

Your Sunday

HAVE YOUR SAY

LETTERS THIS WEEK PAGE 44

YOUR SEX DOC

MY PAL'S MAN CAME ON TO ME PAGE 47

IT'S TAX TIME AGAIN

PERSONAL FINANCE PAGES 48&49

PAGE 40 YOUR MOVIES

A LIFE ON THE OCEAN RAVE..ON BOAT THAT ROCKED



FILM OF THE WEEK

ALSO DVDS OF THE WEEK



Arthur Daley would approve

MINDER MOTOR

THE TV remake of Minder may not be as good as the 80s original starring George Cole and Dennis Waterman, but the actual Bentley Turbo R driven by Shane Richie in the series must be worth more than six grand. On eBay with just one bid so far, and looking the part in royal blue with magnolia leather, it's a 1990G that's done 88,000 miles and comes with a full history folder. If you bag it for anything under ten grand, it's a cheap motor.

Quentin

At your service

MARISSA McIntosh, who admits to knowing nothing about cars, is looking for a reasonably priced sports car. She wants something that won't depreciate too much, as she wants to keep it for several years. Her budget is £5,000. What should she go for?
QUENTIN SAYS: So you want a rinky-tink roadster that's completely reliable, causes you no grief and is built to last. Well, the good news is

you couldn't have picked a better time to buy. Five grand buys a 2000X Mercedes SLK230 auto (below) or an 02-plate Mazda MX-5. If you're really lucky, you might even be able to pick up an early R-plate



Porsche Boxster. All three are a joy to behold and completely painless to live with.

THE VOLCANIC VULCA HAS GOT A KRAKATOA PRICE..



A snip at £300k

HOW'S this for bad timing? Italian coachbuilder Faralli and Mazzanti couldn't have picked a worse moment to launch their Vulcan S supercar. It may have a V12 lump that produces a mighty 630bhp, a hand-

made alloy body and sumptuous quilted leather interior, but at nigh on three hundred grand it's mad money. Just as well that only 10 individually-numbered cars will ever be made.

Net closes on car scam

THE recession is making used car buyers drop their guard. The crims know it and are planting non-existent cars online at silly money. The cops say too many people are being scammed. Research

from motors.co.uk claims that in some parts of the country one in five people is prepared to hand over money for a used motor they've never even seen. So I've put together a five-minute guide to

checking a car's identity. It's free and downloadable from www.motors.co.uk Watch it and protect yourself. If you buy a hooky motor, you'll lose the car - and all the money you paid for it.

CHINESE JUNK..

ANOTHER week, another crummy Chinese car. The Brilliance BS4 has just suffered the indignity of scoring zero stars in a Euro NCAP crash test. If you have a spare moment, you can watch the result on YouTube, and see how the front crumpled like a crisp bag. Brilliant it is not.



IT'S FRUGAL FUNK

VW really are in tune with the times. Their ultra-frugal BlueMotion range has been a jumbo hit and last Friday they unveiled a warmed-up Golf diesel that can manage 53mpg and emits only 139g/km CO2. Sixty isn't that fast at seven-and-a-bit seconds, while top speed is a respectable 138, but with 640 miles from every tank the GTD has new and urgent possibilities.



New Golf GTD is credit crunch cool

BATTI

WHO'D DRIVE IT All Americans if they've got any sense

At last. An electric car that looks nearly as sexy as an Aston.

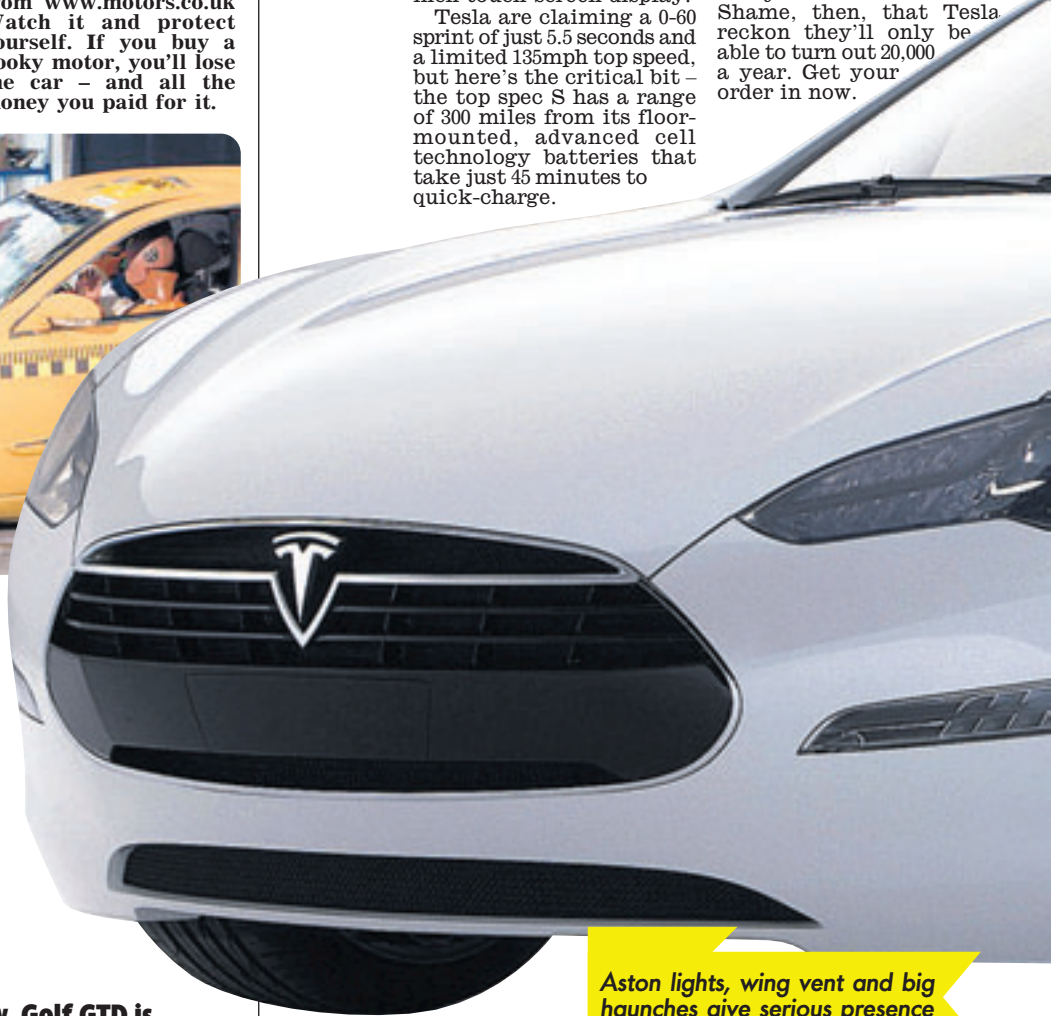
Troubled Californian EV-maker Tesla unveiled their Model S aluminium five-door this week, and it's a stunner. Gorgeously styled with echoes of the Jag XF and Maserati Quattroporte, it's slightly larger than a BMW 5-Series, can seat five adults and two kids in clever rear-facing seats, has a full-length glass roof (the luggage lives under the bonnet) and a massive 17-inch touch-screen display.

Tesla are claiming a 0-60 sprint of just 5.5 seconds and a limited 135mph top speed, but here's the critical bit - the top spec S has a range of 300 miles from its floor-mounted, advanced cell technology batteries that take just 45 minutes to quick-charge.

These are audacious claims, and the price is pretty surprising too. The base model will cost Americans £39,300, which comes down to £34,000 after federal tax credit.

But Tesla's finances are extremely wobbly, and to bring the world's horniest EV into mainstream production by mid-2011 is going to take some doing. Not to mention the small matter of £500million.

But given there's absolutely no competition out there, the Model S is likely to have 10 times as many customers as cars. Shame, then, that Tesla reckon they'll only be able to turn out 20,000 a year. Get your order in now.



Aston lights, wing vent and big haunches give serious presence

Willson

**BRITAIN'S
NO.1 MOTORING
WRITER**



Got a problem?
Email me at
willson@sunday
mirror.co.uk

HELP!
You ask
me



Double discount
deal for Fiesta

Q I AM looking for two new Ford Fiesta 1.25 Zetecs for my teenage sons. Can you suggest somewhere I can buy at a reasonable discount? - *Geoff Griffin, by email*

A IF you don't mind a 58-plate, car broker Broadspeed is offering a delivery-mileage 1.25 Zetec for £9,256, which is a saving of nearly three grand. But it's always worth going to your Ford dealer, especially given that you want two. After he's picked himself up off the floor, the salesman might even be able to match Broadspeed's price with 09-plates.

Q MY wife and I are in our 70s and have an N-reg Nissan Micra. We want to replace it with a frugal supermini like a Toyota Yaris, Kia Picanto or Citroen C1. Which is best and what's our Micra worth? - *L. Tully, Essex*

A I'D buy a new Citroen C1 at £6,195. You'll get 60mpg, and it's a poppet to drive. But I'd wait until June, to see if the scrappage scheme gets the green light. If it does, you can expect at least £2,000 for your Micra against the C1, which is probably £1,500 more than it's worth.

**Polarity of
the posh
plate prices**

200 JXK

1 D

DON'T be told that the posh plate market is defying the economic gloom. 1 D may have been knocked down to a Lebanese property developer for £285k and 2 O for £115k, but at the same sale 1 JUF made £3,600 and 1 KBO just £3,400.

These are low bids for super-distinctive one-number plates, and some of the cheapest prices I've seen for a decade.

And the bargain of the week? 200 JXK for your new Jaguar XK at just £650. The market is cooling.

EVERY WOWER ELECTRIC TESLA'S A STUNNER

Seven-seaters don't come any better-looking than this

Massive touch-screen is bigger than most laptops



Drilled discs and turbine-vane alloys on an EV?!

**TECH
FILE**

ENGINE Electric motor
POWER 248hp
TOP SPEED 135mph
0-60 5.5seconds
PRICE £39,300
RANGE 300miles
IN A WORD High-voltage beauty