cars are the latest executive toy to command huge money. The fun-factor counts in their favour, but when someone pays £109,000 for a Mini it is time to sit up and take notice.

But that car – sold by Bonhams at Quail Lodge – just reflected a growing trend. Even Philippe Starck's 1972 Fiat Shellette starts to look like good value having sold for 'just' £33,000 at Artcurial's 2014

**'Twenty years ago, you could pick up an Amphicar for little more than the price of a decent Triumph Vitesse'**

Rétromobile fixture. There were more interesting examples in the Monaco sales: a 1963 Autobianchi Bianchini Jolly (£42,000 at Coys) and a '69 Fiat 500 Mare by Carrozzeria Holiday (£39.5k at RM).

There's no denying the rarity of these cars, but the prices are still staggering. In the same way, it is difficult for long-term enthusiasts to accept something such as an

Amphicar commanding £50k-plus. Twenty years ago, you could pick one up in the Triumph Sports Six Club's *Courier* for little more than the price of a decent Vitesse.

Scroll back a few years and the market deemed an ex-Gianni Agnelli 1959 Fiat 600 Jolly by Ghia to be worth £31,000 at Bonhams. When new, such a car would have cost roughly twice the price of a factory-fresh 600, so that seemed to be an intimidating-enough value. Yet a year later a similar example without the celebrity ownership made £50,000 at Quail Lodge.

In 2013, RM took £51,500 for

one at Monterey; by March this year a 1959 car sold for £60,000 at RM in Amelia Island. To top it all, at Monterey in August a 1961 example – sold as a pair with a '57 Multipla – made an astonishing \$231,000 (£140k).

The Fiats and Minis have always carried a premium, but just look at the asking prices for the 'man in the street' models. They may not be nudging £100,000, but try to find a Citroën Méhari in the UK for under £10k. Likewise, 1960s Mokes are routinely £15k-plus. Same story with Renault 4 Plein Airs. Playtime is over.

## Brothers work together to produce handbuilt design



Pretty Effeeffe Berlinetta evokes some of the finest designs of the 1950s and '60s

Another month, another new retro-classic, but this one looks more interesting than most – body and chassis being built from scratch. The Effeeffe (FF) Berlinetta comes from the Frigerio brothers – Fratelli Frigerio, hence the FF – and was first seen displayed as a concept at Villa d'Este, but the car is now being actively marketed with a price of €280,000.

The lightweight (850kg), handbuilt Italian beauty is powered by a front-mid-mounted Alfa Romeo two-litre 'four'. Fed by a pair of Weber 45s, it gives 170bhp and drives through a five-speed gearbox. The body is aluminium on a tubular steel chassis, and the Matteograssi interior is packed with traditional-looking dished wheel, Jaeger dials, bucket seats and swathes of leather.



Built by brothers Leonardo and Vittorio in the small Padovan town of Vidigulfo, the car is an intriguing mix of styling cues, with the overall effect being something like a cross between a Ferrari 250GT Short Wheelbase and a Lotus Elite. See [www.effeeffecars.com](http://www.effeeffecars.com)